



Technical Assistance Report

Project Number: 55167-001
Knowledge and Support Technical Assistance (KSTA)
September 2021

Socialist Republic of Viet Nam: Strengthening Institutional Capacity for the Implementation of the Master Plan on Socio-Economic Development of the Ethnic Minorities and Mountainous Areas 2021–2030

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CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS

(as of 12 August 2021)

Currency unit	–	dong (D)
D1.00	=	\$0.000044
\$1.00	=	D22,881

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
CEMA	–	Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs
EMWG	–	Ethnic Minority Working Group
JFPR	–	Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction
M&E	–	monitoring and evaluation
NGO	–	nongovernment organization
TA	–	technical assistance

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: 55167-001
Project Name	Strengthening Institutional Capacity for the Implementation of the Master Plan on Socio-Economic Development of the Ethnic Minorities and Mountainous Areas 2021-2030	Department/Division SERD/SEER
Nature of Activity Modality	Capacity Development Regular	Executing Agency Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs
Country	Viet Nam, Socialist Republic of	
2. Sector	Subsector(s)	ADB Financing (\$ million)
		Total 0.00
3. Operational Priorities		Climate Change Information
✓ Addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities		GHG Reductions (tons per annum) 0.000
✓ Accelerating progress in gender equality		Climate Change impact on the Project Low
✓ Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability		ADB Financing
✓ Promoting rural development and food security		Adaptation (\$ million) 0.00
✓ Strengthening governance and institutional capacity		Mitigation (\$ million) 0.00
		Cofinancing
		Adaptation (\$ million) 0.00
		Mitigation (\$ million) 0.00
Sustainable Development Goals		Gender Equity and Mainstreaming
SDG 1.4, 1.5		Effective gender mainstreaming (EGM) ✓
SDG 2.1		
SDG 5.1		
SDG 10.2		
4. Risk Categorization Complex		Poverty Targeting
5. Safeguard Categorization Safeguard Policy Statement does not apply		Geographic Targeting ✓
6. Financing		
Modality and Sources		Amount (\$ million)
ADB		0.00
None		0.00
Cofinancing		2.00
Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (Full ADB Administration)		2.00
Counterpart		0.00
None		0.00
Total		2.00
Currency of Financing: US Dollar		

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) will support the upgrading of the institutional capacity of the Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA) and other government agencies in Viet Nam to implement the Master Plan on Socio-Economic Development of the Ethnic Minorities and Mountainous Areas 2021–2030.¹ More specifically, the TA will strengthen the government’s capacity to develop policies for implementing the master plan, identify livelihood opportunities and investments benefiting ethnic minorities and marginalized groups in the mountainous areas, and enhance coordination and systems to monitor strategic outcomes and progress of the master plan. The TA is aligned with the Asian Development Bank’s (ADB) Strategy 2030 and will support the following operational priorities: addressing remaining poverty and reducing inequalities; gender equality and women’s empowerment; tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability; promoting rural development and food security; and strengthening governance and institutional capacity.² It will support Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 5, and 10.³ The TA is aligned with pillar 2 of the country partnership strategy for Viet Nam, 2016–2020 on increasing inclusiveness of infrastructure and service delivery, with a focus on enhancing access to services and livelihood opportunities for ethnic minorities and the vulnerable groups in the mountainous areas.⁴ It is also aligned with the upcoming country partnership strategy which will support inclusive green growth. The TA is included in the country operations business plan for Viet Nam, 2021–2023.⁵ This TA will also complement ADB’s other support to ethnic minorities and help identify future business opportunities.⁶

II. ISSUES

2. **Persistently high poverty rate among ethnic minorities.** Addressing socioeconomic development in ethnic minority areas has been a priority of the government for the past 3 decades starting from 1990.⁷ Despite the government’s efforts, the poverty rate among ethnic minorities reached its highest level in 2018 at 44.6%, even as the country experienced a decrease in its overall poverty rate to 9.8% in the same year from 58.1% in 1992.⁸ Ethnic minorities also

¹ Viet Nam National Assembly. 2019. [Resolution 88/2019/QH14: Master Plan on Socio-Economic Development of the Ethnic Minorities and Mountainous Areas 2021–2030](#). Ha Noi.

² ADB. 2018. [Strategy 2030: Achieving a Prosperous, Inclusive, Resilient, and Sustainable Asia and the Pacific](#). Manila.

