

Country Operations Business Plan

August 2017

Lao People's Democratic Republic 2018–2020

This document is being disclosed to the public in accordance with ADB's Public Communications Policy 2011.

Asian Development Bank

CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS

(as of 29 August 2017)

Currency unit – kip (KN) KN1.00 = \$0.00012 \$1.00 = KN8,296

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB – Asian Development Bank

COBP – country operations business plan CPS – country partnership strategy

NOTE

In this report, "\$" refers to United States dollars.

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CONSISTENCY OF BUSINESS PLAN WITH COUNTRY PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY

- 1. The country operations business plan (COBP) for 2018–2020 is consistent with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) country partnership strategy (CPS), 2017–2020 for the Lao People's Democratic Republic¹ and is the first COBP under the new CPS. It is also in line with strategic directions of the government's eighth National Socio-Economic Development Plan 2016–2020. The CPS aligns with ADB's Strategy 2020 midterm review and action plan,² and incorporates lessons from past CPSs, including the CPS, 2012–2016 final review and its validation report.³ It will support inclusive and sustainable growth through three strategic priorities: (i) infrastructure and private sector development to support employment and income generation, (ii) enhanced human development, and (iii) sustainable natural resource management and climate resilience. Gender equity and governance are crosscutting themes. The focus will shift from sector selectivity toward more value added strategic interventions that build synergies across operations. The COBP for 2018–2020 supports implementation of the Greater Mekong Subregion Economic Cooperation Strategic Framework (2012–2022).⁴
- 2. As of 31 December 2016, the active ADB Lao People's Democratic Republic portfolio comprised 32 loans and grants totaling \$982.86 million, with a net effective amount of \$893.86 million. Cumulative contract awards totaled \$421.76 million and cumulative disbursement \$342.66 million. The sovereign portfolio (\$838.85 million) comprised investments and grants in agriculture and natural resources (24%), transport (22%), water and other municipal infrastructure and services (19%), education (18%), health (7%), industry and trade (7%), energy (2%), and public sector management (1%). As of December 2016, the nonsovereign portfolio had outstanding exposure of \$108.1 million for two energy projects.
- 3. The COBP for 2018–2020 reflects an indicative concessional ordinary capital resources loans and Asian Development Fund grants for the firm pipeline of \$375.0 million. Areas of assistance and the resource allocation for each sector are included in Appendix 1. The lending and nonlending programs for 2018–2020 are in Appendix 2. The 2017 lending and nonlending programs are in Appendix 3. In addition, ADB will collaborate closely with local knowledge institutions, including think tanks and universities, to disseminate knowledge. Key knowledge products for 2017 and 2018 are in Appendix 4.

¹ ADB. 2017. The Lao People's Democratic Republic Country Partnership Strategy, 2017–2020. Manila.

² ADB. 2014. Midterm Review of Strategy 2020: Meeting the Challenges of a Transforming Asia and Pacific. Manila.

³ Independent Evaluation Department. 2016. *Lao PDR: Country Partnership Strategy Final Review Validation, 2012–2016.* Manila: ADB.

⁴ ADB. 2011. *The Greater Mekong Subregion Economic Cooperation Program Strategic Framework (2012–2022)*. Manila. This is the guiding document for ADB support for the Greater Mekong Subregion.

