



# Annual Progress Report

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March 2017

## Gender and Development Cooperation Fund Thirteenth Progress Report (2016)

Thematic Advisory Services Cluster  
Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department

**Asian Development Bank**

## ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
ADF	–	Asian Development Fund
DMC	–	developing member country
DWS	–	Department of Water Supply
EFG	–	External Forum on Gender and Development
GAD	–	gender and development
GBV	–	gender-based violence
GDCF	–	Gender and Development Cooperation Fund
MDB	–	multilateral development bank
PNP	–	provincial Nam Papas
RETA	–	regional technical assistance
SDG	–	Sustainable Development Goal
TA	–	technical assistance
TASF	–	TA Special Fund
WCSC	–	women and children service center

## NOTE

In this report, “\$” refers to US dollars.

## CONTENTS

Page

INTRODUCTION .....	4
I. FINANCIAL PROGRESS.....	6
A. Regional Technical Assistance.....	7
B. Grant-Funded Project Components and Piggy-Backed TAs .....	8
C. New Commitments.....	8
II. PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2016.....	8
A. RETA Activities Completed.....	8
B. Ongoing Projects.....	9
III. GDCF WORK PLAN IN 2017 .....	10
APPENDIX 1.....	11
APPENDIX 2 .....	15

## INTRODUCTION

1. The multi-donor Gender and Development Cooperation Fund (GDCF) was established in May 2003 to facilitate effective implementation of the *Asian Development Bank's Policy on Gender and Development* and accelerate gender equality and women's empowerment in the Asia Pacific region. As a leverage fund, GDCF is intended to make ADB's operations work better for gender equality and women's empowerment in Asia and the Pacific. Activities supported by GDCF are all aimed at influencing much bigger loan and Asian Development Fund (ADF) projects, national laws and sector policies, and capacity of ADB's clients in implementing such projects and policies.

2. The GDCF has played a catalytic role for the implementation of *ADB's Gender and Development (GAD) Plan of Action 2008-2012*, and has continued to do so in line with the *Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Operational Plan, 2013-2020*. Since 2010, ADB's gender mainstreaming performance remained above the 45% target for ADB operations.

3. The size of the fund as of 31 December 2016 is \$12.5 million (including interest and other gains), contributed by the Governments of Australia (\$0.8 equivalent), Canada (\$2.4 million equivalent), Denmark (\$1.3 million equivalent)<sup>1</sup>, Ireland (\$1 million equivalent) and Norway (\$6.3 million equivalent). It has now been in operation for over 13 years. ADB has also contributed \$3.4 million technical assistance (TA) grants from its TA Special Fund (TASF) to match the GDCF, in addition to other contributions such as supporting gender experts in project preparatory and advisory TAs with additional staff provisions as gender specialists, and stand-alone TA and grant projects to support gender mainstreaming outside of the GDCF.

4. The GDCF finances activities that include the following components: (i) country strategy and upstream policy dialogue; (ii) gender mainstreaming in ADB loans/ADF grants; (iii) GAD capacity building in national machineries and GAD focal agencies, ADB-financed project executing or implementing agencies, and within ADB; (iv) gender equality impact assessments; and (v) GAD partnerships. The national gender specialist consultants based in resident missions have been strategically supported to enhance outcomes of these activities.

5. Since its establishment in 2003, resources have been allocated to four (4) regional technical assistance (RETA) projects, four (4) stand-alone country specific TA projects, and six (6) grant project components (Table 1). As of 31 December 2016, there were only three (3) active components left in the portfolio: *Grant 0143-LAO: Gender Equity in the Water and Sanitation Sector*, *Grant 0382-NEP: Establishing Women and Children's Center*, and *RETA 8797: Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, Phase II*. RETA 8797 was approved in December 2014, and was wholly funded by GDCF initially in the amount of \$1.8 million. In November 2016, a supplementary funding from TASF-V amounting to \$500,000 was added to the RETA to finance activities of the *REG: Piloting Future Cities Future Women Initiative, Phase I*. The RETA's new total is now \$2.3 million.

6. This is the 13<sup>th</sup> GDCF report presenting progress and achievements in all grant components and RETA 8797 subprojects approved, implemented or completed in 2016, including those financed by the TASF matching window. It includes financial progress reports and presents key activities in 2017.

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<sup>1</sup> The unutilized amount of \$0.25 was returned in April 2015

