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# Core & Non-Core Criteria

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# Project Level Evaluation: Sovereign Projects

#### Core Criteria

- Relevance
- Effectiveness
- Efficiency
- Sustainability

#### Non-core Criteria

- Impacts
  - Socioeconomic
  - Environment
  - Institutional
- ADB's performance
- Executing agencies performance

#### **Definitions of Evaluation Criteria**

#### **RELEVANCE**



Is the intervention doing the right thing?

#### **EFFECTIVENESS**



Is the intervention achieving its objective?

#### **EFFICIENCY**



How well are resources being used?

**SUSTAINABILITY** 



Will the benefits last?

#### Relevance



## Is the intervention the right things?

**Strategic alignment of project outcomes** with country's development plans, and ADB's country and sector strategies

**Design and formulation of project**\_("appropriate for achieving the intended outcomes")

-transformational impact on the economy

Relevance through time, changes in scope

#### **Definitions of Evaluation Criteria**

#### **EFFECTIVENESS**



Is the intervention achieving its objective?

The extent to which the outcomes and outputs as specified in the project document, as agreed at approval or as subsequently modified, were achieved.

#### **Effectiveness**



# Is the intervention achieving its objectives?

The extent to which outcomes were achieved

The extent to which the project outputs have been achieved; and the outcomes are a result of these outputs

Implementation of safeguard and gender action plans is assessed under this criteria

Unintended outcomes can affect effectiveness

#### **Definitions of Evaluation Criteria**

#### **EFFICIENCY**



#### How well are resources being used?

Economic efficiency is a measure of how well the project used resources to achieve its outcome(s) on a *whole-of-life basis*. It uses indicators such as the economic internal rate of return, cost effectiveness, and process efficiency. A quantitative assessment weighs project economic benefits against economic costs of the project.

# Efficiency



## How well are resources being used?

The extent to which project has converted its resources economically into results; assessment uses:

- Economic internal rate of return (EIRR), or
- Cost-effectiveness of the investment (relative to industry practice, least cost analysis), or
- Using social cost /social benefits analysis / cost benefit ratio

Process efficiency (delays, cost overruns, fiduciary and governance issues)

#### **Definitions of Evaluation Criteria**

#### Likely SUSTAINABILITY



Will the benefits last?

Resources are sufficient to *maintain* the outcome over the economic life of project assets using indicators such as the financial internal rate of return.

# **Likely Sustainability**



## Will the benefit last?

#### **Financial returns**

- Continued demand for project services
- Maintenance of project assets
- Financial internal rate of return (FIRR) for revenue generating projects, and O&M
- Resilience of net benefit streams over time

# **Likely Sustainability**



### Will the benefit last?

### **Institutional support**

- Institutional changes (Policy reforms)
- Provision of coping and mitigating mechanisms that reduce risks adversely affecting project net benefits
- Likelihood that project outcomes and outputs will be maintained over the economic life of the project
- Qualified human resources and skills

# **Likely Sustainability**



## Will the benefit last?

#### **Environmental and social**

- Environmental sustainability and climate change mitigation or adaptation
- Affected people have access to project benefits
- Continued access to benefits and services for targeted population
- Opportunities for participation



#### Non-core criteria

## Development impact

- Social development
- Institutional development
- Environment and climate change
- EA's Performance
- Co-financiers performance
- ADB's performance

# SERD Recent PVRs - Selected Issues



# **Preliminary comments**

- Based on the recent SERD PVRs (10) purposively selected
- Related to different sectors Infrastructure, policy reforms, and social sectors
- Illustrating different modalities, viz., project loans, policy-based loans, project preparation facility, TA loans, etc.
- Illustrative messages related to the core and noncore evaluation criteria for training purposes



## Relevance

 Due diligence during designing at the heart of appraisal; deficiencies during implementation point out insufficiency of due diligence

• DMF, results chain and indicators – needs fine tuning

during implementation

Defining anticipated outcomes and outputs clearly
Adequacy of institutional capacity, including at the subnational levels

 Precision in cost estimates and reliable budgetary provisions

#### Relevance - 2

- Assessment of project risks to outcomes and outputs, and identification of mitigation measures
- Changes in project design and its timing, for ensuring continued relevance of the project
- Coordination between components of projects, especially between outputs and the required institutional reforms,
- For PBLs coordination between policy and investment aspects



# Effectiveness

Outcome and output targets inadequately monitored and undertaking remedial measures
Baseline data and benchmarks for tracking

progress
Data specification and availability in readily usable form – relating to the whole project and

not just the loan

• Safeguards, gender equity and cross-cutting issues e.g., climate change -- reporting accomplishments rather than just the compliance



# Efficiency

- Applicability of formal economic appraisal (as per the rationale in RRP)
- EIRR methodology, its scope, plausibility and assumptions
- Inconsistency between economic analysis and the spreadsheet; and the text and the appendix
- Sensitivity of estimates (revealing project vulnerability)
- Process efficiency as a supplementary evidence

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# Efficiency - 2

- Delays, slippages, lack of synchronization of inputs
- Weak performance of contractors and suppliers
- Consultants engagement not detailed, delays and disputes
- Fiduciary measures and due diligence
- Inappropriate procurement or lack of adherence to ADB guidelines
- Under-utilization of available finances



# Sustainability

- Underfunding of asset maintenance (leaving assets stranded and unserviceable)
- Counterpart funding during construction
- Inadequacy of O&M; difficulties in monitoring it
- Financial analysis of institutions and agencies
- Debt and accounts receivable ratios
- Pending receivables from SOEs



# Non-core: Development Impact

- Absence of impact indicators not output indicators
- Better understanding of institutional reform issues related to the sector
- Attribution issues and the results chain including the unintended outcomes
- Easy targets, low benchmarks or early preparation?



# Self-evaluation: PCR Quality

- Inappropriate sequence of paras.
- Inconsistency between text and the appendixes
- A number typos, and data related minor deficiencies in a PCR
- Striving for a credible presentation



# Thank you!

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