

Business Opportunities

Training for Civil Society Organizations

25 July 2025
Sydney, Australia



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ADB

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION



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ENTRY POINTS FOR CSO ENGAGEMENT AND THE ADB CIVIL SOCIETY APPROACH



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How Do We Think of Civil Society?

The term “civil society organization” refers generically to organizations

- not based in government, and
- not created to earn profit

ADB defines CSOs as nonprofit organizations independent from the government, which operate around common interests. They vary in size, interests, and function, and include nongovernment organizations (NGOs), youth groups, community-based organizations, independent academic and research institutes, professional associations, foundations, faith-based organizations, people’s organizations, and labor unions. CSOs represent interests of their members or others.



ADB's Civil Society Approach



PUBLIC

October 2024

ADB Civil Society Approach:
An Operational Approach to Enhanced Engagement,
2025–2030

Summary

Asian Development Bank



ADB

The Civil Society Approach will guide ADB teams to proactively engage with civil society organizations. Together with our partners, we hope to more effectively integrate the knowledge and expertise of CSOs into ADB-supported activities across Asia and the Pacific.

Consistent with ADB's Strategy 2030, the Civil Society Approach is anchored on three pillars: (i) increasing meaningful civil society engagement in ADB operations; (ii) strengthening knowledge-sharing and dialogue among developing member countries, the private sector, ADB, and civil society; and (iii) enhancing support for civil society engagement in accountability and transparency. This reflects ADB's commitment to channel greater focus on improving communications, building stronger relationships, and creating better partnerships with civil society to facilitate development outcomes and help solve complex challenges in the region.



Know more here:
bit.ly/adbcivilsocietyapproach



www.adb.org/civilsociety



@ADBandNGOs

Way Forward – Operational Approach

Impact: A Prosperous, Inclusive, Resilient, and Sustainable Asia and the Pacific

Outcome: Enhanced ADB Engagement and Support for DMC Engagement with Civil Society

**Operational Pillar 1:
Policy, Country, and Project Engagement**

Increased meaningful civil society engagement in ADB policies, country strategies and programming, and projects

**Operational Pillar 2:
Knowledge and Dialogue**

Strengthened knowledge-sharing and dialogue among DMCs, private sector, ADB, and civil society in alignment with ADB NOM priorities

**Operational Pillar 3:
Accountability and Transparency**

Enhanced ADB support for civil society engagement in accountability and transparency initiatives in DMCs

Key Action Area 1:
Review, develop, and promote ADB policies, frameworks, and business processes to enhance civil society engagement

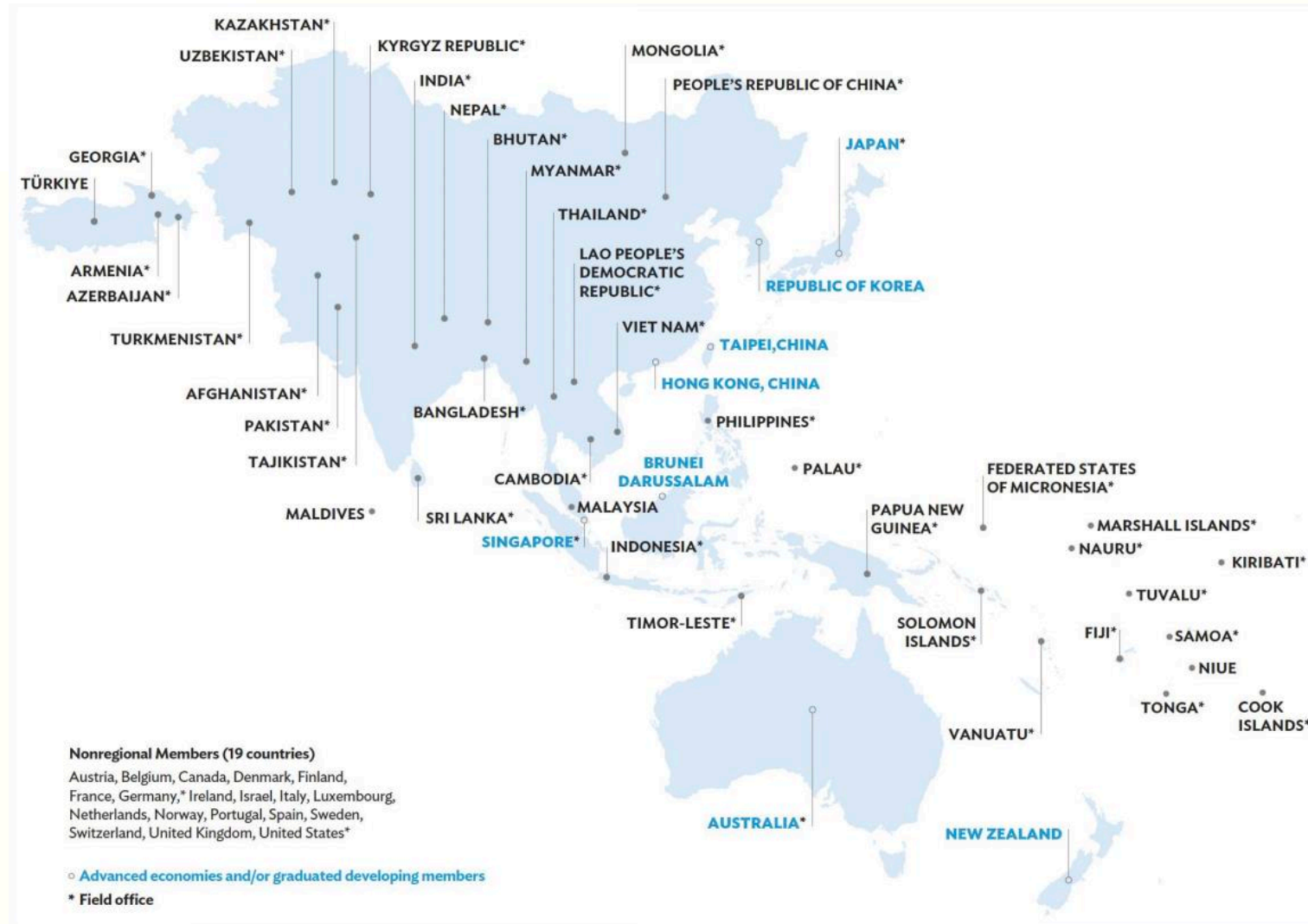
Key Action Area 2:
Strengthen staff capacity to effectively design policies, CPSs, and projects with meaningful civil society engagement

