Early Warning System

ADB-50251-001

Advancing Time Release Studies (TRS) in Southeast Asia

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Quick Facts

Countries	Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam
Financial Institutions	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	B
Voting Date	2017-04-19
Sectors	Industry and Trade
Investment Type(s)	Advisory Services
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 1.00 million
Project Cost (USD)	$ 1.00 million

Project Description

According to the bank website, the technical assistance (TA) aims to support the customs administrations of participating ADB member countries to better implement the various Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) trade facilitation initiatives. The proposed TA will assist participating countries to undertake specific customs reform and modernization steps, using TRS-collected data, that support substantive trade facilitation measures based on the action plan, and to conduct a study of their checkpoints to initiate improvements in dealing with the bottlenecks.

Countries face challenges that include lack of transparency about rules and regulations, redundant and lengthy clearance processes, and complicated document requirements (e.g., with different formats and data elements). It is equally important to focus on trade and regulatory processes conducted at the border to ensure they are optimized and that the time required for trade-related procedures is reduced where appropriate. Activities related to calculating and recording the time needed by customs to release goods can provide pertinent information to guide necessary process improvements and identify desirable regulatory changes to ensure the effective facilitation of trade. The TRS is a tool for collecting and assessing data, and can help highlight areas that need to be addressed to reduce or eliminate bottlenecks, and to assess progress in implementing modernization programs.

A total of 78 person-months of consulting services will be engaged for the TA comprising 28 person-months of international consultants and 48 person-months of national consultants.

Investment Description

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Financed by the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction

Contact Information

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No contact information provided at the time of disclosure.

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

Bank Documents

- Project Disclosure PDF
- Technical Assistance Report [Original Source]