Access to Information Policy

Implementation Report 2018
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**Chapter 1. INTRODUCTION** ................................................................. 1

**Chapter 2. ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS IN 2018** ........................................... 5

A. New information request processing system .......................................................... 5
B. The new access to information webpage ................................................................ 7
C. IDB Invest’s new Access to Information Policy ...................................................... 8
D. International recognition of transparency ................................................................. 9

**Chapter 3. Policy Implementation** ......................................................... 11

E. Proactive disclosure .................................................................................................. 11
F. Requests for information and review ....................................................................... 17
G. External Review Panel ............................................................................................. 19
H. Dissemination and impact ....................................................................................... 20
### ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AIC</td>
<td>Access to Information Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATI Workflow</td>
<td>Workflow for documentation disclosure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EzShare</td>
<td>Information management system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IATI</td>
<td>International Aid Transparency Initiative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICIM</td>
<td>Independent Consultation and Investigation Mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDB Invest</td>
<td>Inter-American Investment Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFI</td>
<td>International financial institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITE</td>
<td>Information Technology Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIC</td>
<td>Knowledge, Innovation, and Communication Sector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIC</td>
<td>Public Information Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEC/ATI</td>
<td>Office of the Secretary/Access to Information Section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPD</td>
<td>Office of Strategic Planning and Development Effectiveness</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

1. The Inter-American Development Bank ("IDB" or "the Bank") views transparency and access to information as crucial for enabling its Latin American and Caribbean member countries to achieve sustainable development. The Bank reaffirms its commitment to transparency in its operations and activities through application of its Access to Information Policy ("Policy"), which seeks to maximize access to information based on a presumption in favor of disclosure. In this framework, the Office of the Secretary’s Access to Information Section (SEC/ATI) supports the different departments in disclosing their information in a timely and accessible manner.

2. The IDB has focused on enhancing its disclosure practices to generate a better understanding of its mission and role in transparency and strengthen its relations with stakeholders to improve the development results. The implementation efforts have been reflected in an institutional culture of openness and accountability in the day-to-day work of Bank staff, as illustrated by the statistics presented in section 4 of this document.

3. This annual report highlights the progress made during 2018 and provides additional data and comparative statistics on implementation of the Policy. The goal is to offer a more comprehensive view of all the IDB’s efforts to implement its Access to Information Policy efficiently and effectively.

4. For example, in 2018, the Bank continued to make progress in key areas of implementation of the Access to Information Policy ("the Policy"): (i) establishment of systems and use of new platforms to improve the management of information requests; (ii) renovation of the access to information website to facilitate access for users and stakeholders; (iii) training, coaching, and creation of knowledge materials to strengthen Policy application within the Bank; (iv) technical assistance to Bank staff on Policy application; and other initiatives.
5. The actions taken are reflected in a number of achievements during this year, including the following: (i) the Bank continued to position itself as a highly transparent institution under the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI); (ii) 2,564 external information requests were answered with an average response time of 23 days; (iii) 100% of loan proposals and project profiles were released; (iv) 549 Bank staff were trained on the Policy; and (v) an access to information and civil society engagement perspective was incorporated into the new Action Plan for Implementation of the IDB Group-Civil Society Engagement Strategy; among other activities.
**ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS IN 2018**

- **New website for Access to Information**
- **New System of processing requests for information**
- **2,564 requests for information received**
- **The IDB again in the Top 10 of the transparency index (IATI)**
- **13.5 million pageviews were registered in the IDB website**
- **549 employees were trained on the Policy**
- **1 information request was denied**
- **Relationships with stakeholders will be strengthened through the new Civil Society Action Plan**
- **100% of the Loan Proposals and Project Profiles were disclosed**
- **SEC/ATI provided technical support for the public consultation of IDB Invest**
- **23 days was the average response time for information requests**
- **The largest number of requests for information received were on education issues**
6. For the IDB, 2018 was a year of consolidation and achievement in different areas of the Access to Information Policy. As part of its commitment to continuous improvement, the Bank carried out a series of activities to bolster information disclosure, make improvements in how information requests are processed, facilitate access through improvements to its website, and transfer duties to SEC/ATI related to the receipt and processing of external requests for information, among other steps to increase transparency. The achievements during the period are examples of the IDB’s consistent work in recent years to make its Access to Information Policy more effective. The most salient achievements during 2018 are presented below.