**Table 1. GAD Fund Statement of Commitments and Disbursements (in US\$)  
As of 31 December 2016**

	TA Amount/ Commitment	Disbursement <sup>1</sup>	Uncommitted	Total Fund
Grant Funds				11,817,724
Add: Interest Income, Income from Investments, Exchange gain/(loss)				704,552
<b>TOTAL GRANT FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>				<b>12,522,276</b>
<b>i) Less: RETA 6092: Enhancing GAD Capacity in DMCs Phase II<sup>2</sup></b>	1,974,506	1,974,506		
<b>REMAINING BALANCE</b>				10,547,770
<b>ii) Less: RETA 6143: Promoting Gender Equality &amp; Women's Empowerment</b>	4,615,268	4,615,268		
<b>REMAINING BALANCE</b>				5,932,502
<b>iii) Less: RETA 6431: Promoting Rural Women's Entrepreneurship in C. Asia</b>	559,104	559,104		5,373,398
<b>iv) Less: RETA 8797: Promoting Gender Equality &amp; Women's Empowerment Phase II<sup>3</sup></b>	1,837,000 <sup>4</sup>	560,892	1,276,108	3,536,398
<b>iv) Less: Stand-Alone Country-Specific TAs</b>	<b>902,070</b>	<b>902,070</b>		<b>2,634,327</b>
1. Viet Nam TA 4452: Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan in Agriculture and Rural Development	164,973	164,973		3,371,425
2. Cambodia TA 4459: Implementation of a Gender Strategy Agriculture Sector	292,041	292,041		3,079,384
3. Nepal TA 4767: Capacity Building for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	257,880	257,880		2,821,504
4. Cambodia TA 4892: Capacity Development of Female Commune Council Networks	187,177	187,177		2,634,327
<b>vi) Less: Grant Component TA</b>	<b>1,954,882</b>	<b>1,801,835</b>		<b>679,446</b>
1. PHI: Supporting Governance in Justice Sector Reform in the Philippines (TA 7210)	310,673	310,673		2,323,654
2. LAO: Gender Equity in the Water and Sanitation Sector (Grant 0143)	500,000	500,000		1,823,654
3. PHI: Enhancing Midwives' Entrepreneurial and Financial Literacy (Grant 0148)	390,515	390,515		1,433,139
4. PRC: Women's Economic Empowerment Pilot Project (Grant 0189)	193,617	193,617		1,239,522
5. PHI: Strengthened Gender Impacts of Social Protection (TA 7587)	260,077	260,077		979,446
6. NEP: Enhancing Women and Children's Center (G0382)	300,000	146,953	153,047	679,446
<b>Less: Administration Cost, Bank and Other Charges</b>				626,765
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,842,830</b>	<b>10,413,676</b>		
<b>TOTAL UNCOMMITTED BALANCE (Per Controller's Financial Statement)</b>				<b>52,681</b>
<b>NET UNCOMMITTED BALANCE</b>				<b>52,681</b>

<sup>1</sup> Amount includes advances (RETA8797=2939.47, NEPG0382= 23,000, LAOG0143=67517.35

<sup>2</sup> RETA 6092 figures exclude TASF amounting to \$400,000 with disbursement amount of \$359,447.57

<sup>3</sup> RETA 8797 figures exclude TASF amounting to \$500,000

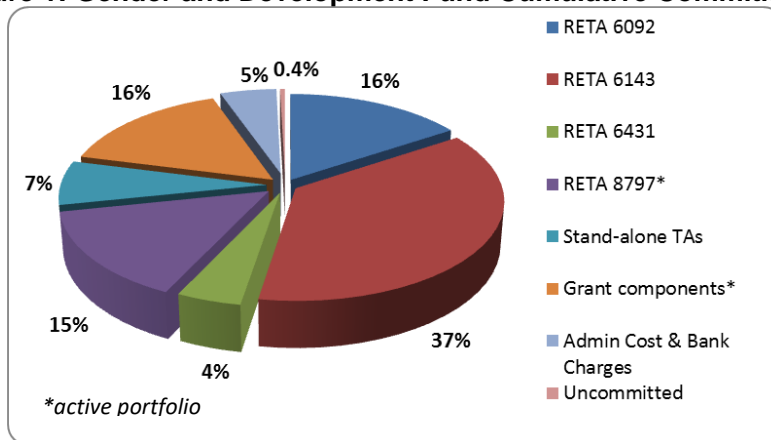
<sup>4</sup> As of 31 December 2016, the total commitment for RETA 8797 was \$1,052,482.08

### I. FINANCIAL PROGRESS

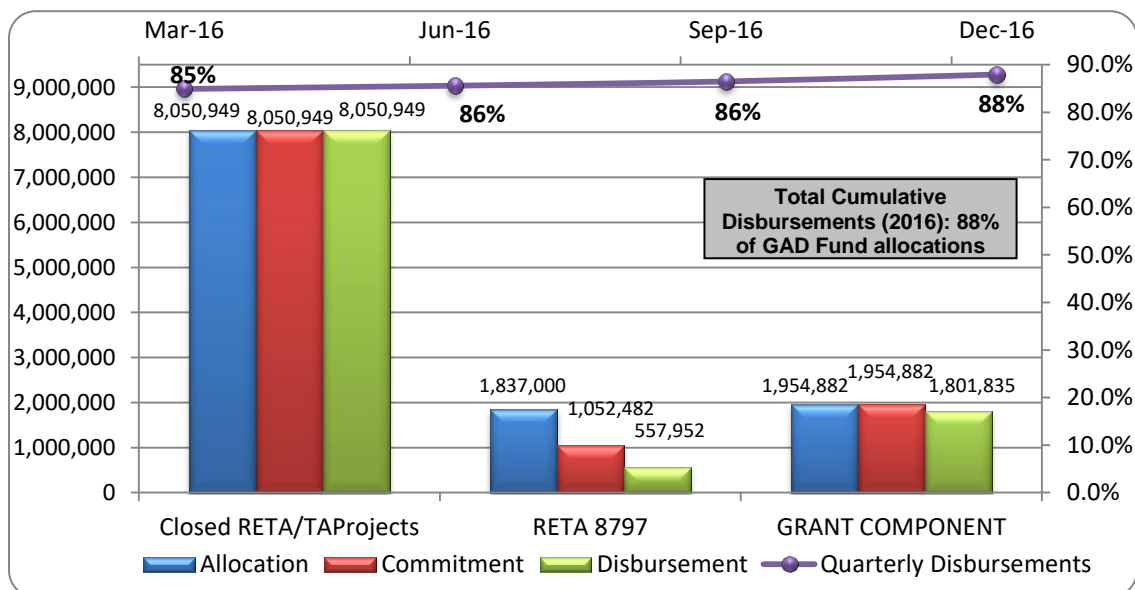
7. As of 31 December 2016, \$11.8 million—or 95% of the total GDCF resources of \$12.5 million—had been committed (Table 1) for the implementation of RETAs, country-specific TAs and grant-financed project components. Figure 1 shows that 16% of the funds have been allocated to grant-financed components, 7% to the four (4) stand-alone country-specific TAs while 72% have covered the implementation of the four (4) RETAs: 6092 (16%), 6143 (37%), 6431 (4%), and 8797 (15%). Of these allocations, the only active components left in the portfolio are RETA 8797 and two (2) grant components. The total GDCF disbursements by the end of 2016 amounted to \$10.4 million or 88% of the total GDCF commitments. The commitment and disbursement figures under these allocations are shown in Figure 2.

