

TC ABSTRACT

I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	Belize
▪ TC Name:	Strengthening of public procurement
▪ TC Number:	BL-T1101
▪ Team Leader/Members:	HARPER, LESLIE ELIZABETH (IFD/FMM) Team Leader; WATSON, BRODRICK RAYLANDO (VPC/FMP); KEVISH, MARIA LORENA (IFD/FMM); SANCHEZ TORRICO, DANIEL FERNANDO (IFD/CTI); CALDERON RAMIREZ, ANA CRISTINA (IFD/FMM); MILLAN, RAFAEL (CID/CBL); PAYEN, PATRICIA YAMILEE (VPC/FMP)
▪ Taxonomy:	Client Support
▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC:	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	28 Mar 2019
▪ Beneficiary:	Ministry of Finance
▪ Executing Agency:	INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
▪ IDB funding requested:	\$ 100,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding:	\$ 0.00
▪ Disbursement period:	36 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Individuals; Firms
▪ Prepared by Unit:	Fiscal Management
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	Country Office Belize
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):	No
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	Yes
▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020:	Institutional capacity and rule of law

II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 The objective of this program is to support activities that will promote effectiveness, transparency and value for money in the national public procurement system of Belize.
- 2.2 In Belize the public sector plays a significant role as a consumer of goods, services and public works, with public procurement representing between 10 and 30 percent of its GDP. Given its importance in the economy, public procurement is a major area where the government is striving to improve effectiveness in its delivery of public services. This is especially the case as development progress has slowed over the last decade with real GDP growth averaging only 3.2% from 2003-2012. Belize's rich natural resources provide it with significant potential for economic growth based on tourism and agriculture, but such growth is constrained by significant transportation and infrastructure bottlenecks.
- 2.3 One of the areas where the Government of Belize needs immediate support to improve efficiency in public services is public procurement as indicated in the 2014 MAPS assessment. Some of the key areas where significant gaps were identified include: (i) legal and regulatory framework, which is inadequate, outdated and not in line with international norms; (ii) capacity to administer contracts is limited and could benefit from clear guidelines and training of staff involved; and (iii) capabilities to collect and disseminate tender invitations, requests for proposals, and contract award information is limited. This program will help the country address those gaps.

III. Description of Activities and Outputs

- 3.1 Component I. Institutional strengthening. The objective of this component is to support the development of an integral public procurement system with a clear road map for modernization, including the new electronic government procurement system. This will include: (i) road map; (ii) e-GP Strategy; and (iii) conceptual design for the eGP system.
- 3.2 Component II: Capacity building and awareness. The objective of this component is to build the necessary capacity within purchasing units and public procurement entity to build the foundations for a modern procurement system. This will include training on the new procurement legislation, regulations and standard bidding documents. In addition, it will include an awareness building strategy.
- 3.3 **Component I: Institutional Strengthening.** This component will enable the Public Procurement unit to have a clear road map for modernization, including the new electronic government procurement system
- 3.4 **Component II: Capacity Building and Awareness.** This component will support activities that build the necessary capacity within purchasing units and public procurement entity to build the foundations for a modern procurement system.

IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
Institutional Strengthening	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 50,000.00
Capacity Building and Awareness	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 50,000.00

V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

- 5.1 The IDB will execute the technical assistance program.
- 5.2 The Public Procurement Unit at the Ministry of Finance does not have the capacity to execute the program given that the unit is newly established and has very limited staff and resources.

VI. Project Risks and Issues

- 6.1 The main risk is that the country will not have the capacity to carry out the activities of the program. This will be mitigated by including significant capacity and awareness building activities as well as continuous support from the technical assistance program team.

VII. Environmental and Social Classification

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