A. NEW INFORMATION REQUEST PROCESSING SYSTEM

7. As a complement to proactive disclosure and actions to make information available to the public through its website, the IDB has prioritized efforts to disclose information through responses to information requests submitted by the public. Since responding to requests for information is a key for promoting relations and dialogue with stakeholders, the following actions were prioritized.

1. Transferring duties to SEC/ATI

8. Maximizing and facilitating access to information are the cornerstones of the Policy. With the goal of enhancing the efficiency with which it is implemented and building internal capacity to respond to information requests, at the end of 2018 SEC/ATI’s mandate was strengthened when it took over duties that had previously been performed by the Public Information Center (PIC) in the Knowledge, Information, and Communication Sector (KIC). With this transfer of duties, SEC/ATI will work directly on receiving, processing, and facilitating the information requests received by the Bank. The mandate will also enable it to support all the Bank’s departments\(^1\) in managing their information requests and provide technical assistance for concerns that may

\(^1\) The term “department” has been used in this document to refer to organizational units of the IDB.
arise when responding to those requests in terms of application of the Policy. These organizational adjustments are expected to promote a comprehensive vision of all aspects of access to information inside the Bank and, hence, strengthen the Bank’s relations with its external stakeholders.

2. **Modernizing the information request system**

   In November 2018, a new system for processing information requests was launched at Headquarters. Using Service Now, the PIC can integrate all the information requests received at Headquarters and the various Country Offices into a single platform, including requests submitted to the Bank’s offices in Asia and Europe. The main objective is to shorten response times and bolster coordination between the Bank’s different departments. In particular, this system will strengthen the compilation, registration, and systemization of data on information requests so that statistics can be generated and trends in public requirements identified. The system will also enhance monitoring and control of request processing. As a result, the Bank will be in a position to make better decisions on the information most sought by the public, improve its webpages to facilitate access, reinforce the dissemination of information for targeted groups of stakeholders, etc.
B. THE NEW ACCESS TO INFORMATION WEBPAGE

10. To increase accessibility and user friendliness, a new access to information webpage was launched in December 2018. Focusing on users and their needs, the new portal has:

- Better organized information.
- New search engines on project information.
- Statistics on information use, most frequent searches, and data on the information request received.
- More prominent instructions on how to submit an information request.
- Videos on different aspects of Policy implementation, etc.

11. This modern new format will provide the public with a one-stop shop for access to all areas related to access to information including an online form for requesting information, basic documents on the access to information regulatory framework, details about SEC/ATI's activities, and other functions. In 2019, phase II of the improvements will be carried out, focusing on efforts to enhance the accessibility of the webpage and connect it to the Bank's other information systems.
C. IDB INVEST’S NEW ACCESS TO INFORMATION POLICY

12. SEC/ATI continued to provide technical assistance as part of the process of reviewing and preparing the IDB Invest’s new Access to Information Policy. This support enabled an extensive public consultation throughout 2018 with a view to establishing a transparent and constructive dialogue with stakeholders, including private sector actors, to hear their suggestions on the draft Policy. Founded on SEC/ATI’s approach to access to information and relations with civil society, the public consultation included:

- In-person consultations in Panama, Argentina, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Colombia, and Washington D.C.
- Creation of an online platform through which stakeholders were able to access the draft Policy and the consultation plan and register and submit their comments.
- Publication of reports on the comments received and on Management’s preliminary remarks, etc.

13. As a result of the public consultation, the Board of Executive Directors of IDB Invest approved an update to the Access to Information Policy in March 2019. IDB Invest will carry out a plan to implement the new Policy, and SEC/ATI will continue to offer technical support.

