

International Online Conference on Water-related
Disaster Risk Reduction under the COVID-19 Pandemic

Building Asia and the Pacific Back Better

Addressing Water and Disaster under COVID-19

20 August 2020

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ADB Alignment with HELP Principles for Water DRR Under COVID-19 Pandemic

HELP Principles

Principle 1

Enhance leaders' awareness



- Developing risk communication plans
- ADB Management dialogue with member leaders

Principle 2

Integrate risk management



- Revising disaster policy to include health emergencies
- New class of integrated projects

Principle 3

Provide clean water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)



- New Water and Health Advisory Team
- Expanding WASH program within ADB with new projects

Principle 5

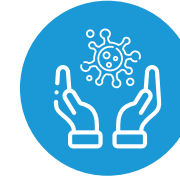
Protect scarce medical resources



- Providing \$48 million technical assistance funds for emergency supplies

Principle 9

Finance DRR actions under COVID-19



- Providing \$20 billion COVID-19 response
- Contingent Disaster Financing Innovation

Principle 10

Strengthen global solidarity and international cooperation



- Strengthening coordination with HELP, IFIs, and other partners

Ongoing ADB Activities

Asian Water Development Outlook (AWDO) 2020

ADB Water Sector Flagship Publication



AWDO 2020 Contents

1. Key Dimensions of Water Security (KD)

- KD1: Household Water Security (rural)
- KD 2: Economic Water Security
- KD 3: Urban Water Security
- KD 4: Environmental Water Security
- *KD 5: Risk and Resilience to Water-Related Disasters*

2. Finance and Governance and Water Security

3. Policy in Action – ADWO 2020 Country Cases Studies: India, PRC, Thailand and Timor-Leste

AWDO 2020 Objectives

- Provide an overview and communication tool on water security for Asia and the Pacific
- Inform and guide policy reforms and investments
- Show water security progress - 2013, 2016, 2020

AWDO 2020 Partners



Upscaling Water, Sanitation, Hygiene (WASH) + Health post-COVID 19

Upscaling ADB Operations

- Ongoing review to enhance ADB's WASH and Health program for COVID-19 and other diseases through prevention and control measure promoting improved access and targeting vulnerable communities
- Regional project on Strengthening Integrated and Effective Water and Health Outcomes in Asia and the Pacific – Supported by Government of Japan
- Pacific Department new project on Strengthening Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Practices and Hygiene Behavioral Change in the Pacific
- Systemic change to ADB operations and programs to address health

Water and Health Advisory Team for Knowledge and Partnership

- New unit composed of ADB knowledge and operational department staff
- Provide guidance to integrate and upscale WASH and Health outcomes and to build resilience to co-occurring water-related disasters and epidemics
- Lead knowledge management to improve understanding of WASH and health issues and share technology and policy developments to support transition to the “new normal”



Contingent Disaster Financing for Natural Hazard and Health Emergency

- **August 2019:** ADB approved the Contingent Disaster Financing (CDF) mechanism under policy-based lending.
- **April 2020:** ADB expanded the CDF mechanism to include health-related emergencies, in addition to disasters from natural hazards
- **August 2020:** 8 Pacific countries have used CDF arrangements, all of which have disbursed, two in response to tropical cyclones and six for COVID-19
- \$1 billion in new CDF financing under preparation

Key features of Contingent Disaster Financing (CDF)

- Funds immediately available in the event of a pre-agreed triggering disaster; provides rapid finance for government to respond
- Helps ensure prior policy and risk mitigation measures are in place to enhance resilience in addition to disaster response
- Takes a programmatic approach to ensure financing and develop long-term resilience



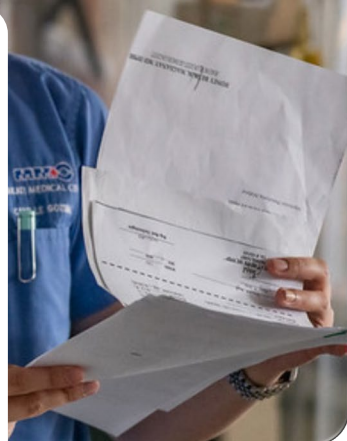
Flood Risk Management and Pandemic Response in Chennai, India

Proposed ADB Loan “Integrated Urban Flood Management for the Chennai-Kosasthalaiyar Basin Project”
Proposed Grant for “Integrated Pandemic and Disaster Risk Management for the Urban Poor in Chennai”

PROJECT FEATURES:

- Upgrade and expand climate-resilient, urban flood protection infrastructure in the Kosasthalaiyar River Basin
- Develop capacity of local authorities and communities to plan urban integrated flood management
- Strengthen WASH services and provide disease prevention training and personal protective equipment to 30 primary and secondary schools, 3 community health centers, and 19 primary health centers in flood-prone, urban low-income communities
- Improve COVID-19 surveillance and infection prevention and control in flood-prone, urban low-income communities
- Develop combined flood-related disaster and epidemic response plans for future simultaneous disasters
- Define a new, more integrated project type with expanded resilience to address multiple threats





Building Back Better: Asia and the Pacific and ADB

- ADB is taking guidance from HELP Principles and AWDO 2020 to address the current and future crises.
- ADB is reorienting its knowledge, partnerships and operations for improved WASH, health and water-related disaster outcomes.
- ADB is changing policies and financing mechanisms to integrate health emergencies into water-related disaster response.
- ADB is developing new project types with a more integrated approach to resilience.
- ADB is responding fast to client needs when every second counts.



We are now faced with a new normal, and resources – both public and private – are stretched. We need to maximize the impact of every investment we make to save lives and secure livelihoods. However, the COVID-19 crisis can also be used as an **opportunity** to accelerate change and transform the economy using 21st-century tools.

**Let us build back better,
differently, together.**

Thank you!



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