



Vijay Padmanabhan

Director, and concurrently Chief, Urban Sector
Urban Development and Water Division
Southeast Asia Department
Asian Development Bank

Vijay Padmanabhan, an Engineer-Urban Planner, is the Operations lead for urban development and water in the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Southeast Asia Region and the Technical and Knowledge lead for ADB's Urban Sector Group. With 21 years of professional experience, led multi-sector teams in designing and delivering large and complex projects on urban development, water and sanitation across several countries in the Asia-Pacific Region. Also, led enterprise resource planning for urban local bodies; structured and financially closed private sector projects and infrastructure bonds in the water and sanitation sector; and structured and successfully implemented emergency and post-conflict assistance projects.

Mr. Padmanabhan manages a \$4.5 billion urban development and water portfolio in ADB's Southeast Asia Regional Department covering Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia. He concurrently provides technical and knowledge leadership to ADB's Urban Sector Group to support developing member countries through water, environment, resilience, equity and digital solutions.

As a Technical and Knowledge Lead, Mr Padmanabhan provided technical leadership to ADB's Urban Sector Group guiding bank-wide work related with ADB's Strategy 2020 on Livable Cities. For a major part of the work period, he also provided technical leadership to the Water Sector Group and led a team of 40 professionals to deliver innovative solutions through ADB's 3 trust funds and 2 programs in the urban and water sectors. Managed over \$200 million in trust funds and programs, and through the team provided water, environment, resilience, equity and digital solutions to ADB's developing member countries. He also led ADB's delegation to UN-Habitat III at Quito and presented ADB's support to the New Urban Agenda.

Mr. Padmanabhan supported ADB's Operations Department (ODs) during project processing missions that included work in the first urban program in Tajikistan, first multitranche financing facility in Fiji, and prospective results-based loan in Vietnam. Supported ODs in project administration by assisting in the design of standard bidding documents for Design-Build-Operate (DBO) contracts and advised on complex urban water transactions in Bangladesh and Vietnam. Provided continuous support in the procurement of a DBO contractor for the Desalination Plant in Sri Lanka as part of ADB's High-level Technology initiative.

Mr. Padmanabhan established knowledge partnerships with centers of excellence and academia and translated research to projects in the field; in Indonesia and Fiji. Facilitated a Memorandum of Understanding with the European Space Agency for advanced information and support through earth observation in urban, water and agriculture sectors. Instituted at least 6 continuous learning and development programs for ADB's urban network in the areas of water utility management, resilience, sanitation, smart cities, geographical information systems and climate change.