

## TC ABSTRACT

### I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO/CCB - Caribbean Group
▪ TC Name:	Digital Innovations for Sustainable Environmental and Economic Recovery in Trinidad and Tobago
▪ TC Number:	TT-T1112
▪ Team Leader/Members:	GRANT, KAYLA SHAREE (IFD/CTI) Team Leader; STEVENSON, CLAUDIA (IFD/CTI) Alternate Team Leader; GONZALEZ ALZUALDE, YOHANA BEATRIZ (IFD/CTI); SIERRA LIRANZO, MAYRETT (IFD/CTI); BRATHWAITE, NEECA N. (CCB/CTT); VILA SAINT-ETIENNE, SARA (LEG/SGO)
▪ Taxonomy:	Client Support
▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC:	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	28 Jul 2021
▪ Beneficiary:	Trinidad and Tobago
▪ Executing Agency:	INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
▪ IDB funding requested:	US\$200,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding:	US\$25,000.00 (In Kind)
▪ Disbursement period:	24 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Individuals; Firms
▪ Prepared by Unit:	IFD/CTI - Competitiveness, Technology and Innovation Division
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	IFD/CTI - Competitiveness, Technology and Innovation Division
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):	Yes
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	No
▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020:	Productivity and innovation ; Institutional capacity and rule of law

### II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 The objective of this project is to strengthen Trinidad and Tobago's Intellectual Property (IP) ecosystem to support small, and medium enterprises (SMEs) in leveraging digital technologies to drive innovation, competitiveness and growth that contribute to sustainable environmental and economic recovery. This objective will be achieved through: (i) the design of valuation guidelines for IP assets in the digital economy, (ii) the design of mission-orientated policies for digital innovation, and (iii) the implementation of a dissemination and communication strategy.
- 2.2 The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GORTT) has aligned its National Development Strategy (NDS), Vision 2030, to the sustainable development goals (SDGs) to drive positive environmental and social outcomes. Digital technologies hold great potential for supporting the GORTT's efforts to stimulate competitiveness, innovation and growth amongst firms in T&T. Yet majority of the value of digital technologies are driven by underlying intangible assets (such as databases, proprietary processes and technologies, and other such digital assets) which firms often face difficulty in identifying, valuing, protecting and monetizing appropriately. This TC proposes to support the GORTT in building capacity to (i) stimulate the creation of digital innovations (and thus intangible assets) that support social and environmental development outcomes; and (ii) to provide intangible asset

valuation guidelines that will be a key step in supporting innovative firms who own intangible assets, such as export-oriented firms and creative firms that have been severely impacted by COVID-19, to access financing in the market. The GORTT has implemented complementary initiatives that will support this TC's efforts such as the establishment a committee to assess the economic potential of IP in T&T through a system for the valuation of IP. This TC is consistent with the Second Update to the Institutional Strategy (AB-3190-2) as it is strategically aligned with the development challenge of productivity and innovation, specifically addressing the special needs of small and vulnerable countries in fostering development through the private sector. It is aligned with the cross-cutting issues of: (i) institutional capacity and the rule of law, specifically through institutional strengthening toward improving the delivery of public service and facilitating a strong business climate; and (ii) climate change and environmental sustainability as it relates to innovation to support climate change resiliency. This program is aligned with the 2021-2025 Country Strategy for TT (GN-2888) as it aims to support the digital transformation agenda to achieve more sustainable and inclusive growth by way of supporting a digital friendly business environment. Regarding the IDB's Corporate Results Framework 2020-2023 (GN 2727-12), firms and startups will be provided with technical assistance to encourage the development of innovative solutions to social and environmental challenges. The project is aligned with the priorities defined in the Innovation, Science and Technology Sector Framework Document (GN 2791-8) as it relates to economies being able to take full advantage of the potential of the digital economy through digital technologies. Finally, the proposed activities support the following priorities of the IDB's Vision 2025: (i) the digital economy as it relates to improving the understanding of the valuation of intellectual property in the digital economy and (ii) support to MSMEs as it relates to the design of proposed policy measures that can be implemented to support MSMEs in successfully operating in the digital economy.

### III. Description of Activities and Outputs

- 3.1 **Component I: Intellectual Property Valuation for Promoting Exports in the Digital Economy** . This component will support the design of IP valuation guidelines that promote exports in the digital economy. Key consultancies include (i) an analysis of digital assets and relevant IP assets valuation methods; and (ii) the design and implementation of IP asset valuation guidelines.
- 3.2 **Component II: Mission Oriented Innovation.** This component will support the design of mission-orientated policies and programs to be implemented by relevant national agencies to stimulate research and digital innovations that address major societal and environmental challenges.
- 3.3 **Component III: Communication and Evaluation** . This component will finance (i) a local Project Manager to coordinate the implementation of activities towards ensuring proper stakeholder engagement, timely execution, monitoring and reporting of the technical and financial aspects of the Project and the achievement of deliverables to the established quality standards (ii) awareness campaign strategy, (iii) the development of public relations (PR) materials highlighting successful cases of IP monetization in T&T, and (iv) auditing.

### IV. Budget

#### Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
Intellectual Property Valuation for Promoting Exports in the Digital	US\$100,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$100,000.00

Economy			
Mission Oriented Innovation	US\$60,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$60,000.00
Communication and Evaluation	US\$40,000.00	US\$25,000.00	US\$65,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>US\$200,000.00</b>	<b>US\$25,000.00</b>	<b>US\$225,000.00</b>

## **V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure**

- 5.1 This TC will be executed by the University of the West Indies (UWI) with direct supervision by the Bank through the Competitiveness and Innovation Division (IFD/CTI) and the Country Office of Trinidad and Tobago (COTT). The UWI is a regional institution that has executed IDB regional IDB- financed projects such as RG-T1276 ("Regional Non-Communicable Diseases Surveillance System") and RG-T2536 ("Caribbean Regional Entrepreneurial Asset Commercialization Hub (REACH). As such, it has the capacity and experience to execute the project.
- 5.2 The execution structure will be governed by the Bank's policy on Technical Cooperation (GN-2470-2) and is consistent with the TC's specific objective and aims at completing the tasks at hand in a cost-efficient manner and ensuring quality of the outputs. The UWI will provide the overall oversight of the TC. The IDB will assist in the Program's execution by liaising with the UWI when required, providing fiduciary support, providing monitoring and evaluation support, and ensuring that disbursement requests are received and processed in a timely manner. The disbursement requests and processing workflow will be led by the Team Leader of the Project.

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

- 6.1 Sustainability is a key risk that will be addressed through the following avenues (i) creating a project committee with stakeholders key to the IP ecosystem who realize the benefits of the project and thus have incentive and agency to sustain momentum (ii) during implementation, partnering on key activities with organizations in the ecosystem that are already working on this topic area and (iii) working closely with the GORTT as it pertains to both mission oriented innovation policies and intangible assets as collateral.

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

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