

DOCUMENT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
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REGIONAL

SUPPORT FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH IN KEY SECTORS

(RG-T1716)

PLAN OF OPERATIONS

This document was prepared by the project team consisting of: Carlos Guaipatín (SCL/SCT) Team Leader; Francisco A. E. Vieira (SCL/SCT) Team Member; Kevin McTigue (LEG), Paola Robles (CSC/CCH) and Paloma López Díez (SCL/SCT).

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BASIC SOCIOECONOMIC DATA

For basic socioeconomic data, including public debt information, please refer to the following address:

<http://www.iadb.org/RES/index.cfm?fuseaction=externallinks.countrydata>

INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN THE FILES OF SCL/SCT

PREPARATION:

IDB Microsoft Activities Matrix

Selection Criteria for Proposals

EXECUTION:

ABBREVIATIONS

CONICYT	Comisión Nacional de Investigación en Ciencia y Tecnología
CORFO	Corporación de Fomento a la Producción (Chile)
LACCIR	Latin America and Caribbean Collaborative ICT Research Federation
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
JSC	Joint Steering Committee
MS	Microsoft
PUC-Chile	Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
RFP	Request for Proposal
SCL/SCT	Department of Social Sector/Division of Science and Technology
VI	Virtual Institute

PLAN OF OPERATIONS

(RG-T1716)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Beneficiary:	Research groups in institutions of higher education in the LAC region.		
Team Leader / Members	Project Team Leader: Carlos Guaipatín (SCL/SCT). Members: Francisco A. E. Vieira (SCL/SCT); Kevin McTigue (LEG), Paola Robles (CSC/CCH) and Paloma López (SCL/SCT).		
Executing Agency:	Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile		
Target Beneficiaries:	Leading research groups in universities and research institutions of the region		
Source of Funding:	IDB – Knowledge Economy Fund (KEF)	US\$	400,000
	Microsoft Research	US\$	250,000
	Local counterpart:	US\$	120,000
	Total:	US\$	770,000
Objectives:	The general objective is to promote the generation of knowledge in key sectors that can lead to novel approaches for tackling some of the challenges in these sectors.		
Execution timetable:	Execution Period:	15 months	
	Disbursement Period:	24 months	
Special contractual Conditions:	None		
Exceptions to Bank Policies and Procedures:	None		
Environmental and Social Review:	This Regional Technical Cooperation is classified as Category C.		
Coordination with other Official Development Finance Institutions:	Not applicable regarding international financial institutions. CONICYT Chile has manifested interest in joining.		

I. BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

A. Background

- 1.1 The IDB takes great interest in encouraging research in key social and economic development topics such as healthcare, education, energy, and information and communications infrastructure in underserved areas. One of the mechanisms that the Bank has established to further this agenda is a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Microsoft Corporation, signed in June 2006. This collaboration allows the Bank to take advantage of Microsoft's expertise, while contributing to the creation of valuable research networks in the region.
- 1.2 One of the concrete results from the MoU was the establishment of the LACCIR Virtual Institute (Latin American and Caribbean Collaborative ICT Research Federation) (<http://www.laccir.org>), in May 2007 with an initial US\$1 million, 3-year seed grant from Microsoft Research. LACCIR Virtual Institute is a federation of universities from Latin America and the Caribbean that seeks to provide a virtual collaborative environment for the promotion and support of cross-country research and education solutions based on Information and Communications Technologies (ICT). ICT applications have become indispensable for progress in nearly all disciplines. Research in this area can expand the capabilities of computing technology to serve priority social and economic challenges and lead to novel approaches in a wide range of areas, from education to healthcare, to energy and the environment. LACCIR helps fill the research void that exists in the region.
- 1.3 Microsoft Research provides its pools of scientists and experts, its network of collaborators and representatives, and a Conference XP (CXP) technology infrastructure and technical assistance. This platform is an internet-based, video collaboration software platform, allowing for virtual meetings and online collaboration. Additionally, MS Research brings to the project its experience in Korea where since 2005 it has launched various joint initiatives with academia and government, including a variety of Requests for Proposals.
- 1.4 LACCIR is organized around a "hub and spokes" organization: the "hub" is the administrative center run jointly by the University of Chile and the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile; the "spokes" are the participating universities, which have been selected for their long and sustained trajectory of research in ICT applications for social and economic development. These spokes are: Universidad de Buenos Aires, Pontificia Universidad Católica do Rio de Janeiro, Universidad de la República de Uruguay, ITESM Monterrey, Instituto Politécnico Nacional de México, and Universidad de Costa Rica¹. In addition, the federated universities maintain a close relationship with government science and technology

¹ The University of West Indies submitted a proposal to become a LACCIR Spoke University.