Key Action Area 3:
Improve outreach and enhance CSO capacity to engage effectively with ADB, DMCs, and private sector clients

Key Action Area 4:
Improve knowledge-sharing among ADB, civil society, and DMCs on climate change, energy, just transition, and other NOM priorities

Key Action Area 5:
Improve staff capacity to support DMCs in strengthening engagement with civil society for improved accountability and transparency

ADB and its shareholders



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ADB's NGO and Civil Society Center (NCOC)

ADB's Resource for Engaging with Civil Society Organizations

#ADBAndCivilSociety



www.adb.org/civilsociety



@ADBAndNGOs

INTERNAL. This information is accessible to ADB Management and Staff. It may be shared outside ADB with appropriate permission.

What does the NGOC do?

1. Provides institution-wide support to ADB engagement with civil society organizations
2. Supports ADB responses to civil society advocacy and policy and project concerns
3. Participates in OneADB project teams and provides training on civil society engagement
4. Monitors and provides knowledge on civil society engagement in ADB operations and in DMCs
5. Organizes key events involving civil society organizations—most notably at the ADB Annual Meeting

How Do We Engage with Civil Society?

1 Consultations and Advisory Services

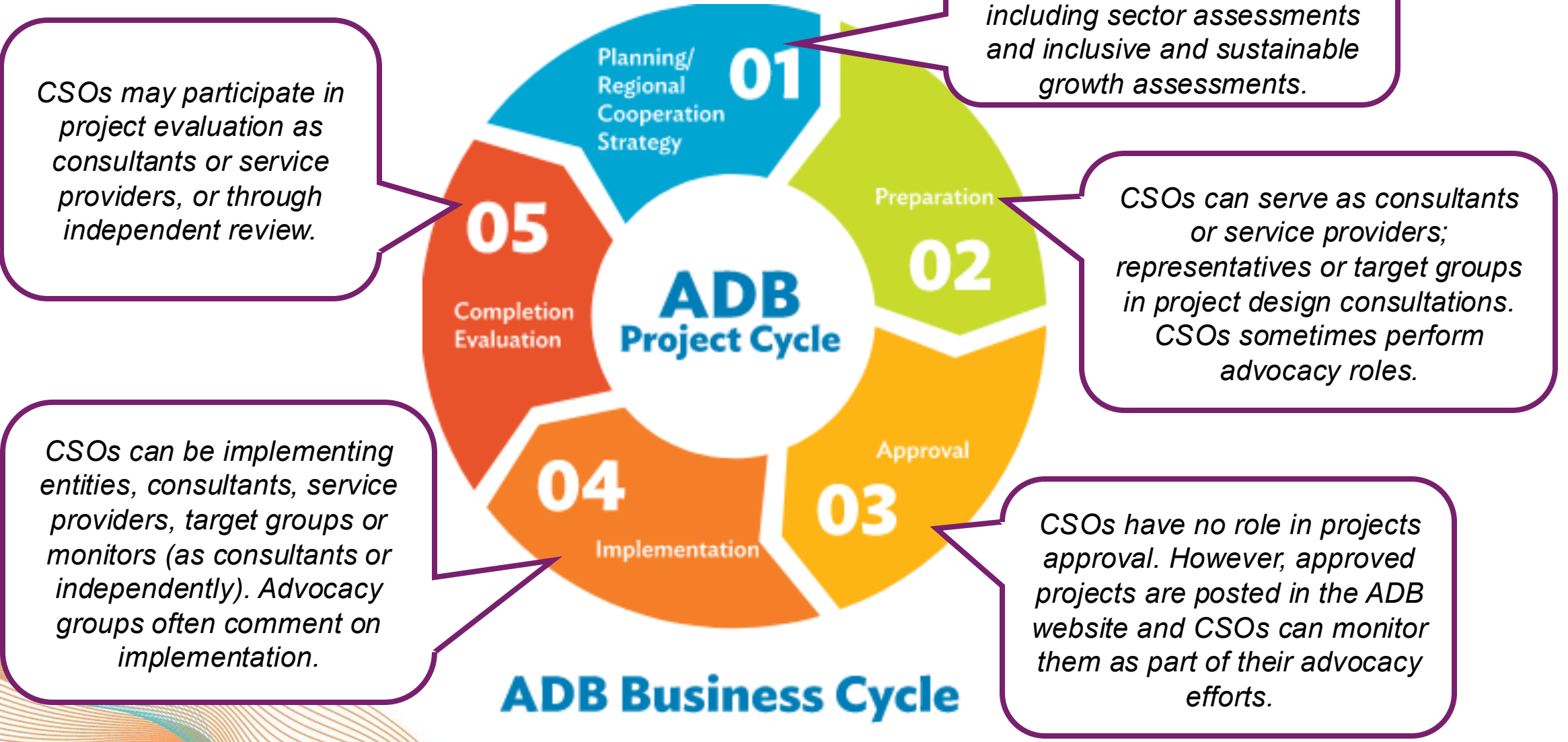
2 Project Components (CSOs contracted as service providers)

3 CSO-Specific Funds [uncommon]

4 Events and Partnerships



CSOs in the Project Lifecycle



Consulting Opportunities

Technical Assistance

- ❖ ADB designs projects with governments
- ❖ ADB hires experts to help design the project or lay groundwork for project implementation
- ❖ Also used for innovative and pilot projects
- ❖ Selection overseen by ADB
- ❖ Consultant Management System

Get to know your ADB Staff!

Sovereign Loans

- ❖ Governments implement projects
- ❖ Selection overseen by the government
- ❖ The procurement plan guides procurement of consultants and firms to help implement the project
