

TC ABSTRACT

I. Basic Project Data

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| ▪ Country/Region: | TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO/CCB - Caribbean Group |
| ▪ TC Name: | Promoting the Blue Economy for Sustainable Economic Recovery in Tobago |
| ▪ TC Number: | TT-T1103 |
| ▪ Team Leader/Members: | ALLENG, GERARD P. (CSD/CCS) Team Leader; STEVENSON, CLAUDIA (IFD/CTI) Alternate Team Leader; RAMSUMAIR-JOHN, PRIYA ELIZABETH (CCB/CTT); SAAVEDRA, JOSE JORGE (CCB/CCB); GOMEZ, JUAN CARLOS (CSD/CCS); CEVA ALVAREZ, MARIANA DANIELA (CSD/CCS); DEOPERSAD, CHITRALEKHA (RSM/SEG); ALMEIDA OLEAS, NATALIA (LEG/SGO); FLORES AGUILAR, ADRIAN (CSD/CCS); MAHARAJ, KAVITA (CCB/CTT); DOOKIESINGH, VASHTIE K.; ALLEYNE, JUNE JULIANNA CECILIA (IFD/CTI); HORI, TSUNEKI (CSD/RND); BONZI TEIXEIRA, AUGUSTO CESAR (INE/ENE); LEWIS, GILROY FRANCIS (INE/WSA); LOUIS-GRANT, PAULA (VPC/FMP) |
| ▪ Taxonomy: | Client Support |
| ▪ Date of TC Abstract: | 07 Nov 2020 |
| ▪ Beneficiary: | Republic of Trinidad and Tobago |
| ▪ Executing Agency: | INSTITUTE OF MARINE AFFAIRS |
| ▪ IDB funding requested: | US\$100,000.00 |
| ▪ Local counterpart funding: | US\$0.00 |
| ▪ Disbursement period: | 24 months |
| ▪ Types of consultants: | Individuals; Firms |
| ▪ Prepared by Unit: | CSD/CCS - Climate Change |
| ▪ UDR: | CCB/CTT - Trinidad & Tobago Country Office |
| ▪ TC included in Country Strategy: | Yes |
| ▪ TC included in CPD: | Yes |
| ▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020: | Productivity and innovation; Environmental sustainability; Gender equality |

II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 The proposed TC has the objective to mainstream the Blue Economy in the context of economic recovery efforts in Tobago. This initiative is framed in the current IDB Group's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic Outbreak and seeks to generate inputs for informed decision making in Trinidad and Tobago regarding alternatives for a sustainable recovery. It intends to create an environment for economic innovation and diversification following the Blue Economy approach.
- 2.2 The economy of the island also experiences challenges related to the environment and climate change. Like many Caribbean coastal zones, Tobago is already being impacted negatively by events such as deforestation, land-based and marine pollution, increased sedimentation, and coastal water quality, the occurrence of sargassum blooms, and lionfish, among others. The island is also highly vulnerable to natural hazards and climate change-related phenomena such as tropical storms and flooding events, among others. Although no specific information for Tobago was found, recent studies suggest that in a high emissions scenario in Trinidad and Tobago could experience sea-level rise ranging from 62 cm to 1.15 m by 2100 and that climate change could cause an increase in average summer temperature of over +3.5° Celsius. To prompt an economic recovery from the coronavirus crisis, address the

inherent socio-economic challenges of a Small Island Developing State (SID), and comply with local development strategies, Tobago must rethink how to use its natural resources, especially marine and coastal. The Blue Economy offers great opportunities for the country to harness resources sustainably and to leverage its services beyond traditional business models. This approach allows for diversification into new emerging ocean-based activities and sectors and to generate employment and growth whilst ensuring the sustainable use of ocean resources into the future. Mainstreaming this approach could include the establishment and/or consolidation of ocean-based industries in Tobago such as fisheries and tourism. Several steps have been identified to create a Blue Economy framework, namely: setting clear targets; creating economic and policy frameworks that provide an enabling environment for the Blue Economy to develop; effectively governing the use of marine space and resources; and developing and applying standards, guidelines, and best practices that support a Sustainable Blue Economy.

