

# PROJECT STATUS REPORT

JANUARY 2011 - JUNE 2011

## SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

**PROJECT NAME:** Bahamas Virtual Platform

Project Number: BH-M1008 - Operation Number: ATN/ME-12265-BH

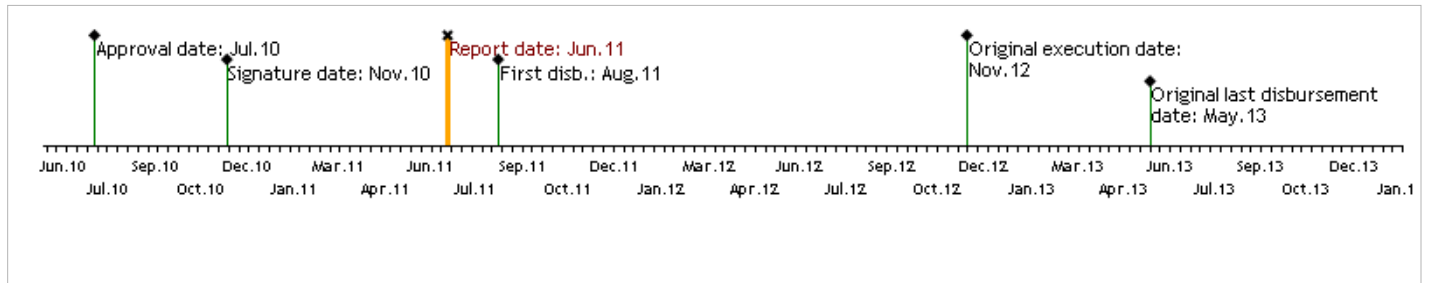
**Purpose:** To develop a virtual platform to facilitate easier access to regional and global material sourcing and sales markets.

|   |                                       |   |   |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Country Administrator</b><br>BAHAMAS | <b>Beneficiary Country</b><br>BAHAMAS | <b>Group</b><br>SME - Small and Medium Enterprise Development | <b>Subgroup</b><br>TECH - Technology for Business Development |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|

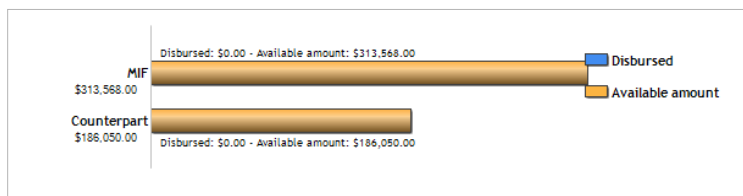
**Executing Agency:** Bahamas Chamber of Commerce

