

PROJECT PREPARATORY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A. Justification

1. The Project Preparatory Technical Assistance (PPTA) is necessary to: (i) review the technical, economic and financial viability of the project and ascertain the project rationale, scope, cost, schedule, implementation arrangements, risks and mitigation measures; (ii) ensure compliance with Asian Development Bank's (ADB) *safeguard policy statement* (2009) and identify mitigation measures and institutional strengthening; and (iii) assist the project executing agency (EA) and implementing agency (IA) in advance contracting for the ensuing loan project.

B. Major Outputs and Activities

2. ADB will employ a firm to (i) undertake a health sector assessment, which will consider the beneficial impacts of the project in strengthening the country's health system, and how it can be leveraged to help the country move towards universal health coverage (UHC); (ii) conduct project and sector procurement risk assessment¹; (iii) conduct a capacity assessment of the EA and IA; (iv) conduct technical, economic, financial and safeguards due diligence; (v) draft a Gender Action Plan; (vi) prepare technical specifications for the equipment and physical components; (vii) prepare the project administration manual and other linked documents; (viii) assist the IA in the preparation of bidding documents; (ix) draft procurement plan, cost estimates of equipment and Bill of Materials (BOMs); and (x) provide inputs to ADB's Report and Recommendation of the President (RRP). Individual national consultants will be hired to assess social development and gender aspects.

3. The major outputs and activities are summarized in Table A3.1.

Table A3.1: Summary of Major Outputs and Activities

Major Activities	Major Outputs	Expected Completion Date
I. Sector Review and Risk Assessment		
A. Review sector policy, institutions, regulatory framework, investment and development plan	• Sector assessment report	November 2016
B. Assess procurement risks	• PCA report	November 2016
C. Assess sector and project risk recommend mitigation measures	• Risk assessment and management report	November 2016
II. NHMIS design and Cost estimates		
A. Conduct technical due diligence: scope, design, specifications, schedule and cost estimate	• Technical due diligence report	November 2016
B. Draft, prepare and assist approval of FS	• FS report for government	January 2017
III. Social development and gender (individual consultant)		
A. Conduct social and poverty (including gender) analysis	• Social and Poverty analysis report	November 2016
B. Draft SPRSS and GAP	• Draft SPRSS, Draft GAP	November 2016
IV. Economic and Financial Analysis		
A. Conduct project economic analysis and financial evaluation	• Economic analysis report • Financial analysis report	November 2016
B. Prepare financial structure, and assess and propose fund flow and disbursement mechanism	• Financial structure report	November 2016
V. Preparatory Work for Procurement		
A. Prepare specifications and draft bidding documents	• Draft bidding documents	May 2017
B. (individual consultant) Assist recruitment of project implementation consultant	• Draft Submission documents (1-4)	Throughout the period

¹ ADB. 2015. Guide on assessing procurement risks and determining project procurement classification. Manila.

FS = feasibility study; GAP = gender action plan; PCA = procurement capacity assessment; SPRSS = summary of poverty reduction and social strategy.

Source: Asian Development Bank.

C. Cost Estimate and Proposed Financing Arrangement

4. The technical assistance is estimated to cost \$800,000 equivalent, all of which will be financed on a grant basis by ADB's Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-Others). All disbursement under the PPTA will be made in accordance with the Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook (2010 as amended). The government will provide counterpart support in the form of counterpart staff, provision of office space, and furniture, secretarial assistance, and other in-kind contributions. The detailed cost estimate is presented in Table A3.2.

Table A3.2: Cost Estimates and Financing Plan
(\$800,000)

Item	Total Cost
Asian Development Bank^a	
1. Consultants	
a. Remuneration and per diem	
i. International consultants (22 person-months)	470.0
ii. National consultants (27 person-months)	116.0
b. International and local travel	37.0
c. Reports and communications	7.0
2. Equipment (computer, printer, etc.) ^b	10.0
3. Workshops, training, seminars, and conferences	
a. Facilitators	50.0
b. Training program	20.0
4. Surveys	15.0
5. Miscellaneous administration and support costs ^d	5.0
6. Contingencies	70.0
Total	800.0

Note: The government will provide counterpart support in the form of counterpart staff, office with furniture, secretarial assistance, and other in-kind contributions.

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

^b Equipment procured such as printer, computer, router will be transferred to the EA after project completion.

^c Includes rent of facilities, food and beverages, materials, honorarium, travel cost, and per diem of persons engaged as speakers.

^d Includes translation costs.

Source: ADB staff estimates.

D. Consulting Services

5. A total of 22 international person-months and 27 national person-months of consulting services will be required (Table A3.3). ADB will select and engage consultants in accordance with ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (March 2013, as amended from time to time). The quality and cost-based selection (QCBS), using full technical proposal procedures, will be used for hiring a consulting firm. The quality and cost ratio for QCBS will be 90:10. The consultants may procure equipment through shopping in accordance with ADB's Procurement Guidelines (April 2015, as amended from time to time). Additional experts, both international (2 person-months) and national (2 person-months), may be needed in the areas of project administration and management, finance, laboratory, public health, and behavioral change communication; and resources persons during workshops to be identified as needed. Individual consultants will be recruited following ADB's Individual Consultant Selection (ICS). Upon completion of the PPTA, equipment procured will be transferred to the EA. Inputs may be augmented by a small number of resource persons as needed funded under item 3 (Table A3.2). All documents and reports will be in English language and made available in the electronic format to ADB and EA. Safeguards documents will be translated into Russian and Uzbek for

public consultation.