- ❖ Use government procurement systems
- ❖ Consultant Management System

Get to know your Government!

Some roles of CSOs in projects

Project design

- Participating in consultations about project design features
- Designing Gender Action Plans for projects
- Providing inputs to environmental and social assessments
- Designing niche project components

Project implementation

- Training and awareness raising
- Delivering information campaigns
- Implementing Gender Action Plans
- Leading behavior change communication activities
- Helping to implement resettlement plans
- Implementing niche project components
- Supporting environmental action plans

Steps to Take

1. Register in the ADB's Consultant Management System. Double check your entry.
2. Set an alert for postings in the sector or countries of your interest
3. Review the criteria or ToR carefully
4. Respond to requests for expression of interest
5. Use English, the ADB's working language
6. Ensure consultants/staff and organizations are from ADB member countries

Know Your CSOs

This initiative aims to raise awareness about civil society within ADB and to forge stronger relationships with civil society partners.

Share Your Story

CSOs are invited to submit short videos that:

- articulate your organization's mission,
- highlight impactful projects, and
- explore potential areas of collaboration with ADB.

Institutional overview videos are welcome; smartphone videos are accepted.



Tell us about:

- your organization,
- the development challenges your organization is addressing and strategies you are implementing to tackle these issues,
- one or two key projects or initiatives that showcase your organization's approach and impact, and
- potential areas of collaboration with ADB.

Submission Guidelines:

- Length: 3–5 minutes
- Format: MP4 or MOV
- Production quality: Professional production is not required; ensure the audio is clear and visuals are steady and well-lit
- Upload your video on GoogleDrive or YouTube and email the link to civilsociety@adb.org