(S&T) councils as well as ministries of education, planning and S&T from their respective countries.

- 1.5 During 2007 and 2008, the Virtual Institute experienced growing interest from the LAC research community. Considering the historically low level of integration and collaboration among universities in the region, the Virtual Institute makes a significant contribution to the development of a regional mechanism to stimulate research and development. According to data compiled in the 2007 and 2008 period by LACCIR, the following activities were carried out:

BASIC DATA	CALL in 2007	CALL in 2008
Eligible proposals	18	34
Researchers	105	163
Institutions	29	50
Countries	11	16

- 1.6 The IDB, through its Science and Technology Division, is a natural interlocutor for initiatives that foster integration and research collaboration across borders. The Bank has traditionally been a strong supporter of increased human resource development in science and technology and continues this role today. The Division is the driving force behind the annual Regional Policy Dialogues on Science and Technology, where policy makers from the region come together to discuss the way forward and how best to collaborate.
- 1.7 There has been little international collaboration among Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) universities for the advancement of scientific and technological research, or collaboration between universities and firms. However, universities make up an important percentage of the research and development that is taking place in the region (as opposed to OECD countries, where the business sector is responsible for the majority of the R&D investments), making them a vital player and one that should be fortified. As an example, in the OECD on average, close to 70% of R&D investment comes from the private sector and around 20% from institutions of higher education, while in Chile, less than 30% of the investment takes place in the private sector, and around 40% in the universities.
- 1.8 The LAC region is generally characterized by a low level of research and development compared to North American, European, and Asian countries. In 2004, only one LAC country, Brazil, invested more than 1% of GDP in research and development. The majority of the countries invest 0.5% or less. In addition, the region sees relatively little collaboration and exchange between universities, something that is very common in Europe, for instance. The ERASMUS program is the most known of the intra-European programs and allows students from one European university to spend a semester or an academic year at another university. Currently, 2,200 institutions of higher learning in 31 countries are part

of the program, and more than 1.6 million students have participated. The program guarantees that the home university accepts the course of study of the host university, which means that students do not lose any time by taking part. This is a prime example of how educational integration is promoting knowledge exchange and “knowledge economies” on a large scale.

B. Justification

- 1.9 The high costs of physically developing sophisticated research facilities in each country are making the countries look for feasible alternatives, and the advancement of information and communication technologies is offering solutions. Given that scientific and technological research is critical for economic and social development, LAC higher education institutions should participate as partners in the design process of sound socio-economic strategies with governments and industry. Communications technologies now allow such actors to exchange knowledge and to work jointly although geographically distant. Furthermore, advanced networks, with broadband and high-speed connectivity, permit researchers to interact with peers in industrialized countries, giving them access to the sophisticated laboratories and infrastructure.
- 1.10 This Technical Cooperation (TC) requests financing from the Knowledge Economy Fund to support a series of “Requests for Proposals” to encourage collaborative research between university teams from different countries in LAC on ICT applications in four key sectors: health, sustainable energy, climate change, and education. In addition, the resources will facilitate LACCIR’s expansion to other sub regions, such as the Caribbean, Central America, and the Andean countries.² In fact, discussions are already underway to incorporate universities from Colombia and the Caribbean.

C. The Bank’s Strategy

- 1.11 This operation is consistent with the Bank’s institutional strategy, and in particular, it is aligned with the Strategy for Information and Communication Technology for Development (GN-2024-2) that presents “information and development” as one of the five crucial areas to foster and to facilitate development of the region.
- 1.12 The operation is equally aligned with the thematic focus of the new Knowledge Economy Fund on “*building as well as preserving scientists, engineers and highly qualified technicians*”, including “*the improvement of university-business interaction regarding innovative activities*”. Furthermore, by using technology

² The use of ICT is not only an input that furthers integration; it is also a key element for innovation and improvements in productivity, management decision-making processes, etc. Research in ICT thus can induce advances in a wide range of areas; including education, healthcare, agribusiness, micro-economies, productive chains, energy, and the environment.

resources associated with collaborative work at a distance, the project will strengthen regional networks of specialists for the development of knowledge and technology.

