



## Myanmar: Capacity Development for Project Implementation

Project Name	Capacity Development for Project Implementation				
Project Number	49297-001				
Country	Myanmar				
Project Status	Active				
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance				
Source of Funding / Amount	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>TA 9074-MYA: Capacity Development for Project Implementation</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction</td> <td>US\$ 2.00 million</td> </tr> </table>	<b>TA 9074-MYA: Capacity Development for Project Implementation</b>		Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction	US\$ 2.00 million
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Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction	US\$ 2.00 million				
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth				
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships				
Sector / Subsector	<b>Public sector management</b> - Public administration				
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements				
Description	<p>Since opening the economy in 2011, Myanmar has been undergoing far-ranging political, economic, and social transformations. While impressive reform progress has been made, Myanmar's development challenges remain daunting as the operating context is highly complex. Development partners have positively responded to the country's opening and reform process by significantly increasing development assistance to Myanmar. In this regard, limited absorptive government capacities are posing major challenges to development effectiveness.</p> <p>The Government of Myanmar (government) has requested capacity development technical assistance (TA) to enhance its absorptive capacity for development assistance in support of the economic reform agenda, including establishing standard protocols of engagement and project implementation.</p>				
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	The Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) seek to enhance the development impact of development partner funded projects. Consistent with these efforts, capacity development technical assistance (TA) is proposed to improve capacity in key operational areas to underpin implementation of development partner assistance, in particular to meeting the capacity gap in absorbing external development assistance and effectively implementing projects that meet best practices. It will strengthen government capacity to absorb development partner assistance and develop procedures through the implementation of activities in critical areas such as project administration, financial management and procurement, social safeguards, civil society engagement, conflict-sensitive approaches, and stakeholder consultations.				
Impact	The TA impact will be strengthened effectiveness of development partner funded projects.				

### Project Outcome

Description of Outcome	Improved capacity of the government to implement projects
Progress Toward Outcome	As of end March 2017, the TA has provided 23 trainings, seminars and workshops under the three components involving over 800 representatives from central and line ministries, executing and implementing agencies, project monitoring units, civil society, and project beneficiaries. A capacity development framework is being developed to serve as an overarching guide in the identification, planning and execution of additional learning initiatives to sustain efforts in helping improve capacity of the government to implement projects.