³ SDG1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere; SDG2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture; SDG5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; SDG 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.

⁴ ADB. 2016. [Country Partnership Strategy: Viet Nam, 2016–2020—Fostering More Inclusive and Environmentally Sustainable Growth](#). Manila.

⁵ ADB. 2020. [Country Operations Business Plan: Viet Nam, 2021–2023](#). Manila. The former title of this TA in the country operations business plan, 2021–2023 is Livelihoods Improvement for Ethnic Minority People in Viet Nam.

⁶ ADB is processing the Climate Resilient Inclusive Infrastructure for Ethnic Minorities Project in six provinces of Central Viet Nam (Binh Dinh, Khanh Hoa, Phu Yen, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, and Quang Tri). The Government of Viet Nam has requested ADB to process the Green Infrastructure for Ethnic Minorities Project in four northern provinces (Lang Son, Son La, Thai Nguyen, and Yen Bai) for approval in 2023; The TA first appeared in the business opportunities section of ADB’s website on 21 July 2021.

⁷ According to an official report of the government to the National Assembly in 2019, the government has had at least 128 policies and programs supporting ethnic minorities.

⁸ Viet Nam General Statistics Office. 2020. [Viet Nam Household Living Standards Survey 2018](#). Ha Noi. These poverty rates are based on the expenditure-based poverty line adopted by the World Bank in Viet Nam, which is consistent with international standards of poverty lines. The government has adopted another multidimensional national poverty line based on income and other dimensions of access to public services for 2016–2020. Based on the government’s

accounted for 72.9% of those living in poverty in 2018. In ethnic minority communities, females are more disadvantaged than males in terms of access to opportunities and resources because of social norms which tend to restrict their livelihood options and often limit them to domestic and child-rearing activities. The intersection of discrimination based on both gender and ethnicity has the most significant impact, compounding inequalities faced by ethnic minority women and girls.

3. Government's commitment to address poverty among ethnic minorities. The government has issued various policies and investment programs supporting ethnic minorities, including two national targeted programs—for sustainable poverty reduction and for rural development—during 2015–2020 and two targeted poverty reduction programs—the “135” and “30A” programs—for the most disadvantaged communes.⁹ Under these programs, basic economic and social infrastructure were developed for many ethnic minority communities. These include roads connecting ethnic minority communities to commune and district centers, domestic water supply systems, irrigation schemes, power distribution, schools, health centers, and broadcasting and telecommunications stations. However, there still remains a lot to be done or improved, such as connection roads to district centers for at least 187 communes, concrete roads connecting to commune centers for about 9,500 communes, irrigation for nearly 77% of agricultural land, power distribution for more than 3,400 communities, rehabilitation of approximately 72,600 schools and 1,300 health centers, and construction of more than 7,000 community centers (footnote 1). The government's approval of the Master Plan on Socio-Economic Development of the Ethnic Minorities and Mountainous Areas 2021–2030 confirms its continuous commitment to support ethnic minorities for the next 10 years (2021–2030). The master plan comprises eight groups of strategies that cover all key aspects to ensure socioeconomic development and to end poverty of ethnic minorities by 2030.¹⁰ The master plan is an all-in-one strategy of the government, and the most important one to date, to address poverty among ethnic minorities. Viet Nam has also developed a relatively progressive legal framework on gender equality and women's empowerment which includes policies to promote gender equality in ethnic minority areas.¹¹

national poverty line, the overall poverty rate and the poverty rate of ethnic minorities were 6.8% and 28.5% in 2018 respectively.

⁹ Government of Viet Nam. 1998. [Decision No.135/1998/QĐ-TTg of July 31, 1998 to Approve the Program on Socio-Economic Development in Mountainous, Deep-Lying and Remote Communes with Special Difficulties](#). Ha Noi; and Government of Viet Nam. 2008. [Resolution 30a/2008/NQ-CP on Support Program for Fast and Sustainable Poverty Reduction in 61 Poor Districts](#). Ha Noi.

