

The logo of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), consisting of the letters 'ADB' in a white serif font inside a black square.

Technical Assistance Report

Project Number: 55004-001
Knowledge and Support Technical Assistance (KSTA)
June 2021

Raising the Value of Regional Trade Agreements— Key Factors for Successful Implementation and Positive Economic Impact

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Asian Development Bank

ABBREVIATIONS

ASEAN	–	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASEAN+1	–	Region-to-country bilateral agreement between ASEAN and another country
ASEAN+3	–	ASEAN, Japan, the People’s Republic of China, and the Republic of Korea
BIMP-EAGA	–	Brunei Darussalam–Indonesia–Malaysia Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area
CAREC	–	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation
COVID-19	–	coronavirus disease
CPTPP	–	Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership
DMC	–	developing member country
ERCD	–	Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department
RCEP	–	regional comprehensive economic partnership
RTA	–	regional trade agreement
SDTC-RCI	–	Regional Cooperation and Integration Thematic Group
TA	–	technical assistance

GLOSSARY

mega-regional trade agreement	–	regional trade agreement involving a large number of countries with new provisions likely to affect global trade policy
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NOTE

In this report, “\$” refers to United States dollars.

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KNOWLEDGE AND SUPPORT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AT A GLANCE

1. Basic Data		Project Number: 55004-001
Project Name	Raising the Value of Regional Trade Agreements—Key Factors for Successful Implementation and Positive Economic Impact	Department/Division ERCD/ERCI
Nature of Activity Modality	Capacity Development, Policy Advice Regular	Executing Agency Asian Development Bank
Country	Regional	
2. Sector		ADB Financing (\$ million)
✓ Industry and trade	Industry and trade sector development	0.25
	Trade and services	0.25
Public sector management	Economic affairs management	0.25
Total		0.75
3. Operational Priorities		Climate Change Information
✓ Strengthening governance and institutional capacity		GHG Reductions (tons per annum) 0.000
✓ Fostering regional cooperation and integration		Climate Change impact on the Project Low
		ADB Financing
		Adaptation (\$ million) 0.00
		Mitigation (\$ million) 0.00
		Cofinancing
		Adaptation (\$ million) 0.00
		Mitigation (\$ million) 0.00
Sustainable Development Goals		Gender Equity and Mainstreaming
SDG 1.a		No gender elements (NGE) ✓
SDG 8.2, 8.3		
SDG 9.3		
SDG 10.2		
SDG 17.10		
4. Risk Categorization Low		Poverty Targeting
5. Safeguard Categorization Safeguard Policy Statement does not apply		General Intervention on Poverty ✓
6. Financing		
Modality and Sources		Amount (\$ million)
ADB		0.75
Knowledge and Support technical assistance: Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund		0.45
Knowledge and Support technical assistance: Technical Assistance Special Fund		0.30
Cofinancing		0.00
None		0.00
Counterpart		0.00
None		0.00
Total		0.75
Currency of ADB Financing: US Dollar		

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) will support the development of a database on regional trade agreement (RTA) tariff commitments and several studies on the economic effects of mega-RTAs, the factors driving their successful implementation, and key policies to fully realize their economic benefits. These include market access aspects of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) such as tariff commitments, rules of origin, services trade liberalization, trade facilitation, e-commerce, nontariff measures, technical barriers to trade, and investment to improve understanding of their economic impact among policy makers, academics, the private sector, and civil society. These will support policy advice and capacity development of developing member countries (DMCs).

2. The TA is included in the Management-approved 2021 annual work program for the Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD) to benefit DMCs.¹

II. ISSUES

3. As global and regional economies prepare to reopen and begin recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, trade uncertainty persists, including in readjustments in global and regional supply chains. On a positive note, the recent RCEP signing is expected to create the world's largest trading bloc, strongly boosting regional free trade efforts, upholding the multilateral trade system, and deepening the region's open, transparent, and inclusive trade and investment for post-pandemic recovery.

4. However, experience shows that these benefits depend on successful implementation of RCEP commitments and willingness and capacity from the private sector to fully use its provisions within a context of overlapping and competing trade preference schemes (bilateral, regional, multilateral). That is, RTAs are effective only when they are designed with business-friendly rules, implemented transparently and predictably, and well understood by users.

