

Project Number: 48905-012
Technical Assistance Number: 8667
February 2016

Extension of Technical Assistance Validity Approval Philippines: BPO Sector Employment Initiative

This document is being disclosed to the public in accordance with ADB's Public Communications Policy 2011.

1. On 5 June 2014, ADB approved the provision of a project preparatory technical assistance project (TA) to Kalibrr, Inc., the executing agency of the TA, to enhance its skills assessment and training platform to strengthen hiring efficiency and employment in the Business Process Outsourcing and other industries in the Philippines.¹ Further enhancement of Kalibrr's assessment and training platform will enable Kalibrr to attract capital necessary to scale up its operations and bring its optimization tool to market.
2. The TA is estimated to cost \$152,265, which ADB is providing on a grant basis from ADB's Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-Others).
3. In accordance with paragraph 16 of PAI 1.03, the validity of ADB approval of a TA lapses automatically 12 months after the date of TA approval unless the related agreements are signed within that period or the validity period is extended.
4. PSOD received the No Objection Letter from the Philippine government on 5 May 2015. However, the TA implementation agreement could only be signed on 14 December 2015, beyond the 12 month TA approval validity period. The TA is now effective.
5. On 18 February 2016, PSOD informed the Vice President, Private Sector and Cofinancing Operations, in a combined memo, of (a) the lapse in terms of obtaining timely extension for three PSOD TAs, including the above and (b) sought approval for extension of these three TAs on a retroactive basis, as well as for two other TAs which had also crossed their validity but were not yet effective. The Vice President acknowledged the lapses on 26 February 2016 and approved the extension of the TA validity of all the five TAs.
6. We are herewith advising the Board of these actions.

¹ In preparing any country program or strategy, financing any project, or by making any designation of or reference to a particular territory or geographic area in this document, the Asian Development Bank does not intend to make any judgments as to the legal or other status of any territory or area.