COUNTRY ASSISTANCE RESULTS AREAS

	COUNTY ASSISTANCE RESOLTS	ADB				
Key Country Development Outcomes that ADB Contributes to	Key Areas of Assistance	Indicative Resource Allocation in 2018–2020				
1. Agriculture, Natural Resources, and F						
Improved PRI and commercial agriculture expansion	Rural market infrastructure Irrigation Livestock Agriculture policy, and institutional and capacity development	Amount: \$153.0 million (ADF grants and/or COL) and \$40.0 million (cofinancing) Share of COBP envelope: 36.4%				
2. Energy						
Improved rural electrification and increased energy trade	Electricity transmission and distribution	Amount: \$27.4 million (ADF grants and/or COL)				
0.51	Cross-border power trade	Share of COBP envelope: 6.5%				
3. Education	Instrumental tentions and sention	A				
Accelerated labor market shift towards labor-intensive industries and service	Improved tertiary education	Amount: \$50.0 million (ADF grants and/or COL)				
sectors with advanced skills and knowledge	TVET and skills development	Share of COBP envelope: 11.9%				
omeage	Education sector development					
4. Health						
Established universal health care and financing and governance reform	Health system development	Amount: \$25.0 million (ADF grants and/or COL)				
	Health sector development and reform	Share of COBP envelope: 5.9%				
	Health insurance and subsidized health programs					
	Health care finance					
5. Industry and Trade						
RCI promotion through tourism	Trade and services	Amount: \$87.0 million (ADF grants and/or COL)				
	Industry and trade sector development (increased tourism competitiveness of secondary towns, expanded regional value chains)	Share of COBP envelope: 20.7%				

	ADB						
Key Country Development Outcomes that ADB Contributes to	Key Areas of Assistance	Indicative Resource Allocation in 2018–2020					
6. Water and Other Urban Infrastructur	e and Services						
Developed corridor towns	Strengthening urban and regional planning capacity	Amount: \$78.0 million (ADF grants and/or COL)					
Increased access to water supply and sanitation services	Urban water supply, sewerage, and sanitation	Share of COBP envelope: 18.6%					
	Other urban services (investment in infrastructure in corridor towns and other key urban centers)						

ADB = Asian Development Bank, ADF = Asian Development Fund, COBP = country operations business plan, COL = concessional ordinary capital resources lending, PRI = productive rural infrastructure, RCI = regional cooperation and integration, TVET = technical and vocational education and training.

Note: The development interventions proposed in the Lao People's Democratic Republic country operations and business plan for 2018–2020 include application of high-level technology elements, particularly the use of information and communication technology (ICT) solutions, where appropriate. For example, (i) in agriculture, natural resources, and rural development, ICT solutions will help enhance the productivity and efficiency of agribusinesses; (ii) in the education sector, with particular emphasis on tertiary education, ICT is an indispensable component of advanced skills and knowledge development; (iii) in the health sector, ICT solutions play an important role in health systems development; and (iv) in public sector management, ICT systems and processes are one of the critical mechanisms aiding efficient fiscal transfer processes to the subnational level.

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

INDICATIVE ASSISTANCE PIPELINE

Table A2.1: Lending Products, 2018–2020

			Strategic Agendas		Year of			Co AD	ost (\$ millio B	n)		
		Poverty	and Drivers		TRTA/		Regular		ADF			Co-
Project/Program Name	Sector	Targeting	of Change	Division	PDA	Total	OCR	COL	Grants	Total	Gov't	finance
2018 Firm												
Health Sector Governance Program (PBL) – Subprogram 2	HLT	GI	IEG, GEM, GCD	SEHS	2017	26.0	0.0	0.0	25.0	25.0	1.0	0.0
Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project (additional financing)	WUS	GI	IEG, GEM, ESG	SEUW		35.5	0.0	0.0	30.5	30.5	5.0	0.0
GMS Second Tourism Infrastructure for Inclusive Growth Project	IND	GI	IEG, ESG, RCI, PAR	LRM	2016	52.0	0.0	0.0	47.0	47.0	5.0	0.0
GMS Fourth Corridor Towns Development Project	WUS	GI	IEG, RCI, ESG, GEM	SEUW	2016	53.0	0.0	0.0	48.0	48.0	5.0	0.0
GMS Climate Friendly Agribusiness Value Chain Sector Project	ANR	GI	RCI, IES, ESG, GEM	SEER	2015	42.5	0.0	0.0	40.5	40.5	2.0	0.0
Total						209.0	0.0	0.0	191.0	191.0	18.0	0.0
2019 Firm												
ASEAN Economic Community Support Program (PBL)	IND	GI	GCD, GEM, IEG	SEPF	2016	31.0	0.0	30.0	0.0	30.0	1.0	0.0
Sustainable Rural Infrastructure and Watershed Management Sector Project	ANR	GI	IEG, ESG	SEER	2017	60.0	0.0	30.0	5.0	35.0	5.0	20.0
Education for Employment Sector Development Program (SDP)	EDU	GI	GCD, IEG, GEM	SEHS	2017	55.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	50.0	5.0	0.0
Total						146.0	0.0	110.0	5.0	115.0	11.0	20.0