8. The total administration cost, bank and other charges amounted to \$0.6 million or 5% of the total fund. The fund’s financial statement as of 31 December 2016 showed an uncommitted balance of \$0.05 million (\$52,681 or 0.42% of the total fund).

**Figure 1: Gender and Development Fund Cumulative Commitments**



**Figure 2: Gender and Development Fund Allocation, Commitment and Disbursement as of December 2016 (\$)**



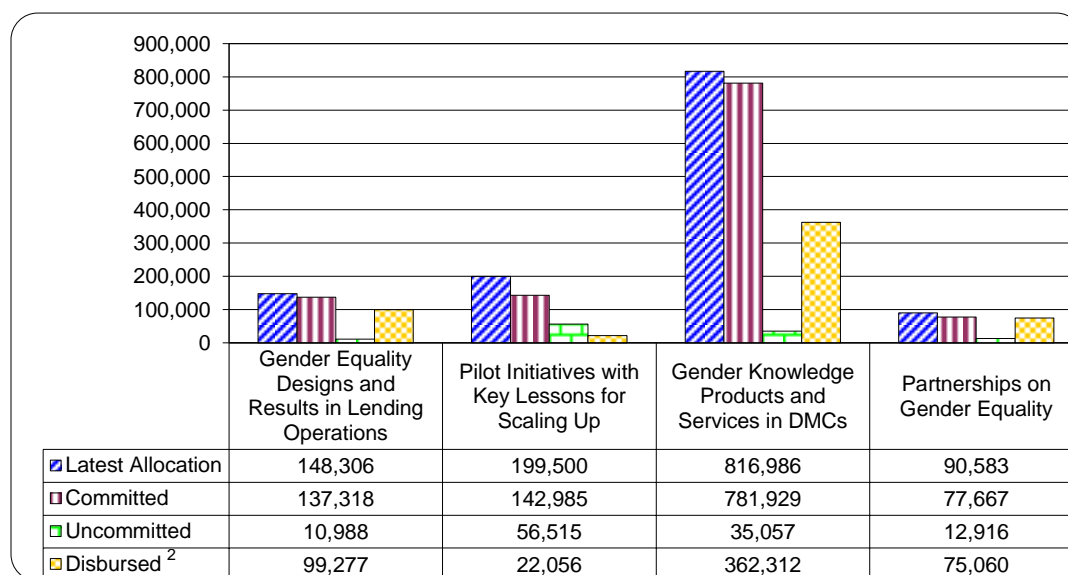
## A. Regional Technical Assistance

9. Four (4) RETAs have been funded by GDCF amounting to \$8.9 million, of which three (3) had been completed, namely: (i) *RETA 6092: Enhancing GAD Capacity in DMCs Phase II*; (ii) *RETA 6431: Promoting Rural Women's Entrepreneurship in Transition Economies*; and (iii) *RETA 6143: Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment*.

10. **RETA 8797: Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, Phase II.** RETA 8797 (Phase II of RETA 6143) is the only remaining RETA in the portfolio. Funds for the umbrella RETA were approved in December 2014 in the amount of \$1.1 million. In May 2016, the amount was increased by \$737,000 to accommodate new subprojects and activities, bringing the total RETA amount equivalent to \$1.837 million or 15% of the total GDCF. In November 2016, an additional \$500,000 was added from ADB's TASF-V thereby increasing the RETA amount to \$2.337 million. The objective of this TA is to accelerate ADB's efforts to implement ADB's Gender Operational Plan. It is also aimed to deliver the directives of ADB's *Strategy 2020 Midterm Review* through pilot innovations, better diagnostics, enhanced capacity development, and partnerships. The RETA is expected to increase identification and development of direct investments in women and girls in ADB lending operations through: (i) improved gender equality designs and results in lending operations; (ii) implementation of pilot initiatives with key lessons for scaling up; (iii) enhanced gender knowledge products and services in developing member countries (DMCs); and (iv) strengthening of partnerships on gender equality. The RETA is expected for completion on 30 June 2018.

11. Figure 3 shows the December 2016 financial status of RETA 8797 by output. Among the four (4) outputs, the largest portion of the TA funds was allocated to gender knowledge products and services (44% of the total \$1.87 million GDCF allocation). The subprojects and activities which were implemented and completed in 2016 are listed in Table 2, while ongoing ones are in Table 3. Details of these activities and subprojects are in Appendices 1 and 2.

