

"Strategy 2020" — ADB's Vision of Rendering Development Assistance to Developing Member Countries



Strategy 2020 is ADB's new long-term strategy covering the period from 2008 to 2020. It is ADB's paramount strategic document that lays out clear and consistent strategic directions and provides the framework for the planning and financing of its operations, organization, and business processes.

Strategy 2020 reshapes, redirects, and repositions ADB for a more innovative and effective development role in the rapidly changing region and within the international aid architecture. The objective of Strategy 2020 is to clearly establish ADB's role and strategic directions for 2008 to 2020 and guide ADB's operational and institutional transformation in order to enhance its relevance and effectiveness in rendering development assistance to its developing member countries (DMCs).

Three Development Agendas

To fight poverty in a region of more than 600 million poor people surviving on \$1 a day, Strategy 2020 will refocus ADB operations on three development agendas - inclusive economic growth, environmentally sustainable growth, and regional integration. ADB's corporate vision will continue to be "An Asia and Pacific Region Free of Poverty" and its mission to help its DMCs reduce poverty and improve living conditions and quality of life. ADB is committed to ending poverty in the region. Poverty reduction has been ADB's overarching goal since 1999 and an important feature of its planning and operations since its establishment. Consultation with stakeholders confirmed once again that ending poverty is ADB's most important piece of unfinished business.

Key Drivers of Change

ADB will position itself more strategically as a partner and agent for change by promoting private sector development, good governance, gender equity, knowledge solutions, and partnerships, identified under Strategy 2020 as the region's five key drivers of change. Each driver provides an opportunity for ADB to act more as an agent of change by stimulating growth and synergizing broader development assistance, and to be a more active and better development partner.

Selectivity and Responsiveness

Under Strategy 2020, ADB will ensure that selectivity and responsiveness work in tandem, allowing ADB to provide its DMC with the most relevant products and services in the region's pursuit of national and regional development. In the process of partnership strategies with DMC governments, ADB will determine the correct mix of its products and services. For issues within its core operational priorities, ADB will seek to encourage cooperative action and to help establish partnership programs. Strategy 2020 has both operational and institutional goals. For instance, ADB's lending portfolio is set to change. By 2012, 80% of all lending operations will be in five core operational areas where ADB has comparative strength: infrastructure, environment, regional cooperation and integration, finance sector development, and education. By 2020, at least 30% of its lending will be for regional projects, and 50% for private sector development and private sector operations.

Investment and Knowledge-based Assistance

ADB will strive to achieve excellence in its investment and knowledge-based assistance, delivering more aid more effectively with greater results and impact. To be more effective in achieving development within the region, ADB must be able to monitor and evaluate its work in a measurable way and to take appropriate actions based on results. Management will use the results framework to examine specific but wide-ranging indicators in line with Strategy 2020's vision and strategic direction to monitor progress, measure results, and take corrective actions where required.