

# Strengthening Integrated Flood Risk Management (TA-9634 REG)

## Project Title

Strengthening Integrated  
Flood Risk Management  
TA-9634 REG

## Project Commencement

04 February 2019

## Project Completion

04 February 2021

## Contracting Authority

Asian Development Bank  
6 ADB Avenue  
Mandaluyong City 1550  
Metro Manila, Philippines

## Project Officer:

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## Beneficiary

National Governments of  
Bangladesh, India, Indonesia,  
Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan,  
Philippines and Viet Nam

## Consultant

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## Background

Asia and the Pacific faces increasing risks from water-related disasters such as floods, droughts, rainstorms, storm surge and landslides. Increasingly frequent and severe floods, combined with rapid economic growth and urbanization along rivers and in coastal areas, have caused significant loss of life and damage. In 2016 alone, Asia reported \$87 billion in losses from disasters, of which about 25% were flood related. Asia and the Pacific experienced over 5,000 deaths from floods and storms in 2017.

This technical assistance project will strengthen the design and implementation of Integrated Flood Risk Management (IFRM) solutions, enhancing knowledge and application of IFRM strategies across Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines and Viet Nam. The project will provide targeted technical support for program and project preparation and promote more holistic IFRM solutions, including basin-scale and nature-based solutions (NBS).

## What is IFRM?

The general concept of IFRM is a simple one. The scale of flood risk in many countries is now so great that no single individual solution, such as the erection of a flood wall, will provide a sustainable level of resilience. Furthermore, single-solution approaches can also be very damaging and counter-productive with respect to long term flood risk and they often only benefit the few. It is now widely accepted that the development of sustainable, long-term flood resilience requires a management strategy that incorporates and combines a whole range of solutions (e.g. social, economic, financial, environmental, and institutional aspects, as well as engineering, disaster preparedness, insurance, and emergency response requirements). This “many baskets, many eggs” approach is generally the only way to manage flood risk in highly vulnerable countries, especially as climate change evolves.



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## Project Objectives



While IFRM is, in one sense well established, the adoption of some of the more holistic and innovative elements such as NBS is not yet widespread. This is associated with a number of data-related, technical and institution challenges that will be addressed directly as a part of this study. In doing so, the project aims to assist the eight countries in strengthening knowledge and capacity for applying IFRM approaches to the design and implementation of flood management solutions for greater effectiveness and sustainability.

The main objectives of the project are:

- To enhance knowledge of and capacity for implementing IFRM projects covering different types of flooding (rivers, coastal, tidal, surface water, groundwater, dam breach, glacial lake outburst flooding);
- To evaluate existing flood risk management and investment strategies to assess their effectiveness and sustainability; and,
- To provide technical support to integrate IFRM concepts into future ADB investments and projects. This includes cooperation with ADB staff to identify and assess potential investment projects.

## Project Outputs

Our team will produce the following outputs during the project:

- a **Practical Guide to Implementing IFRM**, captured in a series of ADB Technical Notes covering different aspects of IFRM, and their associated challenges and opportunities;
- **Extensive stakeholder engagement** in each DMC, to support knowledge transfer and to ensure that the outputs of the study are grounded in local context and will deliver maximum benefit;
- an **Enhanced Engagement Tool**, used to convey the concepts of IFRM in an effective manner and to facilitate innovative workshops and collaborative thinking;
- **Sector analysis reports** which examine the vulnerability and exposure to floods in eight DMC areas and evaluate the effectiveness of current flood risk management strategies and government policy;
- **Optioneering analysis**, used to determine long lists of potential IFRM solutions that could improve flood risk resilience in each DMC area, while simultaneously **achieving environment and social benefits**;
- The provision of support to **ADB future investment projects** through the integration of IFRM into concept papers.