**Design Team Leader:** Perez-Gold, Aminta  
**Supervision Team Leader:** Beecher, Wayne

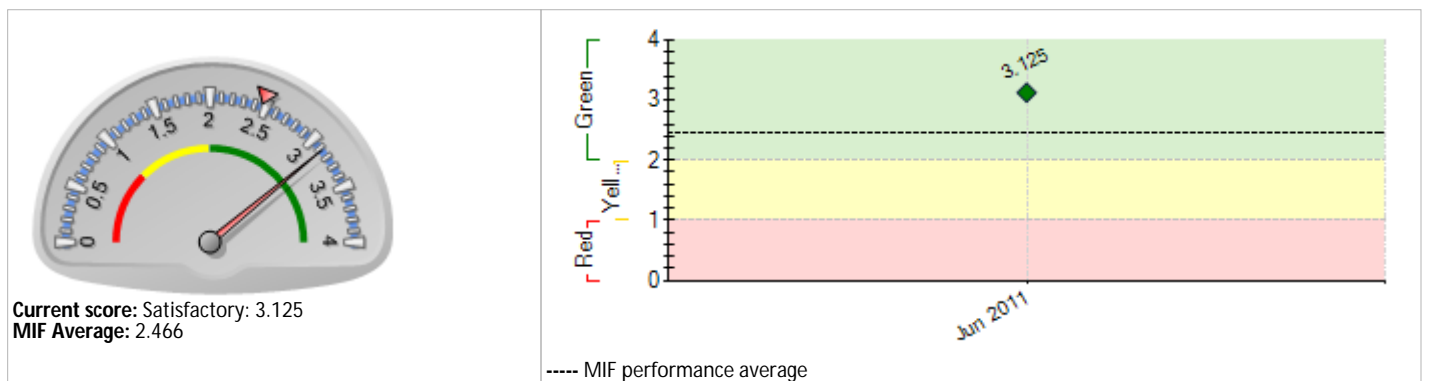
### TIMELINE



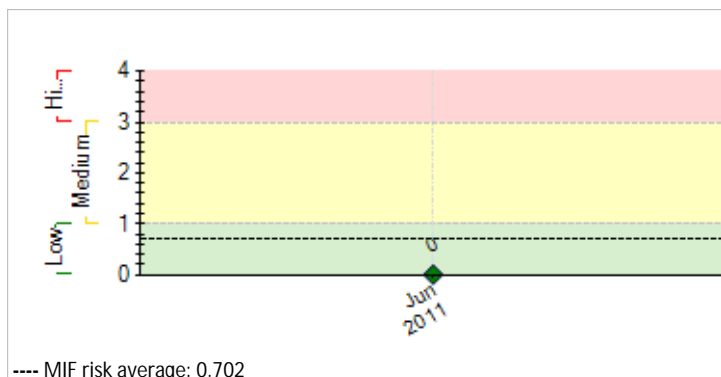
### FUNDS



### PERFORMANCE SCORE



### EXTERNAL RISKS



### INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

|                       | Risk |
|-----------------------|------|
| Financial Management: | Low  |
| Procurement:          | Low  |
| Technical Capacity:   | Low  |

## SECTION 2: PERFORMANCE

## Summary of project performance in the last six months

The Project onset was impacted by early delays, which begun to surface immediately after the official signing of the Project Agreement Documents (24 November 2010).

As a result of the above, ongoing efforts to complete the 'Conditions Prior' submission were stalled until May 2011. Subsequently at a Project Meeting held 12 May 2011 (IDB Washington DC, IDB Local Office, Project Coordinator & Project Board Member) it was agreed to focus efforts to complete the following, to ensure satisfaction of eligibility requirements:

### Logical Framework

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 |   |
| 2 | Final Budget  |
| 3 | Detailed Project Plan   |
| 4 | Procurement Plan  |
| 5 | Milestone Table   |
| 6 | Annual Operating Plan   |
| 7 | Operations Manual (Medium term)   |
| 8 | Request for extension of 'Conditions Prior to First Disbursement' Program Eligibility |

As of 21 July 2011 (IDB's Official correspondence) all of the have been satisfactorily dealt with and the project is now fully operational. As the Project Team prepares for the onset of Component 1, the following activities are now underway:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Ongoing Project Board Meetings (May 2011)   |
| 2 | Ongoing Technical Committee Meetings (May 2011)   |
| 3 | Preparation for onset of island visits to Pilot Project Areas to conduct 'Capacity & Needs Analysis'  |
| 4 | Procurement process for Business, IT Technical and Marketing Consultants for Component 1  |
| 5 | Review of all Project Documents to ensure that critical activities are fully vetted and adjustments made to timelines as required, i.e., Milestone Document |

### Comments from the Supervision Team Leader

Agree with the Executing Agency comments  
The Milestone Chart will be updated to reflect the impact of the delays

## SECTION 3: INDICATORS AND MILESTONES

| Indicators   |  | Baseline | Intermediate<br>1 | Intermediate<br>2 | Intermediate<br>3 | Planned  | Achieved | Status   |
|--|--|----------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>Purpose:</b><br><br>To develop a virtual platform to facilitate easier access to regional and global material sourcing and sales markets. | <b>P.I1</b> Live and fully functioning Bahamas Virtual platform                                    |          |                   |                   |                   | Nov 2012 | No       |          |
|  | <b>P.I2</b> 7 targeted associations and 210 MSMEs participating in the project                     | 0        |                   |                   |                   | Nov 2012 | 0        |          |
|  | <b>P.I3</b> 2 additional strategic partners in place   | 0        |                   |                   |                   | Nov 2012 | 0        |          |
|  |  |          |                   |                   |                   |          |          |          |
| <b>Component 1: Business Requirements Identification</b><br><br><b>Weight:</b> 25%<br><b>Classification:</b> Unsatisfactory                  | <b>C1.I1</b> 30 handcraft associations are aware of the project                                    | 0        |                   |                   |                   | May 2011 | 30       | Finished |
|  | <b>C1.I2</b> 7 associations and 200 MSME are participating in the requirement identification phase | 0        |                   |                   |                   | Oct 2011 | 200      | Delayed  |
|  | <b>C1.I3</b> 150 people trained on e-Commerce and collaborative work                               | 0        |                   |                   |                   | May 2011 | 150      | Delayed  |
|  | <b>C1.I4</b> Business requirement document defined and validated by the participants               |          |                   |                   |                   | May 2011 |          | Delayed  |
| <b>Component 2: Platform Technical Design</b><br><br><b>Weight:</b> 25%<br><b>Classification:</b> Unsatisfactory                             | <b>C2.I1</b> Complete legal framework for platform operations                                      |          |                   |                   |                   | Aug 2011 |          | Delayed  |
|  | <b>C2.I2</b> Platform design completed according to business requirements                          |          |                   |                   |                   | Nov 2011 |          | Delayed  |
|  | <b>C2.I3</b> Portal design and system configuration approved by board                              |          |                   |                   |                   | Nov 2011 |          | Delayed  |
| <b>Component 3: Platform Development</b><br><br><b>Weight:</b> 25%<br><b>Classification:</b> Satisfactory                                    | <b>C3.I1</b> Virtual platform released   |          |                   |                   |                   | May 2012 |          | Delayed  |
| <b>Component 4: Portal launch and promotion</b><br><br><b>Weight:</b> 25%<br><b>Classification:</b> Satisfactory                             | <b>C4.I1</b> 214 MSME trained on the virtual Platform  | 0        |                   |                   |                   | Aug 2012 | 214      |          |
|  | <b>C4.I2</b> Develop Virtual Platform Marketing Plan   |          |                   |                   |                   | Aug 2012 |          |          |
|  | <b>C4.I3</b> Platform Promotion Events   |          |                   |                   |                   | Aug 2012 |          |          |
|  |  |          |                   |                   |                   |          |          |          |

