



IN THE SPOTLIGHT INSPIRING INNOVATION NEWS DIGEST WHERE WE'VE BEEN OPPORTUNITIES

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER April, 2014 - Volume 8, Issue 1 Office of Outreach and Partnerships

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Partner Efforts Highlighted Via Annual Partnership Report and New Communications Channels

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To increase engagement with partners, highlight collaborative projects, and disseminate knowledge cultivated by joint efforts, the IDB is expanding into the blogosphere with a "Partnerships for Development" blog, which will feature partnership perspectives and opportunities, stories from the field, outlooks for development, and more. Additionally, it's newly released 2013 Partnership Report tells the story of regional development through a partnership lens, featuring partner interviews, success stories, new projects, and opportunities for prospective partners. Be sure to check out the blog, flip through our report, and engage with us directly on Twitter at [@IDBpartnerships](https://twitter.com/IDBpartnerships).

[Innovative ConnectAmericas Platform Unveiled to Help SMEs Go Global](#)



Google, DHL, Visa and Alibaba.com have teamed up with the IDB to create ConnectAmericas, an innovative digital platform to help regional companies, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) expand their markets. Officially unveiled at the Bank's Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors in Bahia, Brazil, the ConnectAmericas platform offers members access to potential clients, suppliers, partners and investors throughout the region and around the world. In addition, ConnectAmericas offers access to state-of-the-art e-learning tools for SMEs and useful information regarding financing resources. After four months of testing with more than 100 businesses, [ConnectAmericas](#) went live on March 28th. The platform was also highlighted at the World Economic Forum on Latin America event, held this year in Panama City, Panama, where IDB President Luis Alberto Moreno joined Google Managing Director for Spanish Speaking Latin America, Adriana Noreña, for a [press conference](#).

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MasterCard and the IDB Partner for Economic Inclusion and Transparency



At the January World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos, IDB President Luis Alberto Moreno and MasterCard CEO Ajay Banga signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for collaboration on financial inclusion in LAC. The five-year partnership will aim to improve economic inclusion, transparency and financial formalization through the expansion of electronic payments in

the region. MasterCard further solidified its commitment to LAC's development through a contribution to the Bank's Transparency Trust Fund, making the company the first private sector donor to this fund. Gilberto Caldart, the President of MasterCard's LAC business and new MasterCard representative to the IDB's Transparency Trust Fund, recently discussed the partnership in an [interview with CNN](#). Caldart stressed that the alliance "brings a great opportunity for private companies and governments to work together in favor of financial inclusion".

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The Government of Canada Promotes Transparency and Other Priorities in LAC, Contributing more than CAD\$50 Million

Through its Department for Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD), Canada committed more than CAD\$50 million to LAC's development this week, supporting priorities including citizen security, civil registration, and transparency. Canada's commitment to the latter of these was solidified by its CAD\$10 million contribution to the IDB's Transparency Trust Fund (TTF). With this contribution, Canada joins TTF donors, Norway and MasterCard, in supporting innovative approaches to strengthening transparency and accountability in LAC.

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AquaFund Increases its Impact in Mexico



The IDB and its partners have expanded AquaFund's footprint in Mexico, launching a \$1 million program to provide more than 2,000 people in poor communities with sustainable access to safe water and improved sanitation. [Pedro Padierna](#), President of PepsiCo Mexico, blogged about the event launching, explaining that "the recommendations and best practices learned from this project will... contribute to Mexico's Government water and sanitation investments in rural disperse communities."

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The International Olympic Committee Targets Haitian Youth through Sports for Development



The International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the IDB kicked off February with an MoU to promote development through sports, starting with a program at the Olympic Youth Development Centre in Haiti. Anticipated to be the first of several joint projects, the IOC-IDB collaboration will harness the powers of sport and activity to impact areas including health, education, gender, and social protection, with a particular focus on young people and impoverished areas.

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JICA Signs \$1 Billion Facility for Energy and Climate Change-Focused Projects in Central America and the Caribbean

The Japan International Cooperation Agency's (JICA) Senior Special Advisor Kunio Okamura and President Moreno further strengthened the Japan-IDB partnership at the Bank's Annual Meeting. Amending two previous agreements for supporting renewable energy and energy efficiency for the mitigation of climate change, JICA has increased its threshold of concessional loans from \$300 million to \$1 billion, expanded the pool of eligible beneficiaries, and extended the two parties' joint co-financing mechanism through 2017.

