**REGIONAL**

**IFD/CTI**

RG-T2627

Broadband as a tool For Creative Industries in Jamaica And Trinidad and Tobago

**Interaction with Related IADB Projects**

As expressed in the main TC document, following the establishment of the Broadband Initiative and the Broadband Fund, the Bank has been increasingly involved in programs that seek to improve broadband penetration, quality and regulation in the Caribbean. The project shall take special care in avoiding the duplication of work, as well as in sharing its advancements with the projects that are ongoing.

Specifically in relation to the aforesaid programs, the project shall:

1. Take into account the execution and results of RG-T2272, which harmonizes the Caribbean Spectrum Planning and Management, so as to (i) coordinate the technical aspects of broadband provision –spectrum planning- with the regulatory aspects, to the extent pertinent to the project, and (ii) correlate the information on spectrum needs with that of access and speed needs for creative industries.
2. Build upon RG-T2212, which creates a broadband infrastructure inventory and public awareness in the Caribbean, in three respects: (i) Utilizing the diagnostic information and conclusions obtained in RG-T2212 on infrastructure inventory and ICT awareness; (ii) providing a continuation to the awareness-raising component of RG-T2212 by way of showing authorities and, now, SMEs, the importance of broadband in the development of the creative industries to their full potential; (iii) continuing the effort of helping the countries develop a national broadband strategy –and one that is consistent with their specific needs and strengths; in particular, the Team Leader shall see that the policy recommendations and roadmap delivered in execution of this project are consistent with those of the Spectrum Management in the aspect of broadband access.
3. Complement the results of JA-T1079, which enhances the ICT regulatory environment in Jamaica by recommending a converged single regulator.
4. Complement the work of TT-M1009, which seeks to improve the performance of Trinidadian SMEs through the application of ICT.
5. Coordinate with TT-L1038, which promotes the internationalization of local SMEs through Global Offshoring Services, by taking advantage of the facilities built through said project, share training programs and experiences, adding to their pool of services, and placing the creative firms in the export platform.
6. Complement also other national programs supporting innovations in segments of the creative industries, such as the Masquerade industry of Trinidad/Tobago (TT-M1021), as well as aid with information and capacity to the preparation of a loan operation on innovation promotion for Trinidad and Tobago (TT-L1043).

Furthermore, this Technical Cooperation is fully in line with the overarching strategy to develop an innovation ecosystem across the Caribbean through increased intellectual asset commercialization, REACH (RG-T2536). REACH shall not only be a source of valuable experience for the execution of this project, but it shall also provide an operative platform and, later, lend itself as a hub to which the creative SMEs incubated through this project may be anchored.