			Strategic Agendas		Year of			Co AD	st (\$ millio	n)		
Project/Program Name	Sector	Poverty Targeting	and Drivers of Change	Division	TRTA/ PDA	Total	Regular OCR	COL	ADF Grants	Total	Gov't	Co- finance
Standby GMS East–West Economic Corridor Agriculture Infrastructure Sector Project (additional	ANR	GI	RCI, IEG, ESG, GCD	SEER	2018	67.0	0.0	40.0	2.0	42.0	5.0	20.0
financing) GMS Northern Cross- Border Power Trade and Distribution Total	ENE	GI	IEG, ESG, RCI	SEEN	2018	37.4 104.4	0.0	24.4 64.4	3.0 5.0	27.4 69.4	10.0 15.0	0.0 20.0
2020 Firm GMS East–West Economic Corridor Agriculture Infrastructure Sector Project (additional	ANR	GI	RCI, IEG, ESG, GCD	SEER	2018	67.0	0.0	40.0	2.0	42.0	5.0	20.0
financing) GMS Northern Cross- Border Power Trade and Distribution Project Total	ENE	GI	IEG, ESG, RCI	SEEN	2018	37.4 104.4	0.0	24.4 64.4	3.0 5.0	27.4 69.4	10.0 15.0	0.0 20.0

ADB = Asian Development Bank; ADF = Asian Development Fund; ANR = agriculture, natural resources, and rural development; COL = concessional ordinary capital resources lending; EDU = education; ENE = energy; ESG = environmentally sustainable growth; GCD = governance and capacity development; GEM = gender equity and mainstreaming; GI = general intervention; GMS = Greater Mekong Subregion; Gov't = government; HLT = health; IEG = inclusive economic growth; IND = industry and trade; LRM = Lao People's Democratic Republic Resident Mission; OCR = ordinary capital resources lending; PAR = partnerships; PBL = program-based loan; PDA = project design advance; PSM = public sector management; RCI = regional cooperation and integration; SDP = sector development program; SEEN = Southeast Asia Department, Energy Division; SEER = Southeast Asia Department, Natural Resources and Agriculture Division; SEHS = Southeast Asia Department, Human and Social Development Division; SEPF = Southeast Asia Department, Public Management, Financial Sector, and Trade Division; SEUW = Southeast Asia Department, Urban Development and Water Division; TRTA = transaction technical assistance; WUS = water supply and other urban infrastructure and services.

Note: Share of lending modalities: Project = 72%, program = 28%.

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

Table A2.2: Nonlending Products and Services, 2018–2020

						Sources of Fundi	ng	
				Α	DB	Othe	rs	
Assistance Name	Sector	Division	Assistance Type	Source	Amount (\$'000)	Source	Amount (\$'000)	Total (\$'000)
2018							· /	
National TA								
Strengthening Capacity on Procurement and Portfolio Management	PSM	LRM	KSTA	TASF	500		0	500
GMS Northern Cross-Border Power Trade and Distribution Project	ENE	SEEN	R-TRTA	TASF	1,000			1,000
GMS East–West Economic Corridor Agriculture Infrastructure Sector Project (additional financing)	ANR	SEER	R-TRTA	TASF	1,000			1,000
Support Education Sector Strategy Implementation	EDU	LRM	KSTA			Trust Fund	2,000	2,000
Total					2,500		2,000	4,500
Standby Vientiane Integrated Sanitation Project Total	WUS	SEUW	TRTA	TASF	1,500 1,500		0 0	1,500 1,500
2019					·			•
National TA								
Vientiane Integrated Sanitation Project Urban Transport and Road Maintenance	WUS WUS	SEUW SETC	TRTA TRTA	TASF TASF	1,500 750		0 0	1,500 750
Project					2.250		0	2.250
Total					2,250		0	2,250

