

TC ABSTRACT

I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	Regional
▪ TC Name:	Support to the Cities LAB activities to promote urban experimentation and civic innovation in LAC cities
▪ TC Number:	RG-T3397
▪ Team Leader/Members:	Andres Blanco, Team Leader; Maria Camila Uribe Alternate Team Leader; Sarah Benton; Federica Volpe; David Razu; Juan Pablo Lopez Gross; Tamara Egger; Isidora Larrain, Dianela Avila; and Jessica Guzman (CSD/HUD); Natalia Laguyas (MIF/OPU); Louis-Francois Chretien (LEG/SGO).
▪ Taxonomy:	Research and Dissemination
▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC:	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	January 9, 2019
▪ Beneficiary:	Countries of LAC
▪ Executing Agency:	Inter-American Development Bank
▪ IDB funding requested:	US\$ 1,500,000.0
▪ Local counterpart funding:	N/A
▪ Disbursement period:	24 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Firms and Individuals
▪ Prepared by Unit:	Housing & Urban Development Division (CSD/HUD)
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	Climate Change and Sustainable Development Sector (CSD)
▪ TC included in Country Strategy:	No
▪ TC included in CPD:	No
▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020:	Social inclusion and equality; Productivity and innovation; Institutional capacity and rule of law

II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 The main objective of this Technical Cooperation (TC) is to promote civic innovation and urban experimentation in LAC cities through the iterative work of the Cities LAB to achieve a more sustainable, inclusive, equitable urban development in the Region. This TC will finance the necessary actions for the continuation of the Cities LAB activities, which will contribute to the generation of new and disruptive practices and processes in the area of urban planning and development.
- 2.2 The complex urbanization processes in LAC require more platforms capable of promoting the transfer of knowledge and the development of collaborative interventions and management tools between the sectors and the different disciplines involved with the city and urban issues. Considering that most of the cities in the region have low institutional capacity, experiences that can strengthen the institutions involved in urban management, improve productivity, and innovate public management are valuable. The cities of the region also face great challenges due to the inadequate planning and the radical recent changes in our environment. However, there are possibilities opening within the fields of emerging technologies and innovative business models. To be able to transmit this dynamic knowledge, these innovative experiences and respond to a growing demand from the Bank's client cities in the region, CSD/HUD established the Cities LAB in 2017 to develop, disseminate and collaborate on and experiment with innovative models and practices of urban development and urban management with the cities of the region.

III. Description of Activities and Outputs

- 3.1 This TC will finance the necessary activities so that the Cities LAB can achieve these objectives, contributing to the continuous generation of new and disruptive practices and processes in the area of urban development and planning. The Cities LAB will work directly with the cities of the region and also in collaboration with other divisions of the Bank supporting multisectoral operations. This Cities LAB TC is composed of three components: (1) Urban experimentation and Civic Innovation pilots; (2) Evaluation strategies; and (3) Communication strategy.
- 3.2 **Component I: Urban experimentation and civic innovation pilots.** This component incorporates the iterative design process to test proofs of concept to bring innovative urban experiments and programs into LAC cities while integrating various tools, methods, and technologies.
- 3.3 **Component II: Evaluation strategies.** This component seeks to develop evaluation strategies for each pilot project and implement them in an iterative manner in each phase of each pilot.
- 3.4 **Component III: Communication strategy.** This component develops and implements a communication strategy for the Cities LAB and for each pilot project; facilitates the systematization and documentation of each project, the creation and dissemination of publications and knowledge products, the day-to-day socialization of each pilot project with clients, counterpart, and communities (social media, blogs, creation of graphic and visual art, etc.); and supports other dissemination activities aligned with the objective of the Cities LAB.

IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
Urban experimentation and civic innovation pilots	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,000,000.00
Evaluation strategies	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 200,000.00
Communication strategy	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 300,000.00

V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

- 5.1 The Bank (IDB) will be the executing agency. The Housing and Urban Development Division (CSD/HUD) will be responsible for the technical supervision and administration of this TC given its past experience with the Cities LAB and its partnership and access to the Cities Network across Latin American and the Caribbean. Disbursements will be done from IDB Headquarters with the support of IDB's Administrative Services and Corporate Procurement Division.
- 5.2 The Bank will contract individual consultants in accordance with the guidelines set out in the AM-650. The procurement process for consulting firms of intellectual nature follows the Bank's new Policy for the Selection and Contracting of Consulting Firms for Bank-executed Operational Work (GN-2765-1) and related Operational Guidelines (OP- 1155-4) which went into effect on January 1, 2017. Non-consulting services will be in accordance with Bank's current procurement policies and procedures. Contracting of logistic services and procurement of goods will be done in accordance with policy GN- 2303-20.
- 5.3 The execution by the Bank is justified by its taxonomy as a regional research and dissemination TC. The fact that the TC will finance activities in and across multiple countries and institutions in LAC necessitates a centralized and internalized execution from Bank headquarters. Also, the HUD Division of the Bank and its Cities LAB have

substantial experience in providing technical assistance, particularly in the areas of housing, urban planning, sustainability and areas related to the activities financed under this TC.

VI. Project Risks and Issues

- 6.1 Two potential risks have been identified for the execution of this TC and the achievement of expected results: (i) a lack of coordination between various sectors and areas of the IDB group that operate in the urban environment; and (ii) complexity in the coordination with stakeholders and external actors that might affect the normal and continuous development of Cities LAB processes and outputs.
- 6.2 Minimizing the possibility of these risks occurring is already being addressed by the coordinating team of the Cities LAB within HUD. The main mitigation method for both risks is to build upon the experience and lessons learned from the execution of RG- T2983 (for the initial development of the Cities LAB), while also maintaining Cities LAB representatives in the regional HUBs to foster continuous dialog with client cities to improve coordination. The HUD Sector Framework documents the division's past successes when it comes to multi-sectoral actions by the Bank which required coordinated efforts across sectors. These actions create synergies within the Bank.
- 6.3 Additionally, in 2018 under RG-T2983, the relationship and integration structure with other sectors and areas of the IDB Group, as well as with external partners, was defined. The Cities LAB will continue to nurture these relationships and coordinate continued specialist participation as focal points for the Cities LAB and future external partnerships to support the Cities LAB's activities and contributions to the multi-sectoral work of the IDB Group.

VII. Environmental and Social Classification

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