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ADB's Education Practice Team

Investment Operations and Knowledge Solutions

Per Börjegren, Principal Education Specialist Human and Social Development Sector Office, Sectors Group



INESS OPPORTUNITIES FAIR 2023

Asia Pacific region on a dynamic growth path



- Economies in Asia and the Pacific are projected to grow 4.8% in 2023 and 2024 (ADB); the region accounts for 70% of global growth in 2023 (IMF)
- Investments in human capital development is at the heart of long-term increase in productivity and continuing reduction in poverty
- Emphasis on higher order talent, and skills, including digital skills
- Countries are encouraged to consider reimagining education to prepare for future transformations

BUT

Many challenges remain to be addressed – lack of adequate quality and relevance in education, pressures of climate change, priorities from digitalization, changing nature of inequalities, and disparities

Key Challenges in the Education sector



- 'Learning crisis': shortfall in foundational literacy and numeracy, despite progress in access; compounded by COVID-19
- Ineffective teacher practices; inadequate teacher capacities
- Slow pace of adoption of next generation curriculum and pedagogy
- Inadequate attention to soft skills, digital skills, and higher skills
- Mismatch between training institutions and employers on skills
- Lack of adoption of disruptive technologies in public education to improve learning and employability

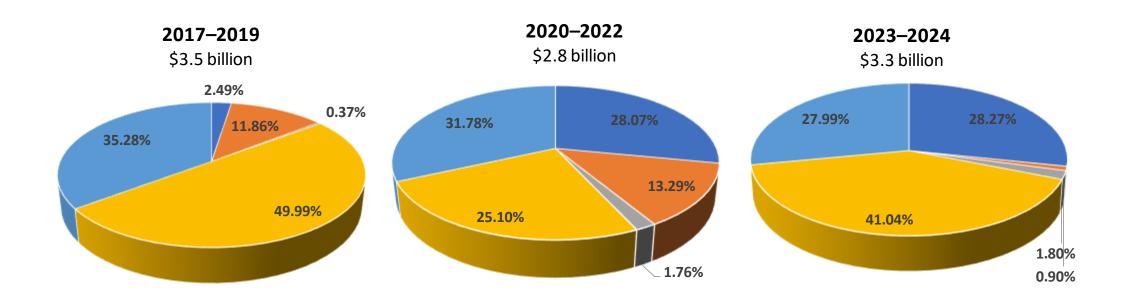
BUT

Learning quality with equity is being addressed by governments and COVID-19 aftermath and rise of EdTech is spurring adoption of new technologies for learning