¹⁰ The eight strategies are on (i) designing a national targeted program with 10 projects encompassing key aspects of ethnic minority socioeconomic development, including land planning and clearance for safe ethnic minority resettlement and agriculture production, domestic water supply, infrastructure for agriculture and forestry production, education, health, culture conservation, gender equality, and communication; (ii) developing investment prioritization criteria for different ethnic minority groups and areas; (iii) promoting science and technology transfer supporting ethnic minority communities, developing a comprehensive database on ethnic minority groups to inform, plan, manage, and implement policies related to ethnic minorities; (iv) mobilizing funding resources (in addition to the state budget) and promoting international cooperation to support the implementation of policies related to ethnic minorities; (v) developing institutional capacity of government agencies working on ethnic minority affairs; (vi) building individual capacity, especially for government officials who belong to ethnic minority groups, and developing ethnic minority human resources for public sector management works; (vii) strengthening social security and national defense in ethnic minority and mountainous areas; and (viii) improving policy credit programs to support ethnic minority livelihood development.

¹¹ Specific provisions are included in the Law on Gender Equality (Viet Nam Official Gazette. 2007. [Law No. 73/2006/QH11 on Gender Equality](#). Ha Noi), the National Strategy on Gender Equality for 2011–2020 (Government of Viet Nam. 2010. [Decision 2351/QĐ-TTg approving National Strategy on Gender Equality for 2011–2020](#). Ha Noi), the National Action Programme on Gender Equality for 2011–2015 (Government of Viet Nam. 2011. [Decision No. 1241/QĐ-TTg approving the National Action Programme on Gender Equality for 2011–2015](#). Hanoi), and 2016–2020 (Government of Viet Nam. 2015. [Decision No. 1696/QĐ-TTg approving the National Action Programme on Gender Equality for 2016–2020](#). Ha Noi).

4. **Limited institutional capacity for policy development.** While the master plan reflects the government's commitment to addressing chronic poverty by ensuring that future projects or programs are more inclusive of ethnic minorities, its implementation is expected to be challenging because of limited capacity at different levels of the government to translate high-level strategies into conducive policies addressing multidimensional poverty.¹² Government officials working on ethnic minority issues often lack the necessary skills and knowledge in policy design and implementation, and pertinent analytical assessments. There is a shortage of in-depth studies on investment opportunities and business development approaches for ethnic minorities to support well-structured visionary policies.

5. **Limited institutional capacity for project identification and development.** Support for ethnic minorities has been provided through centrally managed national targeted programs, provincially managed investment projects, and community-based projects. Few of them, however, have resulted in sustainable socioeconomic development for ethnic minorities because of weaknesses in investment identification, prioritization, design, and implementation. It is therefore necessary to build the capacity of government officials at the central, provincial, and local levels to identify and screen for projects with greater and more sustainable impacts on ethnic minorities. It is important to involve all relevant stakeholders, including ethnic minority communities and the private sector, during project identification and development.

6. **Weak coordination and monitoring.** Numerous activities on socioeconomic development have been implemented by various government agencies, but these are often uncoordinated and not implemented effectively. At present, there is no mechanism in place that systematically looks at the totality of the government's support for ethnic minorities to ensure that strategic directions are followed and synergies are achieved. The eight strategies included in the master plan (footnote 9) require significant coordination efforts from the government and development partners to define specific interventions. Monitoring is often used more as an input reporting system rather than as a tool for decision-making and monitoring and evaluation.

III. THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A. Impact and Outcome

7. The TA is aligned with the following impact: socioeconomic opportunities for ethnic minorities and marginalized people increased (footnote 1). The TA will have the following outcome: institutional capacity of relevant government agencies to successfully implement the master plan strengthened.¹³ More specifically, the government's capacity in making inclusive and conducive policies, mobilizing and prioritizing resources to maximize intended impacts, and monitoring and coordinating investments and activities supporting ethnic minorities for better results is expected to be improved. The government's strengthened institutional capacity will be measured by the increase in investments for ethnic minorities by the public or private sector, with coordinated efforts by central and local governments, development partners, public and private investors, and other stakeholders. The TA will be delivered through the following three outputs.¹⁴

¹² Government of Viet Nam. 2020. [Report 249 of the Government to the National Assembly on the Proposal for Investment Policy on a National Target Program on Socio-Economic Development of the Ethnic Minorities and Mountainous Areas](#). Ha Noi.

¹³ The design and monitoring framework is in Appendix 1.

¹⁴ Deliverables generated under the TA will include training materials, modules, manuals, guidelines, and studies to be produced as digital or printed publications. They will be provided to the CEMA and disseminated through the coordination platform, CEMA and local government websites, and other media.

