Institutionalizing Climate Resilience into Asian Development Bank Investment

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Source: Vutha Cambodian Post Timelines, 2014

1. Research Gaps

Asian Development Bank (ADB) invests largely in climate-sensitive sectors and climate-vulnerable areas.

ADB "Investment-as-usual" can increase vulnerability to climate change. (Adger, Lorenzoni, & O'Brien, 2009, p. 2; Boakye-Agyei, 2011)

Source: Author, 2013

Evidence of little research on improving climate resilience in ADB investment (Matus Kramer, Prudent-Richard, Sainsbury, & Schreitter, 2012))

2. Research Significance

Sustainable climate-resilient development in theory and practice.

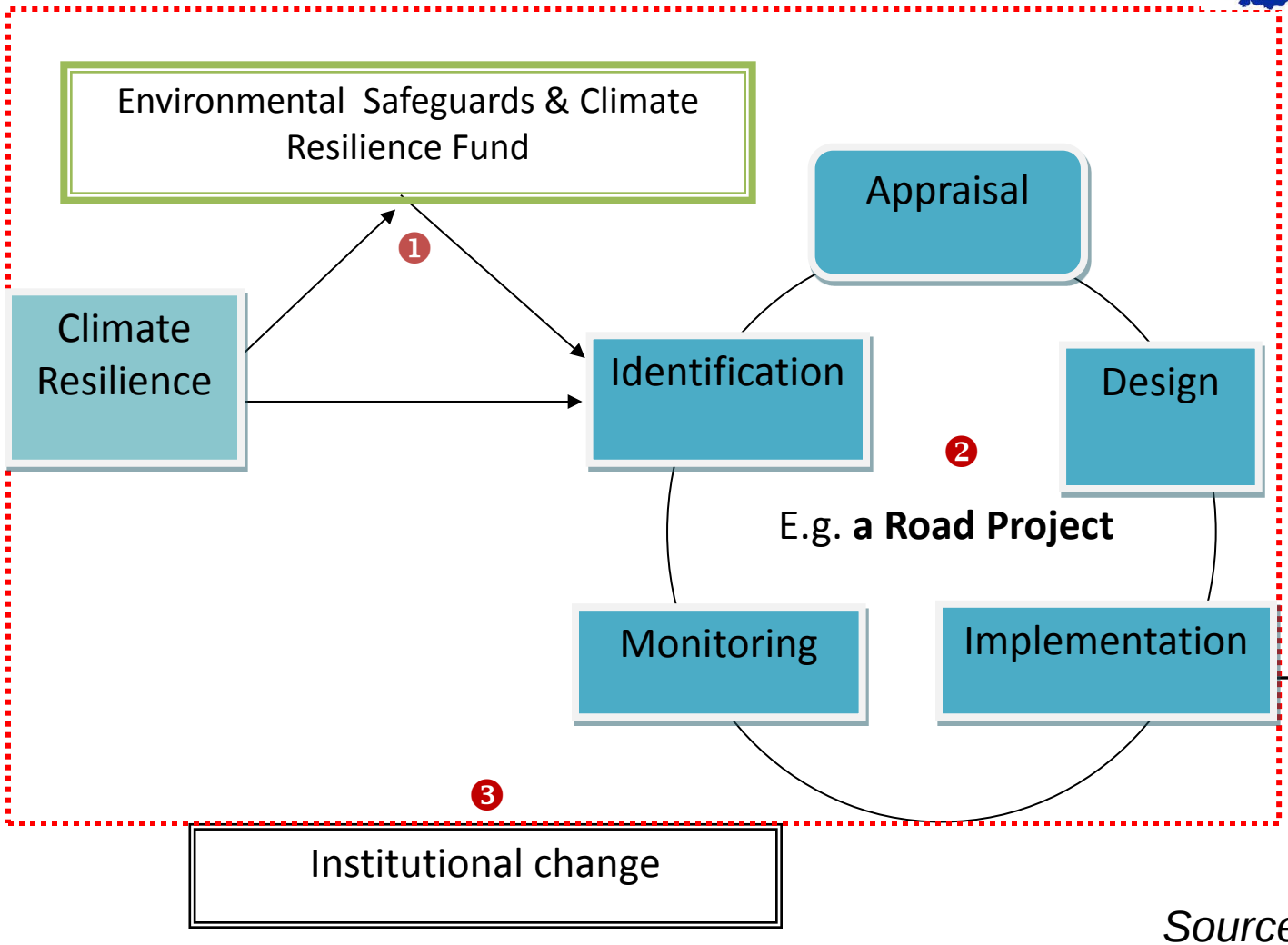
Through environmental impact assessment (Agrawala, et al., 2012; Stephen, 2013) and institutional change (Inderberg & Eikeland, 2009, Goldman, 2005; Sietz, et al., 2008; Tang, 2011).

