

The views expressed in this presentation are the views of the author/s and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Asian Development Bank, or its Board of Governors, or the governments they represent. ADB does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this presentation and accepts no responsibility for any consequence of their use. The countries listed in this presentation do not imply any view on ADB's part as to sovereignty or independent status or necessarily conform to ADB's terminology.



12TH ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FAIR 2024

9-10 OCTOBER 2024 | 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. | ADB HEADQUARTERS, MANILA

EDUCATION SECTOR OPERATIONS AND KNOWLEDGE SOLUTIONS

Jian Xu, Senior Education Specialist

Namrata Saraogi, Social Sector Specialist

Human and Social Development Sector Office, Sectors Group

9 October 2024



Education Sector Strategy

In 2023, Asia and the Pacific sustained strong economic growth, with the region's developing economies expanding by 5% (ADB). The region accounts for 70% of global growth in 2023. (IMF)

- Investing in human capital development is at the heart of long-term productivity growth and continued poverty reduction
- Emphasizing higher order talent and skills, including digital skills, is essential
- Encouraging countries to adopt strategies to reimagine education systems will 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

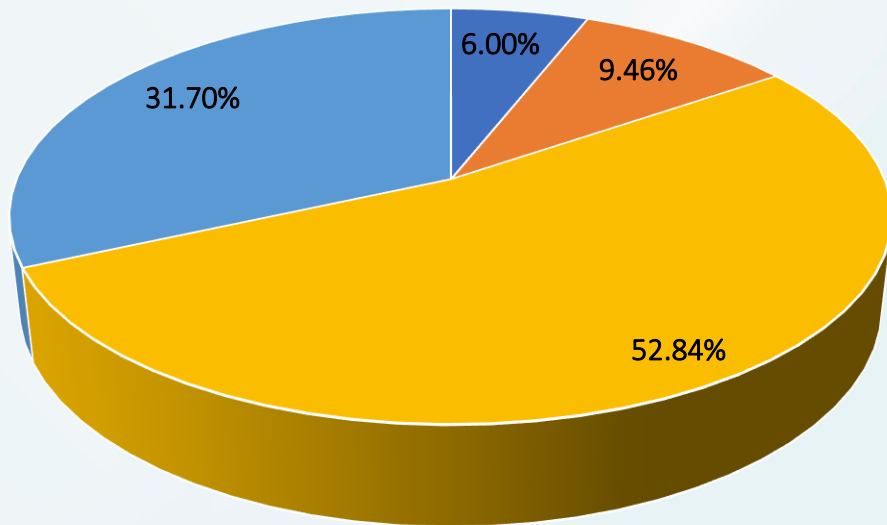
BUT...

***Learning quality with equity is being addressed by governments
and the rise of EdTech is spurring the adoption of new technologies for learning***

