



Uzbekistan: Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Development Program (Subprogram 1)

Project Name	Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Development Program (Subprogram 1)	
Project Number	42007-020	
Country	Uzbekistan	
Project Status	Approved	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Loan Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	Loan 4156-UZB: Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Development Program (Subprogram 1)	
	Ordinary capital resources	US\$ 20.00 million
	Loan 4157-UZB: Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Development Program (Subprogram 1)	
	Concessional ordinary capital resources lending	US\$ 80.00 million
	TA 6865-UZB: Support to Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Development Program	
	Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 250,000.00
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth	
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Private sector development	
Sector / Subsector	Education - Technical and vocational education and training Finance - Finance sector development - Inclusive finance - Small and medium enterprise finance and leasing Industry and trade - Small and medium enterprise development - Trade and services Public sector management - Public expenditure and fiscal management	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Effective gender mainstreaming	
Description	<p>The proposed program will improve the enabling environment for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), increasing their resilience to future economic shocks and allowing them to become drivers of private sector-led, diversified economic growth with high-value-added job creation. The program is a systematic next step in the support of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for SMEs in Uzbekistan, which commenced in 1996 and has focused primarily on access to finance and improving the financial and technical capacity of participating financial institutions to better serve micro and small enterprises. Cross-sector reforms under the program-comprising simplifying and streamlining the regulatory, policy, and institutional framework, diversifying formal financial instruments, easing barriers to trade and competitiveness, increasing digitalization, and aligning skills development with market needs-are aimed at creating a more cost-effective and efficient operating and commercial environment for SMEs. In parallel with countercyclical measures to combat the economic impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), key structural reforms have continued with a prudent overall macroeconomic stance. The program is included in ADB's country operations business plan for Uzbekistan, 2021-2023 and is aligned with relevant ADB strategies and programs including Strategy 2030.</p>	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>The Government of Uzbekistan is accelerating its transition toward a market economy with the adoption of the National Action Strategy on Five Priority Development Areas (Strategy 2017-2021) and follow-on Roadmap of Reforms. The contribution of SMEs to Uzbekistan's gross domestic product (GDP) growth and formal and informal employment has been substantial. The government is keen to build on these gains and make SMEs even more integral to its policy objectives of diversifying the economy, creating value-added employment, reducing the informal economy, and creating effective links with regional and global value chains. Pillar 3.4 of Strategy 2017-2021 is focused on institutional and structural reforms to reduce the state's presence in the economy and create a favorable environment for small businesses and private entrepreneurship.</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	
Safeguard Categories		
Environment	C	
Involuntary Resettlement	C	
Indigenous Peoples	C	
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	Sood, Priyanka
Responsible ADB Department	Central and West Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Public Management, Financial Sector and Trade Division, CWRD
Executing Agencies	Ministry of Finance 5 Mustaqillik Square Tashkent 100008 Republic of Uzbekistan

Timetable

Concept Clearance	10 May 2021
Fact Finding	06 May 2021 to 07 May 2021
MRM	14 Jul 2021
Approval	09 Dec 2021
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	09 Dec 2021

Loan 4156-UZB

Financing Plan		Loan Utilization			
	Total (Amount in US\$ million)	Date	ADB	Others	Net Percentage
Project Cost	20.00	Cumulative Contract Awards			
ADB	20.00	-	0.00	0.00	%
Counterpart	0.00	Cumulative Disbursements			
Cofinancing	0.00	-	0.00	0.00	%

Loan 4157-UZB

Financing Plan		Loan Utilization			
	Total (Amount in US\$ million)	Date	ADB	Others	Net Percentage
Project Cost	80.00	Cumulative Contract Awards			
ADB	80.00	-	0.00	0.00	%
Counterpart	0.00	Cumulative Disbursements			
Cofinancing	0.00	-	0.00	0.00	%

TA 6865-UZB

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
250,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	250,000.00	-	0.00

Project Page <https://www.adb.org/projects/42007-020/main>

Request for Information <http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=42007-020>

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