Early Warning System

ADB-47137-003

Health Sector Governance Program

This project is still under review by the EWS. Project information and/or project analysis may be incomplete.

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Quick Facts

Financial Institutions	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Status	Active
Bank Risk Rating	U
Voting Date	2015-09-18
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 13.20 million

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Project Description

DESCRIPTION

The program will (i) support the government to increase the number of HEF and free MNCH beneficiaries, and to implement health-related human resource and financial management reforms; and (ii) support chronologically sequenced reforms in line with the HSRS implementation plan. The proposed modality combines a programmatic approach designed to support government reforms with a TA loan to build national and subnational capacity to implement reforms. The programmatic approach is designed to provide more effective and flexible ways to translate complex structural reform objectives into implementable policy actions.

The programmatic approach comprises two subprograms that facilitate a concerted policy dialogue on the basis of an agreed policy matrix related to key health governance reforms and sector priorities. The program policy matrix includes reforms completed prior to consideration of subprogram 1 by the ADB Board of Directors, and indicative triggers for subprogram 2 to facilitate continuous dialogue with the government (Appendix 4). Subprogram 1 supports policy reforms to achieve the program's four outputs. Further reforms in these key policy areas are foreseen to be supported under subprogram 2. The MOH and the government began undertaking the key subprogram 1 reforms in August 2013, and all 15 policy measures required for subprogram 1 have been completed. Subprogram 2 specifies 11 triggers (prior actions that are to be completed before submission to the Board) that need to be completed by July 2018. These triggers will advance the accomplishments achieved under subprogram 1.

PROJECT RATIONALE AND LINKAGE TO COUNTRY/REGIONAL STRATEGY

To make health services accessible to the poor, the government has introduced Health Equity Fund (HEF) schemes across the country. HEF is a social protection scheme, targeting the poor as identified by village and district authorities. In 2014, the HEF schemes covered about 109,000 poor families, or about 45% of all poor households. The government uses the revenues generated by major hydroelectric investments to finance the social protection schemes, in conjunction with development partners. The government has also implemented a free maternal, neonatal, and child health care (MNCH) scheme, financed by a combination of government revenues and external assistance. However, the implementation, financial management, and monitoring mechanisms for these schemes differ, depending on the funding source. The government has established common rules, procedures, and management systems for the schemes to harmonize their implementation under the National Health Insurance Bureau, and increase the number of beneficiaries. This will be the first step in moving towards providing health insurance to 80% of the population, which is a targets of the HSRS.

The midterm review of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Strategy 2020 recommends expanding operations in the health sector to 3% 5% of ADB's annual approvals. ADB's country partnership strategy, 2012 2016, for the Lao PDR includes support to public financial management in the health sector. The program is included in ADB's country operations business plan, 2015 2017 for the Lao PDR, and is aligned with the operational plan for health, 2015 2020. ADB has supported health system development through several TA projects and programs focusing on governance and public financial management. Previous ADB health projects and programs focused on infrastructure and staff capacity development in selected provinces, and helped to improve the health facility network and access to health services in these areas. Those interventions contributed to (i) establishing health service standards, (ii) provincial planning and budgeting, (iii) increasing the recurrent budget, (iv) human resource development, (v) MNCH policies, and (vi) financial management; ADB also has supported the HSRS through policy

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Contact Information

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF ADB

The Accountability Mechanism is an independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by an Asian Development Bank-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the Accountability Mechanism, they may investigate to assess whether the Asian Development Bank is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. You can learn more about the Accountability Mechanism and how to file a complaint at: http://www.adb.org/site/accountability-mechanism/main

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Bank Documents

- Health Sector Governance Program: Concept Paper [Original Source]
- Health Sector Governance Program: Gender Action Plan [Original Source]
- Health Sector Governance Program: Procurement Plan [Original Source]
- Health Sector Governance Program: Project Administration Manual [Original Source]
- Health Sector Governance Program: Report and Recommendation of the President [Original Source]
- Loan Agreement (Special Operations) for Health Sector Governance Program - Subprogram 1 [Original Source]
- okhngkaaneiphnngaanbMlhi aankhum kh`ngsaathaalanasukeilaophsanaakaan [Original Source]
- Project Disclosure PDF
- Technical Assistance Loan Agreement (Special Operations) for Health Sector Governance Program - Subp [Original Source]

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Other Related Projects

- ADB-47137-004 Strengthening Capacity for Health Sector Governance Reforms
- ADB-47137-006 Health Sector Governance Program (Subprogram 2)