|       |   |  |  |  |  |          |  |  |
|-------|---|--|--|--|--|----------|--|--|
| C4.14 | Official launch of the Bahamas Virtual Platform |  |  |  |  | Aug 2012 |  |  |
| C4.15 | Virtual Platform sustainability plan            |  |  |  |  | Nov 2012 |  |  |

| Milestones  | Planned | Due Date | Achieved | Date achieved | Status       |
|---|---------|----------|----------|---------------|--------------|
| M0 Attainment Of Eligibility for Disbursements  | 1       | Nov 2010 |          |               | Not Achieved |
| M1 [*] Conditions Prior   | 8       | Jul 2011 |          |               |              |
| M2 [*] Completion of Baseline Work and Capacity Analysis. 150 persons trained on e-commerce and collaborative work; 240 MSMEs participants identified for Pilot project program | 150     | Jan 2012 |          |               |              |
| M3 [*] Platform design & prototype completed and approved by Project Board  | 1       | Jul 2012 |          |               |              |
| M4 [*] Release of final version of the Bahamas Virtual Platform   | 1       | Jan 2013 |          |               |              |

[\*] Indicate that the milestone has been reformulated

**CRITICAL ISSUES THAT HAVE AFFECTED PERFORMANCE***[None reported in this period]***SECTION 4: RISKS****MOST IMPORTANT RISKS AFFECTING FUTURE PERFORMANCE**

|  | Level | Mitigation action  | Responsible         |
|--|-------|--|---------------------|
| 1. Natural disasters (hurricanes).   | Low   | To mitigate the impact of this risk, the system design will feature 'built in redundancy'. This will provide the functionality to run the program from an alternate site.  | Project Coordinator |
| 2. Transforming the 'individual' culture of the Craft Vendors to a 'team' concept, predicated on the importance of maintaining a global marketplace for their products | Low   | The strategy of offering 'shared ownership of the operations', via associations, and annual profit sharing, will mitigate this risk. This includes transitioning the vendors to rely on the business support services offered to maximize member benefits and minimize individual risks. | Project Coordinator |

**PROJECT RISK LEVEL:** Low **TOTAL NUMBER OF RISKS:** 2 **IN EFFECT RISKS:** 2 **NOT IN EFFECT RISKS:** 0 **MITIGATED RISKS:** 0**SECTION 5: SUSTAINABILITY****Likelihood of project sustainability after project completion:** P - Probable**CRITICAL ISSUES THAT MAY AFFECT PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY***[None reported in this period]***Actions related to sustainability which will be or have been implemented:**

Project Team has commenced discussions with stakeholders, specifically the Craft Associations (35) that comprise the BNCA and independent SMEs about the purpose, objectives and benefits of the project.

The discussions have been fruitful and have laid the foundation for the island visits, in the Business Requirements Identification phase of the project (Component 1) which is scheduled to begin 12 September 2011. This exercise will serve as the first extended interaction between target beneficiaries and the Project Team - a crucial step to successfully clustering the MSME industry players.

**SECTION 6: PRACTICAL LESSONS***[No Lessons learned records to Display]*