

TC ABSTRACT

I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	PERU/CAN - Andean Group
▪ TC Name:	Fostering Students' Indigenous Language Skills
▪ TC Number:	PE-T1486
▪ Team Leader/Members:	NASLUND-HADLEY, EMMA INGRID (SCL/EDU) Team Leader; MENDEZ VARGAS, CAROLINA PATRICIA (SCL/EDU) Alternate Team Leader; ALBERTOS, CARMEN (SCL/GDI); US ALVAREZ, HUGO AMADOR (SCL/GDI); BLASCO, IVANA (SCL/EDU); HOKONOHARA, KENJI (SCL/EDU); COLQUI SEGAMA, SALLY JASMIN (CAN/CPE)
▪ Taxonomy:	Client Support
▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC:	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	17 Aug 2021
▪ Beneficiary:	Peru Ministry of Education (MINEDU)
▪ Executing Agency:	ORGANIZACION DE ESTADOS IBEROAMERICANOS
▪ IDB funding requested:	US\$700,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding:	US\$78,000.00 (In Kind)
▪ Disbursement period:	36 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Individuals; Firms
▪ Prepared by Unit:	SCL/EDU - Education
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	CAN/CPE - Country Office Peru
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):	No
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	No
▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020:	Social inclusion and equality

II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 The aim is to develop, validate, and evaluate a digital language application for learning one Andean indigenous language. The digital language application will be user friendly and be possible to use offline. For example, the application could be used on a mobile phone, which has strong penetration in poor and rural areas across Latin America (even the poorest countries in the region have more mobile phones than population). The specific objectives are to: (i) develop a digital language application in one indigenous language; (ii) conduct an experimental pilot with some 4,000 indigenous students in Quechua-speaking communities (e.g. in Huancavelica, Ayacucho or Apurimac); (iii) conduct a rigorous evaluation; and (iv) disseminate the results.
- 2.2 Fears of the COVID-19 virus and loss of learning opportunities in the cities of Latin America are pushing indigenous peoples to return to their areas of origin. After decades of indigenous peoples migrating to cities in search of better livelihoods, the region is experiencing a reversed migration on an unprecedented scale.
- 2.3 For school aged indigenous children, the reversed migration poses a particular challenge. Many have weak or no skills in their indigenous language. The lack of language skills makes assimilation challenging as children struggle to establish

friendships, interact with grandparents and other relatives, and develop a sense of belonging in their communities. The lack of indigenous language skills also makes learning difficult as instruction in many schools catering to the indigenous population is conducted in part in the indigenous language, rather than in Spanish.

- 2.4 Against this background, the TC Project proposes to develop, validate, and evaluate a digital language application for learning one indigenous language. The digital language application will be user friendly and be possible to use offline. For example, the application could be used on a mobile phone, which has strong penetration in poor and rural areas across Latin America (even the poorest countries in the region have more mobile phones than population). Once the impact of the digital language application on students' indigenous language skills, sense of belonging, social relations, and related indicators has been established in one indigenous language (for example a Quechua language), the application could be scaled to other languages.
- 2.5 The Peruvian Japanese Association (APJ). Since 1917, the APJ has operated as a non-profit institution in Peru, bringing together Japanese emigrants and their descendants. The mission of the APJ is to lead the strengthening of the Nikkei Community and its contribution to the development of Peru. Nevertheless, in recent decades APJ has started to support vulnerable communities in Peru more broadly. In this vein, one of the strategic areas of work of APJ is the support of Education Services, including scholarships and financing of different vocational courses for thousands of vulnerable youths. The APJ has committed itself to be a partner in the proposed TC (EZSHARE-1953724213-2).

III. Description of Activities and Outputs

- 3.1 **Component I: Development of indigenous Language Application.** This component will finance the design of an interactive technological application to support indigenous language development of students who have grown up outside the communities of origin of their families. The application will be innovative in that it will be able to use offline and be the first interactive language learning application for an indigenous language in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- 3.2 **Component II: Pilot Implementation.** The TC will finance the piloting of the language application to assess how it affect language development, community integration, perceptions and attitudes of indigenous adolescents.
- 3.3 **Component III: Assessment of Indigenous Students.** TC resources will finance the piloting of the language application to assess how it affect language development, community integration, perceptions and attitudes of indigenous adolescents.
- 3.4 **Component IV: Dissemination & Other Costs.** TC resources will finance the dissemination of findings through a publication, presentations and dialogue with the authorities, and a short video. Other costs includes OEI adminstination fee and financial audit expenses.

IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
Development of indigenous Language Application	US\$180,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$180,000.00
Pilot Implementation	US\$260,000.00	US\$78,000.00	US\$338,000.00
Assessment of Indigenous Students	US\$145,600.00	US\$0.00	US\$145,600.00
Dissemination & Other	US\$114,400.00	US\$0.00	US\$114,400.00

Costs			
Total	US\$700,000.00	US\$78,000.00	US\$778,000.00

V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

- 5.1 The TC will be executed by the Organization of Iberoamerican States in Peru. As the executing agency of the TC, the OEI will be responsible for: (i) coordinating the actors involved in the activities of the initiative/project; (ii) identify the studies and technical work necessary to carry out the TC; (iii) select and contract consultants to provide the necessary services; (iv) supervise the consulting services to which the beneficiary provides technical inputs; and (v) manage the execution and provision of consulting services.
- 5.2 The execution of the TC by the OEI is justified as the OEI has extensive experience of work in indigenous communities throughout Peru and in LAC. In addition, the OEI has successful experience in Panama in the execution of IDB operations (PN-T1224).
- 5.3 The execution of the evaluation component of the TC by the Bank is justified since the TC is part of a regional IDB research agenda on intercultural bilingual education. The justification is consistent with Appendix 10 of the Operational Guidelines for Technical Cooperation Products (as modified Annex 2 of GN-619-4) criteria Applied to contracting by the Bank.

VI. Project Risks and Issues

- 6.1 The execution of a pilot based on an experimental design in a context such as rural Peru presents logistical challenges. This is particularly true in indigenous communities that often have limited road infrastructure, where homes are located in difficult terrain and with extreme weather conditions. However, OEI, MINEDU and the IDB have many years of experience in working with education in remote geographic areas, including the delivery of education technology programs in rural and urban marginalized areas. To mitigate risks associated to logistics, the project includes enough resources to ensure additional travel time when needed. The unpredictability of the COVID-19 pandemic constitutes a challenge. It is uncertain if they will open and remain open. In response to this risk, randomization is conducted at the household level.

VII. Environmental and Social Classification

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