



Regional: Challenges and Opportunities of Population Aging in Asia: Improving Data and Analysis for Healthy and Productive Aging

Project Name	Challenges and Opportunities of Population Aging in Asia: Improving Data and Analysis for Healthy and Productive Aging
Project Number	54116-001
Country	Regional/Bangladesh/Indonesia/Malaysia/Sri Lanka/Thailand/Viet Nam
Project Status	Proposed
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance
Source of Funding / Amount	
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth Regional integration
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships Private sector development
Sector / Subsector	Health - Health care finance - Health insurance and subsidized health programs
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements
Description	The knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) will generate policy-relevant knowledge on population aging by (i) supporting the development of internationally comparable panel survey-based databases on aging in selected countries; and (ii) coordinating the implementation of comparative and demonstrative studies in selected countries of the region to provide their governments with useful information towards reforms in health and social security programs, and for crafting policies to adapt to population aging.
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>Rapid population aging in Asia poses new challenges in delivering effective and sustainable forms of health service, social security and pension. Many developing Asian economies face the risk of growing old before it becomes rich. This will be exacerbated by the gradual reduction of the working-age population; some economies will experience drastic reduction of its working age population (age 15-64) and their workforce also aging. However, as population ages, economies may not necessarily slow down with it. Adoption of new technology and properly designed policies could contribute to sustainable development in Asia. Addressing the new challenges requires better understanding of socio-economic consequence of population aging and the state of older persons, which will facilitate forward-looking policies that take advantage of the opportunities. For example, well-defined policies can improve older people's health and extend their skills and working lives, which can be a boon to Asian economies.</p> <p>Promoting elderly health care in this regard is vital for the welfare and productivity of the elderly. As life expectancy extends and the number of older persons in Asia grow, there are greater need to care for non-communicable diseases and provide long-term and terminal care. In addition to health, ensuring old age income security among developing member countries (DMCs) remains a considerable challenge, where comprehensive coverage of pension or social protection for older persons is yet to be realized.</p> <p>Aging countries can turn demographic headwind to tailwind by harvesting the 'silver dividend' that stems from growing population of older workforce who are healthy, educated and experienced. This will require adjustments in education programs, skills development, lifelong learning to encourage upgrading of skills. In addition, physical augmentation technologies that aid mobility and endurance of the elderly will help the aging workforce remain productive. Understanding the employment and workforce participation pattern of older workers and evaluating the effectiveness of policies and programs that promote work participation is much needed across the DMCs. Quality data and rigorous analysis of health and other important outcomes of population aging help governments make informed decision in reforming health and social security and crafting broader policies to adapt to population aging. However, only a number of countries in the region collect these data sets; with some DMCs expressing interest in initiating such data collection as well as building capacity to research using such data. Quality and comparable regional data will create useful regional public goods for DMCs.</p> <p>The proposed TA will respond to the need for data and research that focus on the characteristics of the elderly population, their needs, and the extent of social protection coverage, among others. Assisting DMCs in collecting and analyzing data in collaboration with leading academic institutions contributes to evidence-based policymaking for healthy and productive aging. It also encourages sharing and harmonizing research methodology and fosters cross-fertilization of knowledge for better informed policy making process across the region.</p>
Impact	
Outcome	
Outputs	
Geographical Location	Bangladesh - Nation-wide; Indonesia - Nation-wide; Malaysia - Nation-wide; Sri Lanka - Nation-wide; Thailand - Nation-wide; Viet Nam - 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	Park, Donghyun
Responsible ADB Department	Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department
Responsible ADB Division	ERMR
Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	24 Apr 2020
Fact Finding	02 Mar 2020 to 02 Mar 2020
MRM	-
Approval	-
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	14 Jul 2020

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/54116-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=54116-001
Date Generated	15 July 2020

ADB provides the information contained in this project data sheet (PDS) solely as a resource for its users without any form of assurance. Whilst ADB tries to provide high quality content, the information are provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including without limitation warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, and non-infringement. ADB specifically does not make any warranties or representations as to the accuracy or completeness of any such information.