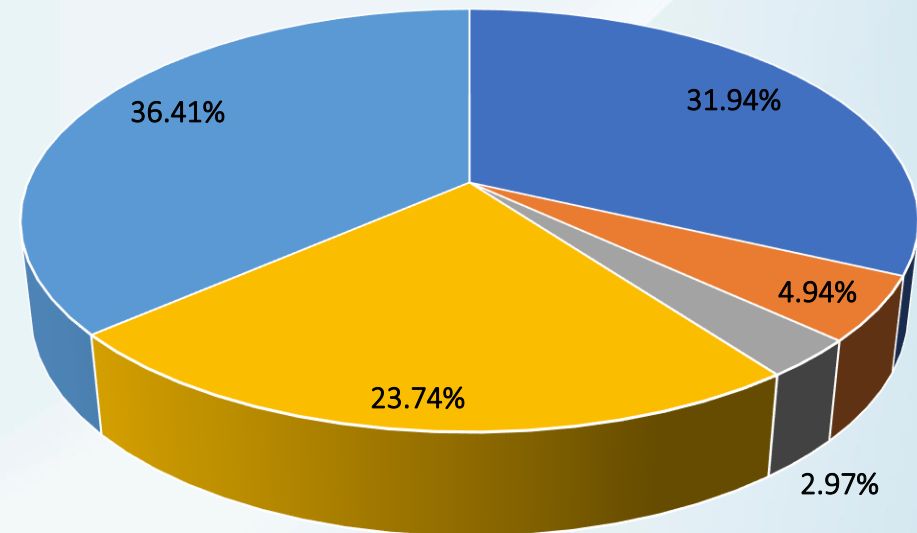


ADB Education Sector Lending by Region, 2018-2023

2018-2020
\$3.868 B



2021-2023
\$3.126 B

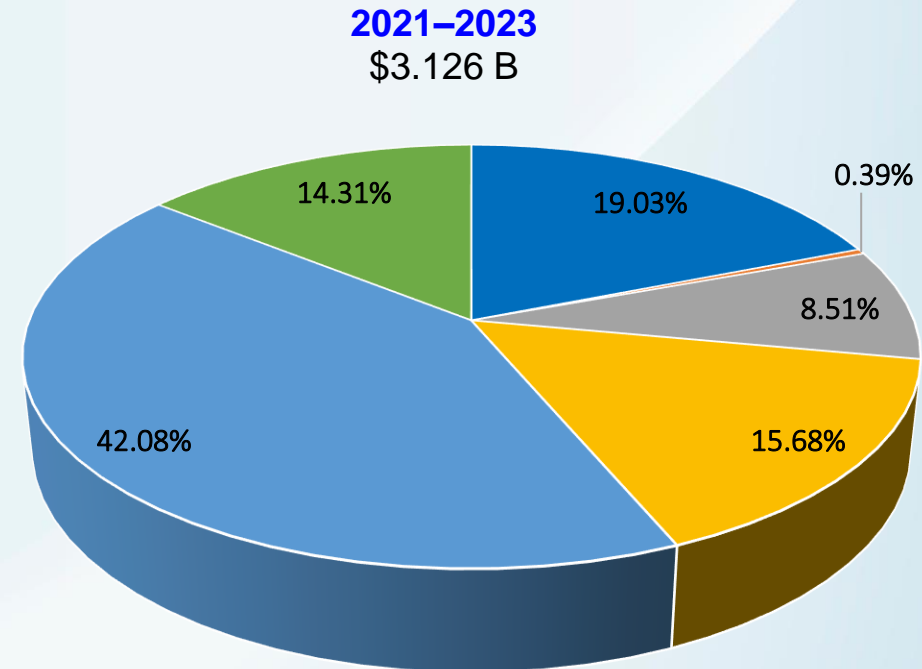
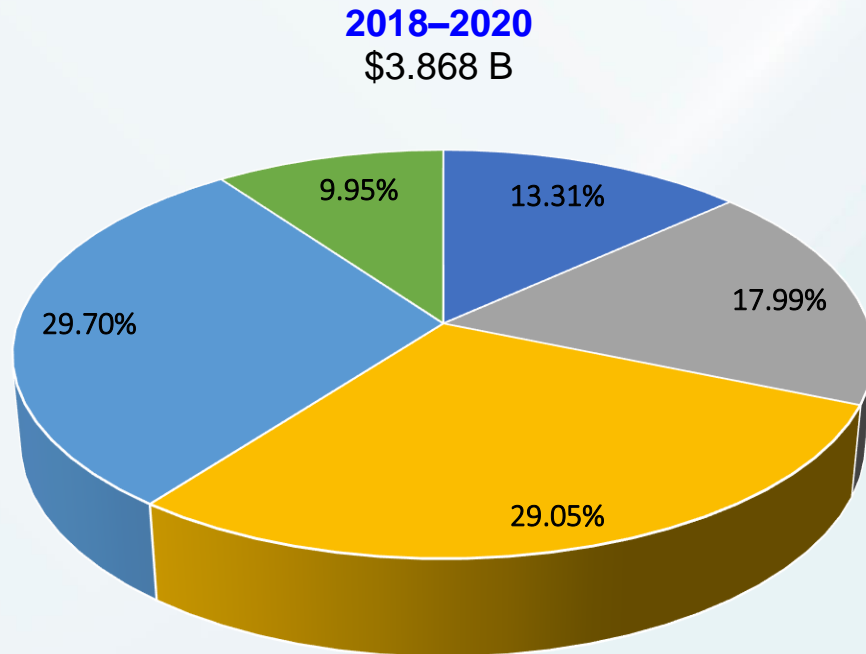


Central and West Asia East Asia Pacific South Asia Southeast Asia

Source: 16 May 2024 Education Dashboard data.



