

TC ABSTRACT

I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	BARBADOS/CCB - Caribbean Group
▪ TC Name:	Support to Public Procurement in Barbados
▪ TC Number:	BA-T1096
▪ Team Leader/Members:	HARPER, LESLIE ELIZABETH (IFD/FMM) Team Leader; PELAEZ RESTREPO, JOHANNA (VPC/FMP); REYES-TAGLE, GERARDO (IFD/FMM); KEVISH, MARIA LORENA (IFD/FMM); ACEVEDO CALLE, DANIELA (LEG/SGO)
▪ Taxonomy:	Client Support
▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC:	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	13 Mar 2023
▪ Beneficiary:	Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment
▪ Executing Agency:	INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
▪ IDB funding requested:	US\$100,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding:	US\$0.00
▪ Disbursement period:	36 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Individuals
▪ Prepared by Unit:	IFD/FMM - Fiscal Management Division
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	CCB/CBA - Country Office Barbados
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):	No
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	No
▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020:	Institutional capacity and rule of law

II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 The objective of this technical assistance is to support the Government of Barbados with the implementation of the new procurement law.
- 2.2 The public sector plays a critical role in Latin America and the Caribbean as a consumer of goods, services and public works, representing around 4.7% of GDP. As a result, public procurement is a major area where governments in the region are striving to improve effectiveness in the delivery of public services and at the same time to serve them efficiently according to their national budgets. In the case of Barbados, public procurement accounts for approximately 9.6% of GDP. Despite this importance in the economy, modernization efforts have been slow and there are gaps which need to be addressed. To that regard, the Government of Barbados has embarked on a major public procurement reform program, which includes a new Procurement Act. This act was approved by both Houses of Parliament during December 2021 and will be proclaimed during the 2022-2033 fiscal year. The Act will regulate public procurement practices in all Government Ministries/Departments, State Owned Enterprises and other entities that receive support in any form from the GOB, towards their continued subsistence. This Act is important as it will help ensure that the government will obtain good and services at the best value for taxpayer money, promote competition and result in higher transparency and accountability. However, the Act being passed does not guarantee its success and is only one step in the modernization and reform process. In order to successfully implement this act, the government will need to develop procurement regulations, manuals and standard

bidding documents to accompany the law. These tools will help the procuring units to adhere to the new legal and regulatory environment correctly and effectively.

III. Description of Activities and Outputs

- 3.1 **Component I: Institutional strengthening.** This component will finance a training program that will cover: (i) procurement fundamentals, principles, and general practices; (ii) effective procurement processes for successful project implementation; and (iii) advanced procurement and contract management strategies.
- 3.2 **Component II: Legal and regulatory framework.** will finance consultancies for the development of the secondary public procurement legislation (regulations, manuals, standard bidding documents, etc) that will be needed to go with the new Act. This will be carried in close coordination with the Solicitor General's Office.
- 3.3 **Component III: Electronic government procurement .** will finance the design of a strategy for the Government Procurement Office for the implementation of the new e-procurement system. This strategy will map out the objectives, activities, stakeholders and timeline for that new system. In addition, it will include the development of a procurement spend analysis and a concept note for an inventory management system.

IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
Institutional strengthening	US\$25,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$25,000.00
Legal and regulatory framework	US\$25,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$25,000.00
Electronic government procurement	US\$50,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$50,000.00
Total	US\$100,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$100,000.00

V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

- 5.1 The IDB will execute the Technical Assistance program.
- 5.2 IDB execution of the program is justified given the highly technical nature of the activities and the limited capacity of the Government Procurement Office. The IDB has extensive experience with these types of reforms in low-capacity environments.

VI. Project Risks and Issues

- 6.1 The principal risk associated with this project relates to the capacity of Barbados to implement the project's activities in a timely and effective manner. This will be mitigated by Bank execution of the program, which will be accompanied by close and ongoing technical support.

VII. Environmental and Social Classification

- 7.1 The ESG classification for this operation is "undefined".