Table A3.3: Summary of Consulting Services Requirement

Positions	Person-Months Required	
	International	National
Consulting Firm		
Public Health Specialist/Team Leader	6	
Institutional expert (health)/Deputy Team Leader		8
HMIS Expert (content designer)	3	3
eHealth Specialist	3	4
Procurement Specialist	4	6
Financial Management Expert	2	2
Health System Specialist	2	
Sub total	20	23
Individual Consultants		
Social Development Expert		2
Non-specified international and national consultants	2	2
Subtotal	2	4
Total Consulting Person-Months Required	22	27

Source: Asian Development Bank.

6. The outline terms of reference (TOR) for the PPTA consultants are described in paragraphs 7 to 13. An expression of interest for the loan implementation consulting firm will be completed by June 2017 and the project team will work closely with the Operations and Services and Financial Management Department throughout processing and implementation.

Consulting firm

7. **Public Health Specialist/Team Leader (international, 6 person-months).** Key tasks are to: (i) coordinate the activities of team members and develop detailed work plan and implementation schedule; (ii) ensure quality and timely project deliverables; and (iii) assist in preparing relevant sections of the ADB's RRP and all supporting reports. The consultant requires at least 15 years of experience.

8. **Institutional expert (health)/Deputy Team Leader (national, 8 person-months).** Key tasks are to: (i) work with and support the team leader to coordinate the activities of team members; (ii) assist specifically with sector assessment; (iii) ensure quality and timely project deliverables; (iv) risk and capacity assessment and; and (v) assist in preparing relevant sections of the ADB's RRP and all supporting reports. The consultant requires at least 10 years of experience.

9. **HMIS expert/content designer (international and national, 3 person-months each).** Key tasks for these consultants are: (i) review and confirm any technical design, configuration and scope of the government's plan—this will include the general and country specific technical requirements for business process mapping; (ii) determine which indicators and data elements for indicators are needed to derive information for monitoring and decision-making; and (iii) prepare technical specifications of the ICT components in a procurement ready state. The consultant requires at least 10 years of experience.

10. **Digital health Specialist (international, 3 person-months and national, 4 person months).** Key tasks for these consultants will be to: (i) assess the e-Health enterprise architecture framework, identify necessary data and ICT standards required and develop the "how to" guides using industry best practices to plan, deploy, and effectively manage existing

and new ICT solutions; and (ii) review and confirm any technical design, configuration and scope of the government's. The consultant requires at least 10 years of experience.

11. **Health System Specialist (international, 2 person months).** Key tasks are to: (i) conduct a health sector assessment which will pave the way for long-term programmatic approach, consider the beneficial impacts of the project in strengthening the country's health system, and (ii) update indicators and progress from ADB's first health project. The consultant requires at least 10 years of experience.

12. **Procurement Specialists (international, 4 person-months and national, 6 person-months).** Key tasks are to: (i) conduct procurement risk assessment of the EA; (ii) assist with the health sector assessment and (iii) prepare TOR and request for proposal for the recruitment of project implementation consultant. The consultant requires at least 10 years of experience.

13. **Financial Management Expert (international and national, 2 person-months each).** The key tasks are: (i) financial management assessment of the EA and IA; (ii) review of cost estimates and financing plan, financial viability evaluation of project; (iii) financial structure assessment including fund flow, disbursement mechanism; and (iv) conduct financial analysis and projection of the EA and IA. The consultant requires at least 10 years of experience.

Individual consultants

14. **Social Development Expert (Gender) (national, 2 person-months).** The key tasks are: (i) conduct of a poverty, social and gender baseline study and impact assessment; (ii) preparation gender action plans/strategies; and (iii) due diligence on core labor standards of the EA and IA. The consultant requires at least 7 years of experience.

15. **Non-specified international and national consultants (international and national, 2 person-months each).** The key tasks of these specialists are likely to be in the areas of project management, finance, public health, and behavioral change communication, and resource persons for workshops to be identified as needed. The TOR will be defined in consultation with the government. The consultants will require at least 7 to 10 years of experience.

E. Implementation Arrangements

16. The MOH will be the EA and UzMedInfo, the IA. Under the previous ADB and World Bank Projects a joint project implementation bureau (JPIB) was established. It is proposed this project will also be coordinated by JPIB with the assistance of a project manager.

17. The EA and IA will assist the PPTA consultants with liaison, data gathering, preliminary analysis, and report writing. The MOH will make available, free of charge, counterpart staff, office spaces with furniture and equipment, documents and information, and organizational support for seminars, meetings etc. as reasonably required to carry out the tasks.

Table A3.4: Technical Assistance Processing and Implementation Schedule

Major Milestones	Expected Completion Date
Approval	July 2016
PPTA Project inception mission	November 2016
PPTA Midterm review/Project Fact finding	May 2017
Final PPTA Review	June 2018

Source: Asian Development Bank.