---

2 In November 2017, the IIC adopted a new brand and now goes by the name of IDB Invest (in English) and BID Invest (in Spanish, French, and Portuguese).
D. INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF TRANSPARENCY

14. The Bank continues to position itself as an institution at the forefront of transparency, applying the highest standards in this regard to its work. This is reflected in the progress it has made in the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI). The Bank joined the initiative in 2011, which sets standards for the disclosure of information on country economic and social development, so that any user can have access to information from different agencies in a single place and a single format. In its 2018 report, it ranked the IDB seventh out of 45 institutions in the initiative and mentioned the following advances:

- Increase in dissemination frequency from quarterly to monthly.
- Disclosure of indicators on organizational planning and commitments.
- Availability of information on financial and budget indicators, etc.

15. The report offers recommendations to strengthen information disclosure on budgets, performance evaluations, and other areas, and promote use of the data that the Bank makes public. These recommendations will be kept in mind during the 2019 work program.
16. With the principle of maximum access as its central tenet, SEC/ATI has continued to take a series of steps to raise awareness and put into practice the Policy’s values and principles. Alongside its work to achieve concrete objectives for increasing the transparency of the IDB’s activities, it has taken steps to ensure that individuals making requests for information, individuals visiting our webpages, strategic stakeholders, and the general public can obtain accurate and timely information. The main goal is for stakeholders to engage better with the IDB through access to information.

E. PROACTIVE DISCLOSURE

17. One of the principles of the Access to Information Policy establishes that the Bank “will employ all practical means to facilitate access to information.” As a consequence of applying this principle, different supports were provided for the departments during 2018 to bolster their information disclosure efforts.

1. The Bank’s website as the main disclosure mechanism

18. During the period, interest continued to grow in the Bank’s official website and in the IDB’s renewed access to information page. The IDB’s website received some 13.5 million pageviews. The pages describing projects continued to be the most visited, with 1.5 million pageviews distributed among different functions such as project searches, how projects are prepared, environmental and social impact evaluations, the project cycle glossary, etc.
19. A total of 4,963,851 documents were downloaded from the web, principally:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Downloads</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Orange Economy: An Infinite Opportunity</td>
<td>174,314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pautas para la elaboración de estudios de caso</td>
<td>95,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Select an Instrument for Assessing Student Learning</td>
<td>74,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange Economy: Innovations you may not know were from Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
<td>59,478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profesión: Profesor en América Latina ¿Por qué se perdió el prestigio docente y cómo recuperarlo?</td>
<td>52,139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Services for Digital Citizens: Opportunities for Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
<td>48,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under-Rewarded Efforts: The Elusive Quest for Prosperity in Mexico</td>
<td>47,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guide to Workforce Skills Assessment Instruments</td>
<td>45,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The future of work in Latin America and the Caribbean: a great opportunity for the region? (interactive version)</td>
<td>43,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Green Areas</td>
<td>41,523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Road toward Smart Cities: Migrating from Traditional City Management to the Smart City</td>
<td>41,191</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
20. As for the IDB’s access to information webpage, Figure 1 shows the trend in visits in recent years and the continued public interest in the different types of information it offers. Although the number of visits to the page during 2018 (paragraph 11) was similar to 2016 and 2017 on account of the constant changes to and maintenance of the page, the number is expected to grow in 2019 with the promotional strategy to be implemented under the Civil Society Action Plan (paragraph 36).

**Figure 1: Visits to the access to information webpage (2018)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Visits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>23,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>38,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>38,909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>38,478</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 2: Visits to the access to information webpage by language (2018)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Visits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frances</td>
<td>414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Español</td>
<td>20,013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ingles</td>
<td>15,810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugues</td>
<td>2,241</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Information on operations and country strategies

Disclosure of the following data on operations and country strategies in 2018 is worth noting:

- 100% of the 95 project profiles approved in 2018 were disclosed, including five contingent credit lines and one guarantee.

- 100% of the 96 loan proposals distributed to the Board of Executive Directors for approval, reformulation, or amendment were disclosed.

- Observance of publication deadlines was similar to the previous year:
  - 65% of project profiles were published within the statutory disclosure period; the remaining 35% were published within an average period of 34 days.
  - 77% of loan proposals were published within the statutory disclosure period; the remaining 23% were published within an average period of 9 days.

