

DOCUMENT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN BANK  
MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT FUND

**GUYANA**

**COMBATTING GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN MIGRANT AND HOST  
COMMUNITIES IN GUYANA**

**(GY-T1178)**

**DONORS MEMORANDUM**

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## PROJECT SUMMARY

### GUYANA

#### COMBATTING GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN MIGRANT AND HOST COMMUNITIES IN GUYANA

#### (GY-T1178)

Guyana is a developing English-speaking nation, adjacent to Venezuela, with an estimated population of 780,000 and has received a Venezuelan migrant population of approximately 23,310<sup>1</sup>, of which more than half are female. Research conducted in 2019 and 2021 on the incidence and drivers of Gender Based Violence (GBV) among migrant and host communities in Guyana, indicates that Venezuelan women are experiencing high levels of GBV, particularly in the context of relationships with Guyanese men, and a prevalence of survival sex work, where women engaging in these practices are exposed to brutal violence, rape, and robbery. Additionally, the research indicated that Venezuelan women are subject to harmful stereotypes that can lead to sexual harassment, and that they can also suffer abuse by police and immigration officers, including requests for sexual favors<sup>2</sup>.

The project was selected for financing through the [Better Together](#) program<sup>3</sup> introduced by IDB Lab and USAID to fund critical solutions that support and integrate Venezuelan migrants in host country communities. In this regard, the NGO National Coordinating Coalition Inc (NCC), the Executing Agency for this project, presented an intervention to build a sustainable and inclusive system of services for victims of GBV in migrant and host communities in Guyana, and to create greater awareness of the incidence and impact of GBV. The solution centers on coordination and strengthening of GBV support services, and key innovations including (i) use of technology for coordination, real time tracking and referrals of GBV victims through a range of services delivered through independent NGOs and public institutions. Use of technology will also support the collation of critical data to inform both sensitization campaigns and advocacy for change; (ii) introduction of translation services and bilingual case workers to support migrants in navigating access to services; and (iii) the expansion of one stop shop clinics where GBV victims and their caseworkers can access a range of services in one setting.

The program will facilitate greater coordination in delivery of GBV support services, a 325% increase in frequency of “one stop” GBV clinics, a 400% increase in GBV victims served, implementation of campaigns on the negative impact of GBV and xenophobia, GBV training of 120 law enforcement and health officers, and participative development of a policy and programmatic advocacy agenda on GBV and Migration. Project results contribute to IDB Corporate Results Framework, specifically in Social Inclusion and Equality and Gender Equality. The project is directly aligned to the **IDB Lab and IDB**

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<sup>1</sup> R4V Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela - <https://r4v.info/en/situations/platform/location/7497> (Last updated 30 Sep 2020).

<sup>2</sup> Rapid Gender Based Violence Assessment March 2021, Ladysmith (unpublished)

<sup>3</sup> Better Together is a program which provides financing for innovative solutions that address challenges of the Venezuelan migrant and host communities across several countries in Latin America and the Caribbean region

**Group Vision 2025** mandate, to enable inclusion for women and disadvantaged ethnic minorities like migrants, that risk falling into poverty and social exclusion.

## **ANNEXES**

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## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>CCB</b>	Country Department Caribbean Group
<b>CGY</b>	Country Office Guyana
<b>COIN</b>	Centro de Orientacion e Investigacion Integral
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organization
<b>DFID</b>	UK Department for International Development
<b>DICI</b>	Assessment of Integrity and Institutional Capacity
<b>GBV</b>	Gender Based Violence
<b>IDB</b>	Inter-American Development Bank
<b>IDB Lab</b>	Multilateral Investment Fund
<b>IDBG</b>	Inter-American Development Bank Group
<b>IPV</b>	Intimate Partner Violence
<b>LGBTQ</b>	Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer and Questioning
<b>NCC</b>	NGO National Coordinating Coalition Inc.
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Government Organization
<b>PPE</b>	Personal Protection Equipment
<b>PSA</b>	Public Service Announcement
<b>PSR</b>	Project Status Report
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>TB</b>	Tuberculosis
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development