Source: MWPT, 2012

3. Research Aim

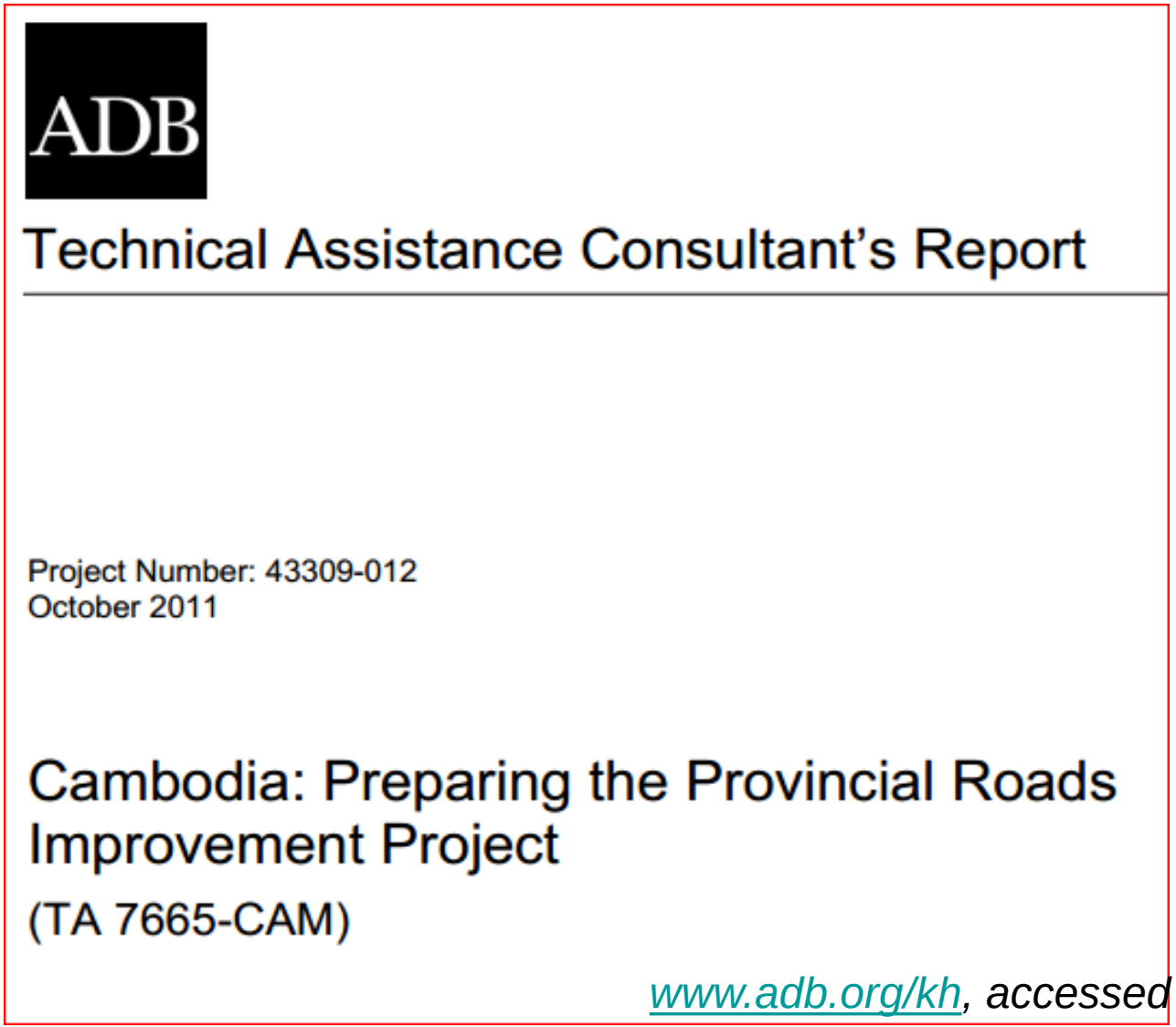
How climate resilience has been institutionalized into ADB investment project?

Answer to Research Aim



Source: Author, 2013

4. A Case of Climate Resilience- Provincial Road Project



ADB

Technical Assistance Consultant's Report

Project Number: 43309-012
October 2011

Cambodia: Preparing the Provincial Roads Improvement Project

(TA 7665-CAM)

www.adb.org/kh, accessed 2013

5. ADB Environmental Safeguards?

- A debatable answer on climate resilience

"ADB Safeguard Policy Statement 2009 covers elements of climate change…but not much on climate adaptation measures." Participant 1.6.

- Climate Resilience and Environmental impact assessment are separate in practice

ADB Environmental Safeguards?

- Lack of coherent climate-resilient approach—comprehensive guidelines

6. What is climate resilience fund?

- Information/Technology: capacity building component, technical support TA and due diligence missions (e.g. Climate vulnerability assessment TA, 2011 .

- Decision Power—Ownership to government. And, the government to follow climate resilience criteria.

Week institutional capacity, ….ADB has leverage. *"…to drive and control the project quality". Participant 1.61*

Climate Resilience Fund to institutionalize?

- Resource dependency—exert power, with an ideological purpose, by supplying resources that are depended upon by the government (Caroline Hughes, 2009).

Donors finance $$

…"as long as we can get free grant, they (governments) are happy to accept anything". Participant 1.4

"…government will entertain donor requirements so that the project can move forward". Participant 1.9

7. What are institutional challenges?

- Information & technology—different between engineering standards and practice. Fixed budget vs. higher costs.

- Resource dependency—why pay incremental cost (15%-30%)?

- Decision Power—pressure of time and results vs. cost/benefit with uncertainty.

8. What are implications?

- Information & technology—value-added to grassroots and all others.

- Resource Dependency—hope for climate $$. *“We know the potential risks, but …because people are waiting for roads and government has budget limitation”. Participant 1.11*

- Decision power: Resilience is part of risk management vs. $$

9. Conclusion

Source: Author, 2013

Institutionalizing climate resilience is not simply a result or outcome, but rather **an ongoing process** that enables climate resilient-development.

Thank You