- The three country strategies approved during the year were disclosed.

---

3 During 2018, the exception for country-specific information was invoked on nine occasions by different countries: (i) five for partial confidentiality of loan proposals; (ii) three relating to project profiles, one of which was a request for total confidentiality and the other two for partial confidentiality; and (iii) one request for confidentiality of a link in a country strategy to a document on country development challenges. Under this exception, the Bank does not disclose country-specific information in documents it prepares if the country states in writing that the information is confidential or could harm its relationship with the Bank. This exception allows for partial or total nondisclosure.

4 According to the Access to Information Policy Implementation Guidelines, “information subject to disclosure under the Policy will be published within a maximum of five (5) working days after its approval, clearance, or completion of consideration.”

5 Under the Policy, loan proposals are subject to simultaneous disclosure upon distribution to the Board of Executive Directors. For information system purposes, 48 hours has been established as institutional good practice for simultaneous disclosure.
22. Disclosure of project profiles and loan proposals continues to pose a challenge for the project teams. This is due in particular to the lack of integration between the EzShare and Convergence systems, and to the need to raise team awareness of their disclosure responsibilities. In 2019, different actions will be coordinated with the Vice Presidencies for Countries and for Sectors, including training for project team leaders to increase the percentage of compliance and timely disclosure of documents of this kind.

3. **Information on the Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors**

23. Given the importance of publishing the decisions taken by the Board of Governors, which is the Bank’s highest decision-making body, all the resolutions adopted at the **2018 Annual Meeting** in Mendoza, Argentina, were disclosed. The main information published during the Annual Meeting is listed in the following table.
## Information on the Annual Meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>N.</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Document</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Agendas</td>
<td><strong>Activities program</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Reports</td>
<td>a. IDB Annual Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>b. Latin American and Caribbean Macroeconomic Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Resolution AG-1/18</td>
<td>Financial statements of the Ordinary Capital Resources of the IDB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Resolution AG-3/18</td>
<td>Financial statements of the IDB Grant Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Resolution AG-4/18</td>
<td>Ordinary Capital of the IDB Grant Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Resolution AG-5/18</td>
<td>Ordinary Capital of the IDB-Annual transfer to the Inter-American Investment Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Resolution AG-6/18</td>
<td>Sites and dates of future meetings of the Boards of Governors of the IDB and the IIC and Amendment to the Regulations of the Board of Governors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
F. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND REVIEW

24. The following information was recorded by the PIC on requests for information received, their processing, and responses:

- A total of 2,564 requests for information were received through the online form (Headquarters).
- The average response time to requests was 23 days.
- The following trends can be identified in the requests received:
  - The largest number continue to come from Colombia, Mexico, Argentina, the United States, and Peru.
  - The information requested most often was about education.
  - Most requests came from the private sector and academia.
- One request for information was denied, namely, a request originating in Argentina, since the information was confidential and protected under the exception on the IDB’s institutional administrative information.

25. One episode worth mentioning is that for the first time since the Policy was adopted, the Bank received a request from Colombia to reconsider a request that had been denied. In September 2018, the Access to Information Committee (AIC), as the first level of review, examined the request and decided to overturn the decision originally taken by the Bank Management team. Accordingly, it proceeded to provide the requestor with the information. The full AIC resolution can be found on our webpage.

26. The following figures show the main trends identified in 2018.
Figure 4: Number of information requests received by year (online form)

Figure 5: Requests received by country (top 10/2018)

Figure 6: Requestors by category

ACCESS TO INFORMATION POLICY IMPLEMENTATION REPORT 2018

Chapter

Academia 32%  Private sector 35%
Civil society 17%  Multilateral organization 3%
Media 2%  Government 11%
G. EXTERNAL REVIEW PANEL

27. The External Review Panel (“Panel”) acts as the second level of review for eligible requests from the public where the AIC has confirmed the decision by Bank Management teams to deny access to information. In 2018, the Panel consisted of three independent experts: (1) Ximena Abogabir Scott, Chile; (2) Toby Mendel, Canada; and (3) Mauricio Merino Huerta, Mexico.

