

Technical Cooperation Document

I. Basic Information for TC

▪ Country/Region:	REGIONAL
▪ TC Name:	Advancing the Research on the Effectiveness of Disability Programs in LAC
▪ TC Number:	RG-T3480
▪ Team Leader/Members:	Duryea, Suzanne (SCL/SCL) Team Leader; Aleman, Xiomara Margarita (SCL/SPH); Gallegos Vallejos, Sebastian (SPD/SDV); Greco, Maria Sofia (LEG/SGO); Pinzon Caicedo, Mariana (SCL/SCL); Salazar Salamanca, Juan Pablo (SCL/SCL); Tejerina, Luis R. (SCL/SPH)
▪ Taxonomy:	Research and Dissemination
▪ Operation Supported by the TC:	.
▪ Date of TC Abstract authorization:	19 Apr 2019.
▪ Beneficiary:	All of the borrowing member countries of the Inter-American Development Bank
▪ Executing Agency and contact name:	Inter-American Development Bank
▪ Donors providing funding:	OC Strategic Development Program for Social Development(SOC)Program for Social Development(SOC) (SOC)
▪ IDB Funding Requested:	US\$350,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding, if any:	
▪ Disbursement period (which includes Execution period):	40 months disbursement/36 months execution
▪ Required start date:	August 15, 2019
▪ Types of consultants:	Individual Consultants
▪ Prepared by Unit:	SCL-Social Sector
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	SCL-Social Sector
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):	N/A
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	N/A
▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020:	Social inclusion and equality

II. Objectives and Justification of the TC

2.1 The knowledge gaps on advancing disability inclusion are three-fold. On one hand, unlike topics such as conditional cash transfers and early childhood development, a rigorous body of evidence does not exist regarding the effectiveness of programs aimed at improving the quality of life for persons with disabilities (PWD). Non-contributory programs are the largest and most costly disability programs in Latin America and the Caribbean. These programs aim to address higher costs of living and higher poverty rates among people with disabilities (Mitra et al. 2017, Huete 2019). While initial studies have examined the impact of disability benefits in Europe and the US, rigorous research has not been conducted in LAC. This TC will try to close this knowledge gap by analyzing data in four countries. These four countries have been selected based on the availability of high-quality information on disability status and the receipt of non-contributory transfers.¹ Given an increasing demand by

¹ Costa Rica, Chile and Mexico have household survey data in which high quality information is available about persons with disability as well as information about the receipt of non-contributory transfer programs.

policymakers for this type of analysis it is expected that the results of the TC will be applied in the region to the adjustment of an existing program or in the design of a new transfer program to PwD.

- 2.2 Secondly, despite an emerging literature of solid empirical analysis regarding measures of exclusion of persons with disabilities in education, labor markets and health, unreliable measures based on unrepresentative data sources as well as outdated concepts are widely circulated. Through the production and dissemination of an **interactive publication incorporating new estimates and updated frameworks**, this TC will help dispel outdated constructs and move the dialogue toward effective solutions in the region. A senior consultant will extract the main messages delivered in the recently published IDB policy briefs on disability inclusion in the social sector and develop the narrative for the publication. The TC will also support the production of interviews, videos and graphs that will complement the text with engaging examples within a graphic design that is adapted for digital accessibility for people with disabilities.
- 2.3 Finally, the knowledge gap does not only affect the analytical realm but also the **implementation of policies and programs**. The UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (CRPD) opened for signature just over a decade ago, and within Latin American and the Caribbean, where all IDB member countries have ratified the CRPD, countries are requesting technical support to design policies that advance the inclusion of people with disabilities within the framework outlined by the convention. An experienced consultant will be hired to support countries in the implementation of the CRPD.
- 2.4 The overall **objective** of this TC is to advance the knowledge on the effects of disability policies and programs in Latin America and the Caribbean. Particularly, this TC will assess the effects of non-contributory income subsidies on the quality of life of persons with disabilities.
- 2.5 **Strategic alignment.** This TC is aligned with the Update of the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020 (AB-3008) of the IDB Group as it aims to increase knowledge on the constraints to social inclusion and equality faced by people with disabilities. The TC will provide new information to help eradicate extreme poverty and strengthen the capacity of the governments in the region. Additionally, this TC is aligned with the objectives of the Ordinary Capital Strategic Development Program for Social Development (SOC) (GN-2819-1) as it will deepen knowledge in social areas related to development policies, programs, and projects to foster and promote social inclusion and diversity.

