

<i>Title:</i>	NEW ADB BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES, PROPOSED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS UNDER GRANT PROGRAMS DECEMBER 2005
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This report alerts U.S. firms to **US\$ 37.244 million** in new technical assistance projects under the grant programs being administered by the Asian Development Bank for which consulting services may or may not be required. Opportunities are reported for Bangladesh, Cambodia, Pakistan, Regional, Tajikistan and Vietnam. For 2004, U.S. firms, including many small consulting firms, succeeded in winning US\$33.13 million ADB-funded national technical assistance contracts out of a total ADB-financed consulting budget of US\$297.16 million.

The ADB selects a consultant for a TA grant based on its prior Expression of Interest (EOI). An EOI can be transmitted on-line through the ADB's website (www.adb.org); afterward it will be acknowledged automatically. Firms may opt to send a hardcopy follow-up EOI addressed to Mr. Robert J. Robertson, Director, Consulting Services Division, with a copy to the ADB Project Officer. The EOI should relate a firm's experience and expertise to the ADB project. It is important for a U.S. firm to emphasize its similar project experience in the country, or in a similar geographic area, rather than present a general profile of its consulting activities. A separate EOI should be submitted for each project. The project name indicated in the EOI should exactly match that listed in the ADB Business Opportunities publication to avoid confusion.

To be considered for employment, consulting firms must register on the ADB's DACON (Data on Consulting Firms) system, or for individual consultants on the DICON (Data on Individual Consultants) system. Otherwise, their EOIs will not be accepted. DACON and DICON registration can be done on-line at www.adb.org/consulting.

ADB's DACON (<http://www.adb.org/Consulting/dacon.asp>) is a database of firms and other organizations from the ADB's member countries that are qualified to provide consulting services for ADB projects. The DACON contains information on the experience and capacity of the firms and organizations. ADB requires firms or organizations to register on the DACON so that the ADB can consider them for short-listing for a technical assistance project. The term "firm or organization" covers all sources of consultants, such as consulting firms, government agencies, public sector organizations, national and international institutions and non-government organizations.

The DICON (<http://www.adb.org/Consulting/dicon.asp>) system contains the names of persons who are citizens of ADB's member countries; are at the forefront of their respective fields; and may be practicing consultants or employees, whose organizations are prepared to release them for short periods to serve ADB; or retired persons with special experience who are still active.

Firms may also send a notification copy of their EOIs to the U.S. mailing address for the U.S. Commercial Service Liaison Office to the ADB, Attention: Frank Foster, Senior Commercial Officer, PSC 500 Box 33, FPO AP 96515-1000, or to the same office at its international mailing address: 25th Floor Ayala Life-FGU Center, 6811 Ayala Avenue, Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines 1226; Phone: (63-2) 887-1345; Fax: (63-2) 887-1164; E-mail: manila.adb.office.box@mail.doc.gov. Information about these projects are likewise available on our website at <http://www.buyusa.gov/adb>. This office works closely with the Office of the U.S. Executive Director to the ADB to increase American awareness of, and participation in, the ADB's activities.

The projects listed in this report are now being actively processed by the ADB. For more information on these projects, the name of the ADB project officer is indicated in the project brief. The U.S Commercial Service Liaison Office to the ADB is ready to provide assistance to U.S. firms upon request.

The following technical assistance grant projects are reprinted with permission from the Asian Development Bank from the ADB Website (<http://www.adb.org>) and appeared for the first time in November 2005. For more information on development in Asia and the Pacific, see <http://www.adb.org>.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROJECTS, DECEMBER 2005

A. BANGLADESH

Project Name : **Gas Sector Development**
Project No. : BAN 35242-03
Executing Agency : Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Minerals Corporation
(Petrobangla)
Contact: Mr. S. R. Osmani, Chairman
Address: 3 Kawran Bazar Commercial Area
Dhaka - 1215, Bangladesh
Tel. No.: (880-2) 811-4972; Fax. No.: (880-2) 811-1613
Grant Amount : US\$ 5,000,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Energy /Energy Sector Development

Objectives and Scope:

The objectives are to: (i) improve the governance of the gas sector through its restructuring and increased private sector participation by developing an enabling regulatory framework; (ii) ensure the long-term financial viability of the sector by reducing technical and non-technical system losses and improving management of sector entities; and (iii) increase the pace of economic development in less-developed regions of the country by expanding the sustainable use and supply of natural gas. The Project will also improve air quality, reduce deforestation, and lessen respiratory diseases.