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INSPIRING INNOVATION

Partnering for Geothermal Energy in Mexico with Munich Re

Through an MoU signed by Mexico's Department of Energy, Nacional Financiera and Munich Re, the IDB is working with Mexico to meet its geothermal energy potential, striving to develop its energy scheme to 2GW by 2020. This collaboration will seek to address financial barriers hindering

the development of geothermal energy projects through innovative risk management solutions, and will establish a framework for collaboration and knowledge-sharing to promote the use of renewable energy.

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Novel Social Sector Financing Model Introduced in the Region

Launching a new \$5.3 million facility to support Social Impact Bonds (SIBs) in LAC, the Bank's Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) has become the first development finance institution to commit resources to this new social sector financing model. Essentially a partnership in which socially-motivated private investors provide capital to nongovernmental organizations or private service providers to implement programs targeted at poor and vulnerable populations, [the Center for Global Development](#) regards this move "not just good for Latin America, but for [all] exploring SIBs in high, middle and low income countries."

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Going Digital: The Japan Special Fund Poverty Reduction Program Launches a Tablet App



The Japan Special Fund Poverty Reduction Program (JPO) has hit the app store, using a bilingual application for iPad to showcase the JPO's response to community-based development needs, its efforts to improve quality of life among vulnerable communities in LAC, and subsequent achievements and results. A platform that showcases both the spirit of the Fund and its annual Call for Proposals for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), the app features a Knowledge Sharing Events section, describing how the JPO facilitates joint learning among the CSOs that serve as executing agencies of JPO-financed projects. The JPO application is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

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NEWS DIGEST



Nicaragua Selected As Home to the Broadband Regional Training Center

Selected to host the Broadband Regional Training Center, Nicaragua has secured its spot as a broadband hub in the region. Established with support from the IDB and a \$3.2 million contribution from the government of Korea, the center is slated to provide telecommunications training for up to 200 individuals, and is tentatively scheduled to open after the selection of instructors for training modules.

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Latin NCAP Results and German Automobile Club Press Day Raises Awareness of Need for Increased Road Safety in LAC



Committed to raising awareness of the need for automobile safety standards, Global NCAP and Latin NCAP organized a Press Day at the German Automobile Club's ADAC Laboratory, hosting media from countries in LAC, including Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Uruguay. The [Latin NCAP results](#) released earlier in 2014 reinforce the importance of spreading this message, both to shed light on the need for improved road safety in LAC and to support cross-sector efforts to this end.

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"edX" Partners with the IDB to Offer Massive Open Online Courses on Social and Economic Development

In early March, the IDB became the first organization specialized in Latin America and the Caribbean to create Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) through edX, the not-for-profit online learning enterprise founded by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Taking from both online and face-to-face class material, these soon-to-come social and economic development courses will allow the Bank to extend its expertise to a wider audience of public officials, policy players and others in the region and abroad. This initiative will be titled IDBx and can

be found at www.edx.org.

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Microsoft and the IDB Team Up to Promote SME Competitiveness in the Region



A partnership between the XXI Century Iberoamerican Forum and Microsoft produced "[The Time for Competitiveness](#)" report, which positions regional entrepreneurs and technology as the key to boosting the region's potential for productivity and prosperity. Launched at a Madrid event on March 20th, the report transforms the input of over 40 regional experts into recommendations for government, private sector and civil society leaders, detailing the action steps needed to accelerate competitiveness, and subsequently development, in the region.

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Soccer for Hope Program Targets Children and Youth in Colombia



Fundación COLOMBIANITOS, the Coca-Cola Company, the municipality of Manizales and the IDB's Korean Poverty Reduction Fund joined forces to fund the "Soccer for Hope" program, which will provide vulnerable youth aged 10 to 15 with access to sports activities in Manizales, Colombia. Seeking to reduce violence, boost academic performance, enhance urban areas and promote healthy lifestyles, the program officially launched on March 12th and will run for three years.

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The IDB's New Institutional Strategy Consulted with Asia and Europe

The IDB conducted its institutional strategy consultation dialogues with non-regional member countries to prepare a new strategy for 2016-2019. The strategy was presented to European and Asian focus groups in January and March respectively, seeking their input early into the planning phase. The updated strategy will ensure that the IDB continues to effectively help the region deal with upcoming development challenges.

