

## Technical Cooperation Abstract

### I. BASIC INFORMATION

Country/Region:	All member countries/Regional
TC Name:	Promoting use of Administrative Registries for Statistical Purposes (the <b>AR4S</b> Initiative)
TC Number:	RG-T2485
Team Leader/Members:	Gilberto Moncada (IFD/ICS), Janine Perfit (IFD/ICS), Blanca Torrico (IFD/ICS); and Mariko Russell (IFD/ICS, Project Team Leader)
Indicate if: Operational Support, Client Support, or Research & Dissemination.	Research & Dissemination
Date of TC Abstract:	April 16, 2014
Beneficiary:	IDB member countries
Executing Agency and contact name	IDB/IFD/ICS
IDB Funding Requested:	US\$470,000 (Knowledge Sharing Program of Korea)
Local counterpart funding:	N/A
Disbursement period (which includes execution period):	12 months
Required start date:	June 2, 2014
Types of consultants	Individuals
Prepared by Unit:	IFD/ICS
Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	IFD/ICS
Included in Country Strategy (y/n);	Yes as part of “County Systems”
TC included in CPD (y/n):	No
GCI-9 Sector Priority:	Yes (poverty targeted)

### II. OBJECTIVES AND JUSTIFICATION

- 2.1 The **main objective** of this Technical Cooperation (TC) is to establish a continuous platform for promoting the use of Administrative registries (AR) for statistical production and sharing knowledge on this theme on a global basis – *Administrative Registries for Statistics (AR4S)*.
- 2.2 **AR are a potential source of low-cost, continuous, and geographically complete statistical data** that usually already exist as part of the administrative processes of various government ministries and agencies. As such, AR cover a broad range of information that is important for the formulation of public policies, including social, demographic, economic and financial data. Many countries actively conduct research on the possibilities for better utilizing administrative data for statistical purposes for several reasons: it is necessary to reduce the workload and cost of obtaining responses to censuses and surveys; and the increase of non-response in censuses and sample-based surveys also requires a new strategy. Some developed countries are in an advanced stage of taking advantage of the use of AR for statistical production.
- 2.3 **In Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), AR are the source of statistics that is less frequently utilized** compared to censuses and sample-based surveys, which are more costly. Current challenges to the use of AR include the technical and institutional weaknesses of the LAC national statistical offices to exercise authority over the production of AR, as well as lack of capacity on the part of the ministries and agencies that administer registries. Specifically, the process of producing statistics based on AR in LAC faces the problem of delivering coherence and applying recommended standards across national statistical systems. This means it is necessary to: improve the coherence between the definitions and classifications used for the AR and those used for censuses and surveys; define classification and coding methods that will allow a precise link among different registers in use; establish methods and good practices to review data inconsistency

arising from the use of different sources, among others. However, many of the national statistical offices (NSO) in the region are not engaged in such activities.

- 2.4 **The Bank has been exploring ways to work with partners that can transfer knowledge regarding the use of AR** for an integrated statistical system to our LAC clients. Nordic countries (Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland) started the process of using AR for statistical production in the 1960s and now are considered to be the world leaders in this theme. The Bank (ICS) and National Institute for Statistics and Geography (INEGI) of Mexico have worked together to organize a series of workshops on the use of AR for statistics for LAC member countries in 2011 and 2012. More recently ICS established a dialogue that is on-going with Statistics Korea (KOSTAT). The “First Statistics Korea-IDB Joint Seminar: Statistics for Development” carried out in October 2013 in the Republic of Korea and financed by the KPC Fund (ATN/KR-13763-RG) allowed the project team and a small group of LAC clients to develop a detailed understanding of the Korean Statistical System (KSS) in which the AR are brought together into a single statistical system despite the large number of government agencies (about 300) involved.
- 2.5 Based on the lessons learned from these activities, **the Bank has positioned itself as the lead institution in promoting the use of AR in the context of the MDB MoU Contact Group<sup>1</sup>**. As the first operation in this theme, the Bank is beginning to implement a program with the countries of the Andean Community to promote the use of use population and business registries for statistical production<sup>2</sup>. A conceptual framework and common methodology will be developed to create an Integrated System of Population and Business Registries. The Bank will coordinate with the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank to learn from their experiences in this area as inputs to the development of the methodology. Further opportunities will be explored to take leadership roles to collaborate with other partners in the area of using administrative data for statistical purposes.
- 2.6 **For the Bank to effectively fulfill the role as the lead institution** of the MOU group, it is necessary to establish a high-profile technical secretariat that coordinates the theme of AR. This secretariat will function as the center of all AR activities for: i) sharing knowledge regarding the production and use of AR on a global level; and ii) coordinating events for outreach and knowledge sharing purposes.

### III. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES/COMPONENTS AND BUDGET

- 3.1 The TC proposes to establish a technical secretariat for AR4S which will function as a center for knowledge sharing initiatives, through the following activities:
- 3.2 **Component I – Establishment of AR4S Secretariat as a Knowledge Sharing Platform**
  - (a) **Creation of AR Portal.** This subcomponent would assist with the creation of an AR Portal. The objective of this portal is the following: 1) create a one-stop source and repository for the theme of an AR for statistical purposes; 2) create an avenue for communication for all parties interested in the theme. For this purpose, the use of the IDB tool *Comunidades* will be explored in consultation with the Knowledge and Learning Sector (KNL).