**PROJECT INFORMATION**  
**GUYANA**  
**COMBATting GBV IN GUYANA'S MIGRANT AND HOST COMMUNITIES**  
**(GY-T1178)**

<b>Country and Geographic Location:</b>	Guyana: <a href="#">Region 4</a> (Georgetown and environs) and Region <a href="#">3</a> (West Demerara)		
<b>Executing Agency:</b>	NGO National Coordinating Coalition Inc ( <a href="#">NCC</a> ).		
<b>Focus Area:</b>	Inclusive Cities and the IDB Lab Verticals in Health and Gender and Diversity Transversal theme		
<b>Coordination with Other Donors/Bank Operations:</b>	The project is being co-funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the <a href="#">Better Together Challenge</a> . USAID is providing US \$250,000 in cash counterpart resources.		
<b>Project Beneficiaries:</b>	Primary beneficiaries are victims of Gender Based Violence (GBV) from migrant and host communities in Regions 4 and 3 of Guyana. Secondary beneficiaries include service providers and policy makers working in GBV.		
<b>Financing:</b>	Technical Cooperation:	US\$ 580,000	50%
	<b>TOTAL IDB LAB FUNDING:</b>	US\$ 580,000	50%
	Counterpart:	US\$ 580,434	50%
	<b>TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET:</b>	US\$ 1,160,634	100%
<b>Execution and Disbursement Period:</b>	24 months of execution and 30 months of disbursement.		
<b>Special Contractual Conditions:</b>	Special conditions precedent to first disbursement will be: (i) appointment of the core project execution team: Technical Director, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer and Project Coordinator; (ii) IDB Lab approval of an implementation plan for the first 12 months of the project; and (iii) execution of an MOU between the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security <sup>4</sup> and the NCC outlining key areas of collaboration		
<b>Environmental and Social Impact Review</b>	This operation was screened and classified as required by the IDB's safeguard policy (OP-703) on May 17, 2021. Given the limited impacts and risks, the proposed category for the project is C.		
<b>Unit responsible for disbursements</b>	CCB/CGY		

<sup>4</sup> The Ministry of Human Services and Social Security is the key public institution involved in addressing Gender Based Violence in Guyana and is an important partner in the project

## I The Problem

### Problem Description

- 1.1 The project seeks to address the problem of Gender Based Violence (GBV) affecting Venezuelan migrants and vulnerable women in host communities in Guyana.
- 1.2 The political, economic, and social crises in Venezuela have resulted in an estimated 5,600,000 Venezuelans leaving their country to pursue opportunities in neighboring countries, including Guyana<sup>5</sup>. Smaller developing countries have struggled to accommodate, protect, and integrate this migrant population. This situation is now exacerbated in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the attendant health risks, travel restrictions and the global as well as national economic downturns all of which have severely reduced available resources and livelihoods of citizens as well as migrants, and which have in some cases, sparked xenophobia directed at Venezuelan migrant populations<sup>6</sup>.
- 1.3 Guyana is a developing English-speaking nation, adjacent to Venezuela on the South American mainland, with an estimated population of 780,000 and has received a Venezuelan migrant population of approximately 23,310<sup>7</sup>, of which more than half are female. Guyana's population is largely dispersed outside of the capital city, many of the low-income host communities that border Venezuela, and which have hosted initial inflows of Venezuelan migrants, lack access to services, infrastructure, and economic opportunities. There has been some movement of migrants into the capital city of Georgetown, but the migrant population in Guyana remains dispersed, including settlements of migrants from Venezuela's indigenous tribes in remote indigenous communities, close to the border. According to William R. Rhodes Global Advisors' (WRRGA) 2020 Venezuela's Refugee Crisis: Guyana Country Report, most migrants are **concentrated in border towns or the hinterlands**, where extractive activities like mining are located, but notably, where health, judicial, and educational services are scarce.
- 1.4 Upon entry and registration with the Department of Immigration, most Venezuelan migrants in Guyana apply for the free 90-day temporary stay permit. However, Venezuelans have reported that renewing this temporary stay permit is a challenge, and significant number of migrants in Guyana are thus undocumented. Many migrants arriving from Venezuela cannot access formal jobs as they may be undocumented, face a language barrier and lack verifiable identities and credentials that are required to gain access to the labor market. As a result, migrants are socially and economically vulnerable, and can be victimized. Not being integrated into the society of Guyana, they often lack access to basic support services and protection.

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<sup>5</sup> Venezuela Crisis: Four million have fled the country, UN Says – <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-48559739>.

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.hias.org/where/guyana>

<sup>7</sup> R4V Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela - <https://r4v.info/en/situations/platform/location/7497> (Last updated 30 Sep 2020).



- 1.5 A 2019 Regional Interagency Rapid Assessment on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) survey of Venezuelan migrants and host communities, which was conducted in Guyana, revealed that violence perpetuated against the migrant population and particularly women, include: rape, trafficking for sexual exploitation, harassment and sexual violence, domestic violence, sexual and labor exploitation, limited or no service provision for the LGBTQ migrant community, discrimination, and xenophobia on the basis that Venezuelans are spreading sexually transmitted diseases.<sup>8</sup> In particular, Venezuelan women and girls, bear the brunt of sexual violence. Additionally, research revealed instances of bullying and discrimination directed at migrant children in the school system and instances of underage pregnancies in girls as young as twelve years old.
- 1.6 Follow on research conducted in 2021 indicate that Venezuelan women are experiencing high levels of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), particularly in the context of relationships with Guyanese men. This often takes the form of economic violence, where men use finances, child custody, and threats of taking away women's documents to control them. Additionally, the research results indicate a prevalence of survival sex, and women engaging in survival sex are highly vulnerable to physical violence, rape, and robbery. These risks are exacerbated by the economic and social impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, whereby some women must work on the street or live with violent clients. Trafficking is also an ongoing problem, but there are significant data gaps that (in addition to other factors), which impede effective response. Additionally, the research indicated that Venezuelan women are subject to harmful stereotypes that can lead to sexual harassment. They can also suffer abuse by police and immigration officers, including requests for sexual favors<sup>9</sup>.
- 1.7 The most significant barriers impeding migrants from meaningful access to GBV services identified in the 2021 research are: lack of shared language, discrimination against migrants, fear of authorities, lack of awareness about available services, and inadequacies, and gaps in available support services.<sup>10</sup>
- 1.8 Existing gaps in national GBV service provision in Guyana, exacerbate issues of access for Venezuelan migrants. These include language barriers, the geographic dispersion of the migrant population in Guyana, their informal status, difficulty in navigation and access of the standalone services that are available via public and NGO organizations, absence of advocacy and coordinated support, and even the attitudes and practices of key service providers such as law enforcement.
- 1.9 The following excerpt from a news article on a Venezuelan female victim of GBV in Guyana illustrates the experience of the targeted beneficiaries in Guyana's migrant communities: **"I felt as if my life was leaving my body, but I could not leave my three children motherless, so I kept fighting to survive. I had to escape alive."** Those were the words of a 30-year-old Venezuelan woman, who was, raped, sodomized, and battered in the city of Georgetown in February 2021, as neighbors watched in horror. **"Helpless, weak, traumatized and in severe**

