**TC ABSTRACT**

**I. Basic Project Data**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ▪ Country/Region: | BARBADOS/CCB - Caribbean Group |
| ▪ TC Name: | Strengthening Human and Social Development in Barbados |
| ▪ TC Number: | BA-T1054 |
| ▪ Team Leader/Members: | Veronica Alaimo, Team Leader (LMK/CCH); Fernando Pavon (LMK/CJA), alternate team leader; Luis Tejerina (SCL/SPH); Natasha Boyce (CCB/CBA); Ethel Muhlstein (SCL/LMK); Tania Gaona (SCL/LMK); Betina Hennig (LEG/SGO) |
| ▪ Taxonomy: | Operational Support (OS) |
| ▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC: | Strengthening Human and Social Development in Barbados-BA-L1032 - Support to Execution Building Capacity for Public Policy Enhancement in Social & Labor Intermediation-BA-T1038 - Support to Execution |
| ▪ Date of TC Abstract: | 18 Apr 2018 |
| ▪ Beneficiary: | Ministry of Social Care (MSCD) and Ministry of Labor (MLSD) |
| ▪ Executing Agency: | Inter-American Development Bank, Social Sector, Labor Markets Division (SCL/LMK) |
| ▪ IDB funding requested: | $ 150,000 |
| ▪ Local counterpart funding: | 0 |
| ▪ Disbursement and execution period: | 24 months |
| ▪ Types of consultants: | Individual consultants and consulting firms |
| ▪ Prepared by Unit: | Labor Markets Division (SCL/LMK) |
| ▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility: | Labor Markets Division (SCL/LMK) |
| ▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n): ▪ TC included in CPD (y/n): | No Yes |
| ▪ 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 technical cooperation (TC) is to provide support to the Government of Barbados (GOB) to prepare inputs that will further facilitate the execution of loan BA-L1032 (3542/OC&CH-BA). There is need for continued cooperation under the TC to fund the additional work that is required to strengthen the inter-agency coordination and facilitate the successful completion of the program.

2.2 To date, during the implementation of the loan BA-L1032 (3542/OC&CH-BA), the need for additional technical and operational support, as well as capacity building, in addition to what has already been provided by the initial TC BA-T1038 has been clearly identified. First, during the initial phase of the project, a paper-based remedial program, identifying curricula in these areas, was developed. The next step to obtain optimal benefits would be to transition from the paper-based remedial program to a fully blended-learning program. This will result in a system that is more easily accessible to persons and will also expose participants to basic computer skills. Second, component 3 of the loan addresses the design and implementation of a management information system (MIS), which will focus on ensuring the efficient flow of information and facilitates case management across all the Social Safety Net agencies. The loan addresses the hardware, software, roll-out and training of an MIS solution implemented through the services of an MIS firm. However, there are some pre-implementation planning activities necessary to facilitate a smoother implementation and to garner a higher level of buy-in, including more detailed business process investigations, standardization and harmonization of data, tools, processes and taxonomies. Finally, the project continues to experience delays in execution that required continued operational support to the Executing Agency (EA) and the Program Execution Unit (PEU).

**III. Description of Activities and Outputs**

3.2 **Component 1. Development of a blended remedial learning package for ISEE Bridge beneficiaries.** The component will finance the further development of the blended-learning platform for the enhanced literacy and numeracy skills programmes, transitioning from the paper-based to a fully blended-learning program.

3.3 **Component 2. Pre-implementation Planning and Support for the Management Information System.** This component will finance a business process consultant with responsibilities for pre-implementation activities relating to business process refining, standardization and harmonization of the tools, forms, taxonomy and reporting.

3.4 **Component 3. Project Management, Operational and Administrative Support.** This Component will finance a resource person to support other technical and operational activities, as needed and assisting with the execution of the loan.

**IV. Budget**

**Indicative Budget (US$)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity/Component** | **IDB/Fund Funding** | **Counterpart Funding** | **Total Funding** |
| Component 1. Development of a blended remedial learning package for ISEE Bridge beneficiaries. | $ 20,000 | $ 0 | $ 20,000 |
| Component 2. Pre-implementation Planning and Support for the Management Information System. | $ 70,000 | $ 0 | $ 70,000 |
| Component 3. Project Management, Operational and Administrative Support. | $ 60,000 | $ 0 | $ 60,000 |
| TOTAL | 150,000 | 0 | 150,000 |

**V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure**

5.1 As requested by the Government of Barbados (GOB), the Bank will execute this TC. The Labor Markets Division (SCL/LMK) will be responsible for the direction, supervision and coordination of this TC. No audits or results evaluation will be performed. The execution of the TC will be monitored based on the results matrix. The Bank will coordinate its work extensively with GOB benefitting entities, most directly, MSCD and MLSD.

5.2 This execution scheme is proposed for the following reasons: (i) SCL/LMK has particular technical expertise in social development and labor market programs, specifically based on international best practices; and (ii) administrative burdens can be reduced on the government, particularly in the identification and contracting of international experts.

**VI. Project Risks and Issues**

6.1 The success of the project will depend on a significant level of the engagement and participation of the relevant public and private stakeholders in Barbados. Insufficient integration, coordination and communication among government agencies may also lead to delays in project execution. To mitigate this risk, the TC will finance a technical, operational, and administrative consultant with project management experience to support the EA with loan execution.

**VII. Environmental and Social Classification**

7.1 The ESG classification for this operation is "C".