



Regional: Mainstreaming Impact Evaluation Methodologies, Approaches, and Capacities in Selected Developing Member Countries

Project Name	Mainstreaming Impact Evaluation Methodologies, Approaches, and Capacities in Selected Developing Member Countries				
Project Number	53343-001				
Country	Regional				
Project Status	Proposed				
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance				
Source of Funding / Amount	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>TA: Developing Impact Evaluation Methodologies, Approaches and Capacities in Selected Developing Member Countries (Phase2)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Technical Assistance Special Fund</td> <td>US\$ 4.50 million</td> </tr> </table>	TA: Developing Impact Evaluation Methodologies, Approaches and Capacities in Selected Developing Member Countries (Phase2)		Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 4.50 million
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Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 4.50 million				
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth				
Drivers of Change	Knowledge solutions				
Sector / Subsector	Multisector - ADB's corporate management, policy and strategy development				
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements				
Description	The knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) cluster aims to mainstream impact evaluation in ADB to support evidence-based policy development and improve the development effectiveness of ADB project and program interventions. The TA will support the (i) conduct of impact evaluation studies of ADB financed interventions or interventions under consideration by ADB and (ii) development of impact evaluation (IE) awareness and capacities within ADB and the Developing Member Countries (DMCs).				
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>ADB commits more than \$30 billion each year to investments, but rigorous evidence on attributable impacts of the financed interventions is not regularly generated. After investment completion, self-evaluations are conducted to rate performance and are subject to validation by the Independent Evaluation Department (IED). In selected cases, IED also conducts project performance evaluation, and rating patterns are synthesized in various evaluation studies. Yet, these analyses often include little empirical basis for the effects of project interventions on outcomes of interest, and understanding of effects often remains rooted in assumptions that are not subjected to testing.</p> <p>The development profession has increasingly recognized the need for rigorous IE methodologies (including randomized experiments and appropriate econometric approaches) to isolate the effects of interventions from those of confounding factors. Annual publication of rigorous IEs has risen from tens of studies in the early 2000s to over 500 by 2015. During this period, the conduct of IEs to test development interventions has become a central focus of the world's top research economists. Fast-paced private industries, such as information technology, medicine, and marketing, have also rapidly escalated the use of IE methods to test consumer responses to innovations before they are scaled widely.</p> <p>In parallel, recent developments in data collection technologies and analysis tools present opportunities to undertake IEs that are nimble and responsive to operational needs in shorter timeframes. More _big data_ are increasingly collected and available through automated processes, including sensorized _smart_ infrastructure and remote sensing, often at high frequency. Administrative and billing information are increasingly available, and microdata from national statistical systems are increasing in coverage and quality in many DMCs. Computerized service delivery can also enable new forms of large-scale experiments to rapidly test innovations.</p> <p>IE is essential to strengthen ADB's Strategy 2030 ambition to be a knowledge provider. Initially, IEs at ADB were largely carried out through individual efforts of regional departments (RDs). Recognizing the need for a more systematic approach to measure project outcomes and impacts, ERCD developed a research and development TA (TA 7680-REG: Implementing Impact Evaluation at ADB) in 2010, which funded five pilot IEs. This work was supplemented in 2012 with TA cluster (CTA) 0012-REG: Developing Impact Evaluation Methodologies, Approaches, and Capacities in Selected Developing Member Countries to support (i) approximately 15 IE study phases distributed over ADB's five RDs and ERCD, (ii) development of IE methodologies, and (iii) awareness raising and capacity building on IE among the DMCs. Under both TAs, IE was to have support from ERCD, but conduct remained largely an RD responsibility.</p> <p>More effective mainstreaming of IE requires improved support. Continued support is needed to ensure that promising initiated studies are completed and appropriate new studies are initiated. At the same time, support needs to be improved by consistently ensuring that financial resources are accompanied by appropriate technical expertise and oversight via more of a _One ADB_ approach, in which research economists from ERCD can be fully engaged in studies, along with global partners. TA support to IE studies will be further improved to focus support more strategically to add value to operations. This includes (i) adopting nimble approaches for IEs to be completed in shorter periods, (ii) targeting under-studied themes, and (iii) supporting IE of pilot interventions under consideration for future investments. Thus, additional resources will be required to (i) support ongoing IE studies for completion; (ii) support new IE studies; (iii) disseminate study findings and lessons; and (iv) contribute to capacity building of DMC stakeholders.</p>				
Impact	Improved development effectiveness of ADB's and DMC's investment operations				
Outcome	IE applied to more ADB operations				
Outputs	IE studies conducted. IE awareness and capacity enhanced				
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	Takashi Yamano
Responsible ADB Department	Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department
Responsible ADB Division	Economic Analysis and Operations Support Division
Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines

Timetable

Concept Clearance	30 Sep 2019
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	-
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	04 Oct 2019

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/53343-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=53343-001
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