ADB Lending by Education Subsector, 2018-2023



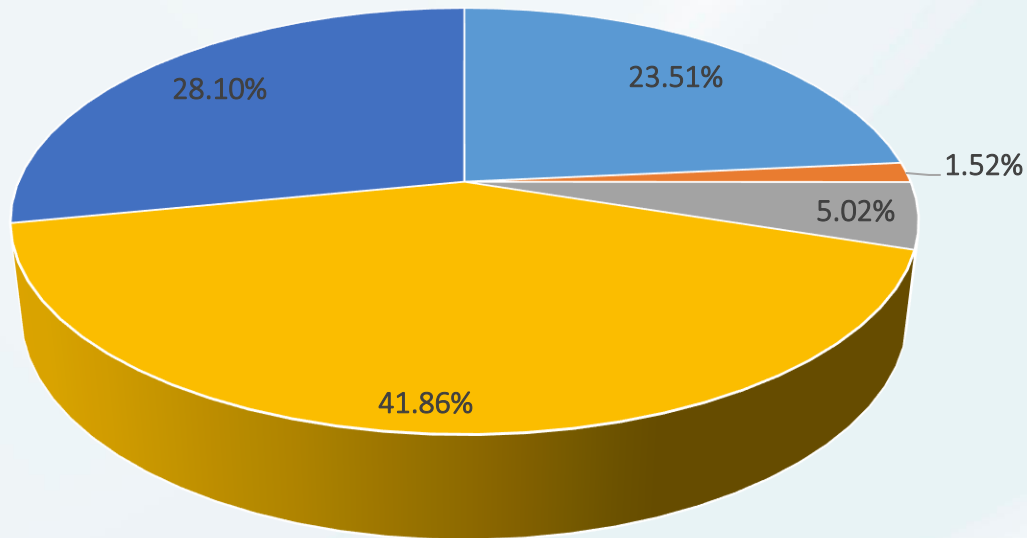
■ Education sector development ■ Non-formal education ■ Pre-primary and primary ■ Secondary ■ TVET ■ Tertiary

Source: 16 May 2024 Education Dashboard data.



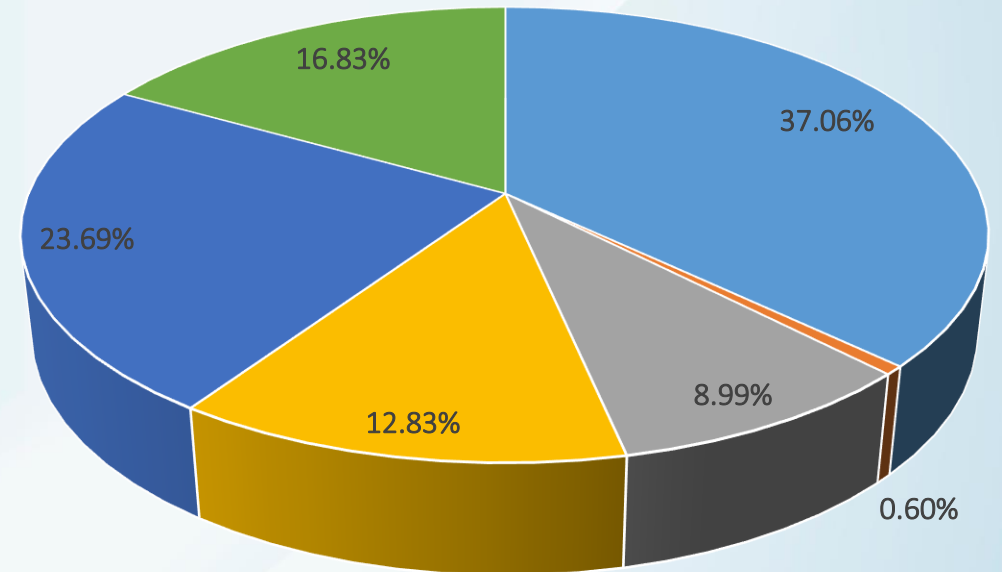
HSD Education Sector Lending Pipeline, 2024-2026

By Region
\$3.291 B



■ Central and West ■ East Asia ■ Pacific ■ South Asia ■ Southeast Asia

By Subsector
\$3.291 B



■ Education sector development ■ Non-formal education
■ Pre-primary and primary ■ Secondary
■ TVET ■ Tertiary

Source: 2 Aug 2024 SovOps download.