B. Outputs, Methods, and Activities

8. **Output 1: Capacity to develop conducive policies for the implementation of the master plan improved.** The TA will enhance the capacity of the CEMA and other government agencies to develop policies that will make the master plan operational. Studies will be undertaken to propose innovative solutions to improve the socioeconomic development of ethnic minorities and ensure inclusive growth, taking into full consideration cultural and heritage aspects. Review and dissemination of good practices and lessons learned from earlier development initiatives, including ADB's regional experience working with ethnic minorities through projects funded by the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR), will be incorporated to provide inputs to policy dialogue.¹⁵ Policy topics covered by the TA will comprise inclusive growth; human development; gender; and climate, disaster, and pandemic resilience. The TA will provide training for government officials on themes such as policy analysis and review.¹⁶ The TA will also support knowledge-sharing events and workshops to facilitate policy dialogue between the CEMA, other government agencies including provincial governments, development partners, and other stakeholders such as the private sector and civil society organizations representing ethnic minorities. Modalities of training and workshops will depend on the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic situation. If a face-to-face modality is not feasible, virtual media will be used.

9. **Output 2: Capacity to identify and develop investment projects benefitting ethnic minorities strengthened.** The TA will support the CEMA and provincial authorities to identify and screen inclusive investment opportunities that will benefit ethnic minorities.¹⁷ These opportunities will be either for public investments—through loans and grants from ADB and other development partners—or the private sector. Investment opportunities could include connectivity, agriculture production and value chain development, eco-tourism, climate-resilient infrastructure, sustainable livelihood enhancement, inclusive financial services, and service delivery improvement for ethnic minorities such as in education and health. More specifically, the TA will review existing national and provincial investment plans to identify investment gaps and priority areas to implement recently approved policies supporting ethnic minorities. Scoping studies in priority areas will be prepared to seek investment opportunities that could bring inclusiveness and sustainability in the context of ethnic minorities.¹⁸ Consultation workshops on investment opportunities for potential investors in the public and private sectors will be held. Training for national and provincial government officials on project development and management, social inclusion, participatory approaches, civil society engagement (for ethnic minorities, especially women), safeguards, economic and financial analysis, and climate and disaster risk assessment will also be among the main areas of support.

10. **Output 3: Capacity to monitor and coordinate the strategic outcomes and progress of the master plan improved.** The TA will support the CEMA to put in place a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework with identification of key indicators to monitor the main outcomes and implementation progress of the master plan. The M&E framework will be the basis for the

¹⁵ ADB. 2002. Viet Nam: *Indigenous Peoples/Ethnic Minorities and Poverty Reduction*. Manila; ADB. 2005. *Viet Nam: Community-Based Agricultural Extension and Training in Mountainous Districts*. Manila (JFPR 9071); ADB. 2005. *Lao People's Democratic Republic: Sustainable Agroforestry Systems for Livelihood Enhancement of the Rural Poor*. Manila (JFPR Grant 9062); and World Bank. 2016. *Strengthening Community-Driven Development in East Asia, South Asia, and the Pacific*. Washington, DC.

¹⁶ To ensure sustainability and institutionalization of training programs, the TA will support training of trainers, online training modules, and the development of a knowledge repository.

¹⁷ Strategy (ii) of the eight strategies of the master plan (footnote 9).

¹⁸ Scoping studies will include different analyses such as on economic and financial viability, environmental impacts, social and cultural issues, and climate risks and vulnerabilities to support the development of priority investment projects supporting ethnic minorities.

government to report to the National Assembly on the implementation of the master plan. The TA will strengthen the capacity of the CEMA and other government agencies by providing training on M&E and analytical skills to produce evidence-based reports. The TA will also support the CEMA to lead stakeholder meetings and create a coordination platform to facilitate meaningful dialogue across stakeholders.¹⁹

C. Cost and Financing

11. The TA is estimated to cost \$2,300,000, of which \$2,000,000 will be financed on a grant basis by the JFPR and administered by ADB. The key expenditure items are listed in Appendix 2.

12. Vehicles, salaries for civil servants, foreign travel, scholarships or long internships, detailed engineering design, civil works, and other related expenses are ineligible expenditure under the JFPR.

13. The government will provide counterpart support in the form of counterpart staff to work with consultants, office space in Ha Noi and provinces, office supplies, secretarial assistance, data and information for TA deliverables, vehicles for consultants' local land transportation, and other in-kind contributions as appropriate.

