Early Warning System

ADB-48258-001

Building Resilience to Fragility in ADB-Supported Projects

Quick Facts

Countries	Afghanistan
Financial Institutions	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Status	Active
Bank Risk Rating	U
Voting Date	2015-09-14
Sectors	Law and Government
Investment Type(s)	Grant
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 1.45 million

Project Description

DESCRIPTION

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide human resources to develop peacebuilding tools to improve development activities through ensuring more appropriate engagement in the fragile and conflict-affected country (FCAS) of Afghanistan. The impact of the technical assistance (TA) is strengthened capacity of the government of Afghanistan. It is aligned with the Afghanistan National Development Strategy Capacity Development Strategy. The outcome of the project is that conflict-sensitive approaches are applied to ADB-financed development activities. The project will have two outputs, (i) peacebuilding tools specific to the Afghanistan context are developed to improve development activities; and (ii) project management units (PMUs) apply conflict-sensitive approaches.

Under Output 1, the project will engage consultants to consult with various stakeholders to map FCAS initiatives in Afghanistan. With consultation of stakeholders, PMUs and project staff, the consultants will develop peacebuilding tools for use in ADB-financed activities in Afghanistan. The peacebuilding tools will include an analytical method to assist project team leaders and social experts understand the local context and identify potential risks to implementing development projects that are linked to social conflicts. Use of the peacebuilding tools will raise awareness of those working on development activities so that they may identify potential unintended consequences which might arise and can develop mitigation measures to address and avoid those risks. Presented in matrix format, the tools comprise a series of issues and questions to help identify the potential for social conflict in fragile or post-conflict situations. They also help to identify opportunities for building peace and social cohesion within the context of particular development projects. A knowledge product will also be developed to share lessons learned and serve as a roadmap to replicate conflict-sensitive approaches by the Government of Afghanistan.

Under Output 2, consultants will work to strengthen the understanding and sensitivity of PMUs so that they may apply the peacebuilding tools. This will necessitate the use of technology to increase information awareness and sharing for improved decision making, planning and monitoring. The project will support capacity building to improve cross- and intra-departmental and agency sharing of project information through a geographic information system as a component of government's management information system. This supports the Afghanistan National Development Strategy Capacity Development Strategy to (i) prioritize technology to improve the efficiency of government and other organizations, (ii) design ways to overcome distance and terrain, (iii) upgrade processes where modern technology would be more effective, (vi) overcome rural and urban disparities and barriers to women's education, and (v) facilitate affordable communications.

PROJECT RATIONALE AND LINKAGE TO COUNTRY/REGIONAL STRATEGY

FCAS countries face more obstacles to successful implementation of development operations than non-FCAS countries do. ADB is committed to support state-building efforts and to applying conflict-sensitive development approaches, strengthening human and financial resources for conflict-sensitive operations, adopting flexible business processes within appropriate risk frameworks, and developing institutional capacity to address fragility. Research has found that infrastructure needs are important in fragile states, and noted that infrastructure investment can put in place what is lacking or has been destroyed and can serve to create community cohesion to leverage good governance and increase the accountability of authorities. As ADB development initiatives are implemented in cooperation with governments of its developing member countries, ADB is well-positioned to build capacity and help mainstream conflict-sensitive approaches and appropriate development activities in states of fragility.

A conflict-sensitive approach refers to the ability of an organization or an intervention to (i) understand the operating context; (ii) understand the interaction between an intervention and the operating context; and (iii) act on the understanding of this interaction to avoid negative effects and to maximize positive impact for peacebuilding and development. The ability to apply conflict-sensitive approaches to development reflects an institution's capacity to understand both the context in which

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- Asian Development Bank (ADB)

TA 8955-AFG: Building Resilience to Fragility in ADB-Supported Projects in Afghanistan
Afghanistan Infrastructure Trust Fund US$ 1.45 million

TA 8955-AFG: Building Resilience to Fragility in ADB-Supported Projects
Technical Assistance Special Fund US$ 50,000.00

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

CONTACTS

Responsible ADB Officer Davila, Marko
Responsible ADB Department Central and West Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division Afghanistan Resident Mission
Executing Agencies
Ministry of Finance
Eklil Ahmad Hakimi, Minister
info@mov.gov.af
Pashtunistan Watt, Kabul, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Bank Documents

- Building Resilience to Fragility in ADB-Supported Projects: Technical Assistance Report [Original Source]
- Project Disclosure PDF