



# Regional: Strengthening Urban Investment Planning and Capacity for Project Preparation and Implementation in Central and West Asia

Project Name	Strengthening Urban Investment Planning and Capacity for Project Preparation and Implementation in Central and West Asia	
Project Number	53381-001	
Country	RegionalAfghanistanArmeniaAzerbaijanGeorgiaKazakhstanKyrgyz RepublicPakistanTajikistanTurkmenistanUzbekistan	
Project Status	Active	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	TA 9856-REG: Strengthening Urban Investment Planning and Capacity for Project Preparation and Implementation in Central West Asia	
	Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 225,000.00
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth	
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Private sector development	
Sector / Subsector	Information and communication technology - ICT industries and ICT-enabled services Water and other urban infrastructure and services - Urban policy, institutional and capacity development	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements	
Description	The TA is aligned with the following impact: integrated urban planning and development in Central and West Asia improved. The TA will have the following outcome: urban sector project identification, preparation and implementation improved in Central and West Asia. The outputs are: (i) national urban assessments prepared and aligned with ADB's CPS cycle; (ii) access to information and knowledge increased; and (iii) project identification, formulation, preparation and implementation strengthened.	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>Cities in Central and West Asia have unprecedented opportunities to transform human wellbeing and catalyze economic development by 2030. At the same time, they face several development challenges in managing rapid urbanization including growing infrastructure deficits, increasing risks of climate change and disasters, environmental stress, limited institutional capacities, and lack of interagency coordination. While these challenges are often most apparent and difficult to address in urban settings, there is limited analytical work in the urban sector for the developing member countries (DMCs) in Central and West Asia. This leads to: (i) unplanned growth, (ii) contradicting development priorities, and (iii) deficient ownership. Robust and timely urban sector assessment is key to understanding major sector issues facing these individual countries to help guide policy formulation and ADB's strategic urban interventions.</p> <p>ADB has supported the DMCs with sector analysis, urban policy development, and project preparatory assessments through technical assistance projects that are not always aligned with the country partnership strategy (CPS) cycle. Processing and administering stand-alone country-specific technical assistance projects of similar nature and objective can be inefficient and time consuming. Designed to provide an overarching analytical framework and strategic context for integrated urban development, National Urban Assessment (NUA) would analyze the urbanization process and identify the main environmental, social, and economic development issues relating to the urban sector, ADB's value addition, and new areas of ADB support to make cities more livable (green, competitive, resilient and inclusive) in line with Strategy 2030. A dedicated regional technical assistance to support the preparation of NUAs will help establish ADB's continuous upstream sector involvement, inform country partnership strategy (CPS), and identify new areas of engagement to ensure high impact and sustainable project pipeline.</p> <p>With the advent of digital economy, open platforms for seamless client, partner, and staff engagement and connected data are envisioned under ADB's Digital Agenda 2030. Development is also about knowledge, and data amplifies the power of development assistance as the building block of knowledge. Data-driven analytics and evidence-based decision making will help pave the way for strategic dialogue, better policy formulation and informed project identification and preparation that lead to impactful and sustainable development. Under Strategy 2030, ADB is set to strengthen its role as a knowledge provider and will bring more value to the DMCs by combining finance and knowledge. A platform that provides DMCs and ADB staff access to key urban data and indicators will build the knowledge base for ADB's urban operations and catalyze collaboration and innovation. With the rapid growth and complexity of DMCs's ADB-funded urban operations, the requests for ad hoc, urgent project assistance and the need for higher efficiency have grown. Currently, it is difficult to timely mobilize resources to accommodate such requests and needs. A programmatic (and yet flexible) approach to channel resources within ADB to assist the DMCs with project preparation and implementation will help reduce the risk of delays and missed targets and improve efficiency of project delivery.</p>	
Impact	Integrated urban planning and development in Central and West Asia improved.	
<b>Project Outcome</b>		
Description of Outcome	Urban sector project identification, preparation and implementation improved in Central and West Asia	
Progress Toward Outcome		
<b>Implementation Progress</b>		
Description of Project Outputs	National urban assessment reports prepared Urban knowledge hub established Project preparation and implementation strengthened	
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)		

Geographical Location

Afghanistan - Nation-wide; Armenia - Nation-wide; Azerbaijan - Nation-wide; Georgia - Nation-wide; Kazakhstan - Nation-wide; Kyrgyz Republic - Nation-wide; Pakistan - Nation-wide; Tajikistan - Nation-wide; Turkmenistan - Nation-wide; Uzbekistan - Nation-wide

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	Xijie Lu
Responsible ADB Department	Central and West Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Urban Development and Water Division, CWRD
Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	-
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	11 Nov 2019
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	13 Nov 2019

## TA 9856-REG

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
225,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	225,000.00	-	0.00

Project Page	<a href="https://www.adb.org/projects/53381-001/main">https://www.adb.org/projects/53381-001/main</a>
Request for Information	<a href="http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=53381-001">http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=53381-001</a>
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