III. Description of activities/components and budget

- 3.1 **Component 1. Knowledge deepening and dissemination (US\$350,000).** Through this component, the TC aims at increasing and disseminating the body of knowledge on the effects and next steps of disability programs in the region. Particularly, this component will: (i) finance the preparation of two technical notes measuring the effects of disability policies and programs on the well-being of PwD; (ii) produce and

disseminate an interactive publication that consolidates knowledge with respect to disability inclusion in the social sector; and (iii) provide technical support to countries adopting and adapting programs and policies to advance disability inclusion.

- 3.2 The first technical note, descriptive in nature, will analyze the relationship between receipt of non-contributory income subsidies and quality of life indicators for PwD, including poverty status and labor market participation using recent household survey data in the region (Chile, Costa Rica, and Mexico). Using administrative panel data in Ecuador for the Bono de Joaquin Gallegos Lara program an additional study will identify the causal effects of receiving benefits; in other words, the second technical note will show the effect of the program rather than correlations.² This identification is based on the exogenous exclusion of individuals from the program.³ Moreover, given that social workers record a rich array of characteristics twice yearly for program beneficiaries, the outcomes studied will cover a broader set of quality of life measures.⁴ This study will complement the Bank’s support to EC-L1236. Individual consultants hired through this TC will help organizing and analyzing secondary data available, to support the elaboration of the two technical notes.
- 3.3 The interactive publication will compile the most compelling content from policy briefs already published. A senior editor will identify the main messages from each of the policy briefs and will propose a narrative to captivate a wide audience. Additionally, a senior consultant will support the design and implementation of loan operations, technical cooperations and regional public goods promoting disability-inclusive development.

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	Description	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
Preparation of technical notes	Individual consultants	\$190,000	\$0	\$190,000
Dissemination of publication	Senior consultant, graphic designers	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
Technical support	Senior Consultant	\$110,000	\$0	\$110,000
TOTAL		\$350,000	\$0	\$350,000

- 3.4 The TC will be supervised by the team leader at SCL/SCL, with support from SPD/SDV. A focal point from SCL/SPH has been identified in Ecuador to secure coordination of activities.

² The analysis will consider both the effect of being eligible for the program or “intent-to-treat” as well as the effects of the benefit or “treatment on the treated”.

³ The identification of the causal effect will be based on the exogenous exclusion of individuals from the Registro Social that occurred over 2016-2017 when the proxy means formula was reclassified to improve the efficiency of targeting poor households.

⁴ The results will be cross-validated with additional data sources such as the death registry.

IV. Executing agency and execution structure

- 4.1 This TC will be executed by the Inter-American Development Bank through the Social Sector (SCL/SCL), which will be responsible for all aspects of this TC, including its supervision and disbursements. This is due to the regional and cross-sectorial nature of the TC. No supervision costs to COF are anticipated. All activities to be financed by this TC have been included in the Procurement Plan (see Annex IV) and will be contracted in accordance with Bank policies as follows: policy AM-650 for individual consultants, GN-2765-1 and Guidelines OP-1155-4 for consulting firms for services of an intellectual nature, and GN-2303-20 for logistics and other related services.

V. Major issues

- 5.1 Two main risks were identified for this TC, both relating to the data to be used. First, the country may not share all the administrative data needed for the analyses. To mitigate this risk, the Bank has already initiated communication with government counterparts to gain access to the required databases. Second, due to low penetration of some programs for PwD, the statistical power of the analyses using household surveys could be insufficient. To mitigate this risk the studies will focus on transfer programs that have higher coverage rates.

VI. Exceptions to Bank policy

- 6.1 There are no exceptions to Bank policy.

VII. Environmental and Social Strategy

- 7.1 The Environmental and Social Impact Category for this operation is "C". No environmental assessment studies or consultations are required for Category "C" operations. (See [SPF](#) and [SSF](#)).
- 7.2 This Category "C" operation will not require specific safeguard or monitoring requirements (Policy Directive B.3).

Required Annexes:

[Results Matrix_99557.pdf](#)

[Terms of Reference_15563.pdf](#)

[Procurement Plan_87064.pdf](#)