5. This requires interventions at three levels. First, policy makers need to design RTA provisions reflecting industrial and global value chain constraints of member countries. The bigger the RTA, the bigger the challenge to find rules suitable for all and better than opportunities provided by existing bilateral and regional agreements. Second, weak government capacity to negotiate and apply user-friendly trade rules—resulting from lack of understanding of RTA impact and best practices—often creates shallow or incomplete trade agreements with unclear legal provisions. Third, limited outreach to explain RTA content, the complexity of RTAs, and unclear trade rules can limit understanding of international trade rules. Users are either unable or unwilling to comply with the RTA requirements such as rules of origin, or may not know how to benefit from preferential treatment. In particular, unclear operational guidelines, such as for RCEP rules of origin, and insufficient training of customs officials may stifle transparency and predictability, discouraging private sector application for preferential border treatment.

6. Better understanding of the conditions or criteria for the success of trade agreements in Asia is therefore needed to formulate sound, relevant, timely, and targeted policy recommendations and actions at the three levels. By working closely with all RTA stakeholders, this TA aims to: (i) strengthen understanding of key factors in successful RTA implementation, (ii)

¹ The TA first appeared in the business opportunities section of ADB's website on 14 May 2021. Activities will initially take place in the RCEP region. Capacity building will focus on DMCs identified as priority by knowledge products.

allow elaboration of strategies and trade policy options across economies and sectors to maximize positive RTA impact, and (iii) mitigate and manage costs that arise during implementation and allow better trade and investment actions.

7. The TA aligns with the regional cooperation and integration operational plan for priority 7 of ADB Strategy 2030, pillar 2.² With its concrete and operational recommendations and actions for establishment of regional public goods leveraging the RTA commitments, the TA aligns with ADB's objective to strengthen convergence on regional cooperation and integration performance among developing member countries by subregion, so that subregional agreements—or subregional implementation of wider regional or interregional agreements, e.g., the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Economic Community, CPTPP, and RCEP—can be more effectively implemented through ADB-assisted investment operations (footnote 2).

8. The TA supports key findings from ADB's knowledge work enhancing the capacity of regional members to enforce regional trade governance through RTAs consistently with similar initiatives of other leading international agencies, such as the World Trade Organization, World Bank, World Customs Organization, and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.³

9. The TA is consistent with the trade targets of Sustainable Development Goal 17 by raising understanding of how RTAs can increase the exports of developing countries and their share in global exports, promote investment, and create jobs, contributing to inclusive growth.

III. THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A. Impact and Outcome

10. The TA is aligned with the following impact: Improved implementation of trade agreements in participating ADB regional members.⁴ The TA will have the following outcome: Increased knowledge and awareness among RTAs stakeholders (policy makers, government, private sector, civil society, and the public) of trade and investment effects of mega-RTAs such as RCEP and CPTPP (with other RTAs).⁵ This will be done through elaboration and dissemination of at least three high-quality studies to promote understanding and policy dialogue (among governments, private sector, civil society, the ASEAN and ASEAN+3 secretariats, multilateral organizations, and ADB-supported subregional cooperation programs such as for the Greater Mekong Subregion Economic Cooperation Program) and raise the capacity of policy makers to maximize RTA net benefits and marginal costs.⁶ The proposed recommendations and database will support

² ADB. 2018. *Strategy 2030: Achieving a Prosperous, Inclusive, Resilient, and Sustainable Asia and the Pacific*. Manila; and ADB. 2019. *Strategy 2030 Operational Plan for Priority 7: Fostering Regional Cooperation and Integration, 2019–2024*. Manila. Pillar 2 aims to expand global and regional trade and investment opportunities by DMC implementation of global and regional trade and investment agreements through open regionalism across Asia and the Pacific.

³ The TA on Free Trade Agreements in Asia: The Way Ahead usefully raised knowledge, awareness, and debate about free trade agreements in Asia and provided a base of knowledge on trade policy capacity building within ADB. The free trade agreement database of ADB's Asia Regional Integration Center tracks and comprehensively lists bilateral and plurilateral free trade agreements that have at least one of ADB's 48 regional members as a signatory. It covers all agreements at all stages of development, from those under study or consultation to those in force.

⁴ Defined by the TA in alignment with operational priority 7: fostering regional cooperation and integration.

⁵ The design and monitoring framework is in Appendix 1.

