

## TC ABSTRACT

### I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	REGIONAL/CCB - Caribbean Group
▪ TC Name:	Strengthening the Implementation Capacity of Caribbean Blue Economy Clusters and Value Chains
▪ TC Number:	RG-T4008
▪ Team Leader/Members:	STEVENSON, CLAUDIA (IFD/CTI) Team Leader; RAMONA SINANAN (IFD/CTI); BROOMES, GREG ANTHONY (IFD/CTI); GONZALEZ ALZUALDE, YOHANA BEATRIZ (IFD/CTI); EMILY LETICIA KELLY CASTILLO (IFD/CTI); SIERRA LIRANZO, MAYRETT (IFD/CTI); ELLIOTT, WAYNE ANTONIO (IFD/CTI); DOHNERT DE LASCURAIN, SYLVIA EVA (IFD/CTI); MARINEZ, CARLOS SAMIR (IFD/CTI); NATALIA ALMEIDA (LEG/SGO)
▪ Taxonomy:	Client Support
▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC:	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	29 Sep 2021
▪ Beneficiary:	Private sector firms legally established in one of the CCPF's Caribbean beneficiary countries
▪ Executing Agency:	INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
▪ IDB funding requested:	US\$1,200,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding:	US\$0.00
▪ Disbursement period:	24 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Individuals; Firms
▪ Prepared by Unit:	IFD/CTI - Competitiveness, Technology and Innovation Division
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	IFD/CTI - Competitiveness, Technology and Innovation Division
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):	Yes
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	No
▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020:	Social inclusion and equality ; Productivity and innovation

### II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 The objective of this TC is to provide implementation support to Caribbean blue economy clusters and value chains to operationalize priority elements within their Compete Caribbean financed Cluster Development Plans (CDPs).
- 2.2 This TC represents the second (2nd) phase of the blue economy cluster call under RG-T3815 to stimulate collaborative projects within Caribbean-based, blue economy companies/actors to enhance their economies of scale and scope in the delivery of products and services, and collectively increase competitiveness, revenues, employment, and exports within the post-COVID-19 context. With particular emphasis on gender equality and social inclusion of women and vulnerable groups, this TC will facilitate the transfer of clustering capacity to analyze strategic options and implement a growth plan through the cluster methodology. This approach was carefully designed based on the strategy undergirding the Compete Caribbean Partnership Facility (CCP) to overcome barriers related to economies of scale and competitiveness. Currently Six (6) Cluster Development Plans (CDPs), are developed under RG-T3815 which provided project capacity development support to gender-inclusive, blue economy

clusters and value chains in the Caribbean. Upon the approval of the Investment Panel Three (3) shorslited projects will be receiving support for the implementation of their cluster development plans. The selection process from the investment panel will determine the identification of the beneficiary countries from the following Caribbean countries including the Bahamas, Belize, Grenada, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago. The request for non-objection letters from countries counterparts will be submitted accordingly during the QRR stage.

### III. Description of Activities and Outputs

- 3.1 **Component I: Capacity building to help blue economy clusters increase productivity, quality of products, as well as overall quantity of supplies..** This component will seek to increase the capacity of Blue Economy MSMEs from the selected CDPs to supply their products in a more consistent manner, and according to the quality expected by the market segment targeted.
- 3.2 **Component II: Marketing and international market penetration .** To support clusters to access markets by procuring a consulting firm or individual consultants to develop and implement marketing plans.
- 3.3 **Component III: Cluster project coordination, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) .** To finance cluster managers to oversee the cluster projects, to monitor progress and evaluate results to ensure effective reporting. The outputs under this component include the implementation of the CDPs as well as the monitoring and evaluation reports for each project.

### IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
Capacity building to help blue economy clusters increase productivity, quality of products, as well as overall quantity of supplies.	US\$600,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$600,000.00
Marketing and international market penetration	US\$350,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$350,000.00
Cluster project coordination, monitoring and evaluation (M&E)	US\$250,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$250,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>US\$1,200,000.00</b>	<b>US\$0.00</b>	<b>US\$1,200,000.00</b>

### V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

- 5.1 The execution of this TC will be carried out by the Bank through the Competitiveness and Innovation Division (IFD/CTI) in coordination with the Compete Caribbean Partnership Facility (CCPF) Coordination Unit established in COF Barbados.
- 5.2 Project output indicators will be monitored following the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework of the CCPF. In accordance with a Financial Agency Agreement signed between the IDB and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the CDB will act as the Financial Agent for the purposes of administering the Facility grant resources that will finance the implementation of individual projects in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). The Complete Caribbean's Facility Coordination Unit, approved under GN-2851, was jointly designed with donors to be a Bank Executed Program, has great experience on successful implementation of cluster

projects in the Caribbean. The Bank has demonstrated its ability to coordinate and motivate action across diverse stakeholders at both the national and regional levels.

## **VI. Project Risks and Issues**

- 6.1 The most significant risks to achieving the planned objective are: (i) at times in project execution where work effort is more intense such as during start-up, the additional workload could place strain on the IMA with a small staff complement; and (ii) inadequate level of collaboration across private sector firms benefiting from the program.
- 6.2 These risks have been analyzed and appropriate risk-mitigating measures identified. Compete Caribbean's Facility Coordination Unit, which has a track record for successful implementation of cluster projects, will monitor the IMA and private sector firms closely and will assist more with execution during peak periods. A team comprising FCU staff and IDB specialists will provide technical inputs and oversight for the duration of the project implementation and will review and exercise quality control over the projects' deliverables. In addition, there is scope for such BSOs to hire additional resources to address staffing constraints. During project start-ups emphasis will be placed on mobilizing public and private stakeholders, communicating project goals, and highlighting their roles in successful implementation. Regular monitoring and progress reporting to stakeholders by the BSOs will keep them engaged throughout implementation. Such frequent communication and sharing of information will help to increase trust across stakeholders to work collaboratively.

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

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