Early but Positive Results Seen by the Salud Mesoamérica 2015 Initiative

Though pending external and independent verification per the Results-Based Financing Initiative model, Ministries of Health have released some positive data that shows Salud Mesoamérica 2015 (SM2015) Initiative's progress among target populations. For instance, El Salvador established 12 health units and hired 121 professionals; Honduras experienced a 24 percent increase in maternal and infant health coverage; and 93 percent of Belize's health units were trained in reproductive and prenatal health.

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"Partnerships for Learning" Brings Education Efforts to Haiti



Utilizing education as a tool for developing good citizenry, CARE-Haiti and the Ministry of Education launched the project “Partnership for Learning” at l’Académie Camp Nous in the Croix-des-Bouquets Ranch. This program, organized in partnership with UMCOR, LIDE, MENFP, and the IDB, will enroll 50,000 children ages 6 to 17 currently out of school and in difficult circumstances. It especially targets street children and living in four districts - Grand’Anse, Ouest, Centre and Artibonite - over five years.

WHERE WE'VE BEEN

[The World Economic Forum on Latin America Addresses Teen Pregnancy and Business Internationalization in LAC](#)



Last week’s World Economic Forum on Latin America, touched on two major priorities of both the IDB and the region—teen pregnancy and the globalization of LAC’s businesses. At an April 1st breakfast with Fundación Juan Felipe Gómez Escobar, Foundation president Catalina Escobar joined IDB Executive Vice-President Julie Katzman to address the former of these issues, which has seen a growing prevalence region-wide. Gina Montiel, General Manager for Central America at the IDB, provided closing remarks. Additionally, President Moreno participated in a panel on

another crucial regional topic—Latin America Globalizers—which focused specifically on the strategies LAC’s businesses are employing as they work to internationalize. Touching on such topics as branding, and the incorporation of small and medium enterprises into global value chains, the President participated with Senior Lecturer Lourdes Casanova of Cornell University, Executive Vice President Ricardo Villela Marino of Itaú Unibanco SA, President Bas Burger of BT Americas, CEO Francisco Nicolás González Díaz of ProMéxico, and CEO Luis Pescarmona of IMPSA.

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Impact Investing a Hot Topic at the IDB’s Annual Meeting



Nazeem Martin of South Africa’s Business Partners Ltd., Rodrigo Villar of New Ventures Mexico, Carolina Trivelli of the Instituto de Estudios Peruanos and the IDB’s Jozef Henriquez gathered at the Bank’s Annual Meeting to discuss impact investing. Focusing the conversation on intentionality, impact, and rate of returns, they addressed major questions surrounding this innovative and increasingly popular financing tool, and reflected on its potential to catalyze resources into LAC’s underserved sectors.

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Partners Reinforce their Commitment to LAC’s Development at the Clinton Global Initiative Latin America

At the December 2013 Clinton Global Initiative Latin America (CGI-LAC) meeting, the IDB and its partners reinforced their commitment to addressing the region’s most pressing development challenges. Long committed to cultivating LAC’s entrepreneurial spirit, [the Coca-Cola Company](#) will benefit from the IDB Multilateral Investment Fund’s (MIF) insight and expertise to improve and accelerate the expansion of its Coletivo program, which provides training and support to low-income entrepreneurial women and youth and has already impacted 65,000 people in 150 Brazilian cities since 2009. The MIF will also work with such partners as the International Youth Foundation, Arcos Dorados, Caterpillar, CEMEX, Microsoft, and Walmart on [the New Employment Opportunities Initiative](#), which will provide high-impact job training and placement services to 500,000 youth in the region over the next five years. Finally, ever-committed to utilizing sports as a tool for development, Nike, the IDB, and eight other partners worked to build and test a model for [“Active Schools”](#) while

[disseminating the “Designed to Move” framework for action.](#)

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Looking to the German "Mittelstand" for Lessons on Green Growth

Germany’s “mittelstand,” or small and medium enterprises, are thriving, contributing to 52% of Germany’s total economic output in 2010 and recognized as engines of job creation and productivity. Upon attending a conference hosted by the Federation of German Industries (BDI) in Stuttgart, Germany, IDB Vice President for the Private Sector and Non-Sovereign Guaranteed Operations Hans Schulz highlighted in a blog post the lessons learned and possible opportunities for LAC’s burgeoning SME sector.