**Figure 3. RETA 8797<sup>1</sup>: Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, Phase II**  
**Statement of Allocation and Commitment**  
**as of 31 December 2016**



<sup>1</sup> RETA 8797 figures exclude TASF amounting to \$500,000

<sup>2</sup> Includes liquidation and advances

## B. Grant-Funded Project Components and Piggy-Backed TAs

12. Since 2008, the GDCF has been offering resources for co-financing to support grant components of large ADB loans and/or ADF grants to expand gender mainstreaming in policy-based program loans. There were six (6) grant components supported, two (2) of which are still active, Grant 0143-LAO as a component of the *Small Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project* (\$500,000), and Grant 0382-NEP as a component of *Establishing Women and Children's Center Project* (\$300,000). Three (3) grants were financially closed in previous years<sup>2</sup>, while *Grant 7587-PHI: Strengthened Gender Impacts of Social Protection* as a component of the *Social Protection Support Project* (\$300,000) was financially closed on 26 June 2015.

## C. New Commitments

13. Three (3) new subprojects have been approved in 2016 under RETA 8797 with a total funding of \$620,000 or 34% of the total RETA amount. These are the (i) *REG: Benchmark Publication on Gender Equality and the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific* (\$500,000), (ii) *MON Rapid Assessment of Gender-Based Violence in Urban Ger Area Communities* (\$20,000), and (iii) *PRC Community-Based Rural Road Maintenance by Women Groups in Ningxia Liupanshan* (\$100,000).

14. Another subproject, funded by the TASF matching window, the *REG: Piloting Future Cities Future Women Initiative, Phase 1*, was approved in November 2016 for \$500,000. This comprises 27% of the total RETA amount.

## II. PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2016

### A. RETA Activities Completed

15. Five (5) activities under RETA 8797 were approved and completed in 2016 with a total funding of \$47,978, or 3% of the total RETA amount. These are summarized in table 2, with details provided in Appendix 1.

**Table 2: RETA 8797 Activities Completed in 2016**

No.	DMC	Project Title	Sector	Amount	Status	GDCF Approval	Completion Date
1	REG	Second Asia Inclusive Business Forum	Multisector	\$2,438	Completed	13 Jun 2015	19 Feb 2016
2	REG	International Women's Day 2016/ Gender Month	PSM	\$5,610	Completed	15 Feb 2016	31 Mar 2016
3	REG	Multilateral Development Banks Gender Global Summit	Multisector	\$9,516	Completed	2 May 2016	8 Jun 2016
4	REG	16 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the External Forum on Gender and Development	Multisector	\$29,374	Completed	9 May 2016	22 Jun 2016
5	PHI	SDG5 Youth Ambassadors	Multisector	\$1,040	Completed	8 Jul 2016	13 Aug 2016

PHI = Philippines; PSM = public sector management; REG = regional; SDG = Sustainable Development Goal

<sup>2</sup> (i) *PHI: Supporting Governance in Justice Sector Reform* (\$0.5 million) as a component of the *Governance and Justice Reform Project*; (ii) *PHI: Enhancing Midwives Entrepreneurship and Financial Literacy* (\$400,000) as a component of the *Credit for Better Health Care Project*; and (iii) *PRC: Women's Economic Empowerment Pilot Project* (\$195,000) as a component of the *Shanxi Integrated Rural Livelihoods Development Project*.



16. The completed activities under the RETA helped in (i) raising awareness on the new Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG5) on gender equality and women's empowerment; (ii) promoting and facilitating dialogue between ADB and external groups on gender and development issues; (iii) strengthening information-sharing and collaboration on gender equality in operations among multilateral development banks (MDBs); (iv) increasing gender awareness in the inclusive business perspective; and (v) encouraging the Youth Ambassadors to promote SDG5 in forums and through their networks and organizations.

17. **Grant Component.** One (1) grant component, the *LAO: Gender Equity in the Water and Sanitation Sector*, was completed in June 2016. It was approved on 2 February 2009 with GDCF financing of \$0.5 million. This was a piggy-backed grant component which has been integrated into *Grant 0143-LAO: Small Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project* to help build a pipeline for future women leaders in the water sector in Lao PDR. With GDCF support, 26 female students obtained bachelor's degree scholarships. Over 274 female staff in provincial water utilities received targeted technical and management training, and knowledge products were produced. Accomplishments of this grant project are detailed in Appendix 1.

## B. Ongoing Projects

18. **Regional Technical Assistance.** RETA 8797 is the only active RETA project funded by the GDCF. At the end of 2016, five (5) subprojects under the RETA totaling \$0.8 million are ongoing. These comprise 45% of the total RETA amount. Four (4) subprojects were extended due to reasons that are explained in detail in Appendix 2.A. These subprojects are summarized in Table 3 below.

19. The *Piloting Future Cities Future Women Initiative*, Phase I, which is a subproject under Output 2 of RETA 8797, was approved in November 2016. This subproject, which is part of the cross-regional flagship Future Cities program, will be implemented over 18 months from January 2017 to June 2018. It will (i) prepare gender analysis and pilot designs for informal settlers in Suva; (ii) prepare gender analysis and pilot designs for women entrepreneurs in Tbilisi; (iii) prepare pilot designs for women-led recycling business in Mandalay; and (iv) prepare and disseminate knowledge products series.

20. **Grant Component.** The *G0382-NEP: Establishing Women and Children's Center* is the only active grant component of GDCF. It was approved in 25 March 2014 with a funding of \$0.3 million and was scheduled to close in 30 September 2016. Due to the delay in construction activities and the severe impact of the April 2015 earthquake in two project districts where GDCF support is provided, the subproject implementation was extended for another year to complete the activities with no cost implication. The progress report of the subproject is in Appendix 2.B.