D. Coordination with other Institutions

- 1.13 The project will rely on current cooperation between the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile and the Universidad de Chile, which have formed a consortium and established an administrative hub for the management of the Virtual Institute project. The hub has successfully managed two “Requests for Proposals” over the last two years. Microsoft Research has been actively working with both institutions in assisting the formation of the consortium and the establishment of the general guidelines for the operation of the Virtual Institute.

II. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A. Program goal and purpose

- 2.1 The general objective is to promote the generation of knowledge in key sectors that can lead to novel approaches for tackling some of the challenges in these sectors. The specific objectives are: (i) to encourage and facilitate collaborate research and the exchange of knowledge and resources among universities in the LAC region in the areas of ICT applications for health, education, sustainable energy and climate change; and (ii) to disseminate the research results and lessons learned among policymakers and the private sector in LAC.

B. Description

1. Component 1. Call for Collaborative Research Projects (IDB: US\$350,000)

- 2.2 This component will finance collaborative, high level research projects focused on ICT applications in the four target sectors: health, energy, climate change, and education. Through competitive “calls for proposals” specific research projects (of approximately US\$50,000 each.) will be financed.
- 2.3 Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria: (i) novelty of the proposed research project; (ii) qualifications of principal investigator; (iii) degree of partnerships between university research teams among different countries in LAC; (iv) institutional ability to complete the project; (v) scalability and replicability; and (vi) participation of multi-sectoral teams. Particular focus will be placed on new participants from the Caribbean, Central America and the Andean region. LACCIR VI is keenly interested in encouraging partnerships between university research teams among different countries in LAC. As such, only joint proposals of more than two universities and countries will receive consideration. It is expected that each proposal present a plan for implementing a pilot activity applying the product developed by the funded research.

2. Component 2. Dissemination of Research Results and Lessons Learned (IDB: US\$50,000)

- 2.4 This component will finance the dissemination of research results and lessons learned among universities and research institutes, key policymakers, the private sector in LAC countries, and international development institutions.
- 2.5 Financing will include: (i) a variety of communication vehicles including streaming-video, online lectures, and other collaborative opportunities using MS Conference XP³; (ii) periodic reports about the advancement of ICT research in the LAC region, including statistics such as: yearly published papers in international journals and conferences, graduate programs of studies being offered, quantity of researchers and doctoral students in each country; (iii) a study on how to take the next step from collaborate research among universities to joint R&D activities with the private sector; and (iv) project evaluation and financial audit.

III. COST AND FINANCING

- 3.1 The total cost of this project is estimated at US\$770,000. The Bank will contribute US\$400,000 as non-reimbursable financing, and Microsoft Research will contribute US\$250,000 of an already committed total of \$1.6 million as grants and counterpart funding. The local contribution from the hub universities (Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile and Universidad de Chile) corresponds to US\$120,000 to be provided in kind, in human resources and physical infrastructure. The following table shows the consolidated budget:

	IDB	Microsoft	Local Funding	
Type of Expenditure	US\$	Research	PUC + UChile	TOTAL
C1. Call for ICT Projects	350,000	220,000	60,000	630,000
C2. Dissemination	40,000	30,000	60,000	130,000
Project evaluation and financial audit.	10,000			10,000
TOTAL	400,000	250,000	120,000	770,000

IV. EXECUTION AGENCY AND MECHANISM

A. Executing agency

- 4.1 The project will be executed by the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (PUC-Chile) in collaboration with Universidad the Chile. This consortium was selected under a competitive process and has already demonstrated solid

³ It will also host a database containing localized projects, documents, research, and curriculum in Spanish, Portuguese, and English. Resources will also be dedicated to the consolidation of the collaborative network, i.e. travel, meetings, etc.

experience in managing another Bank TC (RG-T1724) with Microsoft Research. The hub and the administrative center for the Virtual Institute have been formally established at PUC-Chile. The hub will be responsible for all aspects of project management, including the administration of resources, the contracting of specialized consulting services, the coordination of activities, and reports to the Bank. The main task of the hub is the management of the call for proposals.

