



# Project Outline

Inter-American Development Bank



Country: BAHAMAS  
Project Number: BH-L1003  
Project Name: EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR COMPETITIVENESS  
As of 30-Mar-2004

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Country:	BAHAMAS
Project:	EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR COMPETITIVENESS
Borrower:	
Total Cost:	\$25,000,000.00
Responsible Division:	SO3 - SOCIAL PROGRAMS DIVISION 3
Executing Agencies:	

Number	BH-L1003
Type of Operation:	Specific Investment Operation
Approval Date:	

## DESCRIPTION

This project is being designed as a multi-phase operation. The Phase I loan will have three components:

- (1) Implementation of new preschool legislation, curriculum, and standards. Possible areas for assistance include: (i) development of targeted programs to facilitate the inclusion of children with unmet needs into the preschool system, including economically disadvantaged children in remote areas, vulnerable populations such as Haitian immigrant children, and children with special needs; (ii) implementation of national standards in preschool centers; (iii) staff training and upgrading; (iv) development and validation of assessment instruments to gauge the cognitive, social, emotional, and physical readiness of young Bahamian children upon entering school, and to identify children with special needs; (v) strengthening MOE capacity to utilize data for planning and advocacy efforts at the national and regional levels, and to inform intervention strategies across sector ministries.
- (2) Implementation of a national framework to align and articulate the technical vocational education training (TVET) system at the secondary and post-secondary levels, including: (i) establishment of a National Training Agency linked with the economic sector to coordinate manpower planning and skills certification; (ii) development of a manpower/labor information system to provide information on current and future employment needs; (iii) operation of a permanent mechanism for private sector participation in the identification and updating of competencies, skills profiles, and standards in accordance with changing economic needs and opportunities; (iv) development of competency-based modular courses at the secondary level to facilitate the seamless transition of students between secondary and post-secondary institutions as well as the world of work; (v) enhancement of BTVI's capacity to generate new revenue streams through the expansion of training in targeted areas of high demand and competitiveness, the extension of demand-driven TVET programs into the Family Islands via regional partnerships, e-learning, and the delivery of customized training.
- (3) This component will provide technical assistance for technology integration. Possible investments include: (i) enhance teacher capacity to use existing technology to deliver the revised primary and secondary education curriculum; (ii) strengthen MOE capacity to deliver quality technical support and training to staff in the Family Islands via distance technology; (iii) introduce information technology as a core subject area in the secondary curriculum; establish and assess E-Literacy standards to ensure that teachers and students are skilled in the basics of computers and technology, consistent with the demands of the world of work; and facilitate MOE intranet / internet operation, and the utilization of data for policy and planning.

## Team

Project Leader:	FRYER, MICHELLE
Members:	TORRES, JORGE ORLANDO; OMANA, AMPARO; SEVILLA, MARIBEL ALVES-FIERRO;
Lawyer:	
Consultants:	

## CLASSIFICATIONS

- ☐ Poverty Target Investment
- ☐ Social Equity Poverty Reduction
- ☐ Head Count
- ☐ Sector
- ☐ Geographic

## FINANCING PLAN

	Currency	Amount
INVESTMENT LOAN	USD	20,000,000.00
COUNTERPART:		5,000,000.00
		Total: 25,000,000.00

## BANKS COUNTRY STRATEGY

A core element of the Bank's country strategy for The Bahamas (GN-2290-1), which was approved in March 2004, is to focus Bank support on relatively small projects, with a high technical content, rather than large infrastructure projects. It also proposes four principal areas of strategic focus: 1) Sustained growth and private sector development; 2) Social development and equity; 3) Environmental management; and 4) Public sector modernization. The Education and Training for Competitiveness Project is consistent with the both the private sector development and social development and equity strategic areas. Moreover, the first phase of the project will focus on institutional development and policy areas and is therefore consistent with the strategy's emphasis on relatively small projects with a high technical assistance content.





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## → OBJECTIVES

3.1 The goal of the proposed project is to facilitate long-term economic competitiveness through the development of a dynamic education and training system that is aligned with the demands of the economy for skilled human resources. The objective of the operation is to contribute to the internal and external efficiency of the education system through a series of targeted interventions that: (i) prepare young Bahamian children for early academic success and social integration; (ii) mitigate the co-existence of skills shortages, unemployment, and lack of relevance of education and training for youth; (iii) facilitate the seamless transition of Bahamian youth from school to work.

## → EXPECTED RESULTS

(1) Increased capacity to manage preschool system, new curriculum implemented, increase of 10% in preschools achieving certification standards. (2) National Training Agency operational and integrated in the education system structure. (3) E-literacy core implemented in pilot schools, increase of 10% in students certified as achieving attainment/competency standards over Phase I. (4) MOE intranet/internet operational with updated and relevant data. (5) Triggers and benchmarks for Phase II initiation achieved without an extension of time for the loan.

Vo.Bo: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved By : \_\_\_\_\_

