

PROJECT PREPARATORY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A. Justification

1. The Ministry of Transport and Communications (MOTC) of the Kyrgyz Republic has requested ADB for a project preparatory technical assistance (PPTA) to identify, formulate, and prepare a project of Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation¹ Corridors 1 and 3 Connector Road.

B. Major Outputs and Activities

2. The main outcome of the PPTA is to prepare a feasibility study suitable for ADB financing. The PPTA will cover the preparation of the feasibility study of the road sections to be rehabilitated. They are (i) from Balykchy village to kilometer marker 43, approximately 43 km; (ii) from Kochkor village to Jyldyz village, approximately 119 km; and (iii) from Aral village to CAREC 3 road corridor (via Suusamyр valley), approximately 91 km. The project scope also includes soft components to tackle sector-wide issues. Agreement needs to be reached with the government on the details. It may include support to (i) improve efficiency of road asset management, (ii) assist the government with institutional reforms in transport sector, (iii) introduce performance-based maintenance contracts, and (iv) improve road safety. The major outputs and activities are summarized in Table A3.1.

Table A3.1: Summary of Major Outputs and Activities

	Major Activities	Expected Completion Date	Major Outputs	Expected Completion Date
	Consultant mobilization	Month 1	Work program	May 2015
Task 1	Feasibility study and engineering design	Months 1 to 12	Preliminary engineering design Procurement plan Draft Bid Documents Final project administration manual and design and monitoring framework	July 2015 October 2015 December 2015 January 2016
Task 2	Road sector analysis	Months 1 to 6	Road sector assessment report	October 2015
Task 3	Environment and social safeguards survey and analysis, validation of indigenous people existence, and analysis	Months 1 to 6	Final IEE report Final draft RP report Final IP report	October 2015 October 2015 October 2015
Task 4	Social, poverty, and gender analysis	Months 1 to 6	Final poverty and social report	October 2015

¹ CAREC is a proactive facilitator of project-based cooperation in transport, trade, energy, and other key sectors of mutual interest. It is a partnership of 10 countries and six multilateral institutions working together to promote development through regional cooperation, leading to accelerated growth and poverty reduction.

	Major Activities	Expected Completion Date	Major Outputs	Expected Completion Date
Task 5	Financial analysis and management assessment	Months 5 to 6	Financial analysis report, risk assessment, and risk management plan	October 2015
Task 6	Economic assessment	Months 5 to 6	Economic analysis report	October 2015
Task 7	Road asset management assessment	Months 3 to 8	Road asset management plan	December 2015
Task 8	Transport sector capacity strengthening	Months 3 to 10	Training plan and report	February 2016
Task 9	Climate change assessment	Months 1 to 12	Climate Change Assessment Report	October 2015

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

C. Cost Estimate and Proposed Financing Arrangement

4. The TA is estimated to cost \$1.1 million equivalent, of which \$1 million equivalent will be financed on a grant basis by ADB's Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-V). The government will provide in-kind counterpart support, such as counterpart staff, and other in-kind contributions. The detailed cost estimate is presented in Table A3.2.

Table A3.2: Cost Estimates and Financing Plan
(\$'000)

Item	Total Cost
ADB Financing^a	
1. Consultants	
a. Remuneration and per diem	
i. International consultants (27 person-months)	620.0
ii. National consultants (34 person-months)	109.0
b. International and local travel	68.0
c. Reports and communications	4.0
2. Workshops, training, seminars, and conferences ^b	20.0
3. Surveys ^c	60.0
4. Miscellaneous administration and support costs	59.0
5. Contingencies	60.0
Total	1,000.0

^a Financed by the Asian Development Bank's Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-V).

^b Workshops, training, seminars, and conferences.

Purpose

Workshops—stakeholder consultations

Training—Road safety, road maintenance program, and project management

Venue

Bishkek and selected locations

To be determined

^c Surveys cover traffic, engineering, social, environmental, and other field surveys, as necessary.

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

Note: The total cost of the technical assistance (TA) amounts to an equivalent of \$1,100,000, of which contributions from ADB are presented in the table above. The government will provide counterpart support in the form of counterpart staff, office space and supplies, secretarial assistance, and other in-kind contributions, whose value is estimated to account for 9.1% of the total TA cost.

D. Consulting Services

5. For the PPTA, a consulting firm will be recruited using the quality-and cost-based selection procedure, with a simplified technical proposal and a 90:10 proportion of quality to cost. 90:10 is required due to the technical knowledge required in preparing a PPTA. The services will be implemented over about 14 calendar months and will require about 27 international person-months and 34 national person-months.² ADB will select and engage the consulting firm in accordance with ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time). Table A3.3 shows the summary of consulting services requirements; see Supplementary Appendix for the detailed terms of reference.

Table A3.3: Summary of Consulting Services Requirement

International Name of Positions	Person- months	National Name of Positions	Person- months
Highway Engineer/Team Leader	6	Highway Engineer/Deputy Team Leader	7
Geotechnical Specialist/	2	Geotechnical Engineer	5
Road/Transport Economist	3	Bridge Specialist	2
Environment Specialist	3	Hydrologist	2
Resettlement Specialist	3	Environmental Specialist	3
Social Specialist	2	Resettlement/ Social Development Specialist	6
Road Asset Management Specialist	3	CAD Specialist	4
Procurement Specialist	2	Materials Engineer	2
Climate Change Specialist	3	Procurement Specialist	3
Total	27		34

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

E. Implementation Arrangements

6. MOTC will be the executing agency of the PPTA and its Investment Project Implementation Group (IPIG) will be the implementing agency. A project coordinator will be appointed for the PPTA to monitor the day-to-day progress and prepare the necessary documents and reports. MOTC will provide (i) counterpart staff, who will work closely with the consultants; and (ii) project-related data and information for the consultant to carry out the works and deliver the outputs. TA funds will be disbursed in accordance with ADB's *Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook* (2010, as amended from time to time). The tentative TA processing and implementation schedule is listed in Table A3.4.

Table A3.4: Technical Assistance Processing and Implementation Schedule

Milestones	Expected Completion Date
Approval of concept paper	April 2015
Consultant selection	April 2015
Mobilization of consultant	May 2015
TA inception review	June 2015
TA final review cum loan/grant fact-finding	April 2016
Additional inputs in finalizing ADB documents	August 2016

Source: Staff estimates.

² Output-based (lump-sum) contracts will be considered in all consulting services contract.