D. Implementation Arrangements

14. The CEMA will be the executing agency and ADB will administer the TA. The Southeast Asia Department's Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Division and the Viet Nam Resident Mission will supervise the overall implementation of the TA and work closely with the Official Development Assistance Projects Management Unit at the CEMA, other government agencies, and selected provinces. Individual consultants and resource persons will be recruited to provide international and national consulting inputs. ADB will select, supervise, and evaluate consultants and resource persons; organize workshops in cooperation with the CEMA and selected provinces; and procure essential office equipment for the TA central office.²⁰

15. **Development partner coordination.** Activities under the TA will be closely coordinated with development partners that are working in ethnic minority areas, such as the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Irish Aid, the Japan International Cooperation Agency, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, and others. In particular, ADB will ensure the TA's complementarity to and synergy with (i) the Japan International Cooperation Agency's ongoing and planned support such as investment projects in the northern mountainous areas and provincial handbooks to facilitate private company investments prepared with the foreign investment agency; and (ii) Government of Japan's Grant Assistance for the Grass-Roots Human Security Projects, which provides small grants to ethnic communities to improve their standard of living through construction of clinics and schools and clearance of unexploded

¹⁹ There are two working groups on ethnic minorities: the Ethnic Minority Working Group (EMWG) of development partners, and another EMWG of nongovernment organizations (NGOs). These platforms comprise only development partners and NGOs without the participation and contribution of the CEMA or other government agencies. The coordination platform envisaged under the proposed TA will be for the government (with the CEMA in the leading role) and development partners, NGOs, and other stakeholders including the private sector. This platform may be independent of the current EMWGs or integrated with them. The proposed TA will explore the most efficient solution to ensure coordination and avoid overlap.

²⁰ Essential office equipment may include photocopiers, computers, printers, and projectors.

ordnance. ADB will also collaborate with relevant Japanese institutions for various expertise required for the TA.²¹

16. Implementation arrangements are summarized in the table.

Implementation Arrangements

Aspects	Arrangements		
Indicative implementation period	December 2021–December 2024		
Executing agency	CEMA		
Implementing agency	ODA Projects Management Unit, CEMA. The ODA Projects Management Unit will coordinate with other CEMA departments and selected central and provincial government agencies.		
Consultants	To be selected and engaged by ADB		
	ICS: Institutional Capacity Development Consultant Team Leader	International expertise (9 person-months)	\$211,000
	ICS: Public Policy Development Consultant	National expertise (11 person-months)	\$130,750
	ICS: Public Investment Management Consultant	National expertise (11 person-months)	\$130,750
	ICS: Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant	National expertise (7 person-months)	\$85,000
	ICS: Project Coordinator	National expertise (34 person-months)	\$91,500
	ICS: Resource Persons (for various technical capacities to be determined during the TA implementation)	National and international (59 person-months)	\$800,000
Procurement	To be procured by ADB/Consultants		
	RFQ/Shopping: Office equipment	1 contract	\$20,000 (provisional sum)
	RFQ/Shopping: Publication and communication	2 contracts	\$120,000 (provisional sum)
	RFQ/Shopping: Workshops	25 workshops	\$300,000 (provisional sum)
Disbursement	Disbursement of TA resources will follow ADB's <i>Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook (2020, as amended from time to time)</i> .		
Asset turnover or disposal arrangement upon TA completion.	All office equipment procured by ADB or consultants will be handed over to the government and disposed of following ADB guidelines and procedures.		

ADB = Asian Development Bank, CEMA = Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs, ICS = individual consultant selection, ODA = official development assistance, RFQ = request for quotation, TA = technical assistance.

Source: Asian Development Bank.

²¹ Potential Japanese institutions include [Oriental Consultants Co. Ltd](#); [E-Square Inc.](#); [KMC Consulting Co. Ltd](#); [Koei Research and Consulting Inc.](#); [International Development Center of Japan](#); [Deloitte Tohmatsu Financial Advisory LLC](#); [Nippon Koei](#); [Unico International Co. Ltd](#); and [Center for Ainu and Indigenous Studies of Hokkaido University](#). Required expertise may include government institutional capacity building to better support ethnic minorities; pro-ethnic minority public policy design; public investment planning and project design targeted to ethnic minorities; eco-tourism development; human development; ethnic minority women and gender issues; agriculture value chain development and livelihood opportunities; cross-border trade; public and private sector investments in agriculture and rural development, transport, education and vocational training, health, and urban development; policy analysis and dialogue skills; project conceptualization skills; and project monitoring, evaluation, and coordination.