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<sup>8</sup> R4V Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela: Inter-Agency Rapid Gender-Based Violence Assessment Report in Guyana, 25-30 March 2019

<sup>9</sup> Rapid Gender Based Violence Assessment March 2021, Ladysmith (unpublished)

<sup>10</sup> Rapid Gender Based Violence Assessment March 2021, Ladysmith (unpublished)

**pain, she called out for help, but police patrol officers tossed her clothes at her and released the suspect".<sup>11</sup>**

- 1.10 This project seeks to address this type of horrible and painful story, to rectify barriers faced by to GBV victims in Venezuelan migrant and host communities in accessing support services, and to also contribute to an advocacy program that can mitigate the incidence of such crimes in the medium to long term. Recognizing that the experience of GBV victims amongst migrants is also shared by women and girls in their low-income host communities, the project will, in the spirit of Better Together<sup>12</sup>, **target both groups**. In this regard, the primary project beneficiaries are female Venezuelan migrants in Guyana who due to lack of formal employment, language skills and access to key support services, are highly vulnerable to GBV. These beneficiaries will typically be migrants engaged in subsistence livelihoods, sex workers, unemployed females, members of the LGBTQ community, current victims of GBV and at-risk minors. Low income and vulnerable women from host communities will also be targeted in the intervention. These beneficiaries will include core groups residing low-income host communities in and around Georgetown, the capital city, in [Region 4](#), as well as in [Region 3](#)<sup>13</sup>. The project will focus for efficiency, in reaching geographically concentrated groups, as well as the development of a scaling and sustainability strategy that will support more inclusive national coverage over the medium term. It is estimated that during the period of implementation, the project can reach up 600 GBV victims from low-income migrant and host communities in Guyana, of which, at least 90% are expected to be female.

## II The Innovation Proposal

### A Project Description

- 2.1 The objective of the project is to build a sustainable and inclusive system of support services for victims of GBV in migrant and host communities in Guyana, by strengthening the co-ordination, monitoring and reach of services, and by creating greater awareness of the incidence and impact of GBV and xenophobia.
- 2.2 The model proposed is focused on inclusion of GBV victims in accessing and navigating relevant services<sup>14</sup>, placing an emphasis on victims from low-income migrant and host communities in and near the capital city Georgetown as well as in the bordering West Demerara, areas that are characterized by dense populations and a high prevalence of migrant and host communities. In this regard the solution includes 4 key interlocking components as follows: (i) communication

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<sup>11</sup> Kaitour News March 1, 2021

<sup>12</sup> The Better Together program finances solutions that support Venezuelan migrant populations and which extend relevant support to host communities in order to promote better integration.

<sup>13</sup> Region 3 in Guyana comprises the islands in the Essequibo River such as Leguan and Wakenaam, and the Western portion of mainland Demerara. This Region has a population of 91,328 people who live in villages, many along the coast. Rice farming is predominant, with small amounts of sugar and coconut cultivation.

<sup>14</sup> GBV support services include counselling, medical treatment, legal protection and redress, emergency shelter, assistance / accompaniment of victims to make police reports, access government, court and other agencies, legal advisory and other psychosocial support services

