



Regional: A New Operational Economic Corridor Development Framework for Central and West Asia and Beyond

Project Name	A New Operational Economic Corridor Development Framework for Central and West Asia and Beyond	
Project Number	54423-001	
Country	Regional	
Project Status	Active	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	TA 6685-REG: A New Operational Economic Corridor Development Framework for Central Asia and Beyond	
	Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 225,000.00
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth Regional integration	
Drivers of Change	Knowledge solutions Partnerships Private sector development	
Sector / Subsector	Industry and trade - Industry and trade sector development - Trade and services Public sector management - Economic affairs management	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements	
Description	The TA aims to develop an economic corridor development (ECD) framework and operational guidelines that reflect wider economic benefits and pertinence to the diversity of regions in Asia, particularly the Central and West Asia region, to mainstream ADB's ECD operations. The TA will enhance the existing ECD concept and definition in light of recent and global research advances in areas of regional public goods, cross-border regional development, and spatial approaches to ECD, to further increase the relevance and effectiveness of ECD in ADB developing member countries (DMCs).	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>Favorable economic development and regional dynamics exhibited in the Central and West region has provided an improved environment and further momentum for cross-border ECD. The Almaty-Bishkek Economic Corridor has been supporting the development of investment projects and reforms in connectivity, agribusiness, tourism, and health. The Shymkent-Tashkent-Khujand Economic Corridor, connecting Shymkent (in Kazakhstan), Tashkent (in Uzbekistan), and Khujand (in Tajikistan) through surrounding oblasts, is being initiated, with strong governmental support. An ECD in the West Caucasus region involving Armenia and Georgia is also being assessed, while Pakistan is starting ECD to reap expanded regional cooperation and integration (RCI) benefits.</p> <p>A relevant ECD framework needs to consider different environments to make it an effective tool for regional development. The ECD framework should consider regions where economic densities are sparse, distance to major markets is large, and divisive physical and regulatory trade barriers persist, such as the Central and West Asia region. It should also promote gender equality to increase women's participation in ECD activities. Moreover, effective communication among stakeholders involved in the design and implementation of ECDs is needed to increase the relevance of the ECD framework and help avoid blind spots and unrealistic expectations.</p> <p>The corresponding ECD operational guidelines will also be developed to help mainstream ECD in ADB-supported investments and reforms, as well as to help implement a 'One ADB' approach in providing integrated solutions for addressing more complex development challenges, such as cross-border cooperation and multisector collaboration among ADB DMCs.</p>	
Impact	Regional cooperation and integration (RCI) in the Central and West Asia region and beyond strengthened	
Project Outcome		
Description of Outcome	Planning and decision-making process on new ECDs improved	
Progress Toward Outcome		
Implementation Progress		
Description of Project Outputs	ECD Framework capturing wider economic benefits and diverse regions developed. ECD operational guidelines facilitating RCI investments formulated and the ECD Framework and operational guidelines effectively communicated.	
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	Hu, Xinglan
Responsible ADB Department	Central and West Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Div, CWRD
Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines

Timetable

Concept Clearance	-
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	16 Dec 2020
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	16 Dec 2020

TA 6685-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	https://www.adb.org/projects/54423-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=54423-001
Date Generated	18 December 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.