**Table 3: RETA 8797 Ongoing Subprojects**

No.	DMC	Project Title	Sector	Amount	Cumulative Disbursements	Status	GDCF Approval	Completion Date
<b>GDCF</b>								
1	REG	Inclusive Energy Solutions in South Asia: A Study on the Gender Implications of Energy Technology Innovation	Energy	\$99,500	\$22,056	Extended	17-Jun-2015	30-Jun-2017
2	PRC	Technical Note on Gender, Work and Migration in the People's Republic of China	Multisector	\$99,000	\$36,733	Extended	30-Jun-2015	31-Jan-2017
3	MON	Rapid Assessment of Gender-Based Violence in Urban Ger Area Communities	Multisector	\$20,000	\$16,643	Extended	4-Jul-2016	31-Dec-2017
4	PRC	Community-Based Rural Road Maintenance by Women Groups in Ningxia Liupanshan	Transport	\$100,000	0	Ongoing	12-Aug-2016	31-Nov-2017
5	REG	Benchmark Publication on Gender Equality and the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific	Multisector	\$500,000	\$186,846	Extended	19-Jan-2016	31-Jun-2017
<b>TASF</b>								
6	REG	Piloting Future Cities Future Women Initiative – Phase 1	Multisector	\$500,000	0	Ongoing	18-Nov-2016	30-Jun-2018

MON = Mongolia; PRC = People's Republic of China; PSM = public sector management; REG = regional

### III. GDCF WORK PLAN IN 2017

21. Over the years, GDCF has proven its significant role in piloting innovative projects across Asia and the Pacific, and in pushing gender concerns to be integrated in ADB's programs and activities. It is imperative that these initiatives are replicated and supported by a leverage fund like the GDCF to continue to advance the gender equality agenda in the region, and to ensure successful implementation of *ADB's Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Operational Plan, 2013-2020*. It is therefore the highest priority of the GDCF Secretariat in 2017 to continue its efforts in seeking replenishments for the fund from existing donors and identifying new group of donors. Strong networking and funding partnerships should be pursued to support this effort.

22. Another priority of the 2017 GDCF portfolio management, aside from ensuring timely completion of all subprojects, is to fully commit the remaining GDCF funds. As of December 2016, the remaining balance is \$52,681. This amount will be allocated and used to fund small-scale projects through RETA 8797 as the remaining umbrella TA. Projects to be funded could possibly focus on activities that will develop GAPs for ADB gender-relevant projects, promote partnerships with women's organizations and other development partners to encourage further financial support, and small-scale gender events.

## APPENDIX 1: COMPLETED ACTIVITIES UNDER RETA 8797

### A. RETA 8797: Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, Phase II



Second Asia Inclusive Business Forum,  
February 2016

1. **Second Asia Inclusive Business Forum.** The GDCF sponsored a break-out session on gender with the topic “*Empowering Women through Inclusive Business*” at the conference held on 17 February 2016 at the ADB headquarters. Two (2) resource speakers from Lifespring Hospital in India and Engro Foods Limited (Pakistan) were supported by the fund to share their insights from their business experiences and provided their views on how inclusive business can further empower women. Over 400 participants and experts attended the conference. Presentations are available in this site: <http://www.inclusivebusinesshub.org/micro-site/inclusive-business-in-asia/ib-asia-forum/>

2. **2016 ADB International Women's Day/Gender Month Events.** ADB organized a series of gender activities throughout the month of March to raise awareness around the new SDG5 on gender equality and women's empowerment. With the theme “*Hi5 for SDG5: Realizing the Gender Goal*,” the following were successfully held: (i) *A World She Deserves* – a panel on choice, human rights and reproductive health; (ii) *Gender parity in decision-making by 2030* – International Women's Day Breakfast Forum with Rhodora Palomar-Fresnedi of Unilab Foundation and Unilab International; (iii) *Unlocking Gender-Based Violence* – a forum featuring distinguished speaker Secretary General Meg Taylor; and (iv) exhibit and auction of gender equality artworks by artists Ambie Abano and Nadia Kondratiev.



IWD Breakfast Event, March 2016, ADB HQ

3. **Stereotype and Opportunities: Women's Economic Empowerment (Joint MDB Global Gender Summit).** GDCF provided resource speakers support at the MDB-sponsored global summit in Washington D.C., USA from 7–8 June 2016. Four (4) resource speakers, two (2) government participants from Kazakhstan and Vietnam, and two (2) ADB staff participated in the discussion on advancing women's economic empowerment. ADB's support to young women in engineering and technical skills and vocational training was presented at the conference which was attended by up to 120 participants, global thought leaders from the private sector, governments, MDBs, other bilateral agencies and civil society.



EFG members meet with ADB President

4. **Annual External Forum on Gender and Development (EFG).** In its 16<sup>th</sup> session held on 20–22 June 2016 at the ADB headquarters, the EFG met with members of the ADB management and staff to guide discussions on the potential future directions for ADB's gender work under its new Strategy 2030. The EFG recommended for gender equality to remain a driver of change in the new *Strategy 2030*, integrating gender concerns in its programs and projects and engaging in a more catalytic and transformative role in advancing

gender equality in Asia and the Pacific. Four (4) EFG members also gave seminar presentations to ADB staff on (i) women's economic empowerment, (ii) gender and disaster risk management, and (iii) gender impacts of harmful practices such as child marriage.

5. **SDG5 Youth Ambassadors.** GDCF supported the participation of four (4) SDG5 ADB Youth Ambassadors in the *2nd Asia Pacific Youth Exchange* held in ADB headquarters from 31 July–13 August 2016. The youth ambassadors were the winners from ADB's #Hi5forSDG5 Competition during the 2016 Gender Month. Their participation in the conference enabled them to promote SDG5 among the forum's other youth participants, and expand their network to build support for SDG5.