- and sensitization to increase awareness of the drivers, incidence, and impact of GBV and xenophobia; (ii) strengthening and expanding access, co-ordination, and quality of GBV support service delivery; (iii) advocacy for policy change in the areas of GBV and migration; and (iv) scaling and sustainability of GBV service delivery over the medium to long term. The solution as designed, organizes, advocates, and educates, to effect positive change in attitudes and beliefs that contribute to GBV, to co-ordinate delivery of critical and relevant services for GBV victims, and to promote the voice and human dignity of GBV victims in migrant and host communities in Guyana.
- 2.3 The solution illustrates innovation in the processes, products and services underpinning the intervention. At the process level, the NGO National Coordinating Coalition Inc (NCC)<sup>15</sup>, the Executing Agency, will co-ordinate change in the approach and delivery of GBV services promoting greater sensitization, collaboration, data management and analysis. This change will be supported via the introduction of a key product innovation, a digital platform and network that will underpin and strengthen data-driven, decentralized ecosystem partnerships with NGOs, Government agencies, private-sector, local community organizations and other stakeholders in GBV service delivery. This system will allow for real time tracking and referrals of GBV victims through a range of services delivered through independent NGOs and public institutions, including health institutions, law enforcement and the court system, and will support the collation of critical data to inform sensitization campaigns and advocacy for change at the national level. In terms of service delivery, NCC will introduce innovations via the introduction of translation services to better support migrants, the assignment of case workers to assist GBV victims in navigating access to services and in follow through, and in the expansion of one stop shop clinics that the NCC has piloted at 2 locations, where GBV victims and their caseworkers can access a range of services in one setting. This private sector led innovation to create an inclusive and effective system of delivering timely and relevant GBV services with respect, empathy, and commitment, will support positive transformation in GBV responses in Guyana.
- 2.4 As mentioned above, the project objective will be achieved through the implementation of the following four interlocking components that address several key drivers of GBV, and which will improve access and quality of service delivery to victims:
- 2.5 **Component I. Sensitization and Communication on GBV and Xenophobia (US \$225,281: IDB Lab US\$81,907, Counterpart: US\$143,374).** The objective of this component is to effect changes in beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors regarding GBV and xenophobia, and to improve access to services through outreach. The Executing Agency will coordinate sensitization on GBV and xenophobia to be delivered via the development and dissemination of a mixed media campaign<sup>16</sup> that highlights the signs, impacts and experience of GBV on victims, their families, and communities, and which addresses the drivers and misconceptions that drive

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<sup>15</sup> The NGO National Coordination Coalition Inc is an NGO that coordinates the work of 38 NGOs in Guyana that deliver health and social services and engage in advocacy work in several key areas impacting marginalized and vulnerable populations including GBV, HIV/Aids, LGBT rights.

<sup>16</sup> The campaign will include a mix of social and traditional media content and channels

xenophobic attitudes and responses. The idea is to humanize the experiences of both GBV and xenophobia in a way that promotes a change in commonly held beliefs.

- 2.6 To encourage victims to access services, bilingual communication content for public messaging will be developed by the Executing Agency to improve awareness of GBV services and how these can be accessed. These public campaigns seek to promote access to information including available GBV services, patterns of GBV and the impact of GBV on lives and livelihoods. Connecting with women and girls particularly in migrant and host communities, will be at the core of this campaign, and all messaging and information will be appropriate, understandable, and relayed through effective mediums including formal and informal communication channels such as public service announcements (PSAs) on radio and television, posters and pamphlets strategically mounted at public spaces, the use of social media channels popular amongst local women and migrant groups, and other mass media.
- 2.7 Additionally, to improve the quality of services delivered through law enforcement and health service providers, GBV sensitization training modules will be developed and utilized to promote protocols for safe and respectful handling of all GBV cases and to improve service delivery. In law enforcement, training will also focus on the information officers need to capture to assist GBV victims in accessing legal redress. Currently the Executing Agency estimates that only 30-50% of reports taken on GBV incidents capture the required information to support legal action and remedies. This issue is a fundamental problem in service delivery as it discourages and, in some cases, can endanger victims reporting an incident of GBV that law enforcement and the legal systems cannot action.
- 2.8 The key outputs of this component include (i) Documentation of stories of GBV survivors, (ii) a media campaign to sensitize the public on the impact of GBV and xenophobia, and to promote available services and (iii) GBV sensitivity training of a total of 120 officers in law enforcement and public health.
- 2.9 **Component II: Strengthening and Expanding GBV Support Services (US \$619,815: IDB Lab US\$304,376, Counterpart: US\$315,439).** The objective of this component is to pilot a coordinated, inclusive, and accessible system of support services to victims of GBV. Currently the NCC acts as a coordinator to monitor delivery of GBV services in NGO and public organizations, and has in this role, developed strong relationships and trust with service providers. In developing a pilot model to improve access to and coordinated delivery of services to victims of GBV, the Executing Agency will work with GBV specialists, government agencies and departments, and NGOs that provide GBV related services, so that comprehensive information on available GBV services can be safely relayed at or through any of the various entry points used by GBV victims to access help.
- 2.10 To strengthen coordination and improve the experience and outcomes for targeted GBV victims, the Executing Agency will work with representatives of service providers in its network to define functionalities of a digital platform and underlying processes that can assist case workers and service providers in navigating access, coordinating and following up on services needed by GBV clients. The functional requirements for co-ordination of service delivery, monitoring and client tracking

that will be used to develop/adapt a digital solution and all associated technical design work, will be conducted in compliance with the [Principles of Digital Design](#) endorsed by the Inter-American Development Bank Group, particularly in the areas of data privacy and ethics, ensuring that data on GBV victims remains protected and private.

