

OUTLINE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANTS

1. The transaction technical assistance (TA) facility will assist South Asia developing member countries to strengthen capacity to prepare and implement sustainable rural infrastructure projects. ADB, through the Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Division will coordinate the overall TA activities working closely with the government and resident missions. The TA will support a team of short-term international and national consultants. The TA will require up to 13.25 person-months of international consultants and 11.25 person-months of national consulting services (Table 1). Consultants will be recruited by ADB in accordance with ADB Procurement Policy (2017, as amended time to time) and the associated project administration instructions/TA Staff Instructions. An outline of the terms of reference for each consultant is listed below.

Table 1: Indicative Consultants' Input Allocation
(person-month)

Item	Total
A. International	
Water resources/irrigation specialist	3.00
Agricultural specialist	0.50
Procurement specialist	2.75
Economist	2.00
Financial Management	0.50
Public-Private Partnership/Institutional specialist	1.00
Safeguard specialist	3.00
Climate change specialist	0.25
Resource persons	0.25
Subtotal A.	13.25
B. National	
Water resources/irrigation specialist	1.00
Agricultural specialist	0.50
Social development specialist (incl. gender, resettlement etc.)	4.50
Procurement specialist	4.50
Project coordinator	0.50
Resource persons	0.25
Subtotal B.	11.25
Total (A + B)	24.50

Source: Asian Development Bank.

A. International

2. **Water Resources/Irrigation Specialist (international, 3.0 person-months).** The specialist will have a degree in water resources, or related field and preferably 15 years of professional experience. The specialist will have extensive experience in planning and managing

water resources development projects and experience in ADB-funded projects (or by any other similar international funding agencies). The specialist will (i) conduct technical due diligence of the components and packages of identified projects, including reviewing selected feasibility studies and detailed design reports, ensure quality control, analyze technical and institutional risks associated with the proposed approach and identify mitigation measures; (ii) support the selected projects' executing agency and ADB team in meeting project readiness criteria for project Board approval; and (iii) help solve (as required) technical challenges in ongoing projects.

3. **Agricultural Specialist (international, 0.5 person-months).** The specialist will have a degree in agronomy or other related fields and preferably 10 years of professional experience, including experience in South Asia. The specialist will have experience in planning and managing agricultural intensification and diversification projects/programs. The specialist will (i) review selected feasibility studies and detailed design reports, ensure quality control, analyze technical and institutional risks associated with the proposed approach and identify mitigation measures; (ii) support the selected projects' executing agency and ADB team in meeting project readiness criteria for project Board approval; and (iii) help solve (as required) technical challenges in ongoing projects.

4. **Procurement Specialist (international, 2.75 person-months).** The specialist will preferably have a degree in civil engineering or equivalent, with 15 years of experience on similar development projects in Asia including South Asia. The specialist should have demonstrated experience with procurement processes for externally financed projects, mainly those funded by ADB or the World Bank, as well as with procurement training of executing agencies. The specialist will (i) review and upgrade the selected projects procurement plans, procurement capacity assessments, tender documents and request for proposals; (ii) support the relevant executing agency in addressing comments provided by ADB during the procurement and recruitment process; (iii) support the selected projects' executing agency and ADB team in meeting project readiness criteria for project Board approval; and (iv) provide training to stakeholders as required.

5. **Economist (international, 2.0 person-months).** The economist will preferably have a master's degree in economics, or other relevant discipline with 10 years of professional experience, experience in economic and financial analysis of infrastructure investment projects, preferably on ADB/World Bank-funded agriculture and natural resources projects. The specialist will have demonstrated experience in conducting financial analysis and cost-benefit analysis according to ADB standards and guidelines, and familiarity with ADB project processing requirements. The economist will (i) review and update the economic analysis of selected projects to meet to comply with ADB's Guidelines for the Economic Analysis of Projects (2017), (ii) review and update project cost estimates prepared for selected projects to ensure this meets ADB and executing agency requirement, and (iii) support the selected projects' executing agency and ADB team in meeting project readiness criteria for project Board approval.

6. **Financial Management Specialist (international, 0.5 person-months).** The financial management specialist should preferably have a CA/CPA and 10 years of experience in financial management including conducting financial management assessment for ADB or the World Bank financed project. A master's degree or equivalent in financial management or equivalent. The specialist will (i) review and update the financial management assessment of selected projects to meet ADB requirements, (ii) review and update project cost estimates prepared for selected projects to ensure this meets ADB and executing agency requirements, and (iii) support the selected projects' executing agency and ADB team in meeting project readiness criteria for project Board approval.

7. **Public-Private Partnership(PPP)/Institutional Specialist (international, 1.0 person-months).** The PPP/institution specialist will have a master's degree in a relevant field law and agriculture water resources or equivalent with preferably 10 years of experience in planning and implementing PPP rural infrastructure projects.. The specialist will (i) review relevant project PPP cell strength/weaknesses and need for further support; (ii) review project consultants PPP proposals assess risk allocation, stakeholder's readiness and recommend options for improvement; and (iii) support project PPP development from procurement through to startup.

