



**MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARY**

Level 14, Eric Williams Financial Building, Independence Square, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, W1
Tel: 612 3000 ext. 2016/1329

PD: 11/4/122

July 2nd, 2021

Carina Cockburn
Representative
Country Office of Trinidad and Tobago
Inter-American Development Bank
17 Alexandra Street, St. Clair
Port of Spain

Dear Ms Cockburn,


Non-Reimbursable Technical Cooperation: Capacity Building of the Institute of Marine Affairs to Implement the Blue Economy Innovation Challenge in the Caribbean – Request for a Modification to the Executing Arrangements

Reference is made to correspondence from the Ministry of Planning and Development (MPD) to the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) on the Technical Cooperation (TC) project *Capacity Building of the Institute of Marine Affairs to Implement the Blue Economy Innovation Challenge in the Caribbean*. This TC is geared towards supporting Caribbean start-ups and innovative firms within the Blue Economy by increasing the technical capacity of support institutions to stimulate productivity and innovation in firms. This TC will also help develop the IMA to promote gender-responsive entrepreneurship and innovation in the Blue Economy.

By letter dated February 10th 2021, the MPD provided non-objection for the Bank to proceed with the TC. Additionally, approval was granted for the Institute of Marine Affairs (IMA) to be the Executing Agency for the project. However, following further consultation between the IDB and the IMA it was determined that the most feasible and timely option is to request that the IDB execute the TC on behalf of the Government in order to minimize the risk of delays in implementation. It is noted that the IMA is still the Beneficiary and main counterpart of the TC. As such, the Ministry is requesting that the Bank take the necessary actions to put this amendment into effect.

I look forward to a positive response to this request.

Sincerely


Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Planning and Development

**PERMANENT SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT**



INSTITUTE OF MARINE AFFAIRS

A Statutory Body established by Act of Parliament, No. 15 of 1976

June 29, 2021

Compete Caribbean Partnership Facility
The Inter-American Development Bank
"Hythe" Welches, Maxwell Main Road
Christ Church, BB17068, Barbados

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Letter of Commitment

The Institute of Marine Affairs requests a technical cooperation from the Compete Caribbean Partnership Facility^[1] (CCPF) to 1) strengthening the institutional capacity of our organization to stimulate innovation and entrepreneurship in the private sector within the Blue Economy in the form of strategy development consultant to address institutional gaps, optimize results, and disseminate knowledge across the region; and 2) to build a pipeline of promising projects involving the private sector operating in the Blue Economy that can be funded by Compete Caribbean.

We ask that the execution of the technical cooperation be carried out by the IDB in coordination with CCPF. The pipeline projects will be selected competitively in compliance with the Facility's operating regulations to foster inclusive and sustainable economic growth in the region. To implement the projects selected, the Institute of Marine Affairs will contribute its knowledge and expertise of the sector acquired over the past 40 years. The time of the current staff and other in-kind contributions allocated to this effort have an estimated value of at least USD\$100,000.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Rahanna Juman
Acting Director
Phone number: 868 634-4291-4 Ext 2531 or 868 722 3777