



# India: Knowledge and Institutional Strengthening for Infrastructure Planning and Sustainable Development for Sub-Regional Integration

Project Name	Knowledge and Institutional Strengthening for Infrastructure Planning and Sustainable Development for Sub-Regional Integration	
Project Number	52255-001	
Country	India	
Project Status	Proposed	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	TA: Knowledge and Institutional Strengthening for Infrastructure Planning and Sustainable Development for Sub-Regional Integration	
	Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 2.00 million
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth Regional integration	
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions	
Sector / Subsector	Energy - Electricity transmission and distribution Transport - Road transport (non-urban) - Transport policies and institutional development - Urban roads and traffic management Water and other urban infrastructure and services - Urban policy, institutional and capacity development - Urban water supply	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	No gender elements	
Description	<p>This knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) will support the knowledge-driven operational approach of the country partnership strategy (CPS) of India, 2018-20221 of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), by assisting the investment planning, project preparation, and capacity development for their implementation in India's less-developed north eastern region (NER). The TA meets the CPS priorities on inclusive access to infrastructure and social services in low income states, and regional integration and cooperation (RCI).</p> <p>The TA will provide the knowledge and capacity support in Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura, following the specific requests by the concerned state governments. Along with supporting the activities of the concerned state agencies, the TA will also strengthen the roles and functions of North Eastern Council (NEC) and Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDONER) to support the activities in those states. The KSTA has been included in India's Country Operational Business Plan (2019-2021).</p>	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>The Government of India's Act East Policy aims to boost the economic development of the NER as one of its key objectives. The NER remains the focal point in India's RCI endeavor, which is pursued through forums such as the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) supported by ADB, and the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC). The SASEC focuses on promoting RCI through transport connectivity, energy cooperation, and trade facilitation with the neighboring South Asian countries as well as with the rest of India, while linking the region with countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN). With the progress of RCI, the region is expected to become an economic growth center and driver for the South and Southeast Asian region.</p> <p>However, despite such high potentials through RCI and rich natural resource endowments, economic development of the NER has not kept pace with that of rest of India. Poor infrastructure facilities and limited access has been hindering its socio-economic development. The development of core infrastructure including energy, urban as well as transport connectivity within NER, with rest of India and with neighboring Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nepal and Bhutan, is critical to promote rapid, inclusive and sustainable growth, and to drive regional integration with ASEAN. Despite continuous efforts by the central and state governments, the efficiency of public and private infrastructure investment in the NER has been constrained.</p> <p>The most critical constraint hindering the rapid infrastructure development in the region is the severe lack of investment project proposals that are ready for financing, which are backed by investment prioritization strategies and plans at the levels of the relevant sectors or the entire state. Project implementation are also generally slow, with numerous cases of time and cost overruns. These are associated with insufficient human resources and capacity of the state infrastructure departments to undertake investment and project planning, project preparation including detailed designs, pre-construction (such as statutory clearances for environment and forestry, and land acquisition), and implementation. Moreover, development projects in NER has more complex procedures between the state and the federal governments in terms of project appraisal, budgetary process and fund flow mechanisms, posing additional challenges.</p> <p>With this backdrop, ADB has been requested by the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance, Government of India to support the relevant states (in para 2) to strengthen the institutional systems and capacities in terms of investment project planning and preparation as well as implementation of the ensuing projects for the core infrastructures, through the provision of the TA and the project readiness financing (PRF) facility, in response to the specific requests of the states as cleared by DEA.</p>	
Impact	Improved project delivery leading to more sustainable and inclusive economic growth in NER	
Outcome	Knowledge driven investment ready infrastructure projects prepared	
Outputs	Knowledge support for infrastructure planning and project preparation Institutional Strengthening and capacity building	
Geographical Location	Assam, Manipur, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura	
<b>Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects</b>		
Environmental Aspects		
Involuntary Resettlement		
Indigenous Peoples		
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation		

During Project Design

During Project Implementation

#### Business Opportunities

Consulting Services international consulting firm or individual consultants (national or international) will be hired to provide knowledge and capacity development support to both state and central government agencies for about 100-person months. At the state government level, key knowledge outputs will be state/sector vision and investment plan documents, project concept notes, and guidance notes for investment/ project planning, design, and implementation, whereas at the federal government, knowledge support will be provided to strengthen their technical know-how for project identification, appraisal, monitoring and evaluation. The consulting firm/individual consultants will also administer the identified capacity development programs at the state and central government level. The core consulting team will also provide support to NER states (as required) for quality assurance of DPRs prepared by the state's own fund/efforts and social/environmental/gender, financial due diligence which will include a pool of specialist in key infrastructure sectors. A team leader with the overall responsibility of ensuring the quality timely submission of reports will also be appointed.

In addition to the core consulting team (as above), the TA will engage six to eight individual consultants (international /national) for about 40-person months. These consultants will support ADB and state project teams in reviewing the outputs of the core consulting team. The individual consultants will also assist state governments and NEC/MDONER in (i) preparation of concept note and other requisite documents for project readiness financing (PRF) for ADB assistance; (ii) preparation of documents for engaging PRF consultant(s) and subsequent recruitment; and (iii) implementation of other pre-PRF /PRF activities. The TA will also facilitate engagement of 10 to 12 young professional for about 360-person months to support IAs in project management; procurement; engineering; safeguards and financial management etc.

Procurement na

Responsible ADB Officer	Srivastava, Ashok
Responsible ADB Department	South Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	India Resident Mission
Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines Department of Economic Affairs Ministry of Finance Room No. 40-B North Block New Delhi-110001, India

#### Timetable

Concept Clearance	18 Jun 2019
Fact Finding	10 Jun 2019 to 10 Jun 2019
MRM	-
Approval	-
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	19 Jun 2019

Project Page	<a href="https://www.adb.org/projects/52255-001/main">https://www.adb.org/projects/52255-001/main</a>
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Date Generated	22 June 2019

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