



## China, People's Republic of: Policy and Social Work Services for Vulnerable Children

Project Name	Policy and Social Work Services for Vulnerable Children	
Project Number	50354-001	
Country	China, People's Republic of	
Project Status	Approved	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	<b>TA: Policy and Social Work Services for Vulnerable Children</b> Technical Assistance Special Fund <span style="float: right;">US\$ 400,000.00</span>	
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth	
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions	
Sector / Subsector	<b>Education</b> - Education sector development - social protection initiatives <b>Public sector management</b> - Social protection initiatives	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Effective gender mainstreaming	
Description	<p>The Government of the People's Republic of China (PRC) has requested support to improve the response to the needs of vulnerable children through support from social workers in the provision of services to vulnerable children. The proposed knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) will support the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MOCA) to develop policy recommendations which will strengthen social work services for vulnerable children through (i) research on international experience, (ii) development of guidelines for service standards, and (iii) training requirements for social workers. This will help improve the social protection system for vulnerable children and ensure that their needs are better met.</p> <p>The TA is aligned with the Asian Development Bank's country partnership strategy for the PRC, 2016-2020 and the Social Protection Operational Plan 2014 2020 and is included in the PRC country operations business plan, 2017 2019. The TA is also aligned with the PRC Thirteenth Five-Year Plan which states that there will be sustained commitment to _provide care, psychological counseling, and other services for children in need_ in addition to _providing special care for left-behind children in rural areas._</p>	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>The PRC has been experiencing rapid demographic and social change as a result of economic growth over the last three decades. The shift from a centrally-planned to market-based economy in 1978, led to rapid economic and social development with gross domestic product (GDP) growth averaging at nearly 10% every year, and pulling nearly 800 million people out of poverty. This rapid growth has, however, brought with it a set of challenges and new vulnerabilities, including increased inequality, pockets of persistent poverty, and changing family structures driven in part by rapid urbanization, internal migration, and industrialization. One vulnerability due to economic growth, particular to the PRC, is as consequence of rural-urban migration and the hukou system, of children who are left behind in rural areas by parents in search of better employment opportunities. Despite significant reductions in their numbers over the past few years, this is still a substantial number of children.</p> <p>Unbalanced economic growth has created a group of children who are vulnerable due to poverty, disability, special needs, or failing parental care. In the PRC Thirteenth Five-Year Plan, the PRC has outlined plans to promote better care and protection for vulnerable children _living in difficulties._ This is defined as children left behind by parents, those living in poverty, those living with disability, orphans, and children without parental care. Most recently, in 2016, PRC State Council Order No. 36: Opinions on Strengthening the Guarantee for Destitute Children which outlined the need for social work to help rehabilitate and improve the lives of vulnerable children. Vulnerable children have special needs and may be neglected for a number of social, political, and economic reasons. The purpose of this TA is to help MOCA develop the necessary policies and social work system which will be able to support vulnerable children across all of the categories adduced above, to ensure their well-being and opportunities in society.</p>	
Impact	Policy environment for social work services for vulnerable children strengthened	

<b>Project Outcome</b>	
Description of Outcome	Social work system for vulnerable children strengthened
Progress Toward Outcome	
<b>Implementation Progress</b>	
Description of Project Outputs	Policy recommendations and operational guidelines on strengthening social work services for vulnerable children developed Assessment report of potential IT system and database prepared Awareness of social work services for vulnerable children enhanced
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	
Geographical Location	
<b>Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects</b>	
Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	
<b>Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation</b>	
During Project Design	
During Project Implementation	
<b>Business Opportunities</b>	
Consulting Services	The consultants will be engaged by ADB in accordance with the Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time). The consultants will be selected based on their academic qualifications and relevant work experience. ADB will engage directly all consultants through the individual consultant selection for a total of 29 person months and an estimated amount of \$230,000 (does not include per diem of consultants), i.e., an international senior specialist in social work for children and five national consultants composed of (i) team leader/specialist in social work for children; (ii) specialist on service standards and models; (iii) information technology specialist; (iv) specialist on service training guidelines; and (v) administrative assistant.
Responsible ADB Officer	Nigam, Jayati
Responsible ADB Department	East Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Urban and Social Sectors Division, EARD
Executing Agencies	<i>Ministry of Civil Affairs 147 Beiheyuan Dajie Dongcheng District, Beijing 100721</i>
<b>Timetable</b>	
Concept Clearance	09 Jun 2017
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	28 Aug 2017
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	28 Aug 2017
Project Page	<a href="https://www.adb.org/projects/50354-001/main">https://www.adb.org/projects/50354-001/main</a>
Request for Information	<a href="http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=50354-001">http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=50354-001</a>
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