

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROFILE

FEBRUARY 15, 2008

I. BASIC PROJECT DATA

Country/Region:	Regional		
Program Name/Number:	Addressing Crime and Violence in the Caribbean Regions: New approaches through Prevention (RG-T1525)		
Team Leader/Members:	Jorge Lamas (ICF/ICS), team leader; Erik Alda (ICF/ICS), Nathalie Alvarado (ICF/ICS) and Juliana Arbelaez (ICF/ICS).		
Date of Request:	Bank's Initiative		
Beneficiary:	Governments of the Bank's borrowing member countries		
Executing Agency:	Inter-American Development Bank through the Institutional Capacity of the State Division		
Financing plan:	IDB (net incomes FSO)	US\$	350,000
	Cofinancing:	US\$	0
	Local:	US\$	25,000
	Total:	US\$	375,000
Technical and Basic Responsibility:	ICF/ICS		
Included in Board approved Technical Cooperation Program:	No		
Tentative dates:	Board of Executive Directors:	March 2008	

II. BACKGROUND AND PROBLEM STATEMENT

A. Crime and Violence Situation in the Caribbean Region

- 2.1 High levels of crime and violence have become an overwhelming phenomenon in the Caribbean region. The average homicide rate at 30.1 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants which makes the Caribbean one of the most violent regions in the world. The sharp increase in violent crimes has been attributed mainly to arms and drug trade, growing inequality, high levels of unemployment, and an increase in the levels of social exclusion of the poor population, especially among young men.

- 2.2 Such high levels of crime and violence have short-term direct effects on human welfare and long-term effects on economic growth and social development, undermine the levels of social cohesion, and affect the overall levels of democratic consolidation of the Caribbean region.
- 2.3 Significant challenges are still ahead in order to battle this problem. The Governments' capacity to address crime and violence issues has been limited to date. Solutions to this problem are manifold and urge a regional and coordinated design of policies to address these problems. Particularly in the areas of firearms, deportees, the provision of employment-relevant education and training, looking at relevant and sound information on crime and violence, the creation of more adequate capacity in law enforcement, the creation of stronger institutions, prevention of youth and domestic violence and the recognition from the states concerned that part of the solution rests on developing the political will to sever the links between politics and violence.

B. The Role of the Bank

- 2.4 The Inter-American Development Bank began to assist in the design and financing of programs related to citizen security and violence prevention in response to the growing demand for these services among Caribbean countries and as a result of the incorporation of these issues in its dialogue with them. Up to date, around US\$40 million in loans have been approved by the Bank to finance citizen security operations in Jamaica and Guyana, and an operation is currently being designed for Trinidad and Tobago.
- 2.5 This technical cooperation project will contribute to strengthening knowledge on key issues related to violence prevention and citizen security and will promote mechanisms of collaboration among Caribbean nations to address this problem.

III. PROGRAM OBJECTIVE AND DESCRIPTION

A. General Objective

- 3.1 The project's general objective is to strengthen the capacity of Caribbean nations to design and implement violence prevention and citizen security programs, in order to promote social and economic growth, support foreign direct investment and tourism, achieve greater social cohesion, and stronger democracies and democratic values.
- 3.2 In order to achieve the stated objectives the project is organized with the following three components: (i) International training workshop on crime and violence prevention and citizen security for the Caribbean region, (ii) development of a regional Caribbean network on crime and violence prevention, and (iii) development and implementation of two citizen security pilot programs in two countries in the region.

B. Component I. International Workshop on Violence Prevention and Citizen Security for the Caribbean Region

- 3.3 This component will finance the organization of an international expert and policymakers' workshop from Latin America and the Caribbean. The purpose of this workshop is to discuss, analyze and propose new and innovative areas of intervention to address crime and violence problems in the Caribbean region. Consulting services will be contracted for the creation of studies related to specific topics such as violence prevention and citizen security for the Caribbean. These topics include: (i) Crime and Violence in the Caribbean: Risks, Trends, and Vulnerabilities; (ii) Tools and Mechanisms to improve National and Regional Information on Crime and Violence; (iii) Preventive Policing: Toward a New Paradigm of Policing; (iv) Communities as Key Actors in Violence Prevention; (v) Addressing Youth Violence: Challenges and Opportunities for Caribbean Youth; (vi) social and community reintegration of deportees; and (vii) New and Innovative Approaches to Crime prevention for the Caribbean Region. Project resources will be used to commission studies from experts in the topics stated above and will be presented, analyzed and discussed during the training workshop.

