

TC ABSTRACT

I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	Regional
▪ TC Name:	Advancing Gender Equality through Development Programs in IDB Member Countries
▪ TC Number:	RG-T3171
▪ Team Leader/Members:	Anne-Marie Urban (SCL/GDI), Team Leader; Diana Ortiz (SCL/GDI); Lina Uribe Vásquez (SCL/GDI); y Pilar Jiménez de Arechaga (LEG/SGO)
▪ Taxonomy:	Client Support
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	April 11, 2018
▪ Beneficiary:	IDB Borrowing Member Countries
▪ Executing Agency:	Inter-American Development Bank, through the Gender and Diversity Division, Social Sector (SCL/GDI)
▪ IDB funding requested:	US\$300,000
▪ Local counterpart funding:	US\$0
▪ Disbursement period:	18 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Individuals
▪ Prepared by Unit:	SCL/GDI
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	Social Sector (SCL)
▪ 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:	Gender Equality and Diversity

II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 Progress reducing gender gaps and increasing women's empowerment across the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region has been significant over the past two decades. For example, the gender gap in primary education has now closed and even favors girls in some countries, women's participation in the labor force grew from 53% in 2010 to 68% in 2017, and the proportion of women in parliaments increased from 12.6% in 2000 to 25.4% in 2017.¹
- 2.2 Nonetheless, many challenges for women persist across multiple sectors in LAC. These include an adolescent pregnancy rate that is 20 percentage points higher than the world average, gender gaps in school performance in math and science, and one of the highest rates of femicide globally. Regarding economic opportunities, men's labor market participation is still 20 percentage points above women's, men are paid on average 17% more than women, and occupational segregation still prevails: 7 of every 10 women with jobs are employed in the services sector, while they are still poorly represented in other sectors with greater income and growth potential. Moreover, while 50% of the public sector's employees are women, women hold only 20% the managerial positions.²

¹ Gender and Diversity Sector Framework Document (GN-2800-8). (IDB, November 2017).

² Idem.

- 2.3 The IDB is committed to helping its member countries close these gender gaps and to improve women's lives. This commitment is clearly laid out in the Bank's Operational Policy on Gender Equality in Development (OP-761) and its corresponding gender action plans, the Bank's Update to the Institutional Strategy 2016-2020 (AB-3008), which prominently positions "gender equality and diversity" as one of the institution's three cross-cutting themes, as well as the updated Gender and Diversity Sector Framework Document (GN-2800-8).
- 2.4 The IDB has made great strides operationalizing this commitment. But while 41% of all sovereign guaranteed loans approved by the IDB between 2014-2016 incorporated gender-related results (GRRs), only 25% included "quality gender mainstreaming," i.e. analysis of gender issues, concrete actions to address them, and GRR indicators. The social sector continued to lead with 63% of its loans including GRRs compared to 35% of the operations from other sectors. Ensuring the achievement of GRRs during project execution and at project completion is another area that requires greater attention.
- 2.5 According to the "External Assessment Report of the Implementation of the IDB Gender Policy and Gender Action Plan, 2014-2016," having sector-specific gender experts working directly with project teams (within the IDB and in the borrowing member countries) has a consistently positive effect on gender mainstreaming in public sector programs supported by IDB loans.³
- 2.6 In 2017, the IDB Administration approved a new Gender Action Plan (GAP, 2017-2019) that has as its objective to expand and improve the quality of the IDB-financed development interventions that support member countries' efforts to promote gender equality and women's empowerment. Because the use of sector-specific gender experts was so successful in previous GAPs, this TC will expand the use of such expertise, focusing on sectors that are less advanced in their mainstreaming performance.
- 2.7 The objective of this project is to provide support to mainstream gender equality issues into operations financed by the IDB in its member countries. It will prioritize operations in non-social sectors where the development of good practices and evidence-based approaches for advancing gender equality and women's empowerment in LAC countries has been more limited. These include, for example, Housing and Urban Development, Fiscal Management, Environment, Rural Development & Disaster Risk Management, and Infrastructure. It will also give priority to operations in countries that have demonstrated their interest⁴ in advancing their work on gender equality in collaboration with the IDB.⁵

III. Description of Activities and Outputs

- 3.1 **Component 1. Technical Support to Gender Mainstreaming in Project Design and Execution.** The objective of this component is to finance gender consultants with sector-specific expertise who will provide direct technical

³ Gammage, S., Alvarado, G. and Sultana, N. Assessment Report of the Implementation of the Operational Policy on Gender Equality in Development and Gender Action Plan for Operations, 2014-2016. International Center for Research on Women. Washington DC, March 2017.

⁴ They are currently preparing or implementing programs with the IDB that mainstream or directly invest in gender equality.

⁵ These include, but are not limited to: Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru, Jamaica, the Bahamas, Honduras, Haiti, Nicaragua, Argentina and Paraguay.

support to address gender equality issues in project design and execution. The consultants will work directly with IDB teams and executing agencies in borrowing member countries to provide technical inputs that support (i) the inclusion of an analysis of gender gaps/issues, actions to address them, and results indicators in the design of loan operations, and (ii) the achievement of the project's gender-related results during project execution. The component will contribute to hiring the equivalent of three full-time consultants who will support a minimum of 21 operations in sectors that have shown more limited progress addressing gender issues. It also includes some resources for consultant travel during project execution to facilitate direct support to project executing agencies during the implementation of the gender-specific actions of the project.

- 3.2 **Component 2. Sector-Specific Lessons Learned and Mainstreaming Tools.** The objective of this component is to finance the preparation of four sector-specific tools (e.g. 3-page guides) that support gender mainstreaming in design, and a technical note on lessons learned for achieving gender-related results in project execution.

IV. Budget

Indicative Budget (US\$)		
Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Total Funding
Component 1. Technical Support to Mainstream Gender into Project Design and Execution	265,000	265,000
Component 2. Lessons Learned and Gender Mainstreaming Tools	35,000	35,000
Total	300,000⁶	\$ 300,000

V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

- 5.1 The Bank, through the Gender and Diversity Division in the Social Sector (SCL/GDI), will execute this operation.
- 5.2 The Bank is well positioned to supervise gender mainstreaming technical support during project design and execution of the loans it finances in its borrowing member countries given direct management of project design and supervision, its collaborative relationship with its public sector clients and executing agencies across sectors and countries in the region, and its knowledge of international best practices for addressing gender equality issues in multiple sectors that it can shared with its member country governments.

VI. Project Risks and Issues

- 6.1 The principal risk of this project is potentially limited access of the gender consultants to relevant project information and key stakeholders in the region. This risk will be mitigated by embedding gender consultants into project teams from an early stage so that they have direct contact with IDB team members and key technical staff in sector ministries and executing agencies in the relevant borrowing member countries. The TC will also earmark resources in Component 1 to support consultant travel during project execution.

⁶ These funds will be complemented by IDB Administrative Funds from the Corporate Input Product BK-C1037 Supporting the Implementation of the Gender Policy.

VII. Environmental and Social Classification

7.1 The ESG classification for this operation is "C".