

**2<sup>nd</sup> Asia-Netherlands Water Learning Week  
*Building Cooperation for Green Cities in Secure River Basins***

**Guidelines for Proposals**

**INTRODUCTION**

The theme of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia-Netherlands Water Learning Week's theme is *Building Cooperation for Green Cities in Secure River Basins*. Participants will contribute project case studies from Asia and learn from cases and experiences from the Netherlands in an intensive program focusing on how to leverage results from collaborative approaches in water investment projects for cities and river basins. The program will build on the successful experience of the 1st Asia-Netherlands Water Learning Week in October 2012 in which more than 30 Asian water leaders compared experiences with colleagues in the Netherlands in making smart choices for water security and green growth.

**TARGET**

Participation in the learning week is targeted to project teams from Asia that seek to build new ways of cooperation into new or ongoing urban and basin water projects. To successfully complete the week's intensive program, the selected teams will work and learn in partnership with dedicated host organizations and experts from the Netherlands and UNESCO-IHE.

**LEARNING TEAM REQUIREMENTS**

Team leaders of projects supported by the Asian Development Bank's Water Financing Program 2011-2020 are invited to send a proposal by 12 April 2013 for their team to join the Learning Week. Participating project teams are expected to include five highly motivated members from different backgrounds to ensure optimal learning:

- Two members from different government organizations
- One from the corporate or private sector<sup>1</sup>
- One from the civil society
- One from a development finance or partner agency.

Team leaders from government organizations will be nominated at director level or above. Gender balance in team composition is encouraged. Acceptance of participation will be confirmed after review of the proposals. The team will be guided by an ADB Project Officer.

The participating project teams will work together with dedicated 'mirror teams' from the Netherlands water sector mobilized by the organisers. By working together intensively, they will address the challenges posed by the project team, develop innovative solutions, and share experience from knowledge exchange.

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<sup>1</sup> Team members from the private sector are welcome to join, and will need to bear the costs of their participation in the Learning Week (air travel, hotel, per diem and any associated costs). These costs cannot be covered by the knowledge partnership budget of ADB and UNESCO-IHE.

## **PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS**

Proposals will show commitment to the theme of the Learning Week, focusing on building green cities and/or increasing water security in river basins and to the objectives of the UNESCO-IHE and ADB knowledge partnership agreement (<http://www.adb.org/sectors/water/networks-partners>).

Proposals will include a 250-word abstract, and a maximum of 5 pages (including charts, figures, and graphs). The template is attached in Annex 1. The sections will be as follows:

1. **Project:** Please provide a short description of the project and how it meets the theme of the Learning Week, viz. building green cities and/or increasing water security in river basins, and to the objectives of the UNESCO-IHE and ADB knowledge partnership agreement. Eligible ADB-funded projects include new projects under preparation, and ongoing projects for which a major design change is planned (such as after mid-term review).
2. **Team members:** Please describe the roles and capacity of the individual members of the project Learning Team and their organizations in undertaking the project. Please also include the ADB Project Officer.
3. **Approach:** Please set out what innovative collaborative approach the team is committed to introduce that involves government agencies, civil society, and the private or corporate sector.
4. **Challenges:** Please indicate the challenges the team is facing to realize the innovative design of the project, and how the team expects to benefit from the Water Learning Week in overcoming these challenges?
5. **Objectives:** Please describe the team's learning objectives and expected results from participating in the Learning Week. Be as specific as possible. Demonstrate the motivation of the team for joining the Water Learning Week. What are specific topics of interest and how would lessons learned be applied to improve project design?
6. **Requests:** Please describe any specific requests which can make the team's participation a success, including about the expected composition of Dutch counterparts and the learning program. Based on the team's own research, knowledge and networking, which organisations and institutions in the Netherlands can help to improve project design and overcome the challenges? The organizers will use the specific requests in the proposal to source the best knowledge partners in the Netherlands.

**ANNEX 1**

<b>Project Team title:</b>
<b>Name of project under the Asian Development Bank's Water Financing Program 2011-2020:</b>
<b>ADB Project Officer – name, position, division, telephone and e-mail:</b>

1. **Project:** Short description of the project under the Asian Development Bank's Water Financing Program 2011-2020:
  - a. Name
  - b. Duration
  - c. Goal
  - d. Partners
  - e. Commitment to the theme of the Learning Week, building green cities and/or increasing water security in river basins and to the objectives of the UNESCO-IHE and ADB knowledge partnership agreement
2. **Team members:**
  - a. Roles and capacity of individuals
  - b. Description of the participating organisations
  - c. counterpart ADB Project Officer
3. **Approach:**
  - a. Description of the collaborative approach
4. **Challenges:**
  - a. Challenges and strategies to overcome problems
5. **Objectives:**
  - a. Motivation for participation
  - b. Learning objectives
6. **Requests:**
  - a. About the composition of the Dutch expert team
  - b. Any other specific requests which can make your participation successful