17. **Consulting services.** ADB will engage the consultants following the ADB Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time) and its associated project administration instructions and/or staff instructions.²²

18. **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).

19. **Cofinancier requirements.** The TA's monitoring and reporting requirements and any changes in the implementation arrangements will follow ADB's applicable project administration and staff instructions and will comply with JFPR guidelines. Major changes in the TA scope and objectives will be discussed with CEMA and the JFPR team, and the TA completion report will be shared with the Government of Japan.

IV. THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION

20. The President, acting under the authority delegated by the Board, has approved the Asian Development Bank administering technical assistance not exceeding the equivalent of \$2,000,000 to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to be financed on a grant basis by the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction for Strengthening Institutional Capacity for the Implementation of the Master Plan on Socio-Economic Development of the Ethnic Minorities and Mountainous Areas 2021–2030, and hereby reports this action to the Board.

²² Terms of Reference for Consultants (accessible from the list of linked documents in Appendix 3).

DESIGN AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Impact the TA is Aligned with Socioeconomic opportunities for ethnic minorities and marginalized people increased (Resolution 88/2019/QH14 <i>Master Plan on Socio-Economic Development of the Ethnic Minorities and Mountainous Areas 2021–2030</i>) ^a			
Results Chain	Performance Indicators	Data Sources and Reporting Mechanisms	Risks and Critical Assumptions
Outcome Institutional capacity of relevant government agencies to successfully implement the master plan strengthened	By 2025: Investments supporting ethnic minorities increased by 10% (OP 1.3.3; OP 2.3.1; OP 2.3.2; OP 3.2.2; OP 5.1; OP 6.1.1)	Government reports and statistics	R: Unexpected changes in government's policy priorities
Outputs 1. Capacity to develop conducive policies for the implementation of the master plan improved	By 2024: 1a. At least 500 government staff (at national and provincial levels combined and of whom at least 40% are women and 20% belong to ethnic minorities) trained and at least 80% of trained staff reported improved awareness, knowledge, and/or skills in conducting policy review and analysis (OP 2.3.1; OP 2.3.2; OP 6.1.1) 1b. Three policy briefs prepared by CEMA (one specifically on ethnic women) (OP 1.3.3; OP 2.3.1; OP 3.2.2)	1a.–1b. TA progress reports and training evaluation surveys	R: Unexpected changes in government's policy priorities
2. Capacity to identify and develop investment projects benefiting ethnic minorities strengthened	2a. Three scoping studies ^b identifying new climate-resilient investment opportunities benefitting ethnic minorities prepared (one with focus on women's needs) (OP 1.3.3; OP 2.3.1; OP 3.2.2; OP 5.1) 2b. At least 500 government staff (at national and provincial levels combined and of whom at least 40% are women and 15% belong to ethnic minorities) trained and at least 80% of trained staff reported improved awareness, knowledge, or skills in preparing investment projects ^c (OP 2.3.1; OP 2.3.2; OP 6.1.1)	2a.–2b. TA progress reports and training evaluation surveys	

