



Mongolia: Improving Safeguard Planning and Implementation in Mongolia

Project Name	Improving Safeguard Planning and Implementation in Mongolia	
Project Number	56366-001	
Country / Economy	Mongolia	
Project Status	Active	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	TA 10051-MON: Improving Safeguard Planning and Implementation in Mongolia	
	Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 225,000.00
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth	
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions	
Sector / Subsector	Agriculture, natural resources and rural development / Agricultural policy, institutional and capacity development Education / Education sector development Energy / Energy sector development and institutional reform Transport / Transport policies and institutional development Water and other urban infrastructure and services / Urban policy, institutional and capacity development	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	No gender elements	
Description	The TA will improve environment and social risks management in the ongoing and future portfolio in Mongolia, through capacity building and project preparation and implementation support.	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>The present portfolio in Mongolia of \$1.6 billion comprises 36 projects of which (i) 1 is categorized A and 22 are categorized B for environment, and (ii) 3 are categorized A and 7 categorized B for resettlement. There are no category A or B projects for indigenous peoples. Implementation performance of safeguards varies across the portfolio. In recent years, there has been an increase in complaints received by ADB's Office of the Special Project Facilitator on alleged lack of compliance with ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS). Issues raised included inadequate consultation, impacts on livelihood, concerns on compensation, valuation, and inadequate environmental mitigation. Lack of understanding on ADB's SPS requirements, gaps between Mongolia's and ADB's safeguard requirements, and relatively weak capacity among executing agencies, implementing agencies, consultants, and contractors have led to the increase in complaints.</p> <p>ADB's country partnership strategy for Mongolia has identified the need for selectivity, with a move to support fewer, larger, and more programmatic operations. The proposed Indicative Country Pipeline and Monitoring Report (2023-2025) includes major projects in transport, renewable energy, urban, and agriculture and rural development sectors. The shift towards larger projects will invariably result in more complex safeguards, requiring stronger safeguard planning and implementation.</p> <p>Given the challenges faced in implementing safeguards in current portfolio and the proposed move toward larger projects, it is imperative that the capacity of executing and implementing agencies to plan and implement safeguards is strengthened. The TA will (i) support capacity building of project teams, through hands-on support and tailored training programs and workshops; and (ii) support project preparatory activities and implementation. The support will cover the entire project cycle, preparation and updating of due diligence reports, impact assessment and mitigation plans, monitoring, consultation, grievance redress and safeguard assessments at project completion. Specifically, the TA will support the updating of environment and social assessments of two projects that have planned scope changes. Some of the proposed scope changes require in depth studies and analysis which are beyond the capacity of the executing agency. This TA will also complement other TAs supporting improved social safeguards.</p>	
Impact		
Project Outcome		
Description of Outcome		
Progress Toward Outcome		
Implementation Progress		
Description of Project Outputs		
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)		
Geographical Location	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	Amerasinghe, Nishanthi Manjula
Responsible ADB Department	East Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Office of the Director General, EARD
Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	-
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	15 Dec 2022
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	15 Dec 2022

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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/56366-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=56366-001
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