

## TC ABSTRACT

### I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	REGIONAL/IDB
▪ TC Name:	Data, knowledge, and accelerating energy transition investments
▪ TC Number:	RG-T4078
▪ Team Leader/Members:	CARVALHO METANIAS HALLACK, MICHELLE (INE/ENE) Team Leader; IRIGOYEN, JOSE LUIS (INE/ENE) Alternate Team Leader; SNYDER, VIRGINIA MARIA (INE/ENE) Alternate Team Leader; MARIANA WEISS (INE/ENE); CARVAJAL LEDESMA, FRANCO ISRAEL (INE/ENE); EMILIO ANGULO (INE/ENE); MARQUEZ BARROETA, FIDEL (INE/ENE); MENDOZA BENAVENTE, HORACIO (LEG/SGO); BALZA ANGULO, LENIN HUMBERTO (INE/INE)
▪ Taxonomy:	Research and Dissemination
▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC:	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	06 Apr 2022
▪ Beneficiary:	Regional
▪ Executing Agency:	INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
▪ IDB funding requested:	US\$600,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding:	US\$0.00
▪ Disbursement period:	36 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Firms; Individuals
▪ Prepared by Unit:	INE/ENE - Energy
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	INE/ENE - Energy
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):	No
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	No
▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2020 to 2023:	Economic integration; Institutional capacity and rule of law

### II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 The general objective of this Technical Cooperation (TC) is to further promote through the Energy HUB the use of available data and information to monitor the energy transition policy goals and allow evidence-based decisions to policymakers and regulators in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) countries. The specific objective of this TC is to make improvements to the digital platform and develop at least two new databases and analytical visualizations for the region, including the creation of energy transition jobs with a focus on gender equity, and the energy transition industrial value chain. The inclusion of these topics in the Energy HUB platform is fully aligned with the main pillars of IDB's Vision 2025.
- 2.2 The Energy HUB takes data and information from several verified sources to support a cross-cutting analysis of the LAC energy landscape. In this way, the Energy HUB contributes to improving the collection of data, allows for data comparability, analysis, and dissemination, and promotes research and innovation in energy. The Energy HUB works together with the six organizations, OLADE, IRENA, ARIAE, SE4All, WRI, and ECLAC. This promotes collaboration and transparency across the region.

- 2.3 To guarantee the continuity of the project, it is necessary to secure the technical cooperation funds in the first semester of 2022 to contract experts to update and improve the Energy HUB services. Continuity is essential to the success of the Energy Hub. To avoid any interruption in the project, it is central to keep the databases updated and the platform running online. Moreover, considering the current requirement of information in the context of the vision 2025, it is crucial to start the development of the new databases. It should include surveys about the labor market transformation and develop a methodology and a database to follow the energy transition value chain. Thus, having the fund in the first semester of 2022 will allow to contract experts and firms during the second semester of 2022 and have the first results before the end of the year.
- 2.4 Under IDB's leadership and initiative, the Energy HUB was created with funding from RG-T3490 and RG-T3691 in 2019. Although most of the data is produced by other IDB projects and Energy HUB Partners, the Energy HUB focuses on organizing and synthesizing data and information from a number of verified and recognized international sources. The Energy HUB fills a gap in the energy sector in LAC since there is no other digital platform that brings together all the relevant energy data together under one site. The data is organized in database formats, making it easy to download, visualize and compare.
- 2.5 Additionally, the Energy HUB platform also hosts important regional initiatives such as Renewables in Latin America and the Caribbean (RELAC) and Latin America and the Caribbean Energy Management Systems Observatory (OSGELAC). These two initiatives promote the inclusion of renewables and energy efficiency in LAC. Going forward, the Energy HUB is planning to host more initiatives aligned with the 2025 Vision, such as the Green Hydrogen Initiative, the Electrifying database, and the Energy Regulatory Platform. The first one, consolidate and systematize the available data and information on Green Hydrogen. The Electrifying database takes publicly available data (collected through machine learning and web scraping techniques), puts it in one place, and allows for a benchmark of the leading utilities in LAC. This database provides the required data and information to analyze improvements to utility infrastructure services, including sustainability and transparency, to name a few. The third initiative, the Energy Regulatory Platform, will publish a map of the governance of the regulatory agencies and the regulatory tools.
- 2.6 The continued improvement of the Energy HUB is key to guaranteeing continuity, safety, reputation, and expansion of data generated with IDB and donor funds. This TC aims to maintain, improve, and expand the Energy HUB functionalities. It seeks to: (i) provide proper maintenance to the Energy Hub website to keep it updated and relevant for users in the region, as well as to improve the service and usability of the platform, incorporating improvements in design, user experience, data visualization, and quality; (ii) develop and integrate new databases and studies that bank's users and clients require on energy transition and post COVID-19 economic recovery, such as job creation in the sector, investment needs and digitization, value chains; and (iii) provide the necessary coordination between stakeholders so that the objectives mentioned above can be met promptly.
- 2.7 The energy HUB is fully aligned with the IDB Vision 2025. It promotes data availability and comparability and monitors critical indicators of the energy transition and how the region is moving forward in the climate change agenda (i.e., renewables targets, CO2 emissions, and projections). It is also key to tracking regional energy transition projects, such as RELAC and OSGELAC. Additionally, it increases the availability of data on the energy sector gender gap as well as on policies and tools to close the gender gap; (iii) it improves the visibility of the information on the digitalization of the energy sector and also promotes the use of data collected through digitalization (i.e., Electrifying and *Energizados*); and (iv) it will create a database of the value chain, job creation and gender bias of the energy transition.

