



**MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARY**

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June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Carina Cockburn  
Representative  
Country Office of Trinidad and Tobago  
Inter-American Development Bank  
17 Alexandra Street, St. Clair  
Port of Spain

Dear Ms Cockburn,

**Re: Expression of Interest: TT-T1129 Skills for Technological Change in Trinidad and Tobago**

I refer to your correspondence, dated 22 June 2022, on the aforementioned subject.

The Ministry of Planning and Development welcomes this initiative, geared to data collection on labour market needs and the identification of skills gaps in strategic and priority sectors toward the implementation of a talent pipeline. The Ministry further recognizes the need for an evaluation of skills gaps in critical sectors that lead to reskilling and the proposal of policy recommendations, especially during this crucial time as the country recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic and embraces the national thrust to digitalization.

It is important to note the alignment of this project with Trinidad and Tobago's National Development Strategy, Vision 2030, Theme IV: *Building Globally Competitive Businesses*, which aims to improve firms toward the overarching goal of diversification. To this end, the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago recognizes the crucial role required of the private sector in achieving our national goals. In connection with diversification, the country has also prioritized digitalization in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to boost productivity and enhance service delivery. Digitalization has its foundation in the National Development Strategy and was heavily recommended in both phases of the Roadmap to Recovery reports. Therefore, the pursuit of this initiative will be of immense value to the country as it works toward achieving its national strategic goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Furthermore, it is proposed that the technical cooperation project be executed by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), which will enable the concentration of the management of resources and the minimization of the risk of delay. In light of the foregoing, the Ministry of Planning and Development express interest on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in participating in this initiative.

I take this opportunity to thank the Bank for its continued support.

Sincerely,

  
Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Planning and Development

PERMANENT SECRETARY  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING  
AND DEVELOPMENT