



## Regional: Knowledge Development Support for Southeast Asia

Project Name	Knowledge Development Support for Southeast Asia		
Project Number	49150-001		
Country	Regional		
Project Status	Active		
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance		
Source of Funding / Amount	<b>TA 8977-REG: Knowledge Development Support for Southeast Asia</b>		
	Technical Assistance Special Fund		US\$ 1.50 million
	<b>TA 8977-REG: Knowledge Development Support for Southeast Asia (Supplementary)</b>		
	Technical Assistance Special Fund		US\$ 500,000.00
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> - Water-based natural resources management <b>Finance</b> - Infrastructure finance and investment funds <b>Industry and trade</b> - Industry and trade sector development <b>Public sector management</b> - Economic affairs management - Public administration		
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	No gender elements		
Description	<p>Southeast Asia is one of the most dynamic regions in the world. Driven by strong growth, many of the region's developing member countries (DMCs) are entering middle income status (i.e., Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Thailand), Other Southeast Asian DMCs are also experiencing robust growth rates. The region's development and integration are expected to gain momentum with the realization of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) by the end of 2015, further fueling the region's growth, integration, and competitiveness within the global economy.</p> <p>As the region experiences positive momentum for development, its knowledge requirements are becoming more complex. Quick access to in-depth knowledge products and services is needed to formulate policies and provide solutions to emerging issues, including knowledge services that cannot be planned. Yet despite ADB's growing support, DMCs and subregional entities today need more responsive knowledge solutions that can be provided in real time. In line with the "Midterm Review of Strategy 2020: Meeting the Challenges of a Transforming Asia and Pacific", and evolving client needs in Southeast Asia, ADB needs to: (i) provide faster and more operationally relevant knowledge support; (ii) ensure a readily available resource pool to respond the countries' requests at both national and subregional levels; and (iii) enhance coordination among the sector divisions, resident missions, and knowledge departments in the formulation of knowledge products and support. This technical assistance (TA) is based on the requirements of Southeast Asian DMCs and requests to ADB for enhanced knowledge support</p>		

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>The impact of the TA will be enhanced growth, competitiveness, and integration of Southeast Asia within the global economy. The outcome will be the adoption and application of knowledge solutions for improved policies, regulations, and capacities by Southeast Asian DMCs and subregional entities through: (i) DMC officials using knowledge solutions as envisioned in the midterm review and country knowledge plans (CKPs) via the facility TA approach; and (ii) ADB (sector divisions and resident missions) and relevant agencies engaging in policy dialogue (as relevant for ADB operations) by the end of 2018, consistent with the CKP and midterm review priorities, and based on the recommendations from the TA knowledge solutions.</p> <p>The proposed TA will improve the timely and coordinated delivery of knowledge services and policy advice to Southeast Asian DMCs and subregional entities to promote inclusive growth and increase ADB's operational efficiency and policy impact. To facilitate a quick and effective response to the DMC and subregional entity knowledge requirements, the TA will be structured as a facility TA. ADB first developed the facility TA modality in partnership with the Government of the People's Republic of China to serve as a flexible, quick-response mechanism where multiple subprojects are funded under a single TA. Using this facility TA modality will better enable ADB to provide timely knowledge support, particularly for policy advice pursuant to emerging DMC and subregional demands. It will improve responsiveness, while reducing administrative costs of processing individual TA projects.</p>
Impact	Growth, competitiveness, and integration of Southeast Asia within the global economy are enhanced.

## Project Outcome

Description of Outcome	Adoption and application of knowledge solutions for improved policies, regulations, and capacities by Southeast Asian DMCs and subregional entities
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### Progress Toward Outcome

#### Implementation Progress

Description of Project Outputs	<p>Development of knowledge products for Southeast Asian DMCs or subregional entities</p> <p>Conduct of dissemination activities related to the knowledge products and support</p>
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	<p>The TA is currently supporting a total of 15 subprojects: seven (7) support country knowledge products and activities, and eight (8) regional and subregional knowledge initiatives.</p> <p>A. The country knowledge products are briefly described below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Indonesia: knowledge products supporting the food security and water security agenda</li> <li>(ii) Lao PDR: study on the benefit of economic corridors</li> <li>(iii) Malaysia: workshop on estimating potential growth</li> <li>(iv) Philippines: finalization of knowledge products for the Government's long-term development vision</li> <li>(v) Thailand: development of a Master Plan for Health to include projects for public-private partnerships;</li> <li>(vi) Viet Nam: conduct of a study to design and implement regional economic cooperation and integration initiatives; and</li> <li>(vii) Viet Nam: knowledge support to enhance ridership and revenue generation for the Hanoi Metro system</li> </ul> <p>Regional and subregional subprojects funded under the TA include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) support to the new Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) statistical database and website,</li> <li>(ii) support to Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam (CLMV) to implement commitments to ASEAN Economic Community,</li> <li>(iii) improving logistics in GMS for trade facilitation,</li> <li>(iv) subregional initiatives involving CLMV,</li> <li>(v) axle load control operations in GMS,</li> <li>(vi) special economic zones,</li> <li>(vii) technical study to support the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund; and</li> <li>(viii) energy trade in the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area.</li> </ul> <p>TA implementation is proceeding in accordance with planned schedule. The initial outcomes of the study on GMS logistics were presented at the GMS Economic Corridors Forum in August 2016. Four subregional subprojects have already been completed. To date a total of 39 experts have been engaged, contracts for 18 of whom are completed. SERC is preparing a request for additional funding for \$1.5 million to finance a number of projects lined up for 2017-2018.</p>

Geographical Location

## Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects

Involuntary Resettlement

Indigenous Peoples

### Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design

## Business Opportunities

Consulting Services	A total of 40 person-months of international consulting services and 40 person-months of national consulting services are required for the TA. Based on the specific knowledge product to be developed or knowledge service to be provided, either firms or individual consultants can be recruited, in accordance with ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time).
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## Responsible Staff

Responsible ADB Officer	Rush, Jason M.
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	11 Sep 2015
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	22 Oct 2015
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	30 Mar 2017

## TA 8977-REG

Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
22 Oct 2015	-	22 Oct 2015	30 Nov 2018	-	-

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
2,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000,000.00	22 Oct 2015	773,715.06

Project Page	<a href="https://www.adb.org/projects/49150-001/main">https://www.adb.org/projects/49150-001/main</a>
Request for Information	<a href="http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=49150-001">http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=49150-001</a>
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