HSD Education Pipeline by Region, 2024

REGION	DMC	PROJECT TITLE	AMOUNT (\$ million)
Central and West Asia	AFG	Sustaining Human Capital Project (Support for Afghan People)	110.80
Pacific	VAN	Supporting the Delivery of Skills Development Project	16.44
	RMI	Women and Youth Skills, Empowerment, and Resilience Project	19.70
South Asia	BAN	TVET Teachers for the Future	150.00
Southeast Asia	CAM	Secondary Education for Human Capital Competitiveness Project	80.00

Note: The list excludes policy-based loans.



HSD Education Pipeline by Region, 2025

REGION	DMC	PROJECT TITLE	AMOUNT (\$ million)
Central and West Asia	PAK	Responsive, Ready and Resilient STEM Secondary Education in Punjab	100.00
	UZB	Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) in Secondary Education Project	100.00
	GEO	Improving Learning Outcomes in Secondary Education Sector Development Program	50.00
Pacific	KIR	Equitable Access to Quality Education Project	30.00
	NAU	Improved Skills and Employment for Vulnerable Groups Project (formerly Social Protection Project)	10.00
South Asia	IND	Supporting Human Capital Development in Meghalaya (Phase-II)	64.00
	IND	Gujarat Skills Development Program	110.00
	BAN	Strengthening Agricultural Tertiary Education Project	120.00
	BAN	NextGen Secondary Education Program	300.00
	NEP	Supporting the TVET Sector Strategic Plan	74.00
	SRI	Skills Development System Transformation Program	100.00
Southeast Asia	PHI	Expanded Social Assistance Project, Additional Financing	250.00
	PHI	Promoting Research and Innovation by Strengthening Transformation in Industries and Enterprises	280.00
	PHI	Advancing Climate-Smart, Quality, Inclusive, and Resilient Education (ACQUIRE)	100.00
	LAO	Skills Enhancement for Inclusive Economic Development (SEED) Project	35.00

Note: The list excludes policy-based loans.



HSD Education Pipeline by Region, 2026

REGION	DMC	PROJECT TITLE	AMOUNT (\$ million)
Central and West Asia	UZB	Skills Development for Green Economy Project	100.00
	AZE	Modernizing Vocational Education and Training for Economic Diversification Sector Development Program	150.00
	TKM	Professional Education for Tourism and Services Project	20.00
	GEO	Multisector Small Expenditure Financing Facility (Activity 4)	3.00
	PAK	Sindh Secondary Education Development Project (MFF Tranche 2)	100.00
East Asia	MON	Education Sector Results-Based Lending Program	50.00
Pacific	RMI	Improving the Quality of Basic Education	6.00
	FSM	Improving the Quality of Basic Education in the North Pacific	6.50
	PNG	Improved Technical and Vocational Education and Training for Employment Project, Phase 2	65.00
South Asia	IND	Strengthening School Education in Karnataka	250.00
	BAN	Supporting Smart Primary Education Development Program	150.00
	SRI	Promoting Resilience and Opportunity for Inclusive Recovery	10.00
	NEP	Support for Devolved Education Project: Making Schools Work	50.00
Southeast Asia	PHI	Advancing Climate-Smart, Quality, Inclusive, and Resilient Education (ACQUIRE)	100.00
	LAO	Education Investment Project	30.00
	TIM	Workforce and Skills Development Project	20.00

Note: The list excludes policy-based loans.