- 4.2 PUC-Chile was founded in 1888 and is among the leading and most prestigious universities in Latin America. It is well known by its international research reputation in technologies, social sciences, natural sciences, engineering, health, economics, philosophy and education. The Computer Science Department (within PUC-Chile School of Engineering) will provide the infrastructure, human resources and networking for the successful execution of the project.

B. Execution mechanisms

- 4.3 A Joint Steering Committee (JSC) formed by key stakeholders, including Microsoft and IDB, will oversee project activities and support PUC-Chile with activities related to the planning, coordinating, technical supervision and research project developments within each country. The IDB, through its participation in the Joint Steering Committee (JSC) and the project monitoring mechanisms, will have a voice in the selection of projects to be financed, and will gain knowledge and experience in the field of ICT applied to the selected sectors that may be replicated in future Bank operations.⁴
- 4.4 The Joint Steering Committee will organize at least one Call for Proposals per year, and will handle the evaluation and selection of the proposals, with the support of the hub universities and other invited experts when necessary. The Request for Proposals (RFP) is open to all researchers in LAC. The selection criteria will follow the guidelines of 2.3 above; and proposal will follow a pre-defined 7-page format. All proposals received in compliance with the eligibility criteria will be reviewed and evaluated. Dissemination of the Call for Proposal will be done through: (i) announcements to groups in the LACCIR mailing list; (ii) announcements to governmental agencies in charge of research and development policy/financing; (iii) announcements to all universities registered with the LACCIR; (iv) presentation of the RFP in technical events and conferences.
- 4.5 The administrative center in Chile will be responsible for the logistics of the RFP. The administrative center will: (i) administer and report on the funds provided by supporters of the Virtual Institute; (ii) provide information to the Joint Steering Committee on funds allocated to proposals with no overhead or administration charges; (iii) define and implement the necessary activities to carry out RFPs

⁴ Recommendations put forth during the LACCIR Joint Steering Committee and Advisory Board Coordination Meeting (February, 2009) will be incorporated. This includes focus on specific areas: education, health care, sustainable energy and climate change, and improved organization of the call for proposals (selection criteria, evaluation process).

defined by the JSC; (iv) coordinate research project activities; (v) plan, propose to the JSC and administer the activities that will be carry out by members in order to disseminate research results through the LAC network; (vi) actively seek additional funding to enhance and expand the program; (vii) provide assistance to spoke universities in administrative matters; (viii) disseminate the results of research projects through workshops, visits and conferences.

- 4.6 The execution of the projects and the quality of the research done will be enforced and monitored by periodic scientific reports from the principal investigators describing and demonstrating the results. The hub will coordinate this reporting effort and will inform the Joint Steering Committee of the progress on the individual researches being financed.
- 4.7 All proposals received in compliance with the eligibility criteria will be reviewed and evaluated by LACCIR VI Technical Committee (VITC). Reviewers will complete a standardized review form to maintain the consistency and quality of the reviews. Based on evaluations by the VITC, the JSC will select the best proposals. The selection grid can be found on www.laccir.org and on Annex III of this Plan of Operations. Funds can be used for stipends for graduate students doing support research, travel expenses to disseminate results, material and external services required to execute the project.

C. Program implementation readiness

- 4.8 The institutional and the technical capacity for the execution have been found appropriate. Indicative terms of reference for the consultancies have been developed and the operation is ready to start execution. A co-execution agreement between PUC-Chile and Universidad de Chile is on file at the Legal Department.

D. Execution period and disbursement schedule

- 4.9 The Project execution period will be 15 months. The maximum disbursement period will be 24 months. Both periods are effective from the date of the signature of the agreement on behalf of both the Bank and the Executing Agency.

E. Procurement

- 4.10 The Executing Agency will acquire the goods and services and contract the consulting services necessary for the project implementation in accordance with the procedures and policies of the Bank set forth in Documents GN-2349-7 and GN-2350-7. The Executing Agency will procure the goods and services provided for in the project and previously approved by the Bank by means of the procurement plan to be reviewed by the Bank semiannually. The shopping procedure will be used for the acquisition of goods whose value is below the equivalent of US\$5,000.
- 4.11 The administrative center in Chile will be responsible for: (i) administer and report on the funds provided by supporters of the Virtual Institute and in the case

of IDB as specified on 4.11 above; (ii) provide information to the Joint Steering Committee on funds allocated to proposals with no overhead or administration charges; (iii) plan, propose to the JSC and administer the activities to disseminate research results through the LAC network; (iv) provide assistance to spoke universities in administrative matters.

V. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

A. Monitoring

- 5.1 The Bank's Country Office in Chile (CSC/CCH) will be responsible for project administration and general supervision. CSC/CCH will consult closely with SCL/SCT on all technical matters concerning this project

B. Technical and basic responsibility

- 5.2 The executing agency will submit the following reports to the Bank:
- a. A detailed implementation plan for the entire execution period, to be presented to the Bank within 60 days of the date of project eligibility.
 - b. Annual implementation plans, to be presented to the Bank within 30 days of the beginning of the calendar year. The plans will be specific in that they will clearly identify the project's outputs, including all the tasks necessary to produce them, and the project's outcomes.
 - c. Progress reports on June 1 and December 1 of each year of execution, containing: (i) information on the activities completed to date, indicating both achievements and problems encountered, and proposed solutions; (ii) the execution of the budget by category and source of financing; (iii) an assessment of progress achieved with regard to expected project outputs and outcomes; and (iv) a work plan and estimated resource requirements for the next six months of execution. This report shall not exceed 10 pages – excluding any possible annexes.
 - d. A final report, within 30 days after the execution period ends, summarizing and evaluating all activities carried out under the project and detailing the use of funds contributed by the Bank and counterpart resources. The report should describe how the project's outputs have contributed to achieving the objectives and expected outcomes.
 - e. Financial audits to be conducted by an independent auditing firm in accordance with Bank rules.

C. Progress and final reports

- 5.3 With resources from the Bank contribution, independent consultant will carry out a final evaluation of the project within three months of the end of the execution period. The evaluation should be guided by the project document and by the indicators established in the Logical Framework. The executing agency and relevant project stakeholders that were involved during project execution will provide access to all the information and documentation needed.

D. Program benefits and development impact

- 5.4 Benefits from the Technical Cooperation will include creation of collaborative research groups; joint development of studies and the creation of research lines that respond to the health, education, environment and energy needs of the Region; development of telemedicine projects; integration of ICTs in the health sector, and technological integration with national networks.

E. Target Beneficiaries

- 5.5 The direct beneficiaries of this project will be a set of research and development groups of the region, selected through a “Request for Proposals” process, and which presented project concepts of relevance to problems in the region. The application of projects results can have benefits in the overall society.

F. Risks

- 5.6 The main risk is poor participation of multi-sectoral teams (i.e., teams with representatives from the ICT, health, education, environment and energy sectors). To mitigate this risk, participation of a multi-sectoral team is one of the evaluation criteria (see 2.3).

VI. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL REVIEW

- 6.1 No negative environmental impact is anticipated from this regional technical cooperation. Based on the Safeguard Policy Filter Report (2007-10191006-2), the technical cooperation has been classified as a category “C” project, thus no further environmental or social actions are required.

VII. CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS

- 7.1 I hereby certify that this operation is eligible for financing under the Knowledge Economy Fund (KEF) through communication by e-mail dated on May 1, 2009 and signed by Sergio Zwi (VPC/GCM). Also, I certify that resources from the Knowledge Economy Fund (KEF) are available for up to \$400,000 in order to finance the activities described and budgeted in this document. This certification

reserves resources for the referenced project for a period of nine (9) calendar months counted from the date of signature below. If the project is not approved by the IDB within that period, the reserve of resources will be cancelled, except in the case a new certification is granted. The commitment and disbursement of these resources shall be made only by the Bank in US Dollars. The same currency shall be used to stipulate the remuneration and payments to consultants, except in the case of local consultants working in their own borrowing member country who shall have their remuneration defined and paid in the currency of such country. No resources of the Fund shall be made available to cover amounts greater than the amount certified herein above for the implementation of this Plan of Operations. Amounts greater than the certified amount may arise from commitments on contracts denominated in a currency other than the Fund currency, resulting in currency exchange rate differences, for which the Fund is not at risk.

