ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK MEMBER FACT SHEET

ADB's country partnership strategy for Timor-Leste for 2023–2027 aims to enhance climate-resilient infrastructure and basic services while fostering an enabling environment for economic diversification.

TIMOR-LESTE

Following a robust economic rebound in 2022 and a subsequent slowdown in 2023, Timor-Leste's economic growth regained momentum in 2024, fueled by expansionary fiscal policies and steady consumption. After reaching a decade-high peak in 2023, inflation has moderated as price pressures eased among key trading partners.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been instrumental in addressing infrastructure bottlenecks and institutional constraints in Timor-Leste, contributing to paving the way for sustainable development. ADB's expanded project portfolio now bolsters the Government of Timor-Leste's initiatives to create a favorable environment for private sector growth and economic diversification.

Sovereign operations. As of 31 December 2024, ADB has committed 81 public sector loans, grants, and technical assistance totaling $766 million to Timor-Leste. ADB's current sovereign portfolio in Timor-Leste includes 14 loans and 1 grant worth $580.42 million.[1]

Cumulative disbursements. Cumulative sovereign loan and grant disbursements to Timor-Leste amount to $302 million. These were financed by regular and concessional ordinary capital resources, the Asian Development Fund, and other special funds.

Historically, ADB concentrated its efforts on transport projects, particularly the rehabilitation and upgrading of national roads to improve urban-rural connectivity. However, since 2021 ADB has diversified its portfolio to encompass more sectors including transport, water, urban development, energy, agriculture, and rural development.

[1] Sovereign portfolio consists of ADB-financed loans, grants, equity investment, and sovereign guarantee committed and not financially closed. Regional projects with loans/grants to multiple countries are reported separately.

Timor-Leste: 2024 Commitments ($ million)[a]

Product Type	Sovereign	Nonsovereign	Total
Grants	6.00	–	6.00
Technical Assistance[b]	4.10	0.08	4.18
Total	**10.10**	**0.08**	**10.18**

– = nil.

Note:
Commitment is the financing approved by ADB's Board of Directors or Management for which the legal agreement has been signed by the borrower, recipient, or the investee company and ADB. It comprises the amount indicated in the investment agreement, which—depending on the exchange rate at the time of signing—may or may not be equal to the approved amount.

[a] Numbers may not sum up precisely because of rounding.
[b] Financing for technical assistance projects with regional coverage is distributed to their specific ADB developing member countries where a breakdown is available.

Timor-Leste: Cumulative Commitments[a,b,c]

Sector	No.	Total Amount ($ million)[d] Sovereign	Nonsovereign
Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Rural Development	5	9.88	–
Education	4	13.94	–
Energy	6	42.20	–
Finance	5	4.21	0.04
Health	–	1.83	–
Industry and Trade	1	2.31	0.10
Information and Communication Technology	–	0.38	0.14
Multisector	4	6.35	–
Public Sector Management	18	13.41	–
Transport	27	472.15	–
Water and Other Urban Infrastructure and Services	11	199.31	–
Total	**81**	**765.96**	**0.28**

– = nil.

[a] Includes loans, grants, and technical assistance.
[b] Using primary sector in the reporting of commitments.
[c] From 2020, financing for technical assistance projects with regional coverage is distributed to their specific ADB developing member countries where a breakdown is available.
[d] Numbers may not sum up precisely because of rounding.

Updated as of July 2025

In 2024, ADB committed a total of $16.6 million in grants for the Rural Resilience and Livelihood Improvement Sector Project. The project aims to benefit about 46,000 people. It will improve access to water, enhance farm productivity through climate-smart approaches, strengthen market linkages, and develop diversified livelihood opportunities.

ADB is providing transaction advisory services to promote public–private partnerships in Timor-Leste in several areas including the development of a solar power park, implementation of unique identification systems, enhancement of solid waste management, and establishment of carbon credit markets.

