



Regional: Strengthening Legal Institutions and Enhancing Regional Cooperation in Law, Justice, and Development in South Asia

Project Name	Strengthening Legal Institutions and Enhancing Regional Cooperation in Law, Justice, and Development in South Asia	
Project Number	48257-001	
Country	Regional	
Project Status	Active	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	TA 8801-REG: Strengthening Legal Institutions and Enhancing Regional Cooperation in Law, Justice, and Development in South Asia Technical Assistance Special Fund US\$ 1.00 million	
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth	
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships	
Sector / Subsector	Public sector management - Law and judiciary	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	No gender elements	
Description	<p>This regional capacity development technical assistance (R-CDTA) is designed to initiate work based on the mutual understanding between ADB and South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation in Law (SAARCLAW). In support of ADB's strategic priorities and recognizing the constraints to sharing of legal and judicial experiences in South Asia and considering SAARCLAW's critical importance to the continued development of the rule of law and capacity-building in the region, ADB entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SAARCLAW in November 2013 to collaborate on legal and judicial initiatives with the objective of assisting the broader development and economic goals of the region. Following the signing of the MOU, the Office of the General Counsel fielded a mission to Nepal to meet with SAARCLAW executive Council members to confirm the R-CDTA's impact, outcome, outputs, and financing plan.</p> <p>This R-CDTA will assist SAARCLAW in achieving its objectives of facilitating improvement, harmonization and use of legal resources in the development process as a whole, including social-economic development in South Asia. The R-CDTA will focus on institutional and capacity development, sharing of experiences in select areas of mutual concern, and production and dissemination of knowledge products in the identified select areas. This is also a response to the clear demand for an initiative of this type from the judiciaries and legal professionals in the region.</p>	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	ADB's Regional Cooperation Strategy for South Asia 2011-2015 accepts regional cooperation and integration as the core regional strategy and identifies improvement of regional connectivity, strengthening regional energy cooperation and facilitating cross-border trade as the focus areas for ADB action under the strategy. Withn the broader focus areas, ADB's engagement with SAARCLAW will facilitate greater understanding of legal and regulatory issues and strengthen regional cooperation on these issues which will have a positive impact on the region's development and growth.	
Impact	SAARCLAW is used as a premier regional platform facilitating integrated and harmonized development of policies and laws for socioeconomic development in South Asia.	

Project Outcome

Description of Outcome	Enhanced capacity and knowledge sharing for consistent and harmonized use of legal resources in the development process of South Asia.
Progress Toward Outcome	

Implementation Progress

Description of Project Outputs	Capacity development on legal and regulatory harmonization for regional integration. Developing and disseminating knowledge products on priority legal and regulatory issues. Institutional strengthening of SAARCLAW through permanent secretariat.
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	
Geographical Location	

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects

Involuntary Resettlement

Indigenous Peoples

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design

During Project Implementation

Business Opportunities

Consulting Services

- Institutional Specialist (international, 18 person months)
- Legal and Policy Specialists (international, 12 person months)
- Legal and Policy Specialists - Knowledge Management (international, 12 person months)
- Legal and Policy Specialist (national, 18 person months)

Procurement To be determined.

Responsible Staff

Responsible ADB Officer	Ahsan, Irum
Responsible ADB Department	Office of the General Counsel
Responsible ADB Division	Office of the General Counsel
Executing Agencies	<i>Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines</i>

Timetable

Concept Clearance	17 Mar 2014
Fact Finding	13 Oct 2014 to 16 Oct 2014
MRM	-
Approval	11 Dec 2014
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	01 Oct 2014

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Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
11 Dec 2014	-	11 Dec 2014	31 Dec 2016	31 Dec 2018	-

Financing Plan/TA Utilization	Cumulative Disbursements
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ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
1,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000,000.00	11 Dec 2014	314,852.01

Project Page <https://www.adb.org/projects/48257-001/main>

Request for Information <http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=48257-001>

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