- 2.11 This system will be rolled out to public agencies and NGOs engaged in delivery of GBV support services, whose officers will receive training and support in system use. The Executing Agency will monitor use of the system and will define and direct upgrades or changes that may be required during implementation. Additionally, resources will be allocated to scale up the frequency and professional support provided to GBV victims in one stop shop clinics that provide access to legal and psychosocial services in one location. Recognizing the urgent need to address language barriers for migrants, the Executing Agency will also invest resources in recruitment of Spanish translators and translation tools to assist GBV victims from migrant communities in accessing and navigating relevant support services. Finally, resources will be allocated to expanding safe spaces available for temporary emergency accommodation of GBV victims, particularly migrants that lack family and community support.
- 2.12 The targeted outputs for this component include (i) increasing the frequency of one stop shop GBV clinics from 64 per year to 208 per year; (ii) increasing numbers of GBV victims served by the NCC's network of service providers from 75 per year to 300 per year, and a total of 600 over the course of project implementation; (iii) increasing migrant GBV clients served to 50% of total clients, with 75% of these migrant clients accessing translation services, and (iv) establishment of a digital platform to support monitoring and coordination of delivery of GBV support services.
- 2.13 **Component III: Advocacy for policy change in GBV and Migration (US \$76,958: IDB Lab US\$61,429, Counterpart: US\$15,529).** The objective of this component is to advance advocacy related to GBV responses and prevention, as well as greater inclusion of migrants in Guyana. The development of partnerships with public, private, civil society and international organizations, and the engagement of these organizations in the development of advocacy and policy agendas to extend and further strengthen accessible and relevant GBV services and prevention measures, are key elements of scaling the project solution beyond the period of IDB Lab support. In this regard, the NCC, in its role as the primary coordinating organization for delivery of GBV services, is currently represented in a range of national forums and committees that are actively seeking solutions to reduce the incidence of GBV at a national level. The NCC as an independent organization, works with policymakers, the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, the Ministry of Legal Affairs, Police, Judiciary, other relevant government agencies and departments, Civil Society Organizations, the private sector, migrant support groups, and other humanitarian aid organizations, to support financing and delivery of health and social services as well as advocacy. Through this work, the NCC has established key relationships, credibility and networks that position the organization to assume a leadership role in developing and engaging strategic partners who can support the definition and championing of an advocacy agenda on GBV responses and solutions. The project will support such efforts by demonstrating an effective model for achieving more inclusive and accessible

services and will also capture data and generate information that can inform an advocacy platform to address not just support for victims, but also mitigation of underlying drivers.

- 2.14 To assist the Executing Agency in leading a cadre of key stakeholders to develop an advocacy agenda and campaign around GBV and the status of migrants that makes them particularly vulnerable to GBV, project resources will be used to establish continuous research and monitoring of project data, results, and impact. This information, along with ongoing consultations with service providers within and external to the NCC network, will inform the production of an annual publication/production on GBV, including its impact on migrants in Guyana, as well video productions and semiannual webcasts delivered by partners and survivors on the multidimensional impact of GBV. Additionally, the Executing Agency will assist with the establishment and promotion of a migrant support advocacy group that can represent issues and solutions that are important to facilitate greater integration of migrants in Guyana, and which can reduce their vulnerability to abuse and exploitation, including but not limited to GBV.
- 2.15 The targeted outputs for this component include: (i) 6 web cast forums; (ii) an advocacy agenda on GBV and migration; (iii) 3 publications/productions on GBV and its impact; and (iv) launch of a migrant advocacy support group.
- 2.16 **Component IV: Scaling and Sustainability (US \$55,374: IDB Lab US\$24,520, Counterpart: US\$30,854).** The objective of this component is to develop and implement a strategy and specific activities to support the sustainability and scaling of a coordinated response to GBV in Guyana. Like many NGOs operating in the region, the NCC and its network of GBV support service providers are continuously required to seek funding to sustain and grow their operations. In this regard, project resources will be utilized (i) to promote the work of the NCC and its partners locally, regionally, and internationally, (ii) to build partnerships for future financing and (iii) to develop a strategy and plan to proactively secure additional funding, implement resource sharing/shared services and explore revenue generating activities, all of which can support ongoing delivery and further scaling of accessible and inclusive GBV services in Guyana.
- 2.17 **Additionally**, the Executing will advance scaling of the model via: (a) extension of the NCC network of services to other areas in Guyana; and (b) knowledge exchange and transfer to support replication of its model with two regional partner organizations – the Network of NGOs in Trinidad and Tobago and Centro de Orientacion e Investigacion Integral (COIN) in the Dominican Republic.
- 2.18 The outputs of this component include: (i) a plan to support financial and operational expansion and sustainability of inclusive and relevant GBV support services and (ii) 2 learning exchanges to scale the project solution.