ADB, plays a pivotal role in regional cooperation, supporting Timor-Leste's ongoing efforts to join the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The bank has also supported the country's accession to the World Trade Organization in August 2024.

ADB has been providing regional and country-specific technical assistance and grants across various sectors, including enhancing rural livelihoods through coffee and agroforestry, developing gender-responsive judicial systems, improving social protection, offering emergency assistance, building public and private sector capacities, and improving public sector management.

Operational challenges. Project implementation in Timor-Leste faces challenges related to institutional and human resource capacity, interagency coordination, and procurement practices. The capacity for medium-term public investment planning and the ability to design and implement large projects are still developing. ADB assists the government in ensuring project readiness, strengthening processes by supporting standard operating procedures for investment projects, improving service delivery, and enhancing the technical capacities of government agencies.

Sound legal, regulatory, and institutional frameworks are essential to ensure sustainable and efficient operations. In collaboration with the government, ADB has identified key project management issues and proposed solutions to help establish effective systems for investment project management. The bank also provides systematic capacity-building support for infrastructure project management, workforce development, and skills enhancement.

KNOWLEDGE WORK

ADB's country knowledge plan for Timor-Leste focuses on strengthening infrastructure management, human capital, private sector development, and regional economic integration. The bank has been supporting capacity development through various projects, providing training and embedded support within the government and other state entities.

Timor-Leste: Share of Procurement Contracts for Loan, Grant, and Technical Assistance Projects

	Goods, Works, and Related Services	
Item	Amount ($ million)	% of ADB Total
2023	0.01	0.00
2024	–	–
Cumulative (as of 31 Dec 2024)	27.60	0.01

	Consulting Services	
Item	Amount ($ million)	% of ADB Total
2023	–	–
2024	0.46	0.10
Cumulative (as of 31 Dec 2024)	12.38	0.07

	Total Procurement	
Item	Amount ($ million)	% of ADB Total
2023	0.01	0.00
2024	0.46	0.00
Cumulative (as of 31 Dec 2024)	39.98	0.01

– = nil, 0.00 = less than 0.005.

Top 5 Contractors/Suppliers from Timor-Leste Involved in Goods, Works, and Related Services Contracts under ADB Loan and Grant Projects, 1 January 2020–31 December 2024

Contractor/Supplier	Sector	Contract Amount ($ million)
City Auto Lda	ANR	0.070
Alci Familia Kiik Lda	WUS	0.030
Zeon International	TRA	0.010
Visimitra Unipessoal Lda	TRA	0.002
Others		0.490
Total		0.600

ANR = agriculture, natural resources, and rural development; TRA = transport; WUS = water and other urban infrastructure and services.

Top 5 Consultants from Timor-Leste Involved in Consulting Services Contracts under ADB Loan, Grant, and Technical Assistance Projects, 1 January 2020–31 December 2024

Consultant	Sector	Contract Amount ($ million)
Primo's Boot Unipessoal LDA	ANR	0.0500
Individual Consultants		2.1000
Others		0.0004
Total		2.1500

ANR = agriculture, natural resources, and rural development.

Knowledge products include sector and technical studies, scoping assessments, strategies and plans that directly support the preparation and delivery of pipeline projects, and capacity and skills development. Knowledge events, organized in collaboration with government counterparts, development partners, and academia, cover a wide range of areas, including procurement and contract management; environmental safeguards; women's economic empowerment; Timor-Leste's accession to ASEAN; macroeconomic management; the financial sector; micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises; and rural development.

FINANCING PARTNERSHIPS

Financing partnerships enable ADB's financing partner governments or their agencies, multilateral financing institutions, and private organizations to participate in financing ADB projects. The additional funds provided may be in the form of loans and grants, technical assistance, and nonsovereign cofinancing.