## B. Grant Components/Piggy-Backed TAs

6. **LAO: Gender Equity in the Water and Sanitation Sector.** The project is one of the piggy-backed TAs financed by the GDCF. It supported one of the six (6) key project outputs of *Grant 0143-LAO: Small Towns Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project* in the amount of \$500,000. To enhance gender equity in the urban water and sanitation sector in Lao PDR, the GDCF grant assistance specifically supported three activities which (i) improved access of female high school graduates to educational opportunities in water supply and sanitation engineering; (ii) enhanced gender awareness in provincial Nam Papas (PNPs); and (iii) improved knowledge management of gender in the urban water and sanitation sector in Lao PDR.

### 7. **Output 1: Scholarships.**

Twenty-six (26) female students received scholarships from the project and had completed their bachelor's degree in December 2015. Of the 26 students, 21 completed a degree in environmental engineering, four (4) in civil engineering, and one (1) in environmental sciences. 46% percent of the graduates have found employment; 75% of whom are working with different PNPs, while the remaining 25% were employed by Hongsa Lignite Power, the National Assembly and a non-government organization. Two (2) of the civil engineering graduates have been employed while 42.8% of those who studied environmental engineering were hired by different provincial water utilities.



GDCF Scholars

8. **Output 2: Enhanced Gender Awareness.** Workshops on gender mainstreaming and gender awareness were organized which benefitted over 274 female staff in provincial water utilities. A needs and capacity development assessment was initially conducted to assess the capacity of selected PNPs. Subsequently, proposals for gender empowerment and action plan were finalized for 10 PNPs. These were followed by a series of training in 2013 on financial management and reporting, new business accounting, customer service, office management, billing system, IT/internet application, and bookkeeping, which were attended by 134 PNP female staff. In September 2014, 24 female participants attended a workshop on gender mainstreaming in human resource development of PNPs and the Departments of Public Works and Transport in eight (8) northern provinces. The approved *Strategy 2014-2025 for the Advancement of Women in the Public Works and Transportation Sector* was disseminated in



this workshop. It was reported that the gender balance target in this sector is 30% of female staff. In 2015, another initiative was organized for 116 female staff which provided refresher courses, and introduced new topics such as AutoCAD, English, on the job training with experienced PNPs, and training of trainer on gender empowerment. Further, three (3) mentoring workshops were held in northern, central, and southern regions to support and

encourage PNP female staff and female scholars to manage their own learning, maximize their potential, develop their skills, improve their performance and become empowered to take up leadership positions. These workshops were attended by a total of 146 participants. In each workshop, four to five (4–5) successful women from private and public sectors in water and sanitation sector had been invited as mentors.

9. **Output 3: Improved knowledge management of gender in the sector.** This output has improved the existing knowledge management of gender in the urban water and sanitation sector in Lao PDR. A publication entitled *Gender in Management of Urban Water and Sanitation: Case studies from PNPs*, which features lessons learned and progress reports from the activities, was produced in Lao and English. The project's webpage ([www.stwsp.org](http://www.stwsp.org)) was developed to feature project activities, progress reports, and other information.

10. A one day dissemination workshop was organized in Vientiane on 19 May 2016 to disseminate the good practices from this subproject in empowering women in the water and sanitation sector, and to determine the success, lessons learned, and follow-up steps for integration by the Department of Water Supply (DWS). The workshop was attended by 106 participants, of whom 76 were female participants from the Nam Papa Department and other concerned departments at the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, representatives from ADB, development partners and private sectors involved in the field of water and sanitation.

11. **Lessons Learned.** Further assistance, through post-graduate scholarships, must be directed to those who previously received GDCF support, particularly the rural beneficiaries who cannot compete with graduates from the urban areas. Prepare students for the job market in the last year of their study through trainings. Provide support to strengthen networking among trained female staff or participating PNPs to facilitate exchange of knowledge and skills. Close mentoring support from the supervisors to enable the female staff to pass the government criteria and get access to political training, especially since the *Human Resource Development Plan 2012-2020* for the urban water supply and sanitation sector does not cover political training that would enable female staff to get promoted.

12. **Next Steps.** DWS needs the following support in order to continue promoting gender equity within the urban water and sanitation: (i) update of the *Human Resource Development Plan 2012-2020* for the urban water supply and sanitation sector to cover support of female staff for political training to enable promotion; (ii) establishment of positions on human resources and Gender Equity Director within the DWS; (iii) integration of more female recruitment and promotion in the new Water Supply Strategy's human resource development section; (iv) inclusion of women staff training in DWS and PNPs' work plans and budget allocation; and (v) strengthening of the staff databases of DWS and PNPs to include sex-disaggregated data. Given the difficulty of new graduates to seek employment after graduation, the DWS should

take the lead in training the students to write resumes and how to conduct themselves in job interviews to find employment. Lastly, new projects should consider membership in gender working groups established by the government and donors for information exchange and building partnerships in the area of gender empowerment in the water and sanitation sector.



## APPENDIX 2: ONGOING PROJECTS AND SUBPROJECTS

### A. RETA 8797: Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, Phase II

1. **PRC: Technical Note on Gender, Work and Migration in the People's Republic of China.** The subproject involves a desk review of existing literature, research and statistics to inform an evidence-based macro-level synthesis report. The subproject was approved for \$99,000. In July 2015, a consultant was recruited to prepare the technical note which identifies trends in women's employment in the PRC over the past 30 years in the context of the PRC's economic transitions and resulting internal migration.

