



Sri Lanka: Improving Project Readiness and Portfolio Management - Phase II

Project Name	Improving Project Readiness and Portfolio Management - Phase II	
Project Number	48374-002	
Country	Sri Lanka	
Project Status	Approved	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	TA 6599-SRI: Improving Project Readiness and Portfolio Management - Phase II	
	Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 1.50 million
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth	
Drivers of Change	Knowledge solutions	
Sector / Subsector	Agriculture, natural resources and rural development - Irrigation Education - Secondary Energy - Electricity transmission and distribution Health - Health system development Transport - Road transport (non-urban) Water and other urban infrastructure and services - Urban water supply	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements	
Description	<p>1. The transaction TA facility will provide capacity building, project preparation and implementation support, and knowledge sharing to help improve Sri Lanka's portfolio performance. The TA facility will improve the readiness of pipeline projects and support the implementation of ongoing projects through: (i) demand driven and tailored capacity development programs on project design, implementation, evaluation, cross cutting thematic areas, and procurement; (ii) structured annual portfolio reviews; and (iii) documenting lessons learned and developing knowledge products for sharing and cross learning among sectors and the region. These will ensure project readiness and quality at entry of pipeline projects and sound implementation performance of ongoing projects. ADB supports the government's approach of maximizing utilization of existing government workforce. However, if such capacity is not available, the TA facility will prioritize mobilization of national experts. Mobilization of international experts will be considered if national experts are not available. The TA facility, although not included in Sri Lanka's Country Operations Business Plan (2020-2022), was requested by the Government of Sri Lanka on 25 September 2020 to support government efforts in minimizing delays in projects. The Department of External Resources, Ministry of Finance, through its letter dated 7 October 2020, confirmed the purpose, scope, implementation arrangements, costs, and financing arrangements of the TA facility.</p>	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>4. To sustain the existing portfolio performance and strengthen performance of new sectors and thematic areas, capacities, and systems of executing and implementing agencies in designing and implementing projects need to be strengthened. For the past few years, project performance is often affected by (i) lack of counterpart fund and foreign fund allocation; (ii) low project readiness of pipeline projects resulting in startup delays which impact costs and timelines; and (iii) poor capacity of executing and implementing agencies in procurement, consultant recruitment, construction management, contract administration, financial management, safeguards, gender, and monitoring and evaluation. Projects also experience high turnover of key project staff which requires repeat training programs to build and retain institutional knowledge. Low participation of good quality contractors and consultants in procurement process and poor performance during implementation are other factors that impede implementation. Due to these factors, project implementation is impacted in terms of time, cost, quality, and its outcomes. It is important to build on lessons learned from the implementation experience of projects to improve the design of new projects and implementation of ongoing projects. Further, exposing project staff to thematic topics would facilitate adoption of modern project management practices, innovative approaches, and technologies.</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		

Business Opportunities	
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
Procurement	Procurement will be done in accordance with ADB Procurement Policy (2017 as amended from time to time) and Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers (2017, as amended from time to time).
Responsible ADB Officer	Nanayakkara, Aruna Uddeeptha
Responsible ADB Department	South Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Sri Lanka Resident Mission
Executing Agencies	Department of External Resources Ministry of Finance & Planning P.O. Box 277, Secretariat Bldg.(3rd Flr) Colombo 1, Sri Lanka Ministry of Finance The Secretariat Building Colombo 01 Sri Lanka

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	-
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	18 Nov 2020
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	18 Nov 2020

TA 6599-SRI

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
1,500,000.00	0.00	80,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,580,000.00	-	0.00

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/48374-002/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=48374-002
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