Cumulative cofinancing commitments in Timor-Leste:

- Sovereign cofinancing: $172.89 million for 7 investment projects and $15.38 million for 8 technical assistance projects since 2007

In 2024, Timor-Leste received grant cofinancing from several funds and institutions for the Rural Resilience and Livelihood Improvement Sector Project, including $4.59 million from the Global Environment Facility, $3 million from the Japan Fund for Prosperous and Resilient Asia and the Pacific, $2.5 million from the Community Resilience Partnership Program Trust Fund under the Community Resilience Financing Partnership Facility, and $500,000 from the Ireland Trust Fund for Building Climate Change and Disaster Resilience in Small Island Developing States.

A summary of projects with cofinancing from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2024 is available at www.adb.org/where-we-work/timor-leste/cofinancing.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

ADB's work in Timor-Leste will remain focused on advancing knowledge systems, fostering innovation, and providing technical expertise in addition to traditional financial support. The country partnership strategy will continue to steer the development of climate-resilient infrastructure, create an enabling environment for economic diversification, and promote a sustainable non-petroleum sector by improving basic service delivery and enhancing the business environment. Furthermore, the strategy will facilitate economic diversification into agriculture and skills development, enhance private sector capacity, advance information and communications technology, and promote regional cooperation and economic integration.

Timor-Leste: Portfolio Performance Quality Indicators for Sovereign Lending and Grants, 2023–2024

No. of Ongoing Loans[a] (as of 31 Dec 2024)		14
	2023 ($ million)	2024 ($ million)
Contract Awards[b]	8.07	64.82
Disbursements[c]	19.84	13.32
No. of Ongoing Grants[d] (as of 31 Dec 2024)		1
	2023 ($ million)	2024 ($ million)
Contract Awards[b]	–	–
Disbursements[c]	–	–
At Risk Projects (%)[e] (as of 31 Dec 2024)		44%

– = nil.

Note: Numbers may not sum precisely because of rounding.

[a] Includes ADB-financed sovereign loans committed and not financially closed.

[b] Includes closed loans/grants that had contract awards during the year. Excludes policy-based lending, results-based lending, financial intermediation and financial intermediation component for combined financial intermediation/project, grants funded by the Asia Pacific Disaster Response Fund, and beginning in Q2 2024, ADB-financed projects administered by an external agency. Contract awards were recomputed for 2023 to exclude projects administered by United Nations agencies for historical comparison.

[c] Includes closed loans/grants that had disbursements during the year.

[d] Covers sovereign grants financed by the Asian Development Fund and other ADB special funds committed and not financially closed.

[e] Covers active projects as of 31 December 2024.

Timor-Leste: Independent Evaluation Ratings for Sovereign and Nonsovereign Operations, 2014–2024

	Total Number of Validated and Evaluated Projects and Programs	Evaluation Ratings		
		Highly successful and successful	Less than successful	Unsuccessful
Sovereign Operations	4	1	3	–
Nonsovereign Operations	–	–	–	–

– = nil.

Note: The numbers indicate sovereign operations in the country that have been validated or evaluated by the Independent Evaluation Department (IED) and their overall performance ratings. The coverage consists of all validated or evaluated project completion reports circulated by ADB within the 10-year period from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2024, with those completed between 1 July and 31 December 2014 considered part of evaluation year 2015. See evaluations related to Timor Leste.

Source: IED success rate database

Timor-Leste: Projects Cofinanced, 1 January 2020–31 December 2024

Cofinancing	No. of Projects	Amount ($ million)
Sovereign	5	74.37
Grants	4	74.07
Technical Assistance	1	0.30

ADB AT A GLANCE

ADB is a leading multilateral development bank supporting sustainable, inclusive, and resilient growth across Asia and the Pacific. Working with its members and partners to solve complex challenges together, ADB harnesses innovative financial tools and strategic partnerships to transform lives, build quality infrastructure, and safeguard our planet. Founded in 1966, ADB is owned by 69 members—49 from the region. ADB is headquartered in Manila, Philippines and has 43 offices around the world, with 4,141 staff from 66 of its members as of 31 December 2024.

