

PROJECT SUMMARY
BARBADOS
INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT SECTOR FACILITY
Modernization of the Barbados Statistical Service
(BA-L1009)

Borrower:	Government of Barbados (GOB)	
Executing agency:	The Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Energy (MOF) through the Barbados Statistical Service (BSS);	
Bank's financing amount and source:	IDB financing: (OC)	US\$5.00 million
	Local counterpart:	<u>US\$1.25 million</u>
	Total:	US\$6.25 million
Financial terms and conditions:	Amortization period:	20 years
	Grace period:	4 years
	Disbursement period:	4 years
	Single currency facility:	US Dollar
	Interest Rate:	LIBOR-based option
	Credit Fee:	*
Objectives:	Inspection and Supervision:	*
	The general objective of the program is to strengthen the BSS ability to provide relevant, timely and quality economic and social statistics, and to establish its leadership in this area within the public sector.	
Components:	The project includes six components: (i) strengthening of the legal framework to enable the BSS to perform its duties more effectively; (ii) establishment of a statistics network including governmental agencies which produce relevant public data; (iii) improvement of managerial and administrative procedures of the BSS; (iv) development and improvement of priority statistical products; (v) improvement of the human capacity of the BSS; and (vi) enhancement of the technical infrastructure of the BSS and its capacity for disseminating its products and for facilitating public access to information.	

* The credit fee and inspection and supervision fee will be established periodically by the Board of Executive Directors as part of its review of the Bank's lending charges, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Bank's policy on lending rate methodology for ordinary capital loans. In no case will the credit fee exceed 0.75% or the inspection and supervision fee exceed, in a given six month period, the amount that would result from applying 1% to the loan amount, divided by the number of six-month periods included in the original disbursement period.

Special contractual conditions:	<p>Prior to first disbursement: (i) The Statistical Steering Committee (SSC) has been established; (ii) the Project Coordinating Unit (PCU) has been established and its staff appointed, including: the Project Coordinator (PC), the senior accountant, the project officer and one clerk/typist. In addition to the above-mentioned appointments, the schedule for contracting of the procurement specialist has been presented to the Bank; (iii) the Annual Operating Plan (AOP) for the first year of Project execution has been presented for the Bank's non-objection; and (iv) the Project Operating Manual (POM) has entered into effect.</p> <p>Special disbursement: Once the Loan Contract has entered into effect and the general conditions prior to first disbursement of the Loan Contract have been met, the Bank may disburse to the Borrower up to the amount of US\$200,000 from Bank's financing to hire the staff for the Executing Unit and the training advisor and to provide for required office supplies and equipment.</p>
Relationship to Bank country and sector strategy:	<p>The focus of the Country Strategy (CS) is on addressing institutional and capacity weaknesses that inhibit the efficient and competitive functioning of the public and private sectors. Consequently, it proposes a program that concentrates on small operations and facilities aimed at addressing such weaknesses through targeted interventions in areas such as customs and tax administration, standards, procurement and the strengthening of statistical services.</p>
Coordination with other multilateral development institutions:	<p>The program takes into account the work done by the CARICOM through Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Center (CARTAC),¹ and the Bank is requesting from this agency support for the project in terms of quality review of terms of reference (TOR) and bidding documents in the procurement process. No other donor is currently involved in this field.</p>
Environmental/ social classification:	<p>Given the nature of the program, involving institutional reforms, the activities to be financed will not have negative environmental or social effects. The project will improve availability of gender and environmental related statistics.</p> <p>The project will assist the BSS in the collection of environmental data through the modular household survey, including: (i) water supply; (ii) sewerage availability; and (iii) garbage collection availability. Improvements in gender statistic include population</p>

¹ Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Center (CARTAC) is a regional resource, based in Barbados, which provides technical assistance and training in core areas of economic and financial management at the request of its participating countries. The CARICOM Council of Ministers of Finance and Planning (COFAP) took the decision to establish the Center in September 1999. The Center became operational in November 2001.

data collection and projections at a district level also through the modular household survey.

Potential benefits: The main benefit of this program will be to strengthen the availability of timely and accurate statistical products and services in the country. The public and private sectors as well as the civil society will be beneficiaries of the project.

Potential risks: Risks include: (i) Government capacity for ensuring sustainable reforms may waive over time; (ii) weak inter-agency cooperation could obstruct modernization of the statistical system; (iii) lack of approval of a new legal framework could weaken the ability of BSS to enforce some internal and external activities needed for enhancing the timeliness and quality of statistics; and (iv) delayed project execution due to slow procurement and decision-making processes.

Poverty-targeting and social sector classification: This operation does not qualify as a social equity-enhancing project, as described in the indicative targets mandated by the Bank's Eighth Replenishment (document AB-1704). Furthermore, this operation does not qualify as a poverty-targeted investment (PTI), although the project can result in improving information on poverty and indirectly assist in improving social program targeting.

Procurement plan and timeframe, threshold amounts for ICB: **Goods.** The procurement of goods and related services different from consulting services will be carried out pursuant to the provisions set forth in Document GN-2349-7 "Policies for the Procurement of Works and Goods Financed by the Inter-American Development Bank". International Competitive Bidding (ICB) will be compulsory for procurement of goods for more than US\$150,000. National Competitive Bidding (NCB) may be used for goods whose cost is equal or more than US\$50,000 but less than US\$150,000. The shopping procedure will be used for the acquisition of goods whose cost is less than US\$50,000.

Consultants. The selection and contracting of consulting services will be carried out pursuant to the provisions set forth in Document GN-2350-7 "Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants Financed by the Inter-American Development Bank". The Executing Agency will be able to use the methods of selection set forth in Section II and in paragraphs 3.2 to 3.8 of Section III of Document GN-2350-7. For purposes of paragraph 2.7 of Document GN-2350-7, the short list of consultants for contracts estimated to be below the equivalent of two hundred thousand dollars (US\$200,000) can be composed in its entirety by national consultants.

Based on the result of the institutional analysis, which included a capacity assessment to administer procurement, all contracts will be subject to the Bank's prior review.

Key performance indicators and monitoring benchmarks:

The following key indicators will be used to measure the achievement of the program outputs and outcomes. See the Logical Framework for more details on baselines, success indicators, and means of verification (Annex I).

a. Outcomes: Improved availability of relevant, timely and quality statistical data offered by the BSS to the public sector, the business community and the general public.

b. Outputs: Modernization of the BSS including: (i) improved legal framework; (ii) creation of a statistics network; (iii) improvement of statistical administration through institutional reengineering; (iv) enhancement of statistical products offered by BSS; (v) development of human capacity for producing statistics; and (vi) upgrading of the technical infrastructure and better public outreach.

Reporting arrangements jointly with Bank and executing agency:

The system for monitoring and evaluation will include: (i) the examination of the technical and financial reports; (ii) annual program review meetings; and (iii) independent midterm and final evaluations.