

 Early Warning System

ADB-56295-001

Integrating Gender and Social Inclusion Dimensions in Climate Change
Interventions in Southeast Asia



Quick Facts

Countries	Cambodia, Laos, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam
Financial Institutions	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	U
Voting Date	2022-12-23
Sectors	Climate and Environment, Energy
Investment Type(s)	Advisory Services
Investment Amount (USD)	\$ 1.35 million



Project Description

According to bank documents:

The knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) will help Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), the Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam to integrate a gender and social inclusion dimension in national climate and green transformation policies, programs, and plans, including Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, and to develop options for a gender and socially inclusive green recovery following the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. Gender and socially inclusive green recovery envisages transformation towards a climate-resilient and nature-driven future with emphasis on gender and social inclusion to maximize outcomes for both people and the environment. The TA will build capacity of the relevant government agencies through policy dialogue, case studies, and knowledge products; and by strengthening coordination and knowledge sharing in the Southeast Asia region and beyond.

The TA is aligned with regional and national commitments to gender equality and sustainable development, including the ASEAN Gender Mainstreaming Strategic Framework 2021-2025, which calls for enhancing Member States' capacities for gender analyses to inform the design and implementation of policies, plans, and programs; the 2020 Enhanced Lima Work Programme on gender and its gender action plan under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Comprehensive Recovery Framework, which highlights the need for rapid digital and sustainability transformation in Southeast Asia. The TA is aligned with national gender equality policies of, and ADB's country partnership strategies for all participating developing member countries (DMCs), particularly with achieving inclusive and environmentally sustainable development, promoting women's economic empowerment, and advocating for women's participation in decision-making. The TA will support the following operational priorities (OP) of ADB's Strategy 2030: addressing poverty and reducing inequalities (OP 1), accelerating progress in gender equality (OP 2), tackling climate change (OP 3), strengthening governance and institutional capacity (OP 6), and fostering regional cooperation and integration (OP 7).

PROJECT RATIONALE AND LINKAGE TO COUNTRY/REGIONAL STRATEGY

The COVID-19 pandemic affected men, women, and vulnerable populations differently because of structural inequalities within societies. Women were particularly impacted, especially in their roles as health care workers, caregivers, and entrepreneurs. While countries in Southeast Asia had been making headway on gender equality, particularly on education and health, the pandemic has reverted such progress, and the 2022 Gender Gap Index indicates that it will take another 168 years to close gender gaps in the region. Persistent gender gaps are particularly acute in lower rates of female labor force participation, occupational segregation and wage gap, political representation, and lower rates of graduates in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields, and a gender digital divide.

Climate change and environmental degradation are likely to further exacerbate gender gaps and social inequalities. The vulnerability of marginalized populations will increase with impacts compounded by intersecting dimensions related to gender, ethnicity, age, class, and disability, among others. At the COP25 in 2020, Parties to the UNFCCC agreed to enhance knowledge of gender-responsive climate action and to mainstream gender in the implementation of the Paris Agreement through gender-responsive climate policies, plans, strategies, and action in NDCs, national adaptation plans (NAPs), national communications, and long-term low-emission development strategies; and to report progress at COP 29 in 2024. Furthermore, the focus on a just transition, which refers to a green transformation of the economy that is as fair and socially inclusive, and creates decent work and opportunities, is gaining momentum to promote social and economic benefits for all, particularly the most vulnerable people in society. Southeast Asian DMCs have started to consider gender equality and social inclusion aspects in climate and environmental policies, but the systematic development and implementation of climate and environmental policy frameworks that includes these dimensions is needed for real impact.



Investment Description

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)



Contact Information

ADB

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Project contacts not available at the time of disclosure.

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Bank Documents

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