

## TC ABSTRACT

### I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	REGIONAL/Regional
▪ TC Name:	Promoting Open Government, Innovation and Open Data in Latin American & the Caribbean countries (LAC)
▪ TC Number:	RG-T3225
▪ Team Leader/Members:	DASSEN, NICOLAS (IFD/ICS) Team Leader; MUENTE KUNIGAMI, ARTURO (IFD/ICS); VASQUEZ JORDAN, DARINKA GIOVANNA (IFD/ICS); HOFFMAN, NATHALIE ALEXANDRA (IFD/ICS); VICENTINI DE ARMAS, ISABEL CRISTINA (IFD/ICS); MAHFOUZ, GIOVANNA L. (IFD/ICS); CATANO GUZMAN, MARIANA (IFD/ICS); ROJAS GONZALEZ, SONIA AMALIA (IFD/ICS); CENTENO LAPPAS, MONICA CLARA ANGELICA (LEG/SGO)
▪ Taxonomy:	Research and Dissemination
▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC:	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	25 Apr 2018
▪ Beneficiary:	IDB Borrowing Member Countries
▪ Executing Agency:	INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
▪ IDB funding requested:	\$ 590,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding:	\$ 0.00
▪ Disbursement period:	24 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Individuals; Firms
▪ Prepared by Unit:	Innovation in Citizen Services Division
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	Institutions for Development
▪ 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:	Institutional capacity and rule of law

### II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 Design and implement open government and open data initiatives, and foster innovation in Latin American and Caribbean countries. The specific objectives are to: (i) contribute to enhance active transparency through better information management systems and the use of information in open data formats; and (ii) support the design of innovative solutions to improve public service delivery.
- 2.2 Latin American and Caribbean countries are undergoing several efforts following recent corruption scandals to regain trust and improve public service delivery by opening-up their governments and promoting transparency and innovation in public management. An open Government promotes a citizen-centric approach with the aim of building stronger democracies and improving the efficiency of public services based on the principles of transparency, accountability and collaboration, supported by new technologies (Ramírez-Alujas y Dassen, 2015).
- 2.3 Such efforts include joining the Open Government Partnership, increasing the publication of information and data sets in open data formats, and enhancing innovation through the creation of public innovation labs. Although it is difficult to measure the overall level of trust, openness and innovation, some indicators and reports shed light on the challenges ahead.

- 2.4 During 2016, the average satisfaction with democracy and confidence in the government decreased in Latin America from 38 percent to 34 percent (Latinobarometro, 2016). In 2017, this trend has continued to decrease to a low of 30 percent due to political events affecting democracy in the region. The average of the government approval rate reached a peak at 60 percent in 2009 but since then it has been decreasing gradually to a low point of 36 percent in 2017 (Latinobarometro, 2017). On access to information, according to the Global Right to Information Rating, the analysis shows that countries have vast room for improvement. More than half of the countries' scores range between 60 and 100 out of a maximum of 150 points. In fact, only Mexico and El Salvador are among the top 10 countries from LAC at the global level .
- 2.5 Other countries are also making improvements, for instance, Argentina has created the Agency of Access to Public Information to oversee the implementation of the 2016 Access to Information Law N° 27.275. The IDB will support the strengthening of this Agency as part of a broader effort of the Bank to support the transparency and integrity agenda in that country through the AR-L1268 project. In particular, the Agency needs and adequate software to publish information in an automated way to comply with its transparency obligations and thus produce statistics on the law efficiency. In addition, Since 2011, 16 LAC countries have joined the Open Government Partnership (OGP) since 2011,, a global voluntary initiative with the objective of securing commitments from governments to promote transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption, and harness new technologies to strengthen governance. The IDB joined efforts with the OGP in 2013 to help member countries comply with their commitments. According to a recent report, in a two- year period, 1 out of 3 commitments are implemented at the global level, due to the lack of funding and technical capacity .
- 2.6 The IDB has supported the Open Government agenda in region and has achieved important results. Since 2013, the IDB has assisted 10 countries to comply with OGP activities. The IDB has also contributed to the Open Government Regional Summits of 2014 and 2016, and the Global Summit of 2015. In partnership with the Organization of American States, the IDB worked with more than 40 young leaders in the region, to develop open government solutions through the Open Government Fellowship.