## **B Project Results, Measurement, Monitoring and Evaluation**

- 2.19 Key indicators at the project outcome level measure the implementation of a coordinated system of support services, that are inclusive and accessible to GBV victims from Guyana's vulnerable migrant and host communities, GBV clients' satisfaction with GBV service delivery, and access to resources that support sustainability of an integrated system of service delivery. Additional key indicators

include sensitivity and technical training of 120 officers from law enforcement and health services in GBV, and the delivery of a campaign that highlights the negative impact of GBV and xenophobia, which uses actual stories of GBV survivors and their experiences. Additionally, the project will support expanded access to one stop shop GBV clinics, by increasing frequency from 68 per year to 208 per year (an increase of 325%), and a 400% increase in the number of GBV victims that can be served on an annual basis via the NCC's coordinated service delivery system, of which 50% will be drawn from migrant communities. To support a positive change in the incidence of GBV and the vulnerability of migrants in particular, the project's targeted results also include development of a policy and program advocacy agenda, and the establishment of a migrant support group.

- 2.20 Project results as defined in the Results Matrix (Annex I), directly contribute to IDB Group Corporate Results Framework, specifically (I) Social Inclusion and Equality in improving access and quality of social protection services, in the case of this project, GBV support services; and (IV) Gender Equality, via the expansion of one stop clinics (which can be interpreted as women's centers) that provide integrated services in legal and psychosocial services to victims of GBV.
- 2.21 In accordance with IDB Lab requirements, the Executing Agency will report on project results as outlined in the project results matrix every six months via the IDB Lab's Project Status Reporting (PSR) system and will also complete a final Project Status Report on conclusion of the project.

### III Alignment with IDB Group, Scalability, and Risks

#### A Alignment with IDB Group

- 3.1 This project was selected from the [Better Together/Juntos Es Mejor Challenge](#), which was developed, financed, and managed by IDB Lab in partnership with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The program's evaluation process included judges/evaluators from across the IDB Group seeking to align the selected proposals with the work and priorities several of the IDBG's sectors. In the case of this project, financing will be provided by IDB Lab, as well as USAID. Additionally, and in the context of the challenge, this project will be executed in coordination with and sharing its results with USAID and other partners.
- 3.2 The project solution improves access to GBV support services for victims from low-income migrant and host communities in Guyana and addresses the particular vulnerability and lack of redress/support currently available to GBV victims in Guyana's migrant population. In this context, the project is directly aligned to the **IDB Lab and IDB Group Vision 2025** mandate, to enable inclusion for women and economically disadvantaged ethnic minorities like migrants, that risk falling into poverty and/or social exclusion.
- 3.3 Also, this project has been designed to align with the goal of the **IDB Migration Unit** which is to implement a comprehensive agenda to transform the challenges of migration into development opportunities for Latin American and Caribbean countries, using financial and non-financial instruments, leveraging investments, and scaling innovative solutions that contribute to the successful integration of migrants in their host communities.

- 3.4 The project is aligned with underlying/cross cutting priorities to support Gender and Diversity as outlined in the IDB Group Country Strategy with the Co-operative Republic of Guyana (2017-2021).

## **B. Scalability**

- 3.5 Scaling of the solution will be accomplished through a range of activities outlined in Components III and IV of the project, including: (i) engagement of public sector agencies in Guyana via the collaborative definition and presentation of an advocacy agenda including policy and programmatic responses to reduce the incidence of GBV, further extend GBV support services and address the particular vulnerability of migrants; (ii) development of a sustainability plan including fundraising to cover operating costs of coordinated delivery of GBV support services beyond the period of IDB Lab financing; and (iii) knowledge exchange with 2 regional organizations in Trinidad and Tobago and the Dominican Republic. Under fundraising (as outlined in Component IV), the Executing Agency will engage international and regional institutions committed to addressing GBV, as well as public sector agencies in Guyana as financing partners. The NCC's fundraising strategy will be linked to expand delivery of inclusive and accessible services to GBV victims in other regions of Guyana, focusing initially on areas with a high concentration of migrant and host communities that have limited access to services. Additionally, the Executing Agency's outreach campaign (Component I) and knowledge products and forums (Component III), will assist the organization in positioning as a strong credible player to sustain and scale GBV advocacy and service delivery beyond the IDB Lab project.

## **C Project and Institutional Risks**

- 3.6 The project risk level is assessed as Medium. Key risks that have been analyzed and which contribute to this assessment include the following: **Social Risks:** (i) If there is no Spanish language support in delivery of GBV services, targeted beneficiaries from the Venezuelan migrant community may not be able to access the support services offered and will continue to be excluded, which will affect the achievement of project objectives. To mitigate this risk, the project budget includes funding for translators/translation tools under Component II; (ii) If victims of GBV in targeted groups continue to remain silent, the services available will not be utilized, and the problem of GBV will persist, which will negate achievement of the core project objective. To mitigate this risk, Component I of the project is designed and resourced to increase outreach and sensitization on GBV, reaching strategically leaders/influencers from both migrant and host community groups, and Component II is structured to support and encourage reporting of GBV. Additionally, the NCC's ongoing advocacy and co-ordination of services is an important factor in encouraging reporting of incidents; (iii) If xenophobia against Venezuelan migrants persists or increases, targeted beneficiaries from the migrant community are unlikely to participate in the program, which will negatively impact achievement of the core objective. To mitigate this risk, Component I of the project is structured and resourced to address xenophobia in migrant and host communities. **Health Risks:** (iv) If COVID 19 continues to be prevalent in Guyana, public health restrictions and safety concerns may negatively impact delivery of proposed face to face services, that will in turn impact project scope and achievement of objectives. To partially mitigate this risk, resources are provided in