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A Tool for Innovation and Development: Seminar Unites Partners to Discuss the Power of Sports



The IDB and the Americas Society/Council of the Americas hosted a *Seminar on Sports: a Tool for Innovation and Development* at the Bank’s Washington headquarters. An integral part of the IDB’s GOLS for Development exhibit on renowned figure Pelé and sports for development projects in LAC, the seminar highlighted the ability of sports to prepare youth for employment, promote integration and equality, and reduce violence and delinquency. A symbol of the Bank’s leadership in sports for development initiatives in LAC, the event brought together panelists from Save the Children, PepsiCo, Fundación Rafa Marquez, FUDELA, Laureus USA, Grassroots Soccer, PlayRugby USA, the President’s Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition, Nike, Georgetown University, Fundació FC Barcelona, and Coca-Cola Colombia.

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[“Partnerships for a Positive Impact” are the Focus of the Civil Society Forum on Quality of Life](#)

The IDB’s Civil Society Forum in Salvador, Brazil fostered shared learning and synergies between 150 attending leaders from civil society, the public and private sector, and the IDB. The March 13th event included a “Sports: A Key Tool for Development and Quality of Life” seminar, featuring panelists from Visa Inc. Brasil, Instituto Ayrton Senna, AVSI Brasil, and the Municipal Secretariat for Sports and Leisure. The panelists discussed sports as a tool for changing communities, and reflected on the social legacy opportunities presented by the upcoming FIFA World Cup and 2016 Olympic and Paralympic games.

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[Sustainable Cities a Priority for the Americas Society/Council of the Americas](#)

The Americas Society/Council of the Americas and the IDB joined at Bank headquarters in late February to present the [launch of the winter 2014 issue of *Americas Quarterly*](#), titled “Our Cities, Our Future: Making Cities Healthy, Green and Sustainable.” The launch brought together policymakers, scholars and private sector representatives to discuss how to make our cities more efficient, equitable and livable in the context of rapid urbanization and climate change. Panelists came from the City University of New York (CUNY), IBM, the World Bank Institute, and the IDB’s Emerging and Sustainable Cities Initiative. An indication of this topic’s growing importance, [BN Americas discussed the Bank’s Initiative](#) in a March article focusing on plans to expand into 12 new municipalities in 2014.

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OPPORTUNITIES

[Mrs. Hilary Rodham Clinton joins President Moreno to Promote Innovation in Education](#)

On May 6th at IDB headquarters, the “*Transforming the Future Starts in Childhood: Innovation and Development in Early Education*” event will promote innovation and creativity in early child educational services throughout the region. Bringing together high-level policymakers, business leaders, education advocates, neuroscientists, innovators, and researchers in cognitive and social development in early childhood, the ALAS-IDB Awards will also be presented at the event to individuals and institutions committed to early childhood development in LAC. Mrs. Hilary Rodham Clinton, former U.S. Secretary of State, will deliver a key note speech.

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[Call for Proposals Promotes Regional Public Goods in LAC](#)

Based on the premise that the region's challenges and opportunities are best addressed through cooperation, the Initiative for the Promotion of Regional Public Goods (RPGs) in LAC is hosting a call for proposals. Seeking innovative solutions to issues shared by the region's countries, up to \$8 million in grants will be provided to finance RPGs produced collectively by a group of IDB borrowing member countries. Since 2004, the Initiative has financed 92 projects at a total of \$73 million.

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FONTAGRO Seeks Agricultural Innovations in 2014 Call for Proposals

The Regional Fund for Agricultural Technology (FONTAGRO) has launched its 2014 call for proposals, seeking "Innovations for Family Agriculture Adaptation to climate change in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)." Conducted by FONTAGRO and the Global Environment Facility and implemented by the IDB, the call promotes the development and transfer of environmentally appropriate technologies in LAC that contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and vulnerability to climate change in specific sectors.

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Online Early Childhood Development Courses Coming Soon

Offered through the Inter-American Institute for Economic and Social Development (INDES), the IDB will be offering the third edition of its online course in Management of Policies and Programs for Early Childhood Development. Intended to strengthen the knowledge, skillset, and practices of those engaged in early childhood development, related public organizations are welcome to nominate candidates prior to April 30th. The course will run between May 20th and September 29th, 2014.

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Upcoming Deadline: USAID's Open Innovation Competition

IDB partner USAID is seeking innovative development solutions for any sector and country, and from nearly any organization in the world, [USAID's Development Innovation Ventures \(DIV\) program](#) will be open through April 15, 2014.

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