Education Sector Lending by ADB By Region



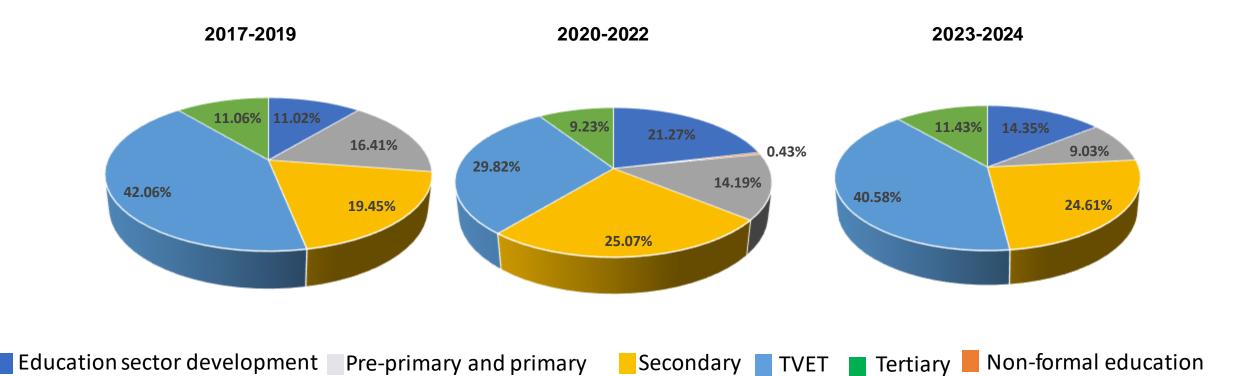






Education Sector Lending by ADB By Subsector

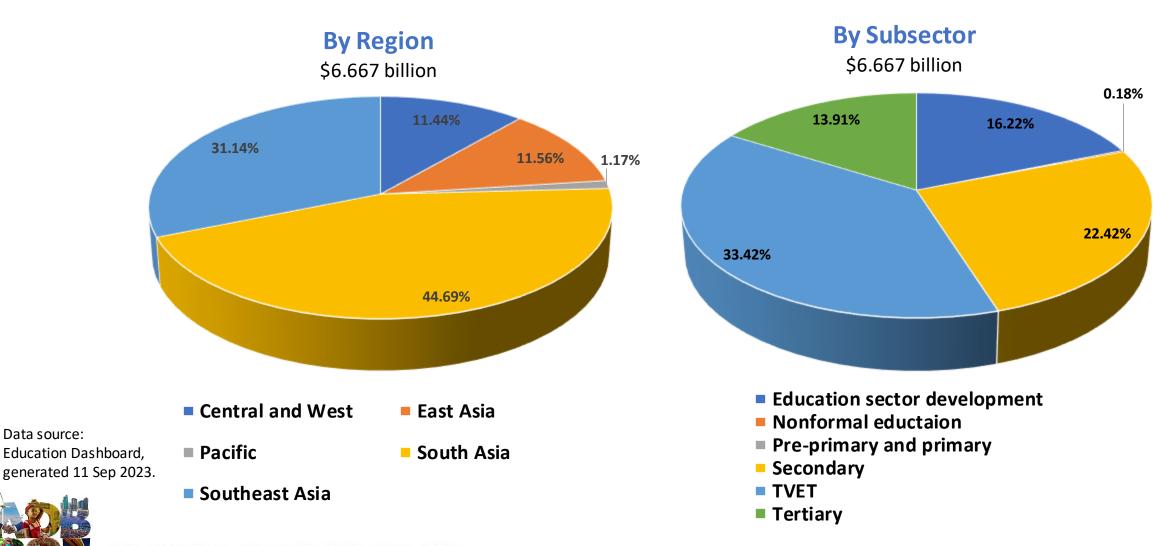






Ongoing Education Projects





Data source:



Anticipated ADB commitments for education

2023 - \$1,325.20

2024 - \$2,002.50

- Includes planned investments across K-12 education, TVET and higher education.
- Full list of pipeline projects for 2023 and 2024 to follow



Education Business Opportunities in ADB



- Design phase: project preparation and due diligence, diagnostic studies, costing, economic analysis, market scoping, environmental and social safeguards, assessment of climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Implementation phase: technical support to quality improvement and management areas, teacher professional development, curriculum, and institutional strengthening, engineering design, and civil works.
- Monitoring and evaluation: annual fiduciary reviews, independent verification of achievement of results for results-based loans, tracer studies in TVET, impact assessment research, and evaluation studies.

INDIVIDUAL EXPERTS AND CONSULTING FIRMS





Areas in demand from partner countries

- Developing member countries (DMCs) are looking for finance++ partnerships
- Knowledge solutions are increasingly critical to success of programs (climate change, STEM education, EdTech solutions)
- Innovative approaches and new operating modalities are called for to help DMCs keep pace with global trends
- Sharing of global experiences and best practices with more impactful models are sought by DMCs
- High-quality analytics in planning, design, and implementation are needed to provide value addition in ADB programs and projects



ADB as a Solutions Bank and the New Operating Model



- Take forward the vision of ADB's Strategy 2030 and the 7 Operations Priorities
- Lead on breakthrough knowledge solutions and innovation
- Promote more upstream diagnostic work for more effective investments and impact
- Explore new modalities for Technical Collaboration
- Leverage ADB's strengths in multiple sectors to promote intersectoral collaborations for education
- Promote more global partnerships to bring best-in-class I approaches
- Scale up education operations and serve the vision of ADB as the regional climate bank

Typical Areas for Technical Consulting



K-12

- STEM/STEAM; science for girls
- Coding, digital skills
 Online learning with instructional design
- Online learning with instructional design
- Foundation skills, soft skills
- Student learning assessment; exam reforms
- More effective pedagogical and teacher professional development