2020 National TA

ADB = Asian Development Bank; ANR = agriculture, natural resources, and rural development; EDU = education; ENE = energy; GMS = Greater Mekong Subregion; KSTA = knowledge and support technical assistance; LRM = Lao People's Democratic Republic Resident Mission; PSM = public sector management; R-TRTA = regional transaction technical assistance; SEER = Southeast Asia Department, Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Division; SEUW = Southeast Asia Department, Urban Development and Water Division; SETC = Southeast Asia Department, Transport and Communication Division; TASF = Technical Assistance Special Fund; TRTA = transaction technical assistance, WUS = water and other urban infrastructure and services. Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR CURRENT YEAR Table A3.1: Lending Products. 2017

			Strategic		Year			Co	st (\$ millio	n)		
			Agendas		of			AD	В			
		Poverty	and Drivers		TRTA/		Regular	Al	DF			Co-
Project/Program Name	Sector	Targeting	of Change	Division	PDA	Total	OCR	COL	Grants	Total	Gov't	finance
Northern Rural Infrastructure Development Project (additional financing)	ANR	GI	IEG, GEM, ESG, PAR	SEER	2015	37.6	0.0	0.0	35.6	35.6	2.0	0.0
Trade Facilitation: Improved Sanitary and Phytosanitary Handling in Greater Mekong Subregion Trade Project (additional financing)	IND	GI	GCD, IEG, RCI, GEM	SEPF		11.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	10.0	1.0	0.0
Total				4415		48.6	0.0	0.0	45.6	45.6	3.0	0.0

ADB = Asian Development Bank; ADF = Asian Development Fund; ANR = agriculture, natural resources, and rural development; COL = concessional ordinary capital resources lending; ESG = environmentally sustainable growth; GCD = governance and capacity development; GEM = gender equity and mainstreaming; GI = general intervention; Gov't = government; IEG = inclusive economic growth; IND = industry and trade; OCR = ordinary capital resources; PAR = partnerships; PDA = project design advance; RCI = regional cooperation and integration; SEER = Southeast Asia Department, Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Division; SEPF = Southeast Asia Department, Public Management, Financial Sector, and Trade Division; TRTA = transaction technical assistance. Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

Table A3.2: Nonlending Products and Services, 2017

						Sources of Fundi	ng	
				A	DB	Other	'S	
Assistance Name	Sector	Division	Assistance Type	Source	Amount (\$'000)	Source	Amount (\$'000)	Total (\$'000)
National					,		, ,	,
Education for Employment Sector Development Program	EDU	SEHS	TRTA	TASF	750	Trust Fund	0	750
Support Economic Policy for Enhancing Productivity and Employment	PSM	SEPF	KSTA	TASF	1,000		0	1,000
Capacity Development for Vientiane Sustainable Urban Transport	TRA	SETC	TRTA			Trust Fund	1,500	1,500
Strengthening Capacity of the National Statistical System for Poverty Reduction	MUL	LRM	KSTA			Trust Fund	900	900
Sustainable Rural Infrastructure and Watershed Management Sector Project	ANR	SEER	TRTA			Trust Fund	2,000	2,000
Total					1,750		4,400	6,150
Standby					•		•	•
GMS Northern Cross-Border Power Trade and Distribution			R-TRTA	TASF	1,000		0	1,000
Total					1,000		0	1,000

ADB = Asian Development Bank; ANR = agriculture, natural resources, and rural development; EDU = education; GMS = Greater Mekong Subregion; KSTA = knowledge and support technical assistance; LRM = Lao People's Democratic Republic Resident Mission; MUL = multisector; PSM = public sector management; R-TRTA = regional transaction technical assistance; SDP = sector development program; SEHS = Southeast Asia Department, Human and Social Development Division; SEPF = Southeast Asia Department, Public Management, Financial Sector, and Trade Division; SETC = Southeast Asia Department, Transport and Communication Division; SEUW = Southeast Asia Department, Urban Development and Water Division; TASF = Technical Assistance Special Fund; TRA = transport; TRTA = transaction technical assistance;

Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

INDICATIVE KNOWLEDGE PUBLICATIONS AND EVENTS

Table 4.1: Knowledge Publications and Events for 2018

	euge i ubilications an		Department or Sector Group or	Technical
Title of Publication or Event	Subject	Туре	Thematic Group	Assistance
Asia Clean Energy Forum 2018 (The forum is the premier knowledge-sharing event to discuss the latest developments and key issues in Asia's clean energy sector.)	Energy, environment, finance, regional cooperation and integration, capacity development, climate change	Event organization	SDCC (Energy SG)	8953
Bond Market Guide for 10 ASEAN+3 Member Countries	Finance	Publication and documentation	ERCD	9303
Progress Report on ASEAN+3 Multi-Currency Bond Issuance Framework	Finance	Publication and documentation	ERCD	9303
Implementation Progress of ISO 20022 and Other Standards	Finance	Publication and documentation	ERCD	9303
Technical Review of Women's Unpaid Care Work in the Lao PDR	Gender	Publication and documentation	SERD	8991
Research Validation Workshop on Women's Unpaid Care Work in the Lao PDR	Gender	Event organization	SERD	8991
Southeast Asia Government at a Glance (The publication will collect new evidence on public sector inputs, outputs, and management practices in the ASEAN countries for better informed decision making and reforms.)	Governance and public sector management	Publication and documentation	SDCC (Governance TG)	9061
2018 ADB Transport Forum (The forum is the largest gathering of transport officials and professionals in Asia and the Pacific to discuss and share project updates, policies and issues, best practices, and new innovations in sustainable transport.)	Transport	Event organization	SDCC (Transport SG)	50370-001 (TA to be approved in 2017)
Progress Report (2017–2018) on the MDB Working Group on Sustainable Transport	Transport, climate change, environment	Publication and documentation	SDCC (Transport SG)	Non-TA
Seventh International Skills Forum (ADB's flagship event that serves as an authoritative dialogue platform to address education issues in Asia and the Pacific.)	Education	Event organization	SDCC (Education SG)	50361-001 (TA to be approved in Q2 2017)
Universal Health Coverage for Noncommunicable Diseases	Health	Event organization	SDCC (Health SG)	8983
Asia Water Forum (ADB Asia Water Week and 4th Asian Sanitation Dialogue. ADB organizes the Asia Water Week every 2–3 years to discuss water issues within Asia and the Pacific)	Water	Event organization	SDCC (Water SG)	6498
Toolkits on disaster risk financing (Toolkits of actions to strengthen the enabling environment for DRF and agriculture insurance)	Finance	Publication and documentation	SDCC (FSDSC-FIN and SDCC)	9007
Lao PDR Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Law workshop	Climate finance/legal	Event organization	OGC	9159

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Total number of publications = 7		
Total number of events = 7		

ADB = Asian Development Bank; ASEAN = Association of Southeast Asian Nations; ASEAN+3 = ASEAN plus the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea; DRF = disaster risk financing; ERCD = Economic Research and Cooperation Department; FIN = finance; ISO = International Organization for Standardization; MDB = multilateral development bank; OGC = Office of the General Counsel; Q = quarter; SDCC = Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department; SERD = Southeast Asia Department, SG = sector group, TA = technical assistance; TG = thematic group.

Note: Publications may include databases, multimedia, and other forms of documentation. Events may include event organization and training or capacity development.

