

TC Abstract

I. Basic project data

• Country/Region:	REGIONAL
• TC Name:	Promoting Knowledge and Capacity Building through the Regional Policy Dialogue
• TC Number:	RG-T2950
• Team Leader/Members:	Bassi, Marina, Team Leader; Nill, Anna Catarine; Soto-Aguilar, Maria Teresa; Jaime Ramirez, Margie-Lys
• Taxonomy:	Research and Dissemination
• Reference to Request:	n/a
• Date of TC Abstract:	Feb 22, 2017
• Beneficiary:	All LAC countries
• Executing Agency:	IDB
• IDB Funding Requested:	US\$1,800,000.00
• Local counterpart funding, if any:	US\$0.00
• Disbursement period:	18 months
• Required start date:	
• Types of consultants:	Individual consultants
• Prepared by Unit:	Vice-Presidency for Sectors & Knowledge
• Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	Vice-Presidency for Sectors & Knowledge
• Included in Country Strategy:	No
• TC included in CPD:	No
• Strategic Alignment:	Institutional capacity and rule of law

II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1. This operation will finance the activities of the Regional Policy Dialogue (RPD) in 2017. In 2000, the Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved the creation of the RPD (GN-2096-2). The general objective of the RPD is to promote a high-level policy dialogue between Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries and Bank officials, in order to identify innovative practices, strengthen institutional capacity, share experiences both from the region and from the rest of the world, and improve the quality of reform strategies. At the same time, the RPD provides the opportunity for the Bank to receive direct feedback about countries' public policy priorities, which subsequently informs Bank's future operational program.
- 2.2. The value added of this technical cooperation (TC) is related to: i) promoting high level policy dialogue and knowledge sharing among senior policymakers from the borrowing member countries; ii) fostering discussions between policymakers and experts on key development issues who present policy-oriented knowledge, analytical work and tools for the design, reformulation, and adoption of sound policies; and (iii) providing a space for the dissemination and dialogue with the countries about the Bank's operational and knowledge program. As a result of the knowledge exchange during RPD activities, LAC policymakers have access to innovative mechanisms and programs that can contribute to institutional capacity strengthening. Over the past 17 years, RPD networks have been consolidating their commitment to strengthen institutional capacity in LAC, to generate south-south cooperation, and to build strategic alliances between key stakeholders in important sectors in the region. The interest and continuing demand for new RPD networks indicates that the mechanism is perceived as valuable both by LAC high-level policymakers and by VPS Divisions.

III. Description of activities and outputs

- 3.1. Since its inception, eighteen policy dialogue networks aligned with the Bank's institutional priorities have been created in the areas of: (1) citizen security; (2) climate change; (3) disaster risk management; (4) education; (5) energy; (6) environmental and social

safeguards; (7) financial institutions; (8) fiscal and municipal management; (9) gender equality and diversity; (10) innovation; (11) labor markets and social security; (12) macroeconomic policy and finance; (13) open government; (14) social protection and health; (15) trade and integration; (16) transportation; (17) urban development and housing; and (18) water and sanitation.

- 3.2. The major component of the TC will include planning, organizing and holding regional and sub-regional meetings with high level government officials of LAC countries, to discuss issues identified as priorities to the borrowing member countries. The meetings will be held mostly in Washington, D.C. or in the Region, and convened by the Dialogue's network coordinators in coordination with VPS/VPS. The meeting agenda and supporting documents will be posted in the RDP web page and invitations will be extended to experts from international organizations, think tanks, professional organizations, universities and non-borrowing member countries to enrich the dialogue by contributing knowledge, innovative practices, and relevant experiences.
- 3.3. The second component will include the preparation knowledge products, elaborated by external consultant experts in their fields, to be discussed during the meetings. The topics and contents of these knowledge products are selected based on participants' insights from previous year's meetings, and according to VPS Divisions' priority areas. The publications will be published in accordance to the Bank's Publication Manual (AM-331) and will be disseminated through the RPD webpage.
- 3.4. The third component includes the coordination and dissemination of activities and results of this TC.

3.5. **Components**

Component 1: Meetings

The major component of the TC will include planning, organizing and holding regional and sub-regional meetings with high level government officials of LAC countries, to discuss issues identified as priorities to the borrowing member countries.

Product: 26 Meetings

Component 2: Knowledge Products

This component will include the preparation of complementary background studies to be presented and discussed during the dialogue meetings

Product: 15 Knowledge Products

Component 3: Coordination and dissemination

The third component includes the coordination and dissemination of activities and results of this TC.

Product: 1 Final Report

IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
Meetings	\$1,350,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,350,000.00
Knowledge Products	\$350,000.00	\$0.00	\$350,000.00
Coordination and dissemination	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00

V. Executing agency and execution structure

- 5.1. The Bank through VPS/VPS will be the executing agency.
- 5.2. The document GN-2096-2 approved by the Board of Executive Directors for the implementation of the Regional Policy Dialogue authorized the Bank as the executing agency to ensure the active participation of the borrowing member countries to dialogue with the Bank through the set-up of networks (see paragraphs 1.3 and 1.4 of same document).

VI. Project Risks and issues

- 6.1. One of the main risks of the project is the possible low participation rate of high-level officials in the RDP meetings. Following OVE's recommendations (RE-316-1), this risk has been mitigated since 2010 by paying travel and per diem expenses, as well as through effective communication encouragement from the network coordinators.

VII. Environmental and Social Classification

- 7.1. The ESG classification for this operation is []