### Implementation Progress

Description of Project Outputs	<p>The TA will contribute to improved government capacity to absorb external development assistance and effectively implementing projects, through three main outputs.</p> <p>Output 1: Improved project cycle management. The TA will support improved project management systems and capacity, in project processing and administration (including procurement and financial management) aligned to the extent possible with the procedures of other development partners. It will achieve this by developing consistent procedures and practices where appropriate, and implementing capacity development programs in critical areas. It will contribute to the development of project readiness filters, establishment of service standard levels, improvement of advance actions, and greater transparency and accountability in public procurement and financial management. These activities will be embodied in manuals and guidelines. The Ministry of Finance (MOF) and the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development (MNPED) will be the key government counterparts for this output. The EA/IAs in key sectors, in which international development finance agencies are engaged in Myanmar, will be beneficiaries.</p> <p>Output 2: Stronger social safeguards systems. The TA will contribute to strengthened national social safeguards systems and capacity, specifically relating to involuntary resettlement and indigenous peoples. It will achieve this by supporting MOECAAF (as the coordinator of social safeguards issues) to develop and monitor national systems, including through the establishment of a social safeguards unit; and by strengthening EA/IA capacities to implement and monitor social safeguards activities, including the establishment of grievance redress mechanisms. Manuals and guidelines will be produced to support these activities. This output will benefit MOECAAF, central agencies and relevant EAs/IAs that international development finance agencies are engaged with.</p> <p>Output 3: Enhanced context sensitivity. The TA will enhance context sensitivity embodied in development programs, through strengthened awareness and capacity of relevant agencies in civil society engagement, conflict-sensitive approaches, comprehensive communications strategies, and stakeholder consultations. These activities will build on ongoing work by ADB and other partners on the implementation of best practice consultation and participation approaches in Myanmar and will involve manuals and guidelines to support related activities. In particular, the TA will strengthen the capacities of central agencies and the EAs/IAs involved in project implementation to carry out meaningful consultations with local populations on development projects, to develop and implement communications strategies, and to engage constructively with civil society in project-affected areas.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improved project cycle management</li> <li>2. Stronger social safeguard systems</li> </ol> <p>Improved project cycle management</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Stronger social safeguard systems</li> <li>3. Enhanced context sensitivity</li> </ol>
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Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	<p>Under component 1 (improved project cycle management), ten training, seminars and workshops have been conducted to date covering the areas of procurement, disbursement, financial management, anticorruption, portfolio review, and business opportunities for local contractors and suppliers. The TA has been instrumental in providing intensive support to the joint country portfolio review (JCPR) process undertaken with the Government of Myanmar, ADB, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the World Bank Group (WBG). Under ADB's lead role in 2016, the 2016 JCPR produced a more focused joint action plan outlining measures to address three key issues affecting project processing and implementation of development-funded projects, namely, approval process for new projects, approval process for projects under implementation, and procurement. Efforts will be continuing to implement the joint action plan, and support the 2017 JCPR process, as well as to conduct additional learning programs/initiatives. Preparation of generic manuals and guidelines on project processing and implementation, including on financial management, in line with the evolving country systems are being initiated under the JCPR initiative.</p> <p>Under component 2 (stronger social safeguards system), trainings have been conducted covering the following areas: environmental and social safeguards, and grievance redress mechanism. More initiatives are underway with the recruitment of a social safeguards expert, who will help plan and execute them, in close coordination with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation and the TA team.</p> <p>Under component 3 (enhanced context sensitivity), wide-ranging consultations have been undertaken with project beneficiaries and other stakeholders of ADB operations in Myanmar at the central, regional, state and township levels to discuss the following: governance risk assessment, regional cooperation and integration, ADB's country partnership strategy with Myanmar, and project-level initiatives. Efforts will be intensified in this area as the TA progresses.</p> <p>A multidisciplinary pool of experts has been engaged to support work under the three components in the following areas: project implementation, procurement, portfolio review, program management, consultation and participation, context sensitivity and capacity development.</p>
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Geographical Location

## Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects

Involuntary Resettlement

Indigenous Peoples

**Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation**

During Project Design	The TA design incorporates observations, views and insights gained during various consultations undertaken by the ADB with central and line ministries, executing and implementing agencies, development partners, civil society, private sector and project beneficiaries at the central, regional, state and township levels, including lessons learned from the conduct of ADB operations prior to the TA development.
During Project Implementation	An integral part and a component of the TA design is enhanced context sensitivity. This involves proactive and wide-ranging consultations with key stakeholders of this TA, in particular, and of ADB operations in Myanmar, in general. The implementation of the two components of the TA also involves extensive communication, participation and consultation of stakeholders as reported in the implementation progress.

## Business Opportunities

Consulting Services	The TA will support a team of short-term international and national consultants to contribute to capacity strengthening in key operational areas to underpin implementation of ADB and other development partner assistance. The TA will require up to 85 person-months of international consultant and 50 person-months of national consultant services. Consultants will be recruited by ADB in accordance with its Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time). Detailed terms of reference and consultant configurations will be prepared prior to implementation.
Procurement	Any procurement of goods and services will be in accordance with ADB's Procurement Guidelines (2015, as amended from time to time).

## Responsible Staff

Responsible ADB Officer	Concepcion, Rhodora B.
Responsible ADB Department	Southeast Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Myanmar Resident Mission
Executing Agencies	<i>Ministry of Planning and Finance Building No 26. Nay Pyi Taw Republic of the Union of Myanmar</i>

## Timetable

Concept Clearance	10 Sep 2015
Fact Finding	15 Jul 2015 to 04 Aug 2015
MRM	-
Approval	29 Jan 2016
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	31 Mar 2017

## TA 9074-MYA

Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
29 Jan 2016	27 Apr 2016	27 Apr 2016	31 Dec 2018	-	-

Financing Plan/TA Utilization							Cumulative Disbursements	
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
0.00	2,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000,000.00	29 Jan 2016	429,509.63

Project Page	<a href="https://www.adb.org/projects/49297-001/main">https://www.adb.org/projects/49297-001/main</a>
Request for Information	<a href="http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=49297-001">http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=49297-001</a>
Date Generated	06 July 2017

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