2. To disseminate and discuss the findings of the technical note, a National Workshop was held from 17–18 November 2016, in partnership with the International Labour Organization and Beijing Normal University. The outcomes of the study were five (5) key policy recommendations with detailed analysis including (i) reducing industrial and occupational sex segregation; (ii) addressing gender wage discrimination; (iii) promoting and expanding decent work; (iv) promoting women's entrepreneurship; and (v) rethinking the provision of care (children and elderly). The final draft of the Technical Note has been submitted for final review and is scheduled for publication in mid-2017.

3. The subproject is expected for completion in January 2017, after several extensions owing to the delay in the release of the main source of information for the study, which delayed the conduct of the national workshop.

4. **REG: Inclusive Energy Solutions in South Asia: A Study on the Gender Implications of Energy Technology Innovation.** The subproject was approved in 17 June 2015 in the amount of \$99,500 aims to engage, inform, and influence energy policymakers and planners on how gender equity and social inclusion issues and implications should be considered by governments in energy sector policy development and planning. The planned outputs include (i) an energy technology audit conducted and up to three (3) emerging and promising "gender-friendly" technologies identified; (ii) up to three (3) gender-friendly technology prototypes designed based on the technology audit; and (iii) a research paper which includes a presentation of the methodology, energy technology trends and gender and social implications, and recommendations for policy and planning.

5. The project's completion has been extended twice from its original completion date to allow the University of Melbourne to incorporate significant information and learnings from over 20 lectures provided during the *Deep-Dive Lateral Learning Program on Inclusive Energy Solutions*. The lateral learning held at the University of Melbourne on 29 August–2 September 2016 conveyed important data to unlock new approaches for understanding and analyzing gender-friendly technology. This includes understanding the centrality of the energy transition for gender equality and social inclusion opportunities. It also provided an energy systems perspective for doing this, essential to which is systems modelling. This needs to be integrated in the study methodology and the crafting of the study. The subproject is expected for completion by 30 June 2017.

6. **PRC: Community-based Rural Road Maintenance by Women Groups in Ningxia Liupanshan.** This subproject was approved on 12 August 2016 with a funding of \$100,000. This is linked to *Loan 3444-PRC: Ningxia Liupanshan Poverty Reduction Rural Road Development Project*. It also builds on the experience of the previously GDCF-funded pilot project in Yunnan Province and will, hence, validate the functionality of the tools developed

under the previous initiative. The subproject targets to enhance the capacity and skills of poor women by establishing at least 20 women maintenance groups in selected counties in the Liupanshan area, and training at least 100 women through formalized training sessions for engagement in maintenance groups for three (3) years as part of the loan project. The subproject also aims for strategy development for replication and mainstreaming of the concept of women road maintenance groups in the Liupanshan area as an inexpensive way of ensuring timely maintenance of feeder roads and providing incomes to poor rural women.

7. A National Rural Road Maintenance Specialist and a National Gender Development Specialist were engaged in September 2016 to (i) review and update the maintenance guides and manuals; (ii) train women maintenance workers and County Transport Bureaus staff; (iii) provide guidance to these bureaus through performance-based rural road maintenance approach; (iv) arrange for a study tour in Yunnan; (v) review investment levels and funding sources; (vi) draft the regulation; and (vii) facilitate the workshop. A Technical Specialist is based full-time in the Department of Transport in Yinchuan, Ningxia to assist the Gender Development Specialist and coordinate with the relevant officials.

8. An initial workshop was held on 3-4 November 2016 mainly participated by the county-level women federations, transport bureaus, and poverty alleviation offices.

9. **MON: Rapid Assessment of Gender-Based Violence in Urban Ger Area Communities.** This subproject approved in 29 June 2016 with a funding of \$20,000 has fully accomplished its objective of (i) informing the design of *Ulaanbaatar Urban Services and Ger Areas Development Investment Program (Tranche 2)*; and (ii) determining entry points of gender-based violence (GBV) for a potential future stand-alone grant on gender and/or infrastructure projects. As of 31 December, the subproject completed the following: (i) a qualitative research report on GBV with particular focus on sexual violence in public spaces and domestic violence in urban *ger* area communities of Ulaanbaatar City –such assessment over public space safety dimensions of women and girls, including public transportation environment is considered as a pioneer study for Mongolia; (ii) a set of recommendations were provided as part of the research on potential strategies to prevent and address GBV, including entry points on behavior change communications; (iii) publication of the summary or knowledge product in the academic journal *Gender Studies* by the Gender Consortium under the National Committee on Gender Equality (in Mongolian language) which will be disseminated among gender subcommittees in 21 *aimags*; (iv) a workshop on *Gender Policy and Gender Studies* as part of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence in collaboration with the Secretariat of National Committee on Gender Equality held on 12 December 2016 where 50 officials from the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs, and its corresponding two agencies, sub-district officials, academia, and ADB project staff, of which over 70% of participants were women, attended; and (v) influenced the design of the Gender Action Plan for Tranche 2 which includes GBV prevention and response initiatives.

10. **Lessons Learned.** Due to prolonged recruitment process of consultants, the field work had to finish within a short period of time in order to provide the research findings to the Tranche 2 design. However, projects will benefit more from well advanced planning which is critical in ensuring coordination and synergy with other upcoming activities. The research scope was a bit broad as it covered both public space safety concerns and domestic violence, while targeting 144 respondents. For qualitative assessment in the future, there should be more time allocated for field works. Further, for sensitive subject matters, targeted individual interviews would be more useful instead of group discussions.