TVET

- TVET
- Skills for IR4.0
- Skills for climate resilient and green occupations
- Skills for health workforce, aging population and care economy
- Skills for hi-tech agriculture
- Real time job market forecasting
- Al-based job matching platforms
- Higher level skills including skills university

Higher education

- Higher education
- Research, innovation, start-up ecosystems
- Digital transformation
- Digital credentials, blockchain for qualifications
- University-Industry Linkages
- Accelerators and incubators and entrepreneurship
- School of sustainability



EQUITY, INCLUSION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES ARE CROSS CUTTING



Knowledge and Operational Priorities

Multi-sectoral approaches for development impact

- Skills for infrastructure leading to quality jobs (energy, transport)
- Skills for climate resilience; climate smart infrastructure
- Skills for smart cities, creative industries
- Skills and training for hi-tech agriculture; focus on food security

OP 1: address remaining poverty and reduce inequalities.

- Intersection of education, health and social protection
- Human capital development for competitiveness, private sector growth, labor market reforms

Post-COVID actions

- Support for rejuvenation post COVID
- New departures and re-imagining education delivery



Improving knowledge and operations support ADB

- New Modalities for Technical Collaboration
- Going beyond consulting to partnerships and long-term institutional twinning
- Enabling exchange programs for faculty, students
- Promoting collaborative research practice and innovation
- Amplifying Peer-to-Peer knowledge transfer and sharing global best practices
- Establishing professional networks and promoting centers of excellence and 'lighthouse' institutions
- Enabling institutional partnerships for teacher training, student assessments and research collaboration



Supporting the 4 shifts of ADB New Operating Model

- Climate Change and education: Role of education in climate change; embedding climate curriculum and courses in school ed, TVET and higher education
- Digital learning and EdTech solutions: Scaling up access to digital skills, investing in online learning to improve quality and equity, supporting frontier areas such as generative AI
- **Private sector and education**: Crowding in private sector investments in education; enhancing partnerships through joined up sovereign and non-sovereign operations
- Strengthening capacities: to deliver within ADB and with DMC partners through institutional capacity building



Education Pipeline Projects



2023		ADB EDU Financing
Centra	al and West Asia Regional Department	
KGZ	School Education Reform Sector Development Program	40.00
PAK	Sindh Secondary Education Improvement Project (Additional Financing)	275.00
TAJ	Improving the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Secondary Education Project	34.50
Pacific	Regional Department	
SOL	Senior Secondary Education Improvement Project	45.70
South	Asia Regional Department	
BAN	Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program	300.00
BAN	Improving Computer and Software Engineering Tertiary Education Project	100.00
BHU	Pathways for Emerging Skills and Jobs Project	30.00
South	east Asia Regional Department	
CAM	Skills for Future Economy Sector Development Program	100.00
INO	Boosting Productivity through Human Capital Development Program, SP2	100.00
PHI	Post-COVID-19 Business and Employment Recovery Program, SP1	300.00
	Total 2023	1,325.20





2024		ADB EDU Financing
Central	and West Asia Regional Department	
AFG	Education Project	99.00
AZE	Modernizing Vocational Education and Training for Economic Diversification Sector Development Program	235.00
GEO	Improving Learning Outcomes in Secondary Education SDP	150.00
UZB	Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) in Secondary Education Project	100.00
UZB	Education Sector (ICT in Education) (SEFF A1)	2.00
UZB	Education Sector SEFF	4.00
East A	sia Regional Department	
MON	Research University Development Project	30.00
Pacific	c Regional Department	
VAN	Supporting the Delivery of Skills Development Project	18.50
South	Asia Regional Department	
BAN	Strengthening Agricultural Tertiary Education Project	100.00
BAN	TVET Teachers for the Future	300.00
BAN	NextGen Secondary Education Program	300.00
BAN	Supporting Education for Children with Special Needs	100.00
IND	Supporting Human Capital Development in Meghalaya Phase II	64.00
NEP	Supporting the TVET Sector Strategic Plan	70.00
South	east Asia Regional Department	
CAM	Secondary Education for Human Capital Competitiveness Program	100.00
LAO	Skills Enhancement for Inclusive Economic Development (SEED) Project	50.00
PHI	Expanded Social Assistance Project, Additional Financing	250.00
TIM	Workforce and Skills Development Project	30.00
	Total 2024	2,002.50





Thank You!

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