

COUNTRY ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE

Engagement Framework to Monitor and Guide the Implementation of Asian Development Bank (ADB)'s COVID-19 Pandemic Response Option Support in Myanmar

Objective: (i) To support effective implementation of Myanmar's coronavirus disease (COVID-19) response and recovery plans with additional ADB support as needed by the government; and (ii) to monitor implementation progress.

Steering Committee: The Government of Myanmar will form a **Steering Committee** to guide and monitor the implementation of the COVID-19 Active Response and Expenditure Support (CARES) program. The steering committee will be led by the Ministry of Planning, Finance, and Industry (MOPFI). It will comprise senior officials from relevant ministries such as Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Central Bank of Myanmar, and ministries that are tasked with the implementation of the COVID-19 Economic Relief Plan (CERP). The committee will be chaired by a senior official from the MOPFI.

Tasks: To share information and updates on the implementation of the COVID-19 plans and seek inputs for changes or improvements. ADB will share perspectives as inputs to the policy makers. Issues relating to gender equity and the poor and vulnerable people will be considered. A dedicated agenda of this committee will be updating of implementation progress including sharing of gender-related data and impact of government's programs on the poor and vulnerable.

The committee will consult and seek inputs from relevant stakeholders through ad-hoc technical working groups (TWGs). The TWGs will focus on priority issues such as employment, the poor in informal sector, recovery of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises. The TWGs will be chaired by the relevant government agencies, depending on the specific priority issue.

The TWGs will engage with private sector and other relevant stakeholders such as civil society organizations and other government agencies, for feedback and inputs. The TWGs' engagement with the private sector and other relevant stakeholders will help mobilize support and facilitate partnership and interaction with broader stakeholders' community in shaping the post COVID-19 response measures and their implementation. It will also help the government formulate fast, transparent, and cost-effective ways to implement the government's COVID-19 responses and address gender issues as well as other concerns relating to the poor and vulnerable.

Frequency: The TWGs will meet quarterly during the implementation period of the CARES program. The TWGs may convene meetings as needed, depending on the priority issues to be deliberated. The CERP implementation progress will be updated quarterly.