



# Regional: TA Cluster: Economic Diagnostic Studies in Asia and the Pacific

Project Name	TA Cluster: Economic Diagnostic Studies in Asia and the Pacific	
Project Number	46186-007	
Country	Regional	
Project Status	Active	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	TA 0053-REG: TA Cluster: Economic Diagnostic Studies in ADB Developing Member Countries	
	Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 5.00 million
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth Regional integration	
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships Private sector development	
Sector / Subsector	Education - Education sector development - social protection initiatives - Technical and vocational education and training Energy - Energy sector development and institutional reform Health - Health insurance and subsidized health programs - Health system development Industry and trade - Industry and trade sector development - Trade and services Information and communication technology - ICT strategy and policy, and capacity development Public sector management - Economic affairs management Transport - Transport policies and institutional development Water and other urban infrastructure and services - Urban housing - Urban policy, institutional and capacity development	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Some gender elements	
Description	<p>The knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) will support the preparation of economic diagnostic studies to assist Developing Member Countries (DMCs) enhance national development plans and strategies for achieving sustained and inclusive growth. The studies will utilize the latest tools, methodologies, and data to help identify macroeconomic, sector and thematic constraints to growth and inclusion; and recommend policy actions for relaxing these constraints, paying careful attention to the costs and benefits of alternative interventions. The TA will also support capacity building for DMCs to undertake an economic diagnostic approach towards development planning.</p> <p>The proposed TA is included in the management-approved 2021 Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD) Work Program.</p>	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>While many countries in Asia and Pacific have made significant strides in achieving sustained economic growth and poverty reduction in the last five decades, there is still a lot to be accomplished. Moreover, these achievements have been tested periodically due to external shocks such as the 1997 Asian financial crisis, 2007-2008 global financial crisis and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic that have resulted in large contractions in most economies. Carrying out diagnostic studies is timely as the studies can assist DMC governments in addressing the most pressing challenges faced by their economies for continued progress towards inclusive and sustainable growth.</p> <p>ADB introduced diagnostic studies in 2007 under TA 6397 to enhance the development planning of DMCs with the objective of improving DMCs' capacity to plan, implement and account for the outcomes of the policies, program and projects they implemented. Through these TA projects, ADB was able to collaborate with DMC governments and various development partners and conduct country diagnostic studies. These studies utilized diagnostic approaches and quantitative methodologies to identify constraints to inclusive and sustainable growth at the macroeconomic, sector and thematic levels.</p> <p>Under Strategy 2030 ADB is enhancing its role as a knowledge provider by developing knowledge that is tailored to local contexts and help replicate lessons and good practices across the region. While some upper middle-income countries in the region may have a better capacity to undertake development planning, most DMCs lack the analytical and planning capacity to undertake high quality diagnostic analysis. The conduct of diagnostic studies will help low- and middle-income DMCs identify the most pressing challenges in the medium- and long-term and focus their limited resources toward addressing the most critical constraints at the macroeconomic, sector and thematic levels. Provision of technical support to undertake analyses in priority areas can be useful inputs to preparation of national development plans, sector and thematic development strategies, and ADB interventions, including Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) documents.</p>	
Impact	Critical constraints to ADB's DMCs' inclusive and sustainable economic growth addressed	
<b>Project Outcome</b>		
Description of Outcome	Diagnostic approaches and methodologies in the development planning processes of DMCs adopted and/or improved	
<b>Progress Toward Outcome</b>		
<b>Implementation Progress</b>		
Description of Project Outputs	<p>Diagnostic studies conducted and/or published</p> <p>The capacity of developing member country officials to employ diagnostic approaches, methodologies and tools to conduct economic and policy analysis developed and enhanced</p>	
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)		
Geographical Location	Regional	

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	The experts that will be engaged will be contracted via a consulting firm or individual contracting, depending on the scope and requirements of the study and will be in accordance with the ADB's Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time) and its associated project administration instructions and/or staff instructions. Each of the studies will require the services of international and national experts including economists, sector specialists, economic modelers, economic editors, and research assistants. The exact requirement for the type of expertise and the length of inputs will vary among studies and will be determined during the formulation of the terms of reference of each study.
Procurement	The selection of the method for engagement of firms under the Cluster TA and its subprojects will be discussed by the Study team and determined based on the draft TOR, budget availability, and anticipated selection and implementation timelines and should follow the guidance under Table A7.1: Selection Methods for Consulting Firms of the Staff Instructions on Procurement.

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Responsible ADB Department	Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department
Responsible ADB Division	Economic Analysis and Operations Support Division
Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	10 May 2021
Fact Finding	10 Mar 2021 to 10 Mar 2021
MRM	-
Approval	25 Aug 2021
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	25 Aug 2021

## TA 0053-REG

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
5,000,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000,000.00	-	0.00

Project Page	<a href="https://www.adb.org/projects/46186-007/main">https://www.adb.org/projects/46186-007/main</a>
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