C. Component II. Caribbean Network on Violence Prevention and Citizen Security

- 3.4 Activities financed in component I will, as a result, seek to promote a regional collaborative strategy among the Caribbean countries to combat the problem of insecurity more effectively through comprehensive public policy, capacity building, and information sharing, as well as sharing promising experiences. The strategy will be formalized and strengthened through component II of this operation.
- 3.5 A network of researchers, practitioners, and key policymakers will be created as a result of the international meeting. This network will foster the development of crime prevention measures, exchange of best practices and the strengthening of the network of competent national authorities working towards violence prevention and citizen security, as well as cooperation between national organizations specializing in this field, specifying the priorities to reduce and prevent crime and violence in the Caribbean region. Project resources will be used to finance experts from the network for the preparation of inputs, including position papers, for a meeting where the findings of the studies will be examined and debated. Special emphasis will be given to consolidating a model for best practices in citizen security initiatives and exploring the potential for progress in neglected areas.

D. Component III: Pilot Programs

- 3.6 This component will finance the design and implementation of two pilot programs in the Bahamas and Barbados. The design of these pilot programs will emphasize

the collection and measurement of data related to crime and violence in order to determine the main issues that affect the country thus enhancing the capacity of decision makers to formulate, implement, and evaluate public policies on citizen security. In addition, during the pilot programs, a set of crime and violence indicators will be developed that will allow for comparison of crime and violence problems among both pilot countries as well as other countries in the region where similar indicators are being developed. Comparison of data is useful for identifying and testing the causes of crime and violence problems as well as drawing lessons from successful interventions and policies and those that have failed.

- 3.7 In order to complement data gathered by the system, it is also important to collect information related to citizen's perception on crime and violence. Perception data, generally collected through surveys—i.e. victimization and attitudes surveys—, will provide additional information about both, crime and violence levels as well as public perceptions of safety, willingness to report crimes, citizen's perceptions regarding public institutions, and attitudes about crime and crime control. In order to collect such information, this component will finance the application of a survey in each country.

IV. BUDGET

- 4.1 The total estimated cost of the project is US\$ 350,000 to be financed with non-reimbursable resources from the Bank net income of the Fund for Special Operations (FSO). Project resources will cover the following types of expenses: consultant honoraries, travel and per diem, design and reproduction of materials, and project coordination. The Government of Jamaica will finance expenses related to the rental of the locale for the international workshop, coffee breaks, and lunches to participants. Project funds will be allocated according to the following budget:

	FSO	Government of Jamaica	Total
Component I International training workshop	100,000	25,000	125,000
▪ Production of inputs (position papers)			
▪ Travel & per diem (training workshop)	75,000		
Component II. Caribbean network on violence prevention and citizen security	20,000		20,000
▪ Consultant honoraries			
Component III. Pilot programs	230,000		230,000
▪ Crime & violence information system (2)	140,000		
▪ Victimization survey (2)	70,000		
▪ Consultant honoraries	20,000		
GRAND TOTALS	350,000	25,000	375,000

V. EXECUTING AGENCY AND EXECUTION STRUCTURE

- 5.1 The project proposed herein would be executed in 14 months with a disbursement period of 18 months. Project execution will be under the responsibility of the Bank.

VI. MAJOR ISSUES

- 6.1 There are no foreseen major issues to be addressed during the preparation of the Plan of Operations.

VII. ACTION PLAN

- 7.1 It is expected that the Plan of Operations will be finalized within the month of February of 2008. One of the main aspects pending is the finalization of the agenda for the international training workshop, which needs to be attached to the Plan of Operations.

VIII. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL STRATEGY

- 8.1 This TC will have no environmental and social impacts and has been classified as category “C”. On the contrary, government counterparts and civil society organizations will benefit from the results of this project since they will have more efficient tools to design targeted citizen security policies and interventions. In addition, reducing and preventing crime and violence will also contribute to the social and economic development of the countries in the region.

APPROVAL

Approved by:

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Dora Currea
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02/29/2008
Date

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