11. **Next steps.** To ensure smooth kick-off implementation of the Gender Action Plan for Tranche 2, which includes initiatives for GBV prevention and response as part of its design, the follow-up meetings and dialogues will be held with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, and Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs. On research, a knowledge product on women's public and private space safety in urban *ger* area communities is being planned for 2017 for publication by ADB in English. The research results are also expected to feed into the design of a potential GBV grant to be proposed for financing through the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction in 2018.

12. **REG: Benchmark Publication on Gender Equality and the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific.** This benchmark publication project, supported by GDCF for \$500,000, aims to provide a snapshot of the current status on gender equality and women's empowerment in relation to the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific and identify data gaps. Only the most relevant targets and indicators that aim to measure progress related to gender equality, women's empowerment and women's rights were selected to be part of the study. The study has two major parts: (i) the statistical part which covers 58 countries of Asia and the Pacific, looks at 63 gender sensitive targets and 85 gender sensitive indicators, and includes 14 of the 17 SDGs. The analytical part discusses the specific areas such as access to sexual reproductive health and rights, women's economic empowerment, women and girls' safety and gender and climate change. The publication is being done in partnership with UN Women and will cover countries covered by both ADB and UN Women.

13. As of 31 December 2016, all deliverables under the inception phase have been completed. The first draft of the statistical portion from the data mapping has been submitted. The zero draft of the benchmark publication with statistical tables has been discussed at the *Regional Consultation on the SDG Baseline Publication* held in Bangkok from 15–17 November 2016. The consultation with National Statistics Offices, women's machineries and planning ministries of the DMCs provided the venue to raise awareness about the centrality of gender to the achievement of the 2030 global agenda and how gender has been integrated in the SDGs, and to gather feedback on the key findings of the draft benchmark publication. The final draft of the publication is scheduled for submission on May 2017. The subproject is expected to close by end of June 2017.

## **B. Grant Components/Piggy-Backed TAs**

14. **NEP: Establishing Women and Children's Center.** The GDCF grant project with a funding of \$300,000 was approved on 25 March 2014 to support the establishment of women and children service centers (WCSCs) in 15 districts in Nepal. This is in addition to the pilot WCSCs that were initially built in five districts of Nepal under Grant 9135-NEP. The overall project implementation is on track. However, the project experienced low disbursements due to slow physical progress in building construction. The project completion is extended until 30 September 2017. As of 31 December 2016, the following activities have been completed:

15. **Output 1: Civil society consultations and awareness-raising undertaken in WCSC districts.** In 2016, district level GBV control networks have been formed under district police in all districts which are actively engaged in community awareness raising program and coordination in GBV victim support services. Three (3) public service announcements and three (3) short documentaries on GBV and related topics have been produced for wider dissemination and awareness-raising. In 2017, civil society consultations will be held widely to involve key stakeholder organizations and political parties to create broader accountability.

16. **Output 2. Central level WCSC in Kathmandu and 20 district level WCSCs established.** GDCF supports construction of two (2) WCSC buildings in Dolakha and Sindhuli districts. In Dolakha, 85% of the construction work has been completed and the remaining work is expected to be completed by March 2017. In Sindhuli, work progress is only 55% due to a weak performance by the contractor, but work is likely to be completed by June 2017.

17. **Output 3. Institutional capacity of the Nepal Police in dealing with crimes against women and children, strengthened.** In April 2016, a training of trainers was conducted for 45 senior police officers who were then mobilized to conduct a five-day training on gender responsive investigation and counseling to 390 police personnel (of whom 178 were women) from the project districts. Additionally, 381 (275 women) members of GBV Control Network Committees were also given a three-day training on life skills, legal instruments and leadership development. The training curriculum was developed to make it user-friendly to lower level police personnel deployed in WCSCs. The PIU also provided training to 40 accountants based in the District Police Office on financial management and advanced accounting skills in October 2016. A human resource consultant was engaged under the TA to do a training needs assessment (TNA) for other training needs of WCSC staff. Based on the findings, a capacity development plan will be developed by January 2017, and training will be provided to police staff of WCSCs.

18. **Output 4. Coordination between district WCSCs and other services strengthened.** The GBV networks are functioning well in districts and mainly support GBV case reporting to the police, handling of GBV cases once reported, mediation, and provision of legal services. The coordination meeting of the GBV committee is being held monthly in all districts which helped to provide better services to the victims. The networks conducted awareness activities in outreach communities to reduce the relationship gap between public and police, and help in trust building. There had been an increase rate of GBV case reporting after the awareness-raising activities.

19. **Next Steps.** The key activities to be implemented before project completion are: (i) completion of WCSC buildings in Dolakha and Sidhuli with additional amenities; (ii) formation of GBV control networks in at least three (3) village development committees in each district; and (iii) training a total of 900 police and GBV network members in different skills by Q3 2017 (771 has been achieved by Q4 2016).

20. **Lessons Learned.** The technical directorate of police has low capacity in contract management of civil works. This was one of the reasons for the delay in construction activities. To address this, ADB's Nepal Resident Mission provided training on contract management and financial management to staff of the directorate which prepared them in resolving issues related to contractors. The frequent staff transfer from WCSCs in districts is impeding project implementation, and the skills gap remains despite the training provided to police staff. The ADB Resident Mission has raised this issue with the executing and implementing agencies to develop a norm to retain staff for at least two years in WCSCs, and this is now under consideration. Capacity development plan will be linked with staff's retention plan.