⁶ ASEAN+3 refers to ASEAN, Japan, the People's Republic of China, and the Republic of Korea. The TA will also take stock and build on the achievements of past ADB programs such as the TA on Advancing Time Release Studies in Southeast Asia (<https://www.adb.org/projects/50251-001/main>) covering ASEAN, Cambodia, Myanmar, the Philippines, and the Brunei Darussalam–Indonesia–Malaysia–Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA). It will also coordinate work with relevant ongoing programs such as the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) and the Greater Mekong Subregion.

(i) further knowledge, such as flagship reports and other databases, and (ii) ADB's operational work, such as identification of regional public goods and subsequent investment projects, beyond the implementation period of the KSTA.

B. Outputs, Methods, and Activities

11. Output 1: Knowledge products with regional and country level policy recommendations delivered. This includes two categories: (i) thematic knowledge products on specific key components of trade agreements such as rules of origin and trade facilitation, services, e-commerce, investment, mechanisms to eliminate nontariff measures, and (ii) general studies on the impact and implications of trade agreements and their challenges, such as discrimination against nonparties to RTAs. The TA will prioritize RCEP and CPTPP member countries with upcoming trade and competitiveness policy-based lending. Studies will analyze:

- (i) the agreement's main text, legal provisions, meaning, and practical implications;
- (ii) the value added of mega-RTAs over existing preferences schemes in (a) market access focusing on key components such as tariff phase down, preference margin, and rules of origin (requirements and administration), and (b) other key provisions such as trade facilitation, services and e-commerce, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, technical barriers to trade, investment, and dispute settlement;
- (iii) challenges during implementation for the public and private sectors, including the most vulnerable groups (e.g., micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises);
- (iv) the capacity and willingness of countries to implement and comply with RTA provisions based on economic, structural, and geographical situations (e.g., low-income landlocked countries struggling with direct shipment requirements); and
- (v) the characteristics of critical sectors, including gender aspects when appropriate.

12. Such elements are a prerequisite for any RTA to fully realize potential benefits. Research will focus initially on RCEP. As mega-RTAs cannot be studied in isolation, agreements such as CPTPP and bilateral agreements will also be studied to accurately evaluate and compare the value added and the effective trade impact of existing RTAs. The TA will expand its focus to trade preferences schemes that overlap and compete with RCEP: ASEAN+1 and other bilateral and multilateral agreements in which RCEP members are involved. Based on countries' needs, and lessons from RCEP and other overlapping RTAs, the TA will broaden its geographical coverage.

13. The TA will produce and disseminate a report that examines potential RCEP impacts on trade and income. Building on existing research, in particular by P. A. Petri and M. G. Plummer, the report will use a computable general equilibrium model to assess RCEP income impact by 2030 and identify countries that will benefit most and those likely to incur losses.⁷ Because internet and printer access in some DMCs is limited, ERCD will print and distribute 250 RCEP reports to country policy makers, stakeholders, and requestors, including officials and staff of regional and global institutions, academics, and college graduates and students.

14. Output 2: Database on trade agreements with dashboard and visualization established. In collaboration with international experts and partners, ADB will set up a database, including RCEP's tariff phase-down and services commitments. This database is important because no multilateral mechanism is in place to systematically report RTA information to carry

⁷ P. A. Petri and M. G. Plummer. 2020. *East Asia Decouples from the United States: Trade War, COVID-19, and East Asia's New Trade Blocs*. Washington, DC: Peterson Institute for International Economics. Building on Petri and Plummer's work, refined scenarios will better account for labor market adjustments, domestic reforms, rules of origin, and services, and will envisage different degrees of implementation based on thematic studies.

out research and capacity building activities such as those proposed in this TA. The database, its accompanying user guide, and metadata will be available to all RTA stakeholders to address the three levels of the problem analysis diagram. The provisional structure of the database includes the following entries: reporter, partner, year, product, tariff commitment, and preference margin.

15. While the database will be used to conduct research under output 1, it is expected to continue to be updated and used beyond the KSTA implementation period, running empirical studies and applied research to serve requests from ADB members and support the creation of regional public goods that will benefit the most vulnerable groups that cannot afford the collection, analysis, and treatment of data. Output activities will include exchange of information and exploring cooperation with regional secretariats such as ASEAN and other think tanks to build up and expand the database. It is expected that the database will progressively integrate tariff phase out of other RTAs and CPTPP to compare the effective trade liberalization of RCEP, at least in tariffs and product-specific rules of origin.⁸

16. **Output 3: Capacity building with public and private RTA stakeholders delivered.** Based on outputs 1 and 2, the TA will advocate and disseminate best practices in trade agreements, particularly on rules of origin, tariff phase-down, and trade facilitation. Activities will include capacity building and policy dialogue among stakeholders: trade negotiators, policy makers, customs officials, the private sector, civil society, and effective users of trade agreements. To the extent possible, particular focus will be given to the most vulnerable economies, in particular RCEP least developed countries that are also the ASEAN's newest members.