Source: Asian Development Bank

Table A4.2: Additional Knowledge Publications and Events Delivered in 2017

Table A4.2. Additional Kild			Department or	
			Sector Group or	Technical
Title of Publication or Event	Subject	Type	Thematic Group	Assistance
Business Formulation in the Lao PDR	Private sector	Publication and	SERD	8785
		documentation		
Asia Clean Energy Forum 2017 (The forum is the premier	Energy, environment,	Event organization	SDCC (Energy SG)	8953
knowledge-sharing event to discuss the latest developments	finance, regional			
and key issues in Asia's clean energy.)	cooperation and			
	integration, capacity			
	development, climate			
	change			
Health Impact Assessment Conference (This conference will	Health	Event organization	SDCC (Health SG)	8763
convene all stakeholders of the health impact assessment				
initiative to discuss achievements and ways forward after ADB				
support.)				
Second Asia Finance Forum (The conference aims to discuss	Finance	Event organization	SDCC (Finance	50374-001
the growing importance of digital finance and its crosscutting			SG)	(TA to be approved
impacts on sustainable development goals.)		<u> </u>		in 2017)
2017 Civil Society Country Briefs	Social development and	Publication and	SDCC (NGOC)	Non-TA
1054N 0 M N 0 D 1 I	protection	documentation	5000	2000
ASEAN+3 Multi-Currency Bond Issuance Framework	Finance	Publication and	ERCD	9303
Information Platform Phase 2 Report		documentation	FDOD	0407
Progress Report on Establishing a Regional Settlement	Finance	Publication and	ERCD	9197
Intermediary and Next Steps Phase 3 Report	Figure	documentation	EDOD	0000
Cross-Border Collateral and Repo Business in ASEAN+3 Phase	Finance	Publication and	ERCD	9303
2 Report Progress Report (2016–2017) on the MDB Working Group on	Transport alimate	documentation Publication and	SDCC	Non-TA
Sustainable Transport	Transport, climate change, environment	documentation	(Transport SG)	NON-TA
Asia Water Futures and Solutions (This involves an integrated	Water	Publication and	SDCC (Water SG)	6498
modeling of the water–food–energy nexus.)	vvaler	documentation	SDCC (Water SG)	0490
Asia Women Leaders Program 2017 (This program targets	Gender	Event organization	SDCC (Gender	8612
senior women government officials from Asia and the Pacific.)	Gender	Lverit organization	Equity TG)	0012
Benchmark Publication on Gender Equality and the SDGs in	Gender	Publication and	SDCC (Gender	8797
Asia and the Pacific	Gender	documentation	Equity TG)	0/3/
Thematic Gender Study: Review of Technical and Vocational	Gender, education	Publication and	SDCC (Gender	8503
Education and Training Projects - Phase 2 (The study will	Condon, Cadoanon	documentation	Equity TG)	0000
develop an ADB toolkit providing commentary and highlight		2.234		
effective interventions and strategies to improve future ADB				
TVET projects and gender action plan implementation.)				
2017 Joint ADB-GIZ Regional TVET meeting (The meeting will	Education	Event organization	SDCC	8503
focus on enhancing TVET systems in ASEAN in the context of			(Education SG)	
newly emerging challenges and opportunities.)				

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Title of Publication or Event	Subject	Type	Department or Sector Group or Thematic Group	Technical Assistance
Unique Health ID Mapping Toolkit (To assist governments identify eHealth development status and use this as a basis to identify strategic health policies and design eHealth systems.)	Health	Publication and documentation	SDCC (Health SG)	8763
Unique Health Identifiers (This discusses identity management in the Lao PDR's health system, health care financing patient identification, and unique identifiers.)	Health	Publication and documentation (Awareness raising material)	SDCC (Health SG)	8763
Climate Finance Readiness (The workshop will discuss initial results of the study contributing to a strategic approach for the Lao PDR to access international climate finance sources.)	Climate change	Event organization	SDCC (Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management TG)	8606
ADB Urban Strategy 2030 Roundtable (A workshop to be organized for sharing insights and inputs for the formulation of ADB's Urban Sector Strategy 2030.)	Urban development	Event organization	SDCC (Urban SG)	6293/8556
Lao PDR Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Law workshop	Climate finance/legal	Event organization	OGC	9159
Total number of publications = 11 Total number of events = 8				

ADB = Asian Development Bank; ASEAN = Association of Southeast Asian Nations; ASEAN+3 = ASEAN plus the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea; ERCD = Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department; GIZ = German Society for International Cooperation; ID = identification; Lao PDR = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MDB = multilateral development bank; OGC = Office of the General Counsel; SDCC = Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department; SDG = Sustainable Development Goal; SG = sector group; TG = thematic group; TVET = technical and vocational education and training.

Notes:

- (i) Publications may include databases, multimedia, and other forms of documentation. Events may include event organization and training or capacity development.
- (ii) The table includes additional knowledge publications and events delivered outside the list of indicative knowledge publications and events included in the 2015 country operations business plan.

Source: Asian Development Bank.