

DOWNLOAD PDF EFFECTIVENESS OF ADB APPROACHES AND ASSISTANCE TO POVERTY REDUCTION

Chapter 1 : Effectiveness of ADB Approaches and Assistance to Poverty Reduction

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is committed to achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. It assists its members and partners by providing loans, technical assistance, grants, and equity investments to promote social and economic development.

This report outlines its main areas of operation and priorities for the future. The ADB has initiated and supported projects in the legal and justice sector since . In earlier years, the focus was on putting in place legal frameworks for a market economy and building capacity among judges and government lawyers. However, in , the Bank re-committed itself to eradicating regional poverty, resulting in an expansion of its justice-related activities. These now include legal support for the poor to gain equal access to assets and opportunities, and to participate in local decision making. Other aims are to strengthen the role of the state in providing public goods and services and regulating the economy, and to create an enabling environment for private sector-led growth. The ADB stresses its role in supporting the reform dynamic of member countries, and its willingness to experiment with and adapt approaches before wider implementation. Project examples highlight how its work is channelled into four priority areas: Strengthening the environment for economic growth. Activities include shaping new laws and regulations for a market economy and training officials, lawyers and judges in how to implement them. The ADB also gives technical assistance for effective participation in the global economy. The Bank has carried out positive research into the impact of activities that promote awareness among the poor about their rights. It has also implemented land reform projects. Supporting equality of access to justice and non-discrimination in the application of laws. Activities include a large access-to-justice programme in Pakistan and research into issues affecting women. Contributing to regional cooperation in strategic reform areas. One recent focus has been cross-border efforts to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism. Moving forward, the ADB will continue to respond to requests for technical assistance from member countries. However, it also identifies specific areas in which it plans to build expertise: Financial sector reform, including insolvency, secured transaction and capital market law. Regulatory reform, for example in the electricity, gas and water sectors. This and the previous area support much ADB lending. Legal and administrative governance. One current focus is on the implications of international and regional trade for member countries. To support this work, the Bank will pursue further regional dialogue, build partnerships, mainstream legal empowerment activities into lending, and monitor the impact of its interventions on development.