### **III. Description of Activities and Outputs**

- 3.1 Component I: Support in the development of Open Government solutions and Action Plans. Activities and outputs in this component include: (i) support the Access to Public Information Agency of Argentina for the re-vamp of existing information systems, including a search engine to allow citizens and organizations to track their access to information requests and publishing performance indicators to measure the Agency's effectiveness; (ii) support countries to design the fourth Open Government Action Plans in at least one-member country through technical assistance and financial support for consultation processes with civil society and other government agencies; and (iii) support a regional Conference on Open Government to be held in 2019;
- 3.2 Component II: Fostering innovative solutions enabled by new technologies. The objective of this component is to promote innovation in the LAC region. Particularly, to broaden the technical capacity of Uruguay's Innovation Lab to position itself as reference for knowledge and innovation. The activities of this component are: (i) draft a proposal to implement a gamification strategy to enhance the use of digital solutions by citizens and both the public and private sector, and estimate its costs; (ii) develop a prototype to test gamification for a particular service; (iii) analyze the feasibility of implementing blockchain in different public processes in Uruguay by assessing the impact on regulatory and legal aspects, privacy and cybersecurity; (iv) support regional

dialogue on innovation by producing knowledge and dissemination products (case studies, blogs, webinars, regional meetings).

- 3.3 **Component III: Support to Open Data activities.** The objective of this component is to help the region overcome some of the challenges that have been identified regarding open data publication and use. The specific activities included are: (i) design and implement a methodology for a Data Governance study to better understand the flow, ownership, and access levels of data within an institution; (ii) design and implement an “Open Up Guide” in a sector to be determined (the Justice sector has been discussed due to its relevance in existing operations in ICS, social sectors such as Education or Health have been raised by countries counterparts as high impact lines, and Climate Change as a cross cutting sector of importance both to the Bank and some member countries), aiming at promoting the opening of common databases in a sector across countries, as well as assessing the quality of the data published; (iii) deliver an open data training for public officials in a country to be determined (Argentina, Honduras, and El Salvador have expressed interest) to improve the supply of data; (iv) implement a demand assessment study that will help understand demand for data in a specific sector; and (v) promote dialogue and knowledge exchange by supporting a regional open data event.
- 3.4 **Component I: Component I: Support in the development of Open Government solutions and Action Plans.** . (i) support the Access to Public Information Agency of Argentina for the re-vamp of existing information systems; (ii) support countries to design the fourth Open Government Action Plans in at least one-member country through technical assistance and financial support; (iii) support a regional Conference on Open Government to be held in 2019.
- 3.5 **Component II: Component II: Fostering innovative solutions enabled by new technologies.** . The objective of this component is to promote innovation in the LAC region. Particularly, to broaden the technical capacity of Uruguay’s Innovation Lab to position itself as reference for knowledge and innovation.
- 3.6 **Component III: Component III: Support to Open Data Activities..** The objective of this component is to help the region overcome some of the challenges that have been identified regarding open data publication and use.

#### IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
Component I: Support in the development of Open Government solutions and Action Plans.	\$ 145,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 145,000.00
Component II: Fostering innovative solutions enabled by new technologies.	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 150,000.00
Component III: Support to Open Data Activities.	\$ 295,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 295,000.00

#### V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

- 5.1 The project will be executed by the Inter-American Development Bank. The Innovation for Citizen Services Division (ICS) will be in charge of the general coordination and technical supervision. The sectorial specialist will be Nicolás Dassen (IFD/ICS).
- 5.2 The Bank, through ICS, has worked for several years in collaboration with the governments of the region in the design and implementation of open government,

open data and innovation solutions in LAC, positioning it as a benchmark in the area. In addition, the Bank has specific experience in the execution of the activities foreseen in this TC, particularly through the following TCs: Open Government for Citizens (RG-T2399), Support to the Innovation Lab in Uruguay (UR-T1122), Open Government and Public Innovation Labs (RG-T2967), Open Data for Inclusion and Transparency in LAC (RG-T2976).

- 5.3 Technical assistance will be provided at the request of the beneficiary countries. Prior to the initiation of the knowledge exchange and dissemination activities in any of the beneficiary countries, letters of non-objection will be sought from the Bank's liaison offices in such countries, and in coordination with the local IDB country office, when applicable, and as needed.

## **VI. Project Risks and Issues**

- 6.1 No significant risks are expected. However, the low technical capacity of the counterparts in the areas of innovation might slow down the implementation of the first component of the second component of this TC. In order to mitigate this risk, the Bank will provide assistance through specialized teams that will facilitate drafting Terms of Reference and developing open government solutions.

## **VII. Environmental and Social Classification**

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