



Azerbaijan: Azerbaijan: Fostering Development of Local Technical Start-Ups

Project Name	Azerbaijan: Fostering Development of Local Technical Start-Ups	
Project Number	53416-001	
Country	Azerbaijan	
Project Status	Proposed	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	TA: Azerbaijan: Fostering Development of Local Technical Start-Ups Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund	US\$ 500,000.00
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth	
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships Private sector development	
Sector / Subsector	Information and communication technology - ICT strategy and policy, and capacity development	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements	
Description	The proposed knowledge and support technical assistance (KSTA) will support INNOLAND, an incubation, acceleration, and research center of the Innovation Center at the State Agency for Public Services and Social Innovations under the President of Azerbaijan to set up effective and efficient institutional arrangements at the local level for tech startups support. Incubation and acceleration services will be delivered in Ganja and Sheki towns through: (i) the Ganja State University's (GSU) and the Azerbaijan State Agrarian University (ASAU) and (ii) INNOLAND's branch office - Innoland Sheki, respectively.	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	Digital development is important for making Azerbaijan's economy knowledge-based. Development of the information and communication technology (ICT) sector is an important element of the diversification of the economy away from hydrocarbons. The tech startups are viewed as a driving force for the country's ICT sector and digital transformation; and as a source of innovative solutions and productivity growth in the economy. ADB's Country Partnership Strategy, 2019-2023 envisages support in expanding ICT infrastructure and services in the regions. This includes fostering digital microbusinesses and small- and medium-sized enterprises and strengthening the enabling environment for the digital economy. The Innovation Center under the State Agency on Public Services and Social Innovations facilitates the development of tech startups across in the country.	
Impact	Creation, development and promotion of startups to support innovative solutions in rural and non-rural production areas	
Outcome	Strengthened local capacity for effective startups facilitation.	
Outputs	Enabling environment for local tech startups strengthened Local institutional set-up for tech startups development improved Knowledge partnerships developed	
Geographical Location	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		
Business Opportunities		
Consulting Services	ADB will engage: (i) a project coordinator (individual national consultant) to coordinate all activities under the TA, in consultation with the INNOLAND, GSU, and ASAU; and (ii) a consulting firm to deliver the TA's outputs 1 and 2, and output 3's part of setting up the twinning partnership.	
Responsible ADB Officer	Jafarova, Sabina	
Responsible ADB Department	Central and West Asia Department	
Responsible ADB Division	Azerbaijan Resident Mission	
Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines	

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	18 Feb 2020
Fact Finding	24 Feb 2020 to 28 Feb 2020
MRM	-
Approval	-
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	28 Mar 2020

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/53416-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=53416-001
Date Generated	01 April 2020

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