28. Given the fact that the appointment period for these panelists would expire at the end of 2018, and the Bank’s need for a gradual transition between current and future Panel members, the Board of Executive Directors approved the extension of the tenure of Ximena Abogabir Scott and Mauricio Merino for an additional 18 and 12 months respectively. To begin this transition, moreover, the process was conducted for the election of the person to replace panelist Toby Mendel. Thus, on 12 October 2018, the Bank published an external announcement of the position, inviting applications to be submitted by the closing date of 13 November 2018. After the candidates have been vetted and interviewed, the Board of Executive Directors is expected to announce in early 2019 the name of the person who will sit on the Panel for the next three years.
29. Given the Bank’s practice of providing access for most information requests, to date, the Panel has not received any petitions for a second level review. However, to inform the Panel about how the Bank operates, afford its members a better understanding of the procedures for implementing the Policy, and familiarize them with other operational and corporate policies, the IDB has been holding annual meetings with the panelists, which include training sessions. This exercise has also enabled the panelists and the various Bank areas to exchange views on different matters related to international developments in the right of access to information. During 2018, the Panel members visited Bank Headquarters to learn about progress in implementing the Policy over the past year. During their visit, the panelists had the opportunity to meet with different Bank departments, including the Office of Strategic Planning and Development Effectiveness (SPD), the Independent Consultation and Investigation Mechanism (MICI), IDB Invest, and the Knowledge, Innovation, and Communication Sector (KIC).

H. DISSEMINATION AND IMPACT

30. One of the IDB’s priorities is to increase knowledge and awareness of the importance of effectively applying the Policy. The main activities in this area are described below.

4. Training

31. A good understanding of the Policy and its proper application by Bank staff are fundamental for successful implementation. Bearing this in mind and placing special emphasis on promoting greater awareness in the operational areas, a total of 549 Bank employees received training.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Number of participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certification sessions for Publishers in ATI Work Flow in EzShare</td>
<td>Headquarters and online</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online course for employees on the Access to Information Policy</td>
<td>E-Module</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course on the importance of disclosing project information, as part of the workshop on the basics of sovereign guaranteed operations (2018)</td>
<td>Headquarters</td>
<td>415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onboarding session for new members of the Board of Executive Directors</td>
<td>Headquarters</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training for executing agencies in Mexico</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>549</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

32. As part of activities to promote the Policy, a series of knowledge videos was produced in cooperation with KIC to provide information about the main aspects of the Policy: (a) How to navigate the Bank’s website; (b) How to request information; and (c) The IDB’s Access to Information Policy. Document and information transparency and disclosure.

5. Technical support for Bank departments

33. The main technical support activities provided by SEC/ATI within the Bank during the period are described below.

   The Help Desk platform, which is intended to provide technical assistance for Bank staff on subjects related to Policy implementation, received 330 consultations. These were mainly related to the operation of ATI Work Flow—an EzShare tool on how to disclose documents classified as public by the departments—and its interaction with the systems that support information disclosure (EzShare, Convergence, and the Bank’s website).
To lend greater predictability to the practical application of the Policy, the sixth update of the Departmental Classification Instructions was completed during 2018. The instructions provide an up-to-date inventory of the information produced and received by the Bank, including its classification (public or confidential).

6. Relations with civil society

The IDB recognizes the importance of maintaining an open and transparent dialogue with civil society to improve the creation, design, and implementation of its institutional strategies, operational policies and, in particular, the project cycle. The Bank sees an intrinsic linkage between the spirit of the Policy—to maximize access to information—and the creation, establishment, and maintenance of solid relationships with civil society. A society that is better informed about the Bank’s mission and role in development can engage in more meaningful dialogues related to public consultations, potential environmental and social risks, and the identification of opportunities, among other key areas. The following activities were carried out in 2018:

Under the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement), SEC/ATI met with different civil society stakeholders, including the World Resources Institute, ECLAC, and the Access Initiative, to explore possible cooperative partnerships to support implementation of the various access to information standards established in the agreement.