ADB updated its corporate strategy in 2024, creating a new road map to 2030 that sharpens the bank's focus on the region's most pressing development issues. A new corporate results framework ensures that ADB is on track in achieving its performance targets.

An additional $10 billion annual lending capacity, unlocked through recent capital management reforms, will allow ADB to scale up operations by 50% over the next decade.

The Asian Development Fund, ADB's largest source of grant financing provided by donors, achieved a record $5 billion during its 13th replenishment, securing substantial resources for the bank's poorest and most vulnerable members through to 2028.

ADB Operations in 2024. ADB committed $24.3 billion in loans, grants, equity investments, private sector programs, and technical assistance to its borrowing members. The bank bolstered its total support with cofinancing of $14.9 billion.

ADB's cumulative commitments in 45 countries stood at $399 billion covering 4,488 loans, $14.5 billion in 663 grants, and $6.1 billion in technical assistance grants, including regional technical assistance grants.

In addition to loans, grants, and technical assistance, ADB used equity investments, guarantees, and private sector programs to help its developing member countries.

Total project commitments in nonsovereign loans, equity investments, and guarantees from ADB's own funds amounted to $2.6 billion for 58 transactions in economic and social infrastructure, the finance sector, and agribusiness.

Commitments in ADB's Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program and Microfinance Program amounted to $2.2 billion. ADB also mobilized $3.4 billion of long-term project cofinancing and $3.2 billion of cofinancing through the two programs. Total outstanding balances and undisbursed commitments of nonsovereign transactions funded by ADB's own resources stood at $13.1 billion as of 31 December 2024.

FINANCING PARTNERSHIPS

Total sovereign and nonsovereign cofinancing commitments, 2024

- $14.86 billion for 234 projects, of which:
  - $12.57 billion, 107 investment projects,
  - $220.34 million, 125 technical assistance projects,
  - $2.08 billion transaction advisory services for 2 projects.

Cumulative sovereign and nonsovereign cofinancing commitments, 1970–2024

- $183.13 billion for 3,623 projects, of which:
  - $176.23 billion, 1,344 investment projects,
  - $3.25 billion, 2,266 technical assistance projects,
  - $3.65 billion transaction advisory services for 13 projects.*

* Adjusted to exclude $41.44 million A Loans mobilized under transaction advisory services reported under nonsovereign operations financing, and $150.1 million cofinancing reported in nonsovereign projects cofinancing.

PROCUREMENT

ADB's procurement contracts in Asia and the Pacific for **goods, works, and related services** under loan and grant operations:

- $13.94 billion in 2023
- $12.66 billion in 2024
- $273.83 billion covering 234,130 contracts, cumulative procurement since 1966

ADB's procurement contracts in Asia and the Pacific for **consulting services** under loan, grant, and technical assistance operations:

- $558.12 million in 2023
- $478.57 million in 2024
- $16.61 billion covering 83,632 contracts, cumulative procurement since 1966

MORE ABOUT TIMOR-LESTE AND ADB

Shareholding and Voting Power

Number of shares held:	1,050 (0.010% of total shares)
Votes:	39,597 (0.298% of total membership, 0.459% of total regional membership)
*Overall capital subscription:	$13.69 million
*Paid-in capital subscription:	$691,000

*United States dollar figures are valued at rate as of 31 December 2024.

ADB Governor: Santina José Rodrigues Ferreira Viegas Cardoso
ADB Alternate Governor: Vacant
ADB Director: Noor Ahmed (Pakistan)
ADB Alternate Director: Justine Sicat (Philippines)
ADB Director's Advisors: Juvy Danofrata (Philippines) and Ali Irufan (Maldives)

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Asian Development Bank
www.adb.org

Publications
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Asian Development Outlook
www.adb.org/publications/series/asian-development-outlook

ADB Data Library
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Notes: (i) Figures are estimated by ADB unless otherwise stated. "$" refers to United States dollars. (ii) Data are updated as of 31 December 2024 unless otherwise indicated.

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