ADB Education Sector Business Opportunities

- **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



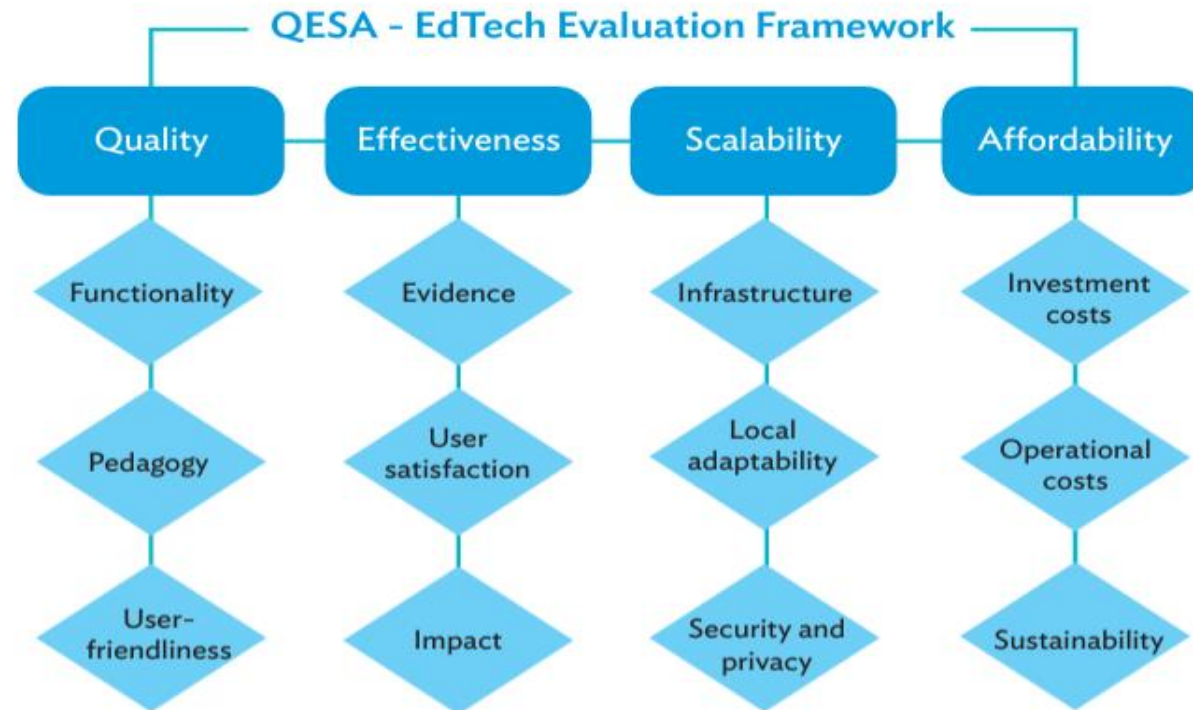
ADB: A Solutions Bank, with a New Operating Model

- Take forward the vision of ADB's Strategy 2030 and the 7 Operational Priorities
- Lead breakthrough knowledge solutions and innovations
 - AI in education
 - Digital transformation
 - Green transition
- 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 approaches
- Scale up education operations and serve the vision of ADB as the regional climate bank



Provider evaluation (and selection) framework

Figure 20: QESA EdTech Evaluation Framework to Guide the Selection of EdTech Solutions



EdTech = education technology; QESA = quality, effectiveness, scalability, affordability.
Source: Authors.



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
- AI-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

- 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 Four Shifts of ADB's New Operating Model

- ❖ **Climate Change and education:** Strengthening the 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:** Delivering within ADB and with DMC partners through institutional capacity building



12TH ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FAIR 2024
9-10 OCTOBER 2024 | 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. | ADB HEADQUARTERS, MANILA



Issues/Challenges for Consideration

- Familiarity with DMCs capacity in a development context
- Knowledge of ADB internal processes and requirements
- Use of ADB online systems
- Turnaround time in delivering outputs



12TH ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FAIR 2024
9-10 OCTOBER 2024 | 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. | ADB HEADQUARTERS, MANILA



International Skills Forum 2025

Innovation Market Place: a space to showcase innovation in education and skills development





**12TH ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FAIR 2024**
9-10 OCTOBER 2024 | 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. | ADB HEADQUARTERS, MANILA



Thank you!

Jian Xu, Senior Education Specialist (jianxu@adb.org)
Namrata Saraogi, Social Sector Specialist (nsaraogi@adb.org)
Human and Social Development Sector Office, Sectors Group