



## Regional: Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia

Project Name	Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia																				
Project Number	48290-001																				
Country	Regional																				
Project Status	Active																				
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance																				
Source of Funding / Amount	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>TA 8836-REG: Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund</td> <td>US\$ 500,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>TA 8836-REG: Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Technical Assistance Special Fund</td> <td>US\$ 250,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>TA 8836-REG: Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia (Supplementary)</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>People's Republic of China Regional Cooperation and Poverty Reduction Fund</td> <td>US\$ 250,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>TA 8836-REG: Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia (Supplementary)</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund</td> <td>US\$ 500,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>TA: Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Technical Assistance Special Fund</td> <td>US\$ 750,000.00</td> </tr> </table>	<b>TA 8836-REG: Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia</b>		Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund	US\$ 500,000.00	<b>TA 8836-REG: Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia</b>		Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 250,000.00	<b>TA 8836-REG: Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia (Supplementary)</b>		People's Republic of China Regional Cooperation and Poverty Reduction Fund	US\$ 250,000.00	<b>TA 8836-REG: Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia (Supplementary)</b>		Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund	US\$ 500,000.00	<b>TA: Building Capacity for Enhanced Connectivity in Southeast Asia</b>		Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 750,000.00
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Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth Regional integration																				
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships Private sector development																				
Sector / Subsector	<b>Agriculture, natural resources and rural development</b> - Agricultural policy, institutional and capacity development <b>Energy</b> - Electricity transmission and distribution <b>Finance</b> - Infrastructure finance and investment funds <b>Health</b> - Disease control of non-communicable diseases and other priority programs <b>Industry and trade</b> - Trade and services <b>Transport</b> - Multimodal logistics <b>Water and other urban infrastructure and services</b> - Urban policy, institutional and capacity development																				
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	No gender elements																				
Description	<p>Despite ASEAN's progress and prospects, achieving the ASEAN Economic Community's (AEC) targets and milestones by the end of 2015 remains a significant challenge. AEC targets released in 2012 by the ASEAN Secretariat indicate that removing physical and soft connectivity constraints remain some of the most significant challenges. As these challenges persist, the need to build capacities within ASEAN to enhance physical, institutional, and people-to-people connectivity as defined in the Master Plan for ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) remains.</p> <p>The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been working to promote connectivity in Southeast Asia through three subregional cooperation programs, namely: (i) the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA); (ii) the Indonesia- Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT); and (iii) the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Economic Cooperation Program. While these subregional cooperation programs have achieved considerable success in promoting physical connectivity, continued efforts are needed to foster greater institutional and people-to-people connectivity.</p>																				

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>ADB has supported capacity building for subregional cooperation and connectivity since 2002 through the Phnom Penh Plan for Development Management Program. While the PP Plan has achieved considerable results, an evaluation study conducted by IED in 2008, recommended key design changes for any proposed successor programs, namely: (i) expanding the program to non-GMS countries, but retaining specific focus on Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Viet Nam (the CLMV countries); (ii) enhancing the program's operational focus, relevancy and linkages; and (iii) developing partnerships with research and training institutions to promote greater outreach and more sustainable knowledge sharing. Along with these design enhancements, the number of training sessions will be reduced, in consideration of administrative and budgetary constraints.</p> <p>Drawing from the experience gained and knowledge shared through the PP Plan, this proposed regional technical assistance will be closely aligned with and support the overall framework of the MPAC on regional connectivity and other relevant initiatives (especially from the subregional programs) to build the AEC. Accordingly, the TA will consist of series of training programs for government officials to enhance their capacities in advancing physical, institutional, and people-to-people connectivity within the region and incorporating lessons learnt from the previous TAs.</p>
Impact	Accelerated implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) for enhanced connectivity in the region.

## Project Outcome

Description of Outcome	Greater capacity of government officials in the region to develop and implement policies for enhanced connectivity
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Progress Toward Outcome

### Implementation Progress

Description of Project Outputs	<p>A comprehensive training program delivered</p> <p>An information repository established</p>
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Status of Implementation  
Progress (Outputs,  
Activities, and Issues)

For Output 1: A Comprehensive training program delivered  
For Output 1, a total of 299 middle and senior level officials from BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT and GMS attended ten (10) training programs on economic corridor development (2 modules, 4 trainings), tourism (2 trainings), regional power market (2 trainings), special economic zones (1 training), social protection (1 training), and a (1) workshop on cross-border e-commerce organized in partnership with 13 multilateral and international organizations, governments, academe and the private sector. One hundred thirty (130) participants (43%) were women and majority (155, 52%) were Directors and above.

The list of training programs from July 2015-March 2017 is provided below:

Economic Corridor Development for Competitive and Inclusive Asia (4 trainings)  
Module 1: Economic Corridors Concepts, Characteristics and Models  
Partners: ADB, Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Singapore Cooperation Programme and the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies at Nanyang Technological University  
Dates and Locations: 26-28 August 2015, Singapore and 17-18 August 2016, Singapore  
Number of Participants: 36 (2015) and 32 (2016); 11 from CAREC and SASEC (2015-2016)  
Module 2: Drivers of Economic Corridors Development  
Partner: Center for IMT-GT Subregional Cooperation  
Dates and Locations: 29 August to 4 September 2015, Malaysia (Johor, Melaka, Putrajaya, Penang, Hang Tuah Jaya and Bukit Kayu Hitam) and Thailand (Sadao and Songkhla) and 20-26 August 2016, Malaysia (Johor, Melaka, Putrajaya and Bukit Kayu Hitam) and Thailand (Sadao, Hat Yai and Songkhla)  
Number of Participants: 29 (2015) and 26 (2016)  
Tourism Management in BIMP EAGA, IMT-GT, and GMS Enhancing People-to- People Connectivity for Inclusive Growth Training (2 trainings)  
Partner: Guilin Tourism University (GTU)  
Dates and Locations: 19-23 October 2015, GTU, Guilin, Peoples Republic of China (PRC) and 24-29 April 2016, GTU, Guilin, PRC  
Number of Participants: 26 (2015) and 25 (2016)  
Regional Power Market and Cross-border Interconnections Training (2 trainings)  
Partner(s): ASEAN Kore Center (AKC) with support from POSCO Engineering and Construction  
Date and Location: 29 November to 4 December 2015, POSCO Group University, Republic of Korea  
Number of Participants: 24 (2015) and 28 (2016); 1 from Korea (2016)  
Special Economic Zones (SEZs) as Catalysts for Economic Corridors, Value Chains and Production Networks Training (1 training)  
Partners: ADB TA 8430: Regional Knowledge Sharing Initiative (RKS), CAREC Institute and the China Association of Development Zones (CADZ)  
Date and Location: 17-22 October 2016, Shanghai, PRC  
Number of Participants: 31 (2016); 7 from CAREC (2016)  
Regional Training on Social Protection Systems: Social Assistance (1 training)  
Partners: Centre of Social Protection, Institute of Development Studies  
Date and Location: 16-20 January 2017, Manila, Philippines  
Number of Participants: 32 (2017)  
Workshop on Cross-border E-commerce: Towards Seamless Connectivity (1 workshop)  
Partners: ASEAN Studies Center, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand and Ministry of Commerce, PRC  
Date and Location: 9-11 March 2016, Chulalongkorn University and ADB-Thailand Resident Mission, Bangkok, Thailand  
Number of Participants: 29 (2016)  
Preparatory activities are on-going for training programs to be implemented from April to December 2017 on: (i) tourism management, (ii) economic corridor development, (iii) special economic zones, and (iv) power markets as well as trainings planned in 2018. Knowledge events such as seminars, workshops and policy dialogues will also be conducted to provide platforms for increased awareness on connectivity issues, information sharing, networking and stakeholder dialogues. Another workshop on cross-border e-commerce will be implemented in May 2017.

For Output 2: An information repository established  
The internet based information repository and website is still being developed and is expected to be fully functional in April 2017. It will serve as a platform for information dissemination and knowledge exchanges between and among the government officials trained and knowledge partners of the TA. The main objective of the online platform is to promote and provide information about the TA along with details about past, on-going, and upcoming activities. The use of internet through web presence will be capitalized in promoting activities of the TA intended for its stakeholders. The information repository and website will also have a discussion room; provide access to the training materials and related sites for the training content, and a database of government officials as well as program partners.

Other project updates include:  
Governance and Reporting Mechanisms- Updates and progress of activities are reported at Senior Officials Meetings (SOMs) of BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT and GMS. Overall strategic guidance, potential knowledge partners, and demand-based training needs related to connectivity are typically discussed at the SOMs. The BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT and GMS countries greatly appreciate the support of ADB and the governments of the Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China in enhancing civil servants' capacities in advancing physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity within the region.

Resource Mobilization- A resource mobilization strategy is being implemented explore co-financing and/or in-kind contributions from non-recipient countries (e.g. Singapore), participating middle-income countries, and institutional capacity development partners (i.e. universities, education, research and training institutions). Technical contributions of partner institutions are defined depending on expertise, interest and commitment.

Performance Monitoring and Evaluation System- an effective performance monitoring and evaluation system has been set up. Comprehensive evaluation methodologies are used to measure inputs for trainings such as evaluation forms, mid-program assessment, needs and baseline assessments (to compare knowledge and skills levels before and after training), meetings with training teams, and lead experts and knowledge partners reports.

For the July 2015 to March 2017 training programs and workshops, in terms of overall quality and attainment of objectives, majority are of medium to high quality given the participants, training team and knowledge partners feedback. The participants in particular acknowledged the relevance of the content and the usefulness of what they learned in their workplace. They value the unique knowledge and experience sharing opportunities and networking. The BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT and GMS civil servants also requested continued capacity development on the connectivity and subregional cooperation themes given no other institutions are offering similar customized and demand-based trainings. Overall training evaluation ratings are between 4.00-4.80 (with no ratings below 4.00 on a scale of 1.00 as lowest to 5.00 as highest). Pre- and post- tests have been administered to assess knowledge acquired and skills developed of BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT and GMS civil servants. Participating BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT and GMS officials have increased scores from pre to posts tests. A tracer study using a survey instrument to assess the application of the knowledge acquired and skills developed in the training programs and workshops of participating BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT and GMS government officials in their workplaces will also be implemented.

## 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	It is estimated that 12 person-months of international consulting services and 24 person-months of national consulting services are required for the TA. Individual consultants will be recruited on an intermittent basis, in accordance with ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time).
Procurement	Purchases of equipment (computer hardware and software) will be undertaken in cost-efficient manner, in accordance with ADB's Procurement Guidelines (2013, as amended from time to time) and in coordination with ADB's Office of Information Systems and Technology and Office of Administrative Services, where applicable. After the TA completion, any procured equipment will be disposed in compliance with Project Administration Instruction 5.09.

## Responsible Staff

Responsible ADB Officer	Krishnan, Gary P.
Responsible ADB Department	Southeast Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Div, SERD
Executing Agencies	<i>Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines</i>

## Timetable

Concept Clearance	08 Sep 2014
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	18 Dec 2014
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	30 Mar 2017

## TA 8836-REG

Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
18 Dec 2014	-	18 Dec 2014	31 Dec 2017	30 Jun 2018	-

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
750,000.00	750,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500,000.00	18 Dec 2014	802,039.27

Request for Information

<http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=48290-001>

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