

 Early Warning System

ADB-59465-001

Promoting a Just Energy Transition in Infrastructure Sectors in Asia and
the Pacific



Quick Facts

Countries	Bangladesh, Cambodia, Maldives, Mongolia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tonga
Financial Institutions	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	U
Voting Date	2025-12-22
Sectors	Energy, Law and Government, Technical Cooperation
Investment Type(s)	Advisory Services
Investment Amount (USD)	\$ 1.62 million



Project Description

As stated by the ADB, the proposed Cluster Regional TA (C-R-TA) aims to support 10 developing member countries (DMCs) of ADB in addressing challenges to their climate-related energy transition goals. It will demonstrate scalable models for a just energy transition (JET) in infrastructure sectors through three outputs:

- (i) Output 1: Integrated and inclusive policy framework developed. The regional framework, informed by a comparative policy review, will guide workforce upskilling, technology adoption, and low-carbon transition financing;
- (ii) Output 2: Technology-enabled innovations established. A technology audit in 10 DMCs will identify renewable and low-carbon options to support inclusive innovations in ADB projects and strengthen academic-industry partnerships; and
- (iii) Output 3: Inclusive workforce upskilling programs formulated and implemented in six DMCs. At least three scalable training models per DMC will be co-designed and implemented with industry and academic partners, supported by multi-stakeholder forums and monitoring systems to enable learning and replication.

The participating DMCs are Bangladesh, Cambodia, Maldives, Mongolia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tonga, and Vanuatu.

While ADB's DMCs have committed to ambitious climate and energy goals, they face three persistent challenges:

- (i) Fragmented policies and weak coordination mechanisms. This problem hinders the integration of workforce readiness into transition planning and implementation. The Asia and Pacific region lacks a broad and concerted effort; current policies are piecemeal and lack comprehensive workforce integration;
- (ii) Technology adoption and innovation barriers. The adoption of renewable, smart grid, and digital solutions (e.g., Industry 4.0 smart technologies) remains limited
- (iii) Skills and workforce unreadiness. Developing member countries face significant challenges in preparing their workforce for transition, with women, youth, low-income workers, and those in informal employment the most at risk.

This TA will help address these gaps by strengthening multi-stakeholder collaboration (government, private sector, civil society) and delivering practical solutions through integrated policy reform, innovative decarbonization approaches, and workforce upskilling in selected DMCs, while supporting coordination across ministries to sustain commitment to JET priorities. It is in line with ADB's 2021 Energy Policy,¹⁴ the Strategy 2030 Midterm Review,¹⁵ ADB's country partnership strategies in the DMCs, and the commitment of the selected DMCs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The proposed project will use the TA cluster modality, which allows TA activities to be carried out across complementary subprojects, using resources from multiple funding sources. Subproject 1 covers five DMCs (Bangladesh, Cambodia, Mongolia, Pakistan, and the Philippines), and Subproject 2 focuses on five island DMCs (Maldives, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Tonga, and Vanuatu).



Investment Description

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)



Contact Information

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Other Related Projects

- ADB-59465-002 Promoting a Just Energy Transition in Infrastructure Sectors in Asia and the Pacific: Building Partnerships for Skills and Technology in Just Energy Transition, Subproject 1