Consulting Services:

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Board Circulation completed: 4 October 2005.

Recruitment of Consultants: Consulting services will be required for the capacity building of EMR, Petrobangla, GTCL, and other state gas companies. The consultants will be engaged by the Executing Agencies in accordance with ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants and other arrangements satisfactory to ADB for the engagement of domestic consultants. The consultants will be engaged as a firm or on individual basis.

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In-country U.S. Embassy
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David Renz, Economic Officer
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B. CAMBODIA

Project Name : **Women's Development Centers**
Project No. : CAM 39037-02
Executing Agency : Ministry of Women's Affairs
Contact: Ms. Sok Chan Chhorvy, Deputy Director General
Address: Directorate General of Technical Affairs
Bid Preah Norodom, Khan Daun Penh
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Fax. No.: (855-23) 426-539
E-mail: chhorvy@online.com.kh
Grant Amount : US\$ 1,800,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Multi-sector

Objectives and Scope:

The Project goal is to reduce poverty through increased access to services that support women's social and economic empowerment in Cambodia. The development objectives are to: (i) facilitate human development for poor women through life skills training and advocacy support, (ii) promote micro- and small entrepreneurship development and support through adequate information, facilitation of access to credit, and enabling links to various organizations and resources, and (iii) build capacity of institutions that promote woman-friendly entrepreneurial environments.

Consulting Services: About 24 person-months intermittent consulting services from an individual consultant with project experience and two full-time domestic consultants will be engaged to assist Project Implementing Units (PIUs) manage the project activities in the respective project sites. Recruitment of consultants will be done by the executing agency.

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Staff Review Committee Meeting completed: 22 July 2005.

Recruitment of Consultants: The executing agency is expected to start recruitment of consultants in January 2006.

Project Officer : Januar Hakim
Social Sectors Division
Mekong Department
Tel.: (63-2) 632-6891
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In-country U.S. Embassy

Commercial Officer : Jennifer Spande, Economic Officer
U.S. Embassy, Phnom Penh
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C. PAKISTAN

Project Name : Balochistan Devolved Social Services
Project No. : PAK 37218-02
Executing Agency : Planning and Development Department, Balochistan
Grant Amount : US\$ 5,000,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Health, Nutrition, & Social Protection /Health Programs

Objectives and Scope:

The grant will finance specific components of the health sector performance grants that will have high impact on prevention of HIV/AIDs, and on prevention and treatment of malaria and tuberculosis.

Consulting Services:

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission to be scheduled.

Recruitment of Consultants:

Project Officer : Sekhar Bonu
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In-country US Embassy

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D. REGIONAL

Project Name : Public Policy Training

Project No. : REG 39615-01
Executing Agency : Asian Development Bank
Grant Amount : US\$ 950,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Law, Economic Management & Public Policy /
Economic Management

Objectives and Scope:

The proposed regional technical assistance (TA) would formulate and implement Public Policy Training Program 2005/06 under the Japan Fund for Public Policy Training (JFPPT). The overall impact of the TA would be an effective startup to contribute to the process of enhancing public policy capability of government officials in Viet Nam and other DMCs through the JFPPT program. The immediate main outcome would be to support the transition of JFPPT initial phase implementation to full implementation in Viet Nam; and to commence preliminary preparatory work in Cambodia, Lao PDR. The TA would produce the following main outputs: (i) successful takeover from ADBI and maintenance of the JFPPT office logistics and training facilities, and completion of IT installation or any additional office fitting; (ii) operation of the JFPPT program office in Hanoi for Viet Nam program as well as a regional hub for public policy training activities under the JFPPT program, (iii) formulation of a multi-year public policy training program for Viet Nam; (iv) commencement of preliminary preparatory work in Cambodia, and Lao PDR for similar programs in the future; (v) prepare and conduct pilot short courses in Viet Nam; (vi) undertake a feasibility study of establishing a public policy training school at the Viet Nam National University (VNU); (vii) training materials for short courses; and (viii) create and run a dedicated website for dissemination of JFPPT program, and its outputs, including training materials, key results, lessons, and a platform for distance learning and e-discussions.

Consulting Services: Consulting services yet to be determined.

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Staff Review Committee (SRC) Completed: 10 November 2005.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place in November 2005.

Project Officer : Ramesh B. Adhikari
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E. TAJIKISTAN

Project Name : **Community-based Electricity Supply in Remote Areas**
Project No. : TAJ 39029-01
Executing Agency : Ministry of Energy
Grant Amount : US\$ 2,000,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Energy /Energy Sector Development

Objectives and Scope:

The objective of the Project is to improve the quality of life during winter in the remote rural project areas by improving utility services during the winter season. The outcome of the Project is to establish and prove sustainable and cost-effective community-based micro-hydropower supply system in remote rural areas. The expected outputs are (i) rehabilitation or upgrading of maximum six viable community-based energy organizations; (ii) implementation of maximum six pilot micro-hydropower projects each having about minimum 200 kilowatt capacity and strengthening of distribution networks; (iii) supply of energy in pilot project areas, and (iv) greater awareness of energy saving in pilot project areas. Each micro-hydropower project would have a capacity of minimum 200 kW and would supply electricity to approximately 400 households.

Consulting Services: The total input of international and domestic consultants will be 16 and 197 months, respectively. 1. Component A: Participatory Site Selection and Community Mobilization International Consultant team: (person-months in parentheses) (i) Hydropower specialist (team leader) 3 person-months; (ii) Economist - (0.75)); (iii) financial specialist - (0.5); (iv) environmental specialist - (0.5); (v) social development specialist - (1.25); and (vi) legal expert - (0.75) Domestic Consultant: (i) 2 civil engineers - (6 person-months total); (ii) 2 electro-mechanical engineers - (6 person-months total); (iii) one hydrologist engineer - (3); (iv) one geologist/geo-technical specialist - (3); (v) 2 power economists (6 person-months total); (vi) financial analyst (3); (vii) 2 environmental specialists (6 person-months total); (viii) lawyer (3); and (ix) 4 social development specialists (15 person-months total) 2. Component B: Capacity Building of Community-Based Organization (CBO) through establishment of Micro-Hydropower System (i) hydropower specialist (team leader) (3 person-months); (ii) social development specialist (3) The domestic consultants (total 132 person-months) will assist the international consultant in design, construction, and commissioning of the pilot projects 3. Component C: Energy Conservation Demonstration Project (i) energy specialist (1 person-month) and (ii) energy conservation specialist (domestic consultant - 1 person-month).

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Staff Review Committee (SRC) Meeting completed: 3 November 2005.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place in January 2006.

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BISNIS Representative in Tajikistan
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F. VIETNAM

F.1: Project Name : HIV/AIDS Prevention Among Youth
Project No. : VIE 38581-02
Executing Agency : To be determined.
Grant Amount : US\$ 20,000,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Health, Nutrition, & Social Protection /Health Programs

Objectives and Scope:

The objective of the Project is to reduce the HIV-infection risk among the youth aged 15-24, in particular girls, unemployed youth, youth in exposed professions, through behavioral change programs. The Project will comprise awareness and advocacy among community leaders; HIV-related behavior change and communication (BCC) interventions for adolescents and youth; family strengthening and community resource developments using collaborator networks; monitoring and evaluation systems for BCC; and program management and operational research.

