



Regional: Supporting Knowledge Solutions in Central and West Asian Countries, Phase 2

Project Name	Supporting Knowledge Solutions in Central and West Asian Countries, Phase 2		
Project Number	55363-001		
Country / Economy	Regional Armenia Azerbaijan Georgia Kazakhstan Kyrgyz Republic Pakistan Tajikistan Turkmenistan Uzbekistan		
Project Status	Active		
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance		
Source of Funding / Amount	TA 6958-REG: Supporting Knowledge Solutions in Central and West Asian Countries		
	Technical Assistance Special Fund		US\$ 500,000.00
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth Regional integration		
Drivers of Change	Gender Equity and Mainstreaming Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Private sector development		
Sector / Subsector	Public sector management / Economic affairs management		
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements		
Description	The knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) will support building the capacity of developing member countries (DMCs) in the Central and West Asia region to tackle diverse knowledge needs. The TA project supports the Knowledge Management Action Plan (KMAP), 20212025 of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the KMAP Roadmap of its Central and West Asia Department (CWRD), which is a living document listing specific actions to improve knowledge work. The proposed TA project is included in the indicative country pipeline and monitoring report for 20222024 for CWRD DMCs. It will continue the knowledge support initiated by ADB's regional TA for Supporting Knowledge Solutions in Central and West Asian Countries (scheduled for completion in August 2022) and build on the progress made.2 The TA will coordinate closely with ADB's Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD) and other relevant ADB departments.		
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	CWRD DMCs are at varying levels of economic development. Many of these countries, especially the lower-middle-income ones, continue to face low economic diversification. Some countries in the Central West and Asia region depend critically on natural resources while others are over-reliant on remittance inflows. The widening disparity among CWRD DMCs is also apparent in other dimensions, such as financial inclusion, social security and protection, and education outcomes. Because they face diverse development challenges, knowledge solutions need to respond to this diversity. Timely, relevant, and demand-based knowledge solutions are vital for tackling these constraints to development. Knowledge supportincluding policy analysis, formulation, and implementation; institutional capacity building; and learning from other countries' experiencesis just as important for the region's lower middle-income countries as it is for their middle- and upper middle-income countries. Institutional strengths and capacities also differ across countries, making it important for ADB to produce knowledge solutions calibrated to their specific needs. Further, the availability and quality of data and indicators for evidence-based policy making remain limited in most CWRD countries. National accounts and labor market indicators, as well as other key disaggregated information, have methodological flaws and some are released with substantial delays, which impede their usefulness for meaningful economic analysis.3 To provide data for evidence-based policy making, national statistical offices need to significantly improve their capacity and capability. Sharing quality and practical development knowledge is playing a vital role in formulating effective national economic policies and formulating knowledge solutions. At the moment, however, the sharing of knowledge and experiences among CWRD countries, and with other ADB DMCs and partners, is ad hoc and often done through the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute; the Asian Development Bank Institute; the Caucasus, Central Asia, and Mongolia Regional Capacity Development Center; as well as events of other institutions. The existence of a dedicated CWRD knowledge sharing platform will foster regional knowledge sharing among CWRD DMCs, build on knowledge partnerships, and increase collaboration between these countries and the sharing of best practices and lessons, including from ADB operations.		
Impact	Economic and social policy making and demand-based knowledge solutions in CWRD DMCs improved		
Project Outcome			
Description of Outcome		Capacity for integrating knowledge management development planning and policy making in CWRD DMCs enhanced.	
Progress Toward Outcome			
Implementation Progress			
Description of Project Outputs		Timely and relevant demand-based knowledge solutions delivered Improved data for evidence-based policy making Enhanced knowledge sharing among CWRD DMCs	
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)			

Geographical Location	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
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Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects
Environmental Aspects
Involuntary Resettlement
Indigenous Peoples
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation
During Project Design
During Project Implementation

Business Opportunities	
Consulting Services	To be engaged by ADB. May be individual or firm, international or national depending on need for support. Disbursement of TA resources will follow ADB's Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook (2020, as amended from time to time).
Procurement	To be procured by ADB following the ADB Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time) and its associated project administration instructions and/or staff instructions.

Responsible ADB Officer	Lee, Minsoo
Responsible ADB Department	Central and West Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Div, CWRD
Executing Agencies	<u>Asian Development Bank</u>

Timetable		
Concept Clearance		17 Jun 2022
Fact Finding		10 Jan 2022 to 28 Feb 2022
MRM		-
Approval		26 Sep 2022
Last Review Mission		-
Last PDS Update		26 Sep 2022

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Financing Plan/TA Utilization							Cumulative Disbursements	
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
500,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500,000.00	-	0.00

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/55363-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=55363-001
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