Fast-Tracking the COVID-19 Response

The IDB 2020 Annual Report reflects on the unprecedented challenges faced by the Latin America and Caribbean region due to the pandemic and IDB’s response. Since last year’s announcement of its priority support areas, the Bank has increased its financing, adjusted lending instruments and accelerated procedures to help the countries of the region. The Bank also expanded the use of contingent loans for natural disaster emergencies to include public health risks.

In 2020 the IDB Group approved a record $21.6 billion in financing and $1 billion for vaccine acquisition and distribution. A first-of-its kind initiative to support Latin America and the Caribbean to negotiate faster access to vaccines topped the efforts.

Explore IDB-funded projects by country and priority area or visit the IDB Group COVID-19 web page for more information on its response to the pandemic in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Fostering a Digital Transformation

Innovative processes are essential to support the IDB Group’s mission. In the 2020-2023 Corporate Results Framework, IDB identifies the promotion of technology and innovation as a key operational area to accelerate progress. The Bank has been contributing to the digital transformation of the region with programs supporting the digital agenda and the modernization of several of its members countries regulatory frameworks in areas that include digital identity, connectivity and fintech.

These efforts have been highlighted with the IDB announcing a $1 billion credit facility to boost Brazil’s digital transformation and a successful proof of concept for cross-border tokenized payments using blockchain technologies to process disbursements to countries in the region.