### III. Description of Activities and Outputs

- 3.1 **Component I: Component I: Maintenance and improvement of the Energy Hub Platform.** This component will support the maintenance of the digital platform and improve its quality, optimizing the data processing and updating the databases into the IADB Infradigital Cloud. The expected result is to improve the structure of the Energy HUB platform, ensure an efficient updating of available data, promote the dissemination of information in LAC and improve the Energy Hub Platform.
- 3.2 **Component II: Component II: New Data Collection and Database Construction and Management.** This component will support the improvement of data collection and the creation of two new harmonized databases; (i) energy transition jobs creation and gender bias in LAC; and (ii) energy transition value chain in LAC, containing information on production, innovation, and trade. Once this is completed, the Energy Hub will have more than 20 open databases with visualizations.
- 3.3 **Component III: Energy Hub Update Management and Dissemination.** This component will finance the Energy HUB update management, data revision and consolidation, and dissemination through webinars, social media publications, blogs, and presentations at regional events.

### IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
Component I: Maintenance and improvement of the Energy Hub Platform	US\$185,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$185,000.00
Component II: New Data Collection and Database Construction and Management	US\$350,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$350,000.00
Energy Hub Update Management and Dissemination	US\$65,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$65,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>US\$600,000.00</b>	<b>US\$0.00</b>	<b>US\$600,000.00</b>

### V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

- 5.1 In accordance with OP-619-4 the Bank, through its Energy Division (INE/ENE), will execute the TC following the exceptional case of Regional Technical Cooperation where a regional entity with legal and operational capacity to execute the TC cannot be identified.
- 5.2 Since the Bank is currently responsible for managing the Energy HUB, it will facilitate the execution of the TC considering the diversity of stakeholders to be involved, its region-wide scope, and cutting-edge digital focus. In compliance with GN-2629-1, this TC is classified as Research and Dissemination. The focal points responsible for executing this TC are Michelle Hallack, Project Team Leader, and Virginia Snyder, Alternate Team Leader.

### VI. Project Risks and Issues

- 6.1 The main risks to be considered for the execution of this TC are: (i) positioning, that is challenges associated with increasing use and relevance of the Energy Hub, as one of the most important sources of information in the energy sector in the region requires continuous updates, innovation and dissemination efforts; and (ii) coordination risks

between the different stakeholders that collaborate with the Energy HUB. To mitigate those risks, the team plans to generate a strategic communication plan for the Energy HUB and a closer interaction with partners and potential donors, in order to keep the platform updated, promote a sustained interest in the target population and promote long term sustainability.

- 6.2 The current COVID situation could delay some of the execution of this TC, especially for the fieldwork required to gather information through surveys. This risk will be mitigated by (i) anticipating additional time for the achievement of outputs, especially for activities where data generators are involved that may have intermittence in their activities; (ii) having more than one focal point for each participating institution; (iii) hiring a coordinator to closely monitor any delay and take early measures. The main lessons learned from the Energy Hub are: (i) the use of scalable technologies that require low operation costs, such as the use of a modular platform that eases and reduces the cost of expanding and increasing the number of users of the Energy Hub ; (ii) the storytelling is critical to disseminate databases and to generate better value for policymakers; (iii) to exploit better the knowledge products produced by the IDB TCs and ESWs, it is essential to support the organization of harmonized databases as a deliverable and in the publication process. It allows better use of IDB knowledge resources; and (iv) working with regional partners that already produce information is the most effective way to guarantee the sustainability of data updates. However, it is necessary to establish a collaborative process with periodic meetings, yearly update calendars, and agreed information sharing process and tools.

## **VII. Environmental and Social Classification**

- 7.1 This TC will not finance feasibility or pre-feasibility studies of investment projects with associated environmental and social studies; therefore, it is excluded from the scope of the Bank's Environmental and Social Policy Framework (ESPF).