



Timor-Leste: Preparing the East to South Coast Road Connectivity Project and Strengthening the Road Sector Institutional Capacity

Project Name	Preparing the East to South Coast Road Connectivity Project and Strengthening the Road Sector Institutional Capacity				
Project Number	54326-002				
Country	Timor-Leste				
Project Status	Approved				
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance				
Source of Funding / Amount	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>TA 6809-TIM: Preparing the East to South Coast Road Connectivity Project and Strengthening the Road Sector Institutional Capacity</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Technical Assistance Special Fund</td> <td>US\$ 1.00 million</td> </tr> </table>	TA 6809-TIM: Preparing the East to South Coast Road Connectivity Project and Strengthening the Road Sector Institutional Capacity		Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 1.00 million
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Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 1.00 million				
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth				
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development				
Sector / Subsector	Transport - Road transport (non-urban)				
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Effective gender mainstreaming				
Description	<p>The proposed project will help the Government of Timor-Leste meet its transport sector priorities to enhance connectivity to markets and services and its social and national development agenda, through (i) rehabilitating and upgrading about 173.7 kilometers (km) of national road sections in the east and south coast areas, (ii) improving road asset management, and (iii) strengthening awareness of road safety and gender-related issues.</p> <p>The project will improve an estimated 173.7 km of national road section of Com-Lautem-Lospalos-Viqueque, by rehabilitating the existing roads and applying climate change and disaster resilient design. The improved roads will be more resilient to increased rainfall with enhanced roadside drainage, raising of the road in flood-prone areas, appropriate asphalt pavement surfacing, and bioengineering measures to improve slope stability. The project will also construct, at junctions of key feeder roads, sheltered bus stops with lights and enhanced access for elderly, women, children, and the disabled.</p> <p>The project will improve the road asset management capacity of the Directorate of Roads, Bridges, and Flood Control (DRBFC) of Ministry of Public Works (MPW) by enhancing knowledge sharing through training activities on the ongoing development of the road asset management system (RAMS). Piloting innovative sensor-based technologies to monitor roads, bridges, and slopes will also be implemented in parts of the project road sections for proper asset management and early warning for flooding and landslides. The project will also provide advisory support on budget planning, aimed at securing sustained allocation of resources for road maintenance.</p> <p>The project will provide (i) MPW, DRBFC, and all project management unit (PMU) and construction supervision staff with training on gender in transport and road safety; (ii) the construction staff and community members with combined gender, HIV/AIDS, and gender-based violence awareness raising programs; and (iii) the community members from the villages crossed by the project road sections with increased understanding of road safety practices, as well as a youth-led road safety system.</p>				
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>Due to a lack of investment in rehabilitation and maintenance, the road network in Timor-Leste deteriorated during the 25-year conflict that preceded independence in 2002. Deterioration continued even after 2002, and low connectivity and inefficiency in road sector have constrained the country's efforts to develop. Also, the road sector of Timor-Leste is vulnerable to disasters, including heavy rains, among others, whose impact may have become more severe in recent years due to climate change. ADB has improved and is improving over 460 km of the road network mainly in the north coast and the north-south connections in the country. The project will expand ADB support to improve connectivity in the east and south coast areas, which will enhance agriculture and tourism industries in particular and help the government achieve its goal of economic diversification. Moreover, the project will support piloting a new road asset management program, using innovative sensing technologies. It will also further help to raise awareness of transport policy makers and road engineers on climate change and disaster resilient design standards and measures in the transport sector.</p> <p>ADB's engagement over the years has provided a few lessons in designing and implementing road transport projects. One is the importance of maintaining a sustained and reliable institutional capacity. ADB will provide substantial technical assistance to support the MPW's capacity for project management and safeguards compliance.</p> <p>The proposed project supports Timor-Leste's Strategic Development Plan (SDP), 2011-2030. For infrastructure development, the SDP aimed to rehabilitate and upgrade all existing roads and bridges by 2020. While approximately 50% of the most important national road sections will be rehabilitated and upgraded by the end of 2022, further investments are required. The project is aligned with ADB's country partnership strategy for Timor-Leste, which emphasizes the need for additional infrastructure investment to support inclusive growth and the development of a robust operation and maintenance system for roads. The project is also aligned with four of the operational priorities of ADB's Strategy 2030.</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					

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects	
Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	
During Project Design	Stakeholder Communication Strategy/ Action plan and grievance redress mechanism procedure will be prepared. Stakeholder consultations will be conducted as part of safeguards due diligence during project preparation. The TA will support the preparation of the Stakeholder Communication Strategy/ Action plan and grievance redress mechanism document.
During Project Implementation	Stakeholder Communication, Participation and Consultation plans will be implemented and monitored during the project implementation.
Business Opportunities	
Consulting Services	The TA will have two outputs: (i) safeguards analysis and documentation prepared for the ESRCP, and (ii) institutional capacity strengthened. The TA will recruit individual consultants to conduct those tasks and to ensure integrated project delivery. ADB will select and engage the consultants in accordance with the ADB Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time) and the associated project administration instructions and/or staff instructions. The total person- months (PM) inputs are as follows: 30.5 PM international and 18 PM national. Advance action will be done with the initial consultant mobilization in November 2021.
Procurement	The TA include procurement of office equipment and furnitures.
Responsible ADB Officer	Fukayama, Takeshi
Responsible ADB Department	Southeast Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Transport and Communications Division, SERD
Executing Agencies	Council for Administration of the Infrastructure Fund (also Conselho Administrativo do Fundo Infraestrutura) Palacio do Governo, Ministry of Finance Edificio 5, 1 Andar Dili, Timor-Leste
Timetable	
Concept Clearance	-
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	20 Oct 2021
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	28 Oct 2021

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Milestones				
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing	
			Original	Revised
20 Oct 2021	-	-	31 Dec 2023	-

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
1,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000,000.00	02 Nov 2021	0.00

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/54326-002/main
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