(original signed)

Marguerite S. Berger
Chief
Grants and Cofinancing Management Unit

Date

VIII. APPROVAL

(original signed)

Flora Montealegre Painter
SCT/CHF

ANNEX I
LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

SUPPORT FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH IN KEY SECTORS
(RG-T1716)

Summary	Performance Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
The general objective is to promote the generation of knowledge in key sectors that can lead to novel approaches for tackling some of the challenges in these sectors. The specific objective is to encourage and facilitate collaborate research and the exchange of knowledge and resources among universities in the LAC region in the areas of ICT applications for health, education, sustainable energy and climate change.	<p>After 24 Months of initiating the TC:</p> <p>At least 10 multidisciplinary research projects have been executed.</p> <p>The Bank has obtained lessons on how to stimulate collaborate research.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LACCIR web site - Citations in specialized journals. - Final evaluation 	The interest in developing innovative applications is high; the interest of the universities to cooperate is high.
Component I: Call for Collaborative Research Projects	<p>After 4 months, the call for proposals has been launched</p> <p>After 12 months of initiating the TC, at least 10 research projects have been selected.</p>	Final report.	The active participation of multi-sectoral teams
Component II: Dissemination of Research Results and Lessons Learned	<p>After 36 Months of initiating the TC:</p> <p>A report with lessons learned has been prepared.</p> <p>At least five papers have been published.</p> <p>At least 10 seminars have been carried out.</p>	<p>Final report.</p> <p>Final evaluation.</p>	The interest of the universities that presented the projects selected is maintained.

ANNEX II. DETAILED BUDGET

Type of Expenditure	IDB	Microsoft Research	Local Funding PUC + UChile	TOTAL
C1. Call for Collaborative Research Projects (at least 10 projects in 2 years)	350,000	220,000	60,000	630,000
C2. Dissemination (at least 4 activities in 2 years)	40,000	30,000	60,000	130,000
Final Evaluation	5,000	0	0	5,000
Financial Audit	5,000	0	0	5,000
TOTAL	400,000	250,000	120,000	770,000

ANNEX III. PROCUREMENT PLAN

PROJECT INFORMATION

RG-T 1716 SUPPORT FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH IN KEY SECTORS

Beneficiary: Leading research groups in the LAC Region
Executing Agency: Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
Source of Funding: IDB Knowledge Economy Fund
Amount: US\$400,000
Percentage: 52%

CONSULTANTS SELECTION

CONTRACTING CONSULTING SERVICES

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Item	Contract Description	Estimated Cost (US\$)	Selection Method	Bank's evaluation	Deadline to present proposals	Comments and Observations
Consulting services (8 to 10)	Research on ICT Applied to Specific Sectors	Average US\$50,000 per consulting service	By scientific committee based on quality of proposal, cost, qualification of research personnel, collaboration among groups	Ex post	Different dates in 2009, 2010 and 2011	Proposals have to do with ICT applied to previously selected sectors of the economy. A scientific committee will select proposals.

Santiago, 24 AGO 2009

Señor
Jaime Sujoy
Representante en Chile
Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo
Presente

Ant.: Carta BID CSC/CCH/1470/2009 de 7-08-09.

Ref.: Solicitud de No Objeción a Cooperación Técnica No Reembolsable RG-T1716, Programa de Apoyo a la Investigación Colaborativa en Sectores Claves.

De mi consideración:

Mediante carta del antecedente, usted ha tenido a bien solicitar la no objeción del Gobierno de Chile respecto de la operación en referencia, consistente en una Cooperación Técnica No Reembolsable del Fondo Económico del Conocimiento (FEC), hasta por un monto de US\$ 400.000, destinada a promover la investigación colaborativa en los sectores de Salud, Educación, Energía Sustentable, Medioambiente y Cambio Climático.

El costo total de esta iniciativa se estima en US\$ 770.000, de los cuales el Banco, a través del FEC, dispondrá una donación de hasta el monto antes señalado; Microsoft Research contribuirá con US\$ 250.000 y la contraparte nacional, de US\$ 120.000, será de cargo de la Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, que actuará como Organismo Ejecutor.

Al respecto, cúpleme informar a usted que el Gobierno de Chile no tiene inconvenientes en que se lleve a cabo la operación en los términos propuestos, otorgando su no objeción a la misma.

Sin otro particular, saluda cordialmente a usted,



DIRECTOR
ALBERTO ARENAS DE MESA
Director de Presupuestos

RECEPCION

2009 AGO 24 PM 5:40

REPRESENTACION
BID / CHILE

c.c.:/

- Sector Educación, DIPRES.