C. Cost and Financing

17. The TA is estimated to cost \$750,000, of which (i) \$300,000 will be financed on a grant basis by ADB's Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-7 and TASF-Others) and (ii) \$450,000 will be financed on a grant basis by the Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund.⁹ Key expenditure items are listed in Appendix 2.

18. Civil works, procurement of large-scale equipment (such as machinery and other capital equipment), and salary for permanent staff of TA's executing and/or implementing agencies are typical non-eligible expenditures under the Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund.

D. Implementation Arrangements

19. ADB will administer the TA. The Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD) will select, supervise, and evaluate consultants and resource persons; procure goods; organize workshops and conferences with partner agencies; and provide staff and/or coordinate ADB staff for support services and participation in the workshops and conferences. Conforming to the One ADB principle, collaboration with regional departments and missions, as well as the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department's sector and thematic groups will be pursued during TA implementation.

20. Implementation arrangements are summarized in the table.

⁸ The TA will carry out advocacy activities with RCEP countries and institutions to ensure the sustainability of the database. In addition, the proposed recommendations of the TA and its database will greatly support further knowledge and operational work. Updates are, therefore, expected to be funded by subsequent regional cooperation and integration TA projects. This will also make the case for resolving any issues related to the sustainability of this initiative and finance needs for updates of the database.

⁹ Established by ADB. Financing partner: The Government of Japan.

Implementation Arrangements

Aspects	Arrangements		
Indicative implementation period ^a	June 2021–May 2024		
Executing agency	Asian Development Bank		
Implementing agency	Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department		
Consultants	To be selected and engaged by ADB		
	Individual: Individual selection	International consultants (26.5 person-months)	\$398,200
	Individual: Individual selection	National consultants (48 person-months)	\$111,700
	Individual: Individual selection	Resource persons (2.5 person-months)	\$41,500
Procurement ^a	To be procured by Asian Development Bank		
	Shopping	2 contracts	\$10,000
Disbursement	Disbursement of TA resources will follow ADB's <i>Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook</i> (2020, as amended from time to time), and given two funding sources, disbursements will be based on cost-sharing arrangement.		
Asset turnover or disposal arrangement upon TA completion	After the TA is completed, any procured equipment will be disposed of in compliance with Administering Grant-Financed Technical Assistance Projects in the Project Administration Instructions. ^b		

ADB = Asian Development Bank, TA = technical assistance.

^a Procurement Plan (accessible from the list of linked documents in Appendix 3).

^b ADB. 2018. Administering Grant-Financed Technical Assistance Projects. Project Administration Instructions. PAI 5.09. Manila.

Source: Asian Development Bank.

21. **Consulting services.** ADB will engage the consultants following the ADB Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time) and its associated staff instructions.¹⁰ Where appropriate, output-based or lump sum contracts with a provision for fixed out-of-pocket expenses, framework contracts, and firms' contracts will be considered.

22. **ADB's procurement.** Procurement will follow the ADB Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time) and Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers (2017, as amended from time to time).¹¹

23. **Cofinancier requirements.** The Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund requires submission of annual progress reports of TA implementation to the Regional Cooperation and Integration Thematic Group (SDTC-RCI). In case of major or material change that may affect the TA's outcome, components, benefits, and implementation arrangements, ERCD will notify and consult with SDTC-RCI during interdepartmental review of the memorandum on such changes. In case of minor changes in TA scope and implementation arrangements (including extension of TA completion date), ERCD will send copies of the approved memorandum to SDTC-RCI.

IV. THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION

24. The President, acting under the authority delegated by the Board, has approved the provision of technical assistance not exceeding the equivalent of \$750,000 on a grant basis for Raising the Value of Regional Trade Agreements—Key Factors for Successful Implementation and Positive Economic Impact, and hereby reports this action to the Board.

¹⁰ Terms of Reference for Consultants (accessible from the list of linked documents in Appendix 3).

¹¹ Procurement Plan is accessible from the list of linked documents in Appendix 3.