3. Capacity to monitor and coordinate the strategic outcomes and progress of the master plan improved	3a. Gender- and ethnic-minority-responsive and inclusive M&E framework for the master plan designed ^d (OP 6.1.1) 3b. At least one stakeholder meeting organized per year as part of a coordination platform, bringing together government agencies, development partners, private sector, and civil societies to review implementation progress of the master plan and discuss cooperation opportunities (OP6.1.1)	3a.–3b. TA progress reports and training evaluation surveys	
Key Activities with Milestones			
1. Capacity to develop conducive policies for the implementation of the master plan improved			
1.1 Undertake a stock-taking exercise on existing policies supporting ethnic minorities to identify policy gaps and priorities with gender considerations, by Q2 2022.			
1.2 Carry out in-depth studies to propose innovative solutions to improve the socioeconomic development of ethnic minority communities, by Q4 2022.			
1.3 Review, consolidate, and disseminate good practices and lessons learned from various development initiatives, by Q4 2022.			
1.4 Train selected government staff on policy review and analysis, by Q4 2023.			
1.5 Hold knowledge-sharing events and workshops to facilitate policy dialogue among government, development partners, and other stakeholders, by Q4 2023.			
1.6 Prepare policy briefs, by Q4 2023.			
2. Capacity to identify and develop investment projects benefiting ethnic minorities strengthened			
2.1 Review ongoing and pipeline (2022–2025) investment projects, by Q2 2022.			
2.2 Identify investment gaps and priority areas for specific scoping studies, by Q2 2022.			
2.3 Prepare scoping studies identifying investment opportunities, by Q2 2023.			
2.4 Hold consultation workshops on investment opportunities, by Q3 2023.			
2.5 Train selected government staff on project conceptualization skills, by Q4 2023.			
3. Capacity to monitor and coordinate the strategic outcomes and progress of the master plan improved			
3.1 Review existing M&E mechanisms for ethnic minorities projects and programs, by Q2 2022.			
3.2 Prepare an M&E framework for the master plan based on consultations, by Q4 2022.			
3.3 Support CEMA to organize, through a coordination platform, annual stakeholder meetings on the implementation of the master plan, by Q4 2024.			
3.4 Train selected government staff on M&E and analytical skills for evidence- and/or results-based reports, by Q4 2023.			
3.5 Organize a stakeholder meeting at least once a year.			
TA Management Activities			
Consultant recruitment, preparation of reports (inception report, progress reports, and completion report), M&E, and knowledge generation and dissemination.			
Inputs			
Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction: \$2,000,000			
Note: The government will provide counterpart support in the form of counterpart staff to work with consultants, office space in Ha Noi and provinces, office supplies, secretarial assistance, data and			

information for TA deliverables, vehicles for consultants' local land transportation, and other in-kind contributions as appropriate.

CEMA = Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs, M&E = monitoring and evaluation, OP = operational priority, Q = quarter, R = risk, TA = technical assistance.

- ^a Viet Nam National Assembly. 2019. [Resolution 88/2019/QH14: Master Plan on Socio-Economic Development of the Ethnic Minorities and Mountainous Areas 2021–2030](#). Ha Noi.
- ^b Scoping studies will include different analyses, such as on economic and financial viability, environmental impacts, social and cultural issues, and climate risks and vulnerabilities to support the conceptualization of priority investment projects for ethnic minorities.
- ^c Government officials will be trained on project development skills including economic and financial viability analysis, safeguard review, climate and disaster risk assessment, and participatory consultations with special regard to ethnic minority communities.
- ^d The M&E framework will contain data disaggregated by sex and ethnicity and indicators measuring changes in gender equality and social inclusion.

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 (accessible from the list of linked documents in Appendix 3).

Source: Asian Development Bank.

COST ESTIMATES AND FINANCING PLAN
(\$'000)

Item	Amount
Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction^a	
1. Consultants	
a. Remuneration and per diem	
i. International consultants	170.0
ii. National consultants	340.0
iii. Resource persons	800.0
b. Out-of-pocket expenditures	
i. International and local travel	69.0
ii. Surveys	30.0
iii. Workshops	20.0
iv. Reports	20.0
2. Goods and equipment (purchase) ^b	20.0
3. Publication and communication ^c	120.0
4. Training, seminars, workshops, forum, and conferences ^d	300.0
5. Miscellaneous technical assistance administration costs	50.0
6. Contingencies	61.0
Total	2,000.0

Note: The technical assistance (TA) is estimated to cost \$2,300,000 of which contributions from the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction are presented in the table. The government will provide counterpart support in the form of counterpart staff to work with consultants, office space in Ha Noi and provinces, office supplies, secretarial assistance, data and information for TA deliverables, vehicles for consultants' local land transportation, and other in-kind contributions as appropriate. The value of the government contribution is estimated to account for 13% of the total TA cost.

^a Established by the Government of Japan and administered by the Asian Development Bank.

^b Office equipment including photocopiers, computers, printers, and projectors. Upon the TA completion, the equipment will be handed over to the executing agency or disposed of according to procedures of the Asian Development Bank.

^c To support policy advocacy for ethnic minorities, especially with senior government officials, 500 hard copies of each of the three policy briefs will be produced and delivered to (i) members of provincial people's councils in TA targeted provinces at their semiannual meetings, (ii) participants of policy dialogue events, and (iii) participants of annual stakeholder meetings for ethnic minority development.

^d Including consultation workshops; knowledge-sharing workshops; and training on policy analysis and review, project development and management, and monitoring and evaluation. All workshops and training programs will be organized within Viet Nam.

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

LIST OF LINKED DOCUMENTS

<http://www.adb.org/Documents/LinkedDocs/?id=55167-001-TARreport>

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