the project budget under Component II to provide for required sanitization of spaces, and provision personal protection equipment (PPE) (cleaning materials, sanitizers, face masks). **Financial Risk:** (v) As NGOs, the NCC and GBV support service providers are required to engage in continuous fundraising which poses a risk to sustainability of the intervention. To mitigate this risk, resources have been allocated in Component IV to develop a sustainability plan inclusive of fundraising that can support continuity of integrated and inclusive GBV service delivery in Guyana. **Coordination Risk:** (vi) If the NCC's partners and other NGOs and public agencies engaged in GBV service delivery do not utilize the digital platform to assist with tracking and co-ordination of service delivery, the desired outcome of better co-ordination of services will not be realized. To partially mitigate this risk, the NCC project execution team will actively monitor and assess use of the platform and will provide support and ongoing encouragement to targeted users by actively promoting benefits and providing access to IT support and training in use of the system as provided for in the project budget under Component II.

- 3.7 The Institutional Risk according to the Assessment of Integrity and Institutional Capacity (DICI), is rated as Medium. In this regard budget resources have been allocated to support the Executing Agency compliance with fiduciary as well as administrative and project management and reporting standards required by IDB Lab.

#### **IV Instrument and Budget Proposal**

- 4.1 The project has a total cost of US\$1,160,434, of which US\$580,000 (50%) will be provided by the IDB Lab, and US\$580,434 (50%) by the counterpart. Counterpart financing will include in-kind and cash resources from the executing agency and project partners. An international partner agency, namely USAID, will provide US \$250,000 in counterpart cash resources for execution of the project.
- 4.2 The Executing Agency, NCC, is a non-profit organization working to deliver a coordinated system of accessible, quality GBV support services to high risk and vulnerable segments of the population in Guyana. To assist the Executing Agency in developing and implementing a solution which will serve excluded, marginalized, and low-income beneficiaries, the financial instrument that will be used is a non-reimbursable technical cooperation.
- 4.3 Retroactive Recognition of Counterpart Funds. Counterpart resources up to a maximum of US \$250,000 from USAID disbursed after April 1, 2021, will be retroactively recognized as by the IDB Lab as counterpart financing.

4.4 The project budget summary is presented in the following table:

<b>Project Components</b>	<b>IDB Lab</b>	<b>Counterpart</b>	<b>Total</b>
Component I: Sensitization and Communication on GBV and Xenophobia	81,907	143,374	225,281
Component II: Strengthening and Expanding Support Services	304,376	315,439	619,815
Component III: Advocacy for policy change in GBV and Migration	61,429	15,529	76,958
Component IV: Scaling and Sustainability	24,520	30,854	55,374
Project Administration (Executing Unit costs)	102,735	75,238	177,973
Contingencies	5,033	-	5,033
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>580,000</b>	<b>580,434</b>	<b>1,160,434</b>
<b>% Financing</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## **V Executing Agency (EA) and Implementation Structure**

### **A Executing Agency(s) Description**

- 5.1 The NGO National Coordinating Coalition Inc. (NCC), is a network of NGOs that came together in 1999 under a USAID Guyana HIV/AIDS Youth Project with the responsibility for planning, implementing, and administering a national HIV/AIDS response. On 6th November 2015, the NCC was registered as a not-for-profit entity in Guyana under the Companies Act No. 29 of 1991 (Cap 89:01). Currently, the NCC has a membership of thirty-eight (38) NGOs that are focused on advocacy and support service delivery to marginalized groups in Guyana. Core areas of work include GBV, HIV/AIDS, LGBTQ advocacy, resource mobilization and coordination of service delivery to vulnerable groups. The NCC's goals are to collaborate with key government, private sector, and civil society organizations to support, strengthen and sustain responses to health and social issues in Guyana. Specific objectives of the NCC, are to coordinate, in collaboration with governmental and other partners, the NGO response in key areas of support service delivery and advocacy, to mobilize resources to ensure the sustainability of the NCC and NGOs responding to national health and social issues, and to offer support, and advocate for policies and practices to advance community health and national development.
- 5.2 Relevant experiences that demonstrate the NCC's track record, partnerships, and capacity to implement the project include but are not limited to: (1) Roll out of a gender and development program for the Guyanese Network of Positive Women and Girls, to enhance their ability to respond to sexual and other forms of violence experienced by HIV+ women. This venture expanded to include boys and men and was later formalized as a structured Civil Society Organization (CSO) with registered members; (2) Development of collaborative partnerships with government and NGOs to implement preventive strategies and responses to GBV; (3) NCC is the lead partner in piloting social contracting for the HIV/AIDS initiative for vulnerable groups; (4) NCC is the first civil society organization to implement a tuberculosis (TB) reduction and prevention project for vulnerable groups on behalf of the Guyana's National TB Program in 18 communities in Regions 1, 7, 8, and 9, which are remote and difficult to reach regions of Guyana; (5) NCC is the

national implementing partner with Associates for International Development (AIDInc) for a US\$2M DFID-funded regional project to reduce stigma and discrimination towards marginalized and vulnerable populations across the Caribbean, using rights-based approaches (6) NCC is the recipient of US\$6.5 million from the Global Fund for delivery of sustainability services for key populations in the Caribbean.