III. Description of Activities and Outputs

- 3.1 **Component 1. Elaboration of an integrated Blue Economy Roadmap for a sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19.** This component consists of the creation of a roadmap to help develop the Blue Economy in Tobago as a pathway to economic recovery from COVID-19.
- 3.2 **Component 2. Blue Economy Investment and Innovation promotion.** The main outputs are: (i) the sensitization of stakeholders; (ii) the identification of innovative projects/solutions for sustainable diversification and recovery through the Blue Economy; and (iii) the identification of best practices approaches, and capacities required to coordinate Blue Economy among stakeholders. It will be supported by activities being undertaken by the Sustainable Islands Platform (RG-T2960) specifically related to implementation of a Blue Economy campaign for Tobago.
- 3.3 **Component 3. Project Administration.** This component will finance (i) the hiring of a project manager, and (ii) a final evaluation.

IV. Budget

Indicative Budget (US\$)

| Activity/Component | IDB/Fund | Counterpart | Total |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| Elaboration of an integrated Blue Economy Roadmap for a sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 | 40,000 | | 40,000 |
| Blue Economy Investment and Innovation promotion | 45,000 | 0 | 45,000 |
| Project Administration | 15,000 | 0 | 15,000 |
| Total | 100,000 | 0 | 100,000 |

V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

- 5.1 The TC will be executed by the Institute of Marine Affairs (IMA) with support from the IDB. A project manager will be hired under Component 3, which will provide managerial and technical input into the program. The IMA also has on its staff finance and accounting and procurement officers. These positions are necessary to manage the necessary inputs of the project and respond to the various requirements of Bank operations. The IDB role is essential to support the coordination and articulation of the activities between the different stakeholders towards the achievement of the objectives. Furthermore, the IDB will be able to leverage its extensive network of internal and external subject-matter experts and well-established relationships with stakeholders to ensure adequate execution. Procurement will be carried out following the Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the IDB (GN-2350-9).

- 5.2 This TC will be executed by the Institute of Marine Affairs (IMA) with support from the IDB. The IMA is the responsible entity at the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to address the sustainable management of ocean resources. The institute has broad experience working with international cooperation partners including the IDB. Previously, both entities have collaborated in projects related to Integrated Coastal Zone Management, climate change adaptation, oceanographic studies and wastewater management in Trinidad and Tobago. The IMA has an adequate technical, administrative, and financial structure to deal with the requirements set by a Technical Cooperation of this nature.

VI. Project Risks and Issues

- 6.1 Ideally, the development of the roadmap should be a very participatory approach, which would aid key stakeholders in improving understanding of Blue Economy approaches and increasing ownership of the roadmap, which in turn increases support for its implementation. Developing the Roadmap during the pandemic can reduce face to face contact and level of dialogue between the technical experts and local stakeholders. To mitigate this risk, it is crucial to ensure that key stakeholders can engage electronically. Also, having a structured engagement and communications plan, with multiple opportunities for allowing participation of stakeholders at various levels (grassroots to senior public and private sector stakeholders) should be prioritized. Finally, the IDB should ensure that consulting teams comprise an optimal balance of local and foreign-based experts and local experts having the capacity to mobilize and engage stakeholders.
- 6.2 Another risk is related to the sustainability of the Blue Economy funding after the roadmap is developed. To mitigate this risk, the roadmap should be focused on maximizing private sector participation in all areas, including the protection of Blue Economy assets. Also, the roadmap should be accompanied by a Financing Strategy. The investment promotion agency should be integral to the institutional and inter-institutional arrangements for coordinating the implementation of the roadmap.
- 6.3 Finally, measuring the contribution of Blue Economy related activities to national and satellite accounts requires collecting long term data from identified industries. There is uncertainty regarding the availability of required data. This project will work closely with the Central Statistical Office of Trinidad and Tobago and will develop an MRV system that would allow efficient data collection and subsequent decision making.

VII. Environmental and Social Classification

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