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<sup>1</sup> Following an agreement by the Heads of Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to improve collaboration on statistical activities among their organizations to support the post-2015 framework at the February 2013 retreat, Heads of MDBs, the IMF, and the UN Secretary General signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on April 19, 2013 to foster improved collaboration in building the statistical capacity of client countries. The MOU lays out the guiding principles necessary to improve the scope, quality and accessibility of the data, and to strengthen client countries’ capacity to produce high-quality statistics for monitoring development outcomes, including post-2015 development goals.

<sup>2</sup> “Population and Housing Statistics Produced with the Use of Official Administrative Registries” (ATN/OC-14340-RG).

- (b) **Preparation of an AR4S Base Document.** A technical paper will be produced that will: i) make a business case on further promoting the AR4S; ii) provide a brief description of the AR4S situation of LAC countries and iii) make recommendations on strategic directions in which the AR4S initiative should develop.
- (c) **Provision of Technical Advisory Services.** This subcomponent will finance professional services from an expert in AR4S who will act as the core technical person of the AR4S Secretariat and will be responsible for managing the entirety of the project.

### 3.3 Component II - Organization of an AR4S Knowledge Sharing International Conference

- (a) **Participation of experts and stakeholders.** The deliverables of this subcomponent are: i) identification and invitation of relevant participants in the AR4S international conference to be held in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2014, which will be comprised of global AR4S experts from the Republic of Korea, Scandinavian countries, international organizations that form part of the MoU Contact Group and LAC statistics producers from NSO and non-NSO; and ii) all logistical arrangements including travels and lodging of the participants, a venue for the event and other related conference services.
- (b) **Involvement of the RPG project by the Andean Community.** A technical workshop of the above-mentioned Regional Public Goods project “Population and Housing Statistics Produced with the Use of Official Administrative Registries” will form part of the AR4S conference agenda. This will not only allow participating experts to make technical contributions but also enhances the visibility of the project in the statistical community.
- (c) **Launching of the Statistics Expert Group.** A group of statistical experts, who can advise the Bank on globally important matters and trends, will be formed as the Statistics Expert Group. Members of this Group will participate in the Conference to carry out a launching ceremony and a panel discussion on AR4S.
- (d) **Preparation of the final document.** The paper mentioned in component I-(b) will be distributed to the participants of the conference prior to the event. Through the discussions during the conference, the document will incorporate a set of agreed-upon principles and proposed actions to promote AR4S and will be published as the final product of the conference. This document will be the base operational document for the AR4S initiative.

- 3.4 The project is expected to be implemented over a 12-month period with technical oversight provided by a principal consultant, who will be an expert in the theme. The indicative budget of the TC is shown in the table below:

**Table III. 1. Indicative Budget (US\$ dollars)**

Component	Description	Budget for item
		US\$
<b>Establishment of AR4S Secretariat</b>	(a) Creation of AR Portal including license purchases	US\$80,000
	(b) Preparation of an AR4S Base document	US\$50,000
	(c) Technical advisory services	US\$100,000
<b>Organization of an International Conference</b>	(a)(b) (c) Participation of experts and stakeholders, including CAN and Expert group	US\$170,000
	(d) Preparation of the final document	US\$50,000
	<b>Contingencies</b>	US\$20,000
	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>US\$470,000</b>

#### **IV. EXECUTING AGENCY AND EXECUTION STRUCTURE**

- 4.1 The administrative and technical supervision of the proposed TC will be under the responsibility of IFD/ICS.
- 4.2 Any contracting will be undertaken following the Bank's policies and procedures. The procurement of individual consulting services will be carried out by the IDB in accordance with Human Resources Department (HRD) policies. The procurement of services different from consultants will be carried out by the Bank in accordance with Corporate Procurement Policies (GN-2303-20).

#### **V. MAJOR ISSUES**

- 5.1 This TC requires a strong commitment and ownership on the part of different stakeholders of the participating countries, not only by the national statistical offices (NSO) but also by the policymaking bodies such as planning offices of the central governments. The project team will ensure that beneficiaries agree to proactively participate in the knowledge-sharing platform on a continuous basis.
- 5.2 Given the highly technical nature of the proposed work, there is a risk that the stakeholders may have different viewpoints on the matter. For this reason the TC will ensure that the materials developed, particularly the AR4S base document, will be peer reviewed by a broad range of experts.

#### **VI. EXCEPTIONS TO BANK POLICY**

- 6.1 No exceptions to Bank policy are envisioned.

#### **VII. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL STRATEGY**

- 7.1 According to the Environment and Safeguards Compliance Policy (OP-703), the TC has been classified as category C. No potential negative environmental and/or social impacts of the TC were identified and therefore no mitigation strategy is required to address any impact. See [IDBdocs# 38742580](#)