8. **Safeguard specialist (international, 3.00 person-months).** The specialist will have preferably a master's degree in environmental sciences, social sciences, development studies, or equivalent as required and 10 years of experience in working in areas of safeguards in donor agencies including ADB. Demonstrated experience and understanding of ADB standards and guidelines with experience in producing the ADB reports. The specialist will (i) review safeguards documents produced by the executing agency and filling the gaps if any to ensure compliance with ADB Safeguard Policy Statement 2009, (ii) revise the PAM safeguard sections as required, (iii) support the executing agency in implementing safeguard plans by developing a detailed terms of reference and assisting the executing agency in implementing the plan, and (iv) support the selected projects' executing agency and ADB team in meeting project readiness criteria for project Board approval.

9. **Climate change specialist (international, 0.25 person-months).** The specialist will have a master's degree or higher in environmental management, climate change, or a related area with preferably 5 years of relevant experience in the areas directly related to climate change adaptation and experience in conducting climate change vulnerability and impact assessments. The specialist will support: (i) identification of climate change risks and assessing the impacts on selected projects; (ii) developing measures to improve climate change resilience and promote adaptation and mitigation, and (iii) provide training to stakeholders as required.

10. **Resource persons (international, 0.25 person-months).** Resource persons (technical specialists, project management experts, and/or staff of government implementing agency and executing agency) will be engaged to review documents and be speakers, facilitators, or discussants in related workshops, seminars, or conferences. Recruitment of these experts will be on need basis. The terms of reference for these experts will be developed on demand.

B. National

11. **Water resources/irrigation specialist (national, 1.0 person-months).** The specialist will have a degree in civil engineering, or related field and preferably 10 years of professional experience. The specialist will have extensive experience in planning and managing water resources development projects, experience in ADB-funded (or by any other similar international funding agencies). The consultant will (i) review selected feasibility studies and detailed design reports, ensure quality control, analyze technical and institutional risks associated with the proposed approach and identify mitigation measures; and (ii) support the selected projects' and ADB team in meeting project readiness criteria for project Board approval.

12. **Agricultural Specialist (national, 0.5 person-months).** The specialist will have a degree in agronomy or other related fields and preferably 10 years of professional experience, including experience in South Asia. The specialist will have experience in planning and managing agricultural intensification and diversification projects/programs. The specialist will (i) review selected feasibility studies and detailed design reports, ensure quality control, analyze technical and institutional risks associated with the proposed approach and identify mitigation measures;

(ii) support the selected projects' executing agency and ADB team in meeting project readiness criteria for project Board approval; and (iii) help solve (as required) technical challenges in ongoing projects.

13. Social safeguard and social non-safeguard specialist (including gender, resettlement) (national, 2.0 and 2.5 person-months). The specialist will have preferably a master's degree in social sciences, development studies, or equivalent as required and 10 years of experience in working in areas of safeguards in donor agencies including ADB. Demonstrated experience and understanding of ADB standards and guidelines with experience in producing the ADB reports. The specialist will (i) review safeguards documents including poverty and social analysis and other documents such as gender action plans produced by the executing agency and filling the gaps if any to ensure compliance with ADB Safeguard Policy Statement 2009; (ii) review and update the PAM safeguard sections, as required; (iii) support the executing agency in implementing safeguard plans by developing a detailed terms of reference and assisting the executing agency in implementing the plan; and (iv) support the selected projects executing agency and ADB team in meeting project readiness criteria for project Board approval.

14. Procurement specialist (national, 4.5 person-months). The specialist will preferably have a degree in civil engineering or related field, and a minimum of 10 years of experience in handling procurement for rural infrastructure projects Preference will be given to specialists with experience in irrigation and waterworks and procurement capacity building of executing agencies. Experience in ADB or World Bank procurement guidelines is preferred. The specialist will (i) review and upgrade the selected projects procurement plan, procurement capacity assessment, tender documents and request for proposal; (ii) support the relevant executing agency in addressing comments provided by ADB during the procurement and recruitment process; (iii) support the selected projects' executing agency and ADB team in meeting project readiness criteria for project Board approval; and (iv) provide training to stakeholders as required. The specialist may be considered for subsequent downstream projects work based on individual performance.

15. Project coordinator (national, 0.5 person-months). The project coordinator should have sufficient experience in coordinating research projects. Specifically, the project coordinator will (i) follow up and update the project team; (ii) prepare periodic reports on project progress, and/or as requested; (iii) monitor budget utilization by regional departments; (iv) design, maintain, and update the study websites; (v) consolidate TA reports as needed; and (vi) coordinate events related to the project.

16. Resource persons (international, 0.25 person-months). Resource persons (technical specialists, project management experts, and/or staff of government implementing agency and executing agency) will be engaged to review documents and be speakers, facilitators, or discussants in related workshops, seminars, or conferences. Recruitment of these experts will be on need basis. The terms of reference for these experts will be developed on demand.