



Regional: Achieving Water Sector Priorities in Asia and the Pacific under Strategy 2030

Project Name	Achieving Water Sector Priorities in Asia and the Pacific under Strategy 2030	
Project Number	53263-001	
Country	Regional	
Project Status	Proposed	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	TA: Achieving ADB's Water Sector Priorities Under strategy 2030	
	Multi-Donor Trust Fund under the Water Financing Partnership Facility	US\$ 250,000.00
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth Regional integration	
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships Private sector development	
Sector / Subsector	Agriculture, natural resources and rural development - Irrigation - Rural flood protection - Water-based natural resources management Water and other urban infrastructure and services - Urban flood protection - Urban water supply	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements	
Description	<p>This knowledge and support technical assistance, Achieving the Asian Development Bank's (ADB's) Water Sector Priorities Under Strategy 2030 (the TA), will support ADB Operations Departments and Water Sector Group Secretariat under the Sustainable Development Service Cluster (SDSC-WAT) to improve water resources management and provide inclusive, reliable water services delivery to ADB Developing Member Countries (DMCs). The TA is included the 2019 workplan of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department and will provide support to ADB's water sector operations to help achieve the goals of Strategy 2030, and in particular Operational Priorities (i) Three Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability; (ii) Four Making cities more livable; and (iii) Five Promoting rural development and food security.</p>	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>The Asia and the Pacific Regions has seen significant sustained economic growth over the last generation. Water resources management and water service delivery have been fundamental to achieve this growth and improve social welfare. However, the water sector is facing unparalleled challenges. In 2015 in Asia Pacific, 80% of wastewater generated by cities was discharged without primary treatment, about 300 million people still have no access to safe drinking water, 1.7 billion lack basic sanitation. With a predicted 22 megacities by 2030 and a population of 5.2 billion by 2050, Asian water demand is expected to increase by 55%. Agriculture in developing countries will need to produce 100% more food by 2050. Gender inequality is pervasive, and women and girls are often responsible to gather water, which limits education and economic opportunities. As a result, water insecurity is prevalent in many DMCs and also poses challenges to attain the water-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 6 ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.</p> <p>ADB will continue to increase financing and projects for water sector investments with an expanding portfolio. However, DMCs need more assistance to provide effective water management and reliable, inclusive water service delivery. DMC challenges include a lack of (i) upstream work and integrated solutions to optimize investment programs; (ii) resources to prepare, implement and upscale innovative projects; (iii) effective policy frameworks, institutions, and innovative finance; and (iv) capacity and knowledge. With continued growth, the interrelationships and complexity of Asia and the Pacific's water challenges are also increasing.</p> <p>ADB's Strategy 2030 establishes a holistic approach promoting integrated solutions moving away from a sector-oriented, siloed approach. It also calls for differentiated approaches, digital development and technology, and more private sector engagement. While this integrated and multisectoral paradigm shift is needed, it will require (i) more collaboration among Regional Department sector divisions, and (ii) enhanced cooperation among Regional Departments, the Private Sector Operation Department, Office of Private Public Partnerships and SDCC. Enhanced knowledge management and innovation will be essential to achieve Strategy 2030.</p> <p>Strategy 2030 and its Draft Operational Priority Plans (OPPs) call for upscaling best practice and adopting emerging innovative solutions to meet Asia and the Pacific's water sector challenges. This includes enhanced efforts to address water quality, water use efficiency, integrated water resources management and to ensure water security by deepening the understanding and addressing the linkages between the water food and energy security nexus (OPP 3). The mainstreaming of smart water meters and grids, sponge cities for flooding, non-revenue water reduction, desalination, non-networked sanitation along with increased sewerage sanitation, advanced waste water treatment, and recycling/reuse among other activities will be essential to address Asia's burgeoning urbanization (OPP 4). Food security will require significantly improved productivity of irrigated agriculture requiring modernization on many systems. This will include automated control systems, prepaid smart card control systems, micro irrigation, and pressurized piped irrigation. Remote sensing, drones and smart phone applications are already being used in some ADB agriculture projects but need significant upscaling (OPP 5).</p> <p>Achieving the water sector goals of Strategy 2030 will not only require improved technical options and expertise, but institutions, policy dialogue, delivery mechanisms, exposure to the latest knowledge, gender and other social considerations, and capacity building are also necessary. Improved tariff structures, regulatory abilities, water allocation regimes, innovative and blended finance, and more sophisticated transaction such as performance-based and design build operate contracts are essential for better performing water management and service delivery entities, revenue generation, and creating an enabling environment for private sector investment</p> <p>Given the cross-cutting nature of water and its importance to all Operational Priorities under Strategy 2030, the ADB Water Sector Group (WSG) has been promoting a One ADB Water approach. To help achieve One ADB Water as well as the transformative ambitions of Strategy 2030, the Operational Departments and SDCC can access the Water Financing Partnership Facility (WFPF), which has been a vehicle to mobilize development partner grant financing through (i) direct project support (about 70%) and (ii) program quality support (about 30%). Over the last decade, the WFPF and its associated TA 6498 has been extremely valuable to support Regional Departments and SDCC work with DMCs to plan and implement innovative solutions and best practice in projects and TAs as well as to support knowledge management activities.</p>	

Impact	Availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation ensured for all
Outcome	Knowledge and capacity for water resources management and water services delivery in DMCs improved
Outputs	Project design and implementation support, and pilot and demonstration activities provided Knowledge management, strategic collaborations, and capacity development supported
Geographical Location	Regional

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects
Involuntary Resettlement
Indigenous Peoples
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation
During Project Design
During Project Implementation

Responsible ADB Officer	Thomas Robert Panella
Responsible ADB Department	Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department
Responsible ADB Division	SDSC-WAT
Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines

Timetable

Concept Clearance	29 Apr 2021
Fact Finding	10 Jun 2019 to 10 Jun 2019
MRM	-
Approval	-
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	07 Nov 2019

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/53263-001/main
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