DESIGN AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Impact the TA is Aligned with			
Improved implementation of trade agreements in participating ADB regional members. ^a			
Results Chain	Performance Indicators	Data Sources and Reporting Mechanisms	Risks and Critical Assumptions
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Increased knowledge and awareness among RTAs stakeholders (policy makers, government, private sector, civil society, and the public) of trade and investment effects of mega-RTAs such as RCEP and CPTPP (with other RTAs)</p>	<p>a. Measures to improve execution of provisions in one existing or new mega-RTA supported in implementation (OP 7.2.1)</p> <p>b. Enhanced cooperation among DMCs in regional market access policies (OP 7.2.4)</p>	<p>a. ADB progress reports, feedback from policy makers in RTA members during consultations and seminars, and RCEP and ASEAN official documents</p> <p>b. RCEP and ASEAN official documents and feedback from policy makers in RTA members during consultations and seminars</p>	<p>R: Change in the global or regional economic and political environment undermine trade recovery and generate delays in ratification and implementation of mega-RTAs.</p> <p>R: DMC lacks the resources to implement recommendations.</p>
<p>Outputs</p> <p>1. Knowledge products with regional and country level policy recommendations delivered</p> <p>2. Database on trade agreements with dashboard and visualization established</p>	<p>1a. One study or policy brief on the content of the legal provisions of RCEP and their implications on trade and investment (OP 7.2.1)</p> <p>1b. One technical study on the importance of effective implementation of rules of origin, utilization rates, and best practices in the RCEP region (OP 7.2.1)</p> <p>1c. At least one additional sectoral study on specific provisions of RTAs (OP 7.2.1)</p> <p>1d. A total of 250 copies of RCEP impact report distributed to DMC policy makers and stakeholders (OP 6.1.1)</p> <p>2a. One database established and accessible to the public. (OP 6.1.1)</p> <p>2b. The database is used by RTAs stakeholders in at least 3 DMCs. (OP 6.1.1)</p>	<p>1a. Consultant and project reports</p> <p>1b. Consultant and project reports</p> <p>1c. Consultant and project reports</p> <p>1d. Consultant and project reports</p> <p>2a. Project reports and ADB website</p> <p>2b. Project reports and ADB website</p>	<p>R: Lack of data availability may compromise the production schedule, for example on the utilization rates of trade preferences.</p> <p>R: Inadequate engagement and understanding by governments and stakeholders inhibits adoption of identified best practices.</p> <p>R: DMCs may lack necessary infrastructure to access the data.</p>

<p>3. Capacity building with public and private RTA stakeholders delivered</p>	<p>3a. Knowledge and best practices sharing events (capacity building and policy dialogue seminars), including launch event for the RCEP impact report, organized (OP 6.1.2)</p> <p>At least 60 policy makers and customs officials, 40 private sector and/or civil society representatives, including at least 8 representatives of vulnerable groups (e.g., MSMEs) trained (OP 6.1.2)</p> <p>At least 25% of participants are women (OP 6.1.2)</p>	<p>3a. Project reports, records and evaluation from capacity building events</p>	<p>R: In-person events may be limited due to COVID-19.</p> <p>R: Lack of adequate internet connection in DMC may limit the participation in virtual events.</p>
<p>Key Activities with Milestones</p> <p>1. Knowledge products with regional and country level policy recommendations delivered</p> <p>1.1 Recruitment of consultants (Q3 2021, Q4 2021, Q1 2022, Q3 2022, Q2 2023, and Q3 2023)</p> <p>1.2 Conduct preliminary (legal) analysis of RCEP legal text and specific provisions (Q3 2021 and Q4 2021)</p> <p>1.3 Preparation, development, and publication of the RCEP impact report (Q3 2021 and Q4 2021)</p> <p>1.4 Printing and dissemination of RCEP report (Q1 2022 and Q2 2022)</p> <p>1.5 Drafting of policy brief on RCEP specific provision (rules of origin and trade facilitation) (Q3 2021, publication Q4 2021)</p> <p>1.6 Drafting of a study on RCEP rules of origin in the context of overlapping preferences schemes (Q3–Q4 2021, publication Q1 2022); based on progress of output 2</p> <p>1.7 Drafting of one additional sectoral study on RTA specific provisions (Q3 2022–Q3 2023)</p> <p>2. Database on trade agreements with dashboard and visualization established</p> <p>2.1 Collection and building of RCEP and other RTAs tariff commitments database and RCEP services commitments (Q3–Q4 2021)</p> <p>2.2 Creation of the database visualization and online tools (Q1 2022)</p> <p>2.3 Launch of the publicly available database (Q2 2022)</p> <p>2.4 Expansion and/or update of the database with RCEP and other RTA newly available data (Q4 2021–Q2 2024)</p> <p>3. Capacity building with public and private RTA stakeholders delivered</p> <p>3.1 Technical capacity building seminar on the value of mega-RTAs and use of the database (Q3 2022)</p> <p>3.2 Policy dialogue events on how to foster public and private sector cooperation to implement specific provisions of trade agreements (challenges and difficulties faced by the private sector to be confronted with legal texts internalized in future negotiations) (Q4 2022, Q4 2023, and Q1 2024)</p> <p>TA Management Activities</p> <p>Recruitment of consultants, reporting, data collection to beneficiary countries and stakeholders for monitoring and evaluation</p>			