- 5.3 The NCC has developed strong and trustworthy relationships within the NGO sector working in GBV. It also collaborates effectively with government agencies, the private sector, and the donor community in Guyana, and is strategically aligned with regional and international partners that possess the expertise required to address the specific challenge of GBV, its impact, and responses relevant to migrant communities.
- 5.4 USAID is the United States Agency for International Development that finances development projects globally. USAID's programs in Guyana are managed out of USAID's Eastern and Southern Caribbean Mission. In Guyana, USAID programs focus on health, economic growth, democracy, and governance. USAID has partnered with the IDB/IDB Lab in development and launch of the [Better Together challenge](#) from which the project was selected for financing. USAID is providing both technical support and counterpart financing to the NCC to effect implementation of this project.

## **B. Implementation Structure and Mechanism**

- 5.5 The Executing Agency will establish an executing unit and the necessary structure to execute project activities and manage project resources effectively and efficiently. The Executing Agency will utilize project resources to contract a core technical and support team to manage day to day implementation and monitoring of project activities, results, and financial resources. This team includes a technical director, project coordinator, a GBV specialist and a monitoring and evaluation consultant, as well as support for fiduciary and administrative activities. On a monthly basis, the Executing Agency will engage in a project review session to assess progress, risks and budget and will define priorities and corrective actions that may be required to ensure targeted results and objectives are achieved. The Executing Agency will also be responsible for providing progress reports on project implementation. Details on the structure of the execution unit and reporting requirements are in Annex V in the project technical files.
- 5.6 The Executing Agency will utilize three key mechanisms for stakeholder engagement in decision making and support for project implementation. Firstly, a sub-committee of the NCC's Board of Directors will meet on a quarterly basis to review project progress and risks, and to assess additional support that may be required from the NCC's Board to assist in achievement of objectives. The project technical director and team will participate in these meetings and will be responsible for follow up on decisions taken. Secondly, the Executing Agency will utilize the NCC Network Steering Committee already established, and which meets quarterly for co-ordination of fundraising, program delivery and advocacy activities, and as the forum to engage representatives of GBV service providers and other NGOs in the network, in assessment and participative decision making on project implementation, risk management and to secure support required from network

members to facilitate achievement of project objectives. The project technical director will represent the NCC at these meetings. Thirdly, the Executing Agency will leverage its position on the GBV R4 National Working Group currently chaired by the UNFPA, which has convened private, public and NGO representation to develop actions and responses specific to the issues of GBV impacting Guyana's migrant community. The Executing Agency will utilize this forum to engage members in wider discussions on the value and impact of this project and in advancing and scaling responses.

## **VI Compliance with Milestones and Special Fiduciary Arrangements**

- 6.1 **Disbursement by Results, Fiduciary Arrangements.** The Executing Agency will adhere to the standard IDB Lab disbursement by results, IDB procurement policy<sup>17</sup> and financial management<sup>18</sup> arrangements as specified in Annex V and VI
- 6.2 **Results Based Disbursement.** The project will be monitored by the IDB's Country Office in Guyana. Monitoring will be undertaken in accordance with the performance and risk management policies (fulfilment of milestones), as established by the IDB Lab. Project disbursements will be contingent upon verification of the achievement of milestones (pre-determined outputs critical to achievement of the development objectives). Achievement of milestones does not exempt the Executing Agency from the responsibility of reaching the results matrix indicators and project's objectives.
- 6.3 **Financial Management and Supervision.** The Executing Agency will establish and be responsible for maintaining adequate accounts of its finances, internal controls, and project files according to the financial management policy of the IDB Lab. For the procurement of other goods and contracting of consulting services, the Executing Agency will adopt the principles of IDB Policies (GN-2349-15 and GN-2350-15)

## **VII Information Disclosure and Intellectual Property\*\***

- 7.1 **Information Disclosure.** This document will be disclosed and made available to the public upon approval.
- 7.2 **Intellectual Property.** The Executing Agency shall own the intellectual property rights to all works produced or results obtained under the project, and will grant the IDB Group an irrevocable, worldwide, perpetual, royalty-free, and non-exclusive license to use, copy, distribute, reproduce, publicly display, and perform all Executing Agency intellectual property derived from execution of the project, as well as to create derivative works

<sup>17</sup> Link to the Policy: [Procurement of Works and Goods Policy](#)

<sup>18</sup> Link to the document [Operational Guidelines for Management of Milestones and Financial Supervision for MIF and SEP Technical Cooperation Projects](#)