

TC ABSTRACT

I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	REGIONAL/IDB
▪ TC Name:	Piloting Innovative Urban Solutions in LAC
▪ TC Number:	RG-T3706
▪ Team Leader/Members:	Blanco Blanco, Andres Guillermo (CSD/HUD) Team Leader; Uribe, Maria Camila (CSD/HUD) Alternate Team Leader; Elnir, Hallel (CSD/HUD); Richter Elias, Alessandra (CSD/HUD); Escobar Gutierrez, Carlos Andres (CSD/HUD); Guzman Osorio, Jessica (CSD/HUD); Avila, Francy Dianela (CSD/HUD); Negret Garrido, Cesar Andres (LEG/SGO); Gonzalez Herrera, Beatriz Maria (CSD/HUD)
▪ Taxonomy:	Research and Dissemination (R&D)
▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC:	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	03 Jun 2020
▪ Beneficiary:	Countries of LAC
▪ Executing Agency:	Inter-American Development Bank
▪ IDB funding requested:	US\$295,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding:	US\$0.00
▪ Disbursement period:	36 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Individuals; Firms
▪ Prepared by Unit:	CSD/HUD - Housing & Urban Development
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	CSD - Climate Change and Sustainable Development Sector
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):	No
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	No
▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020:	(i) Productivity and innovation

II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 **Objective.** To provide support to LAC local governments to design innovative urban solutions through targeted knowledge and practical exchange, that will result in specific pilot projects to adapt and test the identified solutions. This objective is aligned with the iterative work of the Cities LAB to achieve a more sustainable, inclusive, and equitable urban development in the region. To this end, the TC will be structured in the following components: (i) exchange of international experiences; (ii) design temporary experiments; (iii) develop policy recommendations; and (iv) dissemination of knowledge. Given the current COVID-19 crisis, activities related to social distancing, citizen participation, reviving the local economy, use of public spaces, use of innovative technologies, and big data analysis, among others, will be prioritized.
- 2.2 **Justification.** Urbanization in LAC presents enormous economic, social, and environmental challenges for the cities of the region. Also, the COVID-19 crisis had forced physical isolation measures to reduce the possibilities of contagion and limited the use of public spaces, generating new complex challenges to cities. Considering the key role of cities in LAC, and the low institutional capacity that most of the cities of the region present, it is important to facilitate the penetration of experiences and valuable tools to strengthen the institutions involved in urban management, improve productivity, and promote innovative public management. Also, it is essential to maintain and elevate the discourse on promoting sustainable urban development to

address cross-sectorial complexities and to overtake the sustainable development goals.

- 2.3 The daily practice of urban planning in any city entails innovative approaches that generate a vast amount of experiences and lessons learned worth to be shared. To transmit dynamic knowledge, innovative experiences, and respond to growing demand from the bank's client cities and stakeholders, it is necessary to increase access to available information on best practices and models of innovative urban interventions. Furthermore, to help local governments in the region to address their challenges effectively, there is an essential and urgent need for promoting the transfer of knowledge and best practices in a way that can easily and rapidly adapt, test, and evaluate new knowledge.
- 2.4 The Cities LAB has previously executed a knowledge exchange program between Austria and Ecuador that resulted in the incorporation of lessons learned to upgrade public spaces in the city of Quito, led by the local government. Also, the knowledge gained was disseminated on a regional level and received interest from stakeholders in the region. However, one of the main lessons learned from the knowledge exchange pilot was that to generate positive impact, a follow-up program should be implemented to apply lessons learned in the home city.
- 2.5 This TC complements and extends the Cities LAB activities, that are being developed through the TC RG-T3397 - "Support to the Cities LAB activities to promote urban experimentation and civic innovation in LAC cities", through the development of knowledge products and the sharing of best practices to promote innovative and sustainable urban development in the LAC region.

III. Description of Activities and Outputs

- 3.1 **Component I: Exchange of international experiences.** This component facilitates the exchange of knowledge and experiences through the visits of public officials from LAC cities to cities that have successfully tackled urban challenges, which are relevant to their home cities. The exchange will include the opportunity of working with the technical teams of the host city and help the Bank to develop tailored proposals for cities in the LAC region.
- 3.2 **Component II: Design of temporary experiments.** This component incorporates the knowledge acquired in component I, and supports public officials from LAC cities to design, test and evaluate temporary experiments related to urban interventions in their cities.
- 3.3 **Component III: Design of policy recommendations.** This component seeks to develop and propose policy recommendations, based on the results of the pilot test, including concepts of scalability and sustainability in bank operations.
- 3.4 **Component IV: Dissemination of results and lessons learned.** This component supports the dissemination of the results of the TC through a publication and an international workshop.

IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
I: Exchange of international experiences	US\$120,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$120,000.00
II: Design of temporary experiments	US\$80,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$80,000.00
III: Design of policy recommendations	US\$30,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$30,000.00

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
IV: Dissemination of results and lessons learned	US\$65,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$65,000.00
Total	US\$295,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$295,000.00

V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

- 5.1 The Bank (IDB) will be the executing agency. The Housing and Urban Development Division (CSD/HUD) will be responsible for the technical supervision and administration of this TC given its experience with the Cities LAB and its partnership and access to the Cities Network across LAC. Disbursements will be done from IDB Headquarters with the support of IDB's Administrative Services and Corporate Procurement Division.
- 5.2 The execution by the Bank is justified by its taxonomy as a regional research and dissemination TC. The fact that the TC will finance activities in and across multiple countries and institutions in LAC needs a centralized and internalized execution from the Bank headquarters. Also, the IDB HUD Division and its Cities LAB have substantial experience in providing technical assistance, particularly in the areas of housing, urban planning, sustainability, and areas related to the activities financed under this TC. The activities will be executed by the Cities LAB in partnership with the Cities Network, and in collaboration with cities of the region and other divisions of the Bank supporting multi-sectoral operations.

VI. Project Risks and Issues

- 6.1 The main risