



Regional: Support of ADB-USEPA Cooperation

Project Name	Support of ADB-USEPA Cooperation	
Project Number	49182-001	
Country	Regional	
Project Status	Active	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	TA 8911-REG: Support of ADB-USEPA Cooperation	
	Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 45,000.00
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth	
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships Private sector development	
Sector / Subsector	Agriculture, natural resources and rural development - Agricultural policy, institutional and capacity development - Rural water policy, institutional and capacity development - Water-based natural resources management Water and other urban infrastructure and services - Other urban services - Urban policy, institutional and capacity development	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	No gender elements	
Description	<p>The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) signed a Letter of Intent (LOI) on 12 May 2005 which provides a framework for regularly identifying and carrying out joint activities in Asia-Pacific. The LOI was renewed on 30 March 2010 and is to be renewed again on 30 June 2015 for another 5 years.</p> <p>ADB is expected to continue to facilitate the realization of the aims of both institutions to protect the environment while promoting economic growth, inclusive social development, and improved governance. Promoting the role of the private sector in development, supporting regional cooperation and integration for development and addressing environmental sustainability are acknowledged as still fundamental to the aims of the cooperation. The cooperation is also expected to increase their development relevance and effectiveness by managing activities on the basis of performance results. The collaboration between ADB and USEPA is guided by the following principles: (i) country and regional ownership of sound development policies and programs is necessary to ensure sustainable development; (ii) long-term approaches to sustainable development are needed; (iii) full stakeholder participation should be encouraged, consistent with available resources; and (iv) development policies and programs should be result-oriented and built on transparent relationships between development assistance providers and beneficiary countries.</p> <p>ADB and USEPA intend to explore all possibilities for effective collaboration with respect to environment, sustainable development, and natural resource management, including, but not limited to cooperation on (i) improving air quality management, especially in urban areas; (ii) building strong environmental institutions and legal structures (development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental law, as well as strengthening of environmental governance institutions such as courts); (iii) building environmental impact assessment policies and procedures; (iv) improving provision of safe drinking water, especially in urban and peri-urban areas; (v) sound management of toxic substances, especially of Persistent Bioaccumulative Toxins (PBTs) including Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs); and (vi) improving water resource management. Other areas for mutual collaboration and cooperation may be identified and addressed by the participants from time to time.</p>	

Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy

The impact of this S-CDTA is to improve DMCs capacity in the areas of environmental management, sustainable development and natural resources management. The outcome is to provide an operational platform to effectively implement the collaboration between ADB and USEPA, in line with the Letter of Intent.

Under this S-CDTA, ADB and USEPA will cooperate in the specific areas agreed through periodic work plans where USEPA will make available experts who will provide environmental technical services to ADB-financed projects, programs, and technical assistance. This S-CDTA will enable USEPA to cooperate with ADB in providing assistance to countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

USEPA will provide experts who will carry out the following broad types of activities: (i) environmental information activities in project development, implementation, and assessment; (ii) environmental policy and technical assistance; (iii) environmental impact assessment training and consultation; (iv) human resource development related to the environment; (v) project and policy evaluation related to the environment; (vi) institutional capacity building, particularly around environmental governance; and (vii) environmental knowledge sharing through exchange of publications, reports and experts.

An indicative list of specific program activities include: (i) environmental impact assessment (EIA) trainings in south-south twinning activities under the Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network (AECEN); (ii) activities under the Joint Safeguards Practitioners CoP in conjunction with USAID and other development partners, (iii) activities relating to air quality management in the Peoples Republic of China, particularly for Beijing and surrounding regions; (iv) activities relating to air quality improvements in Asia and partnering activities that involve ADB and CAI-Asia; (vi) development of technical assistance and strengthening environmental policy and implementation capacity in DMCs in Asia and the Pacific; and (vii) reviewing technical documents, conducting reconnaissance missions, trainings and capacity development activities.

Impact

Project Outcome

Description of Outcome

Progress Toward Outcome

Implementation Progress

Description of Project Outputs

Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)

The TA has made considerable progress from end-2016.

1. Under the ADB-USEPA cooperation, the Chief, Drinking Water and Municipal Infrastructure Branch of USEPA participated the ADB Green Business Forum during November 22-24, 2016 and made a presentation on 'How New York City Provides High Quality Unfiltered Drinking Water? Leveraging Regulation and Partnerships'.

2. A training workshop on "Principles of Environmental Compliance Inspections and Enforcement" was held in Pokhara, Nepal from 09-13 January 2017. Twenty six government officials and other participants attended the training designed to develop a management approach to an environmental problem, draft enforceable requirements, design a compliance strategy and enforcement program, conduct inspections, gather evidence, and resolve enforcement cases. The training was conducted by the Acting Director, International Compliance Assurance Division, USEPA with support from two other professional colleagues.

3. The ADB Project Officer visited USEPA and discussed the potential areas of cooperation under the TA. Based on the discussion, a work-plan prepared for 2017. Two Senior Officials of USEPA (Director of Office of Regional and Bilateral Affairs, Office of International and Tribal Affairs and Senior Advisor, Asia-Pacific & Europe Program, Office of the International & Tribal Affairs) visited ADB HQ during 27-28 February 2017. They had meetings with several ADB staff to discuss and identify further areas of cooperation between ADB and USEPA.

4. A workshop on "Pollution, Health and Safety Management in ADB Projects - Air Quality Module" was organized from 04 -07 April 2017 at ADB HQ. The Manager, AirNow International, USEPA was one of the key resource person of the training supported by the TA. The training was attended by 40 ADB staff and consultants from HQ and resident missions. The training was designed to improve the knowledgebase of the ADB staff and consultants air quality agenda and improve the EIA and project design.

5. An orientation program on 'Orientation on Air Quality Index and USEPA's AirNow-International' was organized on April 08, 2017 to present on Air Quality Index and AirNow-International system. These tools can be used to communicate to the public the connection between air pollution and health, helping to facilitate their involvement in efforts to improve air quality.

The other activities will be implemented as per agreed work-plan. The disbursement so far is \$17,721.

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 USEPA will select experts (whether USEPA staff or USEPA consultants) available for the activities. USEPA will identify and provide personnel from among USEPA employees or USEPA consultants, suitable to perform the tasks agreed to with ADB and make their qualifications available for review by ADB.

Responsible Staff

Responsible ADB Officer	Ferdausi, Shakil A.
Responsible ADB Department	Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department
Responsible ADB Division	SDES*
Executing Agencies	<i>Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines</i>

Timetable

Concept Clearance	-
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	24 Jun 2015
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	02 May 2017

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Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
24 Jun 2015	-	24 Jun 2015	30 Jun 2018	-	-

Financing Plan/TA Utilization							Cumulative Disbursements	
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
45,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	45,000.00	90,000.00	24 Jun 2015	28,160.33

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