Together with the Sunlight Foundation, on 25 October 2018, SEC/ATI held a workshop entitled “Measuring and planning effective transparency,” as part of the annual meeting of the IFI Working Group on Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement. The workshop offered a series of ideas, experiences, and good practices in the use of indicators to measure the impact of information disclosure as a tool to heighten transparency. One of the workshop’s main objectives
was to exchange experiences on how to design effective strategies for promoting an institutional culture that links the measurement of efforts to make institutions more transparent to the disclosure of key information.

35. As part of the new IDB Group-Civil Society Engagement Strategy and its Action Plan, technical support was provided to ensure that the Policy and certain specific implementation activities can be more efficiently aligned with the new strategy’s objectives and actions. The new strategy sets out the vision, objectives, and expected outcomes for strengthening the development activities carried out by the IDB Group jointly with governments, the private sector, and civil society. SEC/ATI will work to implement the Action Plan in the following areas in particular:

- **Information:** (i) It will increase its use of digital tools and the media (blogs, social networks, webpage, etc.) to disseminate information that responds to the various needs of civil society, in line with the Access to Information Policy; and (ii) it will improve the PIC’s information analysis tools to identify needs and trends in civil society as external stakeholders in access to information, to which end it will use the Service Now request system.

- **Dialogue:** It will establish channels for direct dialogue between SEC/ATI and civil society to learn about its experiences and needs relating to implementation of the Access to Information Policy.

- **Consultation:** It will monitor timely disclosure of sovereign-guaranteed loan proposals and country strategies to help improve public consultation processes in line with the Access to Information Policy.

- **Cooperation:** It will support activities to build civil society’s capacity to use the Access to Information Policy, through information and knowledge products relating to the Policy.
36. SEC/ATI expects to begin implementing these commitments in 2019 and will report its progress in the next annual report.

7. Knowledge dissemination

37. SEC/ATI has been making efforts to disseminate knowledge about the right of access to information and its impact. The following publications were issued during 2018:

- A newsletter was distributed in the Bank and published on the webpage describing SEC/ATI’s main activities during 2017.

- Two blogs were prepared and published on the IDB’s Abierto al Público webpage.

- 3 aspectos claves para lograr consultas públicas significativas y de calidad, published on 11 March 2018, goes into detail on the need for inclusive public consultations, the importance of promoting access to information in formats and languages that can be understood by stakeholders, and the need to ensure permanent and two-way involvement. The blog received 2,010 visits.

- La agenda de información abierta en el combate contra la corrupción, published on 11 May 2018, makes four specific proposals to strengthen a State of open data: (1) document and provide information on prevention and control mechanisms; (2) strengthen transparency initiatives with the private sector; (3) establish observatories and strategies for relations with civil society; and (4) promote guarantees for implementing a Policy to combat corruption. The blog received 759 visits.
8. **Creation of access to information indicators to promote transparency**

38. Considering the importance of effectively measuring application of the Policy to promote transparency, during 2018 SEC/ATI began a study to identify qualitative and quantitative indicators for determining the impact of information disclosure. In particular, the exercise seeks to establish systematic mechanisms for measuring results and identifying good practices and tools for accountability, monitoring, and evaluation of Policy application. The study will consist of a practical and theoretical analysis of the different regulatory frameworks for access to information, including identification of good regional and international practices in the use of indicators for greater transparency. Implementation of this process is consistent with the recommendations of the Office of Evaluation and Oversight in its Report on the IDB’s Ninth General Capital Increase: Implementation and Results. The plan is to have a proposal ready in the second half of 2019 for presentation to Bank Management, in keeping with the access to information mandate.

9. **IFI Working Group on Information Disclosure**

39. In October 2018, SEC/ATI participated in the Annual Meeting of the IFI Working Group on Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement. The purpose of the meeting was to learn about the experiences of the member countries in implementing their information policies, share progress and challenges in implementing access to information policies to promote the adoption of best practices, and share approaches to common problems with the goal of helping to raise the existing standards in IFIs, etc. The meeting was organized by the World Bank and was attended by the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Investment Bank, the Caribbean Development Bank, the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank, the New Development Bank, IDB Invest, and the IDB.

---