Inputs

ADB: \$300,000

Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund: \$450,000

ADB = Asian Development Bank; ASEAN = Association of Southeast Asian Nations; COVID-19 = coronavirus disease; CPTPP = Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership; DMC = developing member country; DMF = design and monitoring framework; MSME = micro, small, and medium-sized enterprise; OP = operational priority; Q = quarter; R = risk; RCEP = Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership; RTA = regional trade agreement; TA = technical assistance.

^a Defined by the TA in alignment with operational priority 7: fostering regional cooperation and integration. ADB. 2019.

Strategy 2030 Operational Plan for Priority 7: Fostering Regional Cooperation and Integration, 2019–2024. Manila.

Contribution to Strategy 2030 Operational Priorities:

The expected values and methodological details for all OP indicators to which this TA will contribute results are detailed in Contribution to Strategy 2030 Operational Priorities linked document (accessible from the list of linked documents in Appendix 3 of the TA report).

Source: Asian Development Bank.

COST ESTIMATES AND FINANCING PLAN
(\$'000)

Item	Amount	
	ADB ^a	RCIF ^{b, c}
A. Consultants		
1. Remuneration and per diem		
a. International consultants	149.4	244.4
b. National consultants	0.0	111.7
2. Out-of-pocket expenditures		
a. International and local travel	20.0	30.0
b. Reports and communications	0.0	4.0
c. Miscellaneous administration and support costs	5.0	0.0
B. Printed external publications ^d	0.0	10.0
C. Goods ^e	10.0	0.0
D. Training, seminars, and conferences		
1. Resource Persons ^f	0.0	41.5
2. Travel cost of ADB staff acting as a resource person ^g	40.0	0.0
3. Venue rental and related facilities	35.0	0.0
4. Participants	35.0	0.0
5. Representation ^g	2.0	0.0
E. Contingencies	3.6	8.4
Total	300.0	450.0

ADB = Asian Development Bank, RCIF = Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund, TA = technical assistance.
Note: The TA is estimated to cost \$750,000, of which contributions from ADB and RCIF are presented in the table.

^a Financed by ADB's Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-7 and TASF-Others).

^b Established by ADB. Financing partner: The Government of Japan.

^c RCIF financing of this TA was approved on 10 May 2021.

^d Printed publications will be available on demand for specific target groups. The cost includes the hiring of editors, graphic designers, typesetters, and other services for digital and printed publications.

^e Includes information and communication technology-related equipment and/or supplies and econometric or statistical programs and/or software. ADB will procure the equipment following its Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time). Turnover and/or disposal arrangements for the equipment will follow the provisions stated in the Project Administration Instructions on Administering Grant-Financed Technical Assistance Projects (PAI 5.09, paras. 41 and 42).

^f Per Operations Manual H3 and para. 28 of the Staff Instruction on Cost Sharing and Eligibility of Expenditures for ADB Financing, resource persons engaged under TA operations and their related out-of-pocket expenditures are not subject to member country procurement eligibility.

^g ADB (Budget, Personnel, and Management Systems Department; and Strategy and Policy Department). 2013. *Use of Bank Resources: Regional Technical Assistance and Technical Assistance vs. Internal Administrative Expenses Budget*. Memorandum. 26 June (internal).

Source: ADB estimates.

LIST OF LINKED DOCUMENTS

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/LinkedDocs/?id=55004-001-TARreport>

1. Terms of Reference for Consultants
2. Contribution to Strategy 2030 Operational Priorities
3. Procurement Plan