Consulting Services: Consulting services yet to be determined.

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission completed: 30 September 2005.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of consultants is expected to start in May 2006.

Project Officer : Lisa J. Studdert
Social Sectors Division
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**In-country US Embassy
Commercial Officer** : U.S. Commercial Service Hanoi
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F.2: Project Name : **Nutritious Food for 6-24 Month Old Children
Vulnerable to Malnutrition in Poor Areas**
Project No. : VIE 38631-01
Executing Agency : Ministry of Health
Contact: National Institute of Nutrition
Address: 48 B Tang Bat Ho St., Hanoi, Viet Nam
Tel. No.: (84-4) 971-6058; Fax. No.: (84-4) 971-7090
E-mail: nckhan@hn.vnn.vn

Contact: Viet Nam Women's Union
Address: 39 Hang Chuoi St.
Tel. No.: (84-4) 972-0056; Fax. No.: (84-4) 971-3143
E-mail: ngthihoabinh@yahoo.com

Grant Amount : US\$ 1,994,000.90
Sector/Sub-sector : Health, Nutrition, & Social Protection /Nutrition

Objectives and Scope:

The goal of the project is to reduce the incidence and severity of malnutrition among low-income, vulnerable, and primarily rural children by expanding access to improved feeding practices, including fortified complementary foods for children 6-24 months of age. Based on an alliance of government, food producers and non-government organizations, the Project will enable the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) to further develop an innovative model to increasing production capacity through expanding sales by reducing unit costs and lowering the price to consumers thereby improving prospects for sustainability. Specific objectives are to: (i) expand localized, commercial production of a fortified, low-cost complementary food; (ii) develop and expand the system of community-based complementary food sales, distribution and enhanced nutrition education; (iii) address barriers to accessing complementary food amongst the most poor and vulnerable; and (iv) address policy development and advocacy for long-term support for fortified complementary food (as part of a range of options that should be available for addressing malnutrition).

Consulting Services: About 3 person-months of consulting services from an international individual specialist in program and marketing will be required. The consultant will assist in the analysis of the market for complementary foods, with particular attention to characterizing those accessing the fortified complementary food and those not accessing. The specialist should have strong qualitative and quantitative research skills, survey design and management skills and team management skills and experience.

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Staff Review Committee (SRC) Meeting completed: 19 August 2005.

Recruitment of Consultants: The executing agency is expected to recruit the consultant in January 2006.

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F.3: Project Name : **Central Region Road Sector**
Project No. : VIE 34356-02
Executing Agency : Project Management Unit No.1 (PMU1),
Ministry of Transport
Grant Amount : US\$ 500,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Transport & Communications /Roads & Highways

Objectives and Scope:

When access to communities in remote areas is improved, they may become vulnerable to HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases and to exploitation through human trafficking unless measures are taken. The Project will therefore design, implement, and monitor a gender, HIV and anti-trafficking prevention program that will target project communities, construction workers, civil servants, and the mobile population. This will include: (i) a baseline survey on HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and village populations, which will include collecting epidemiological information and a knowledge, attitude, behavior, and practice survey; (ii) formation of village monitoring groups; (iii) preventive education and awareness through peer education and training of

trainers; (iv) behavior, communication, and change (BCC) awareness, including preparation of information, education, and communication (IEC) materials; and (v) STI services and counseling and voluntary testing, condom promotion, and distribution.

Consulting Services: About 18 person-months of input from an international expert will be required with experience of HIV/AIDS/STD and Anti-Trafficking awareness and prevention. The international expert will supervise provincial teams each of which will operate under an experienced provincial coordinator. Lectures will be engaged to lead workshops to train the provincial teams.

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Approved by the Bank: 11 November 2005.

Recruitment of Consultants: These services include the design and implementation of a program that will target project communities for Phases 1, 2, and 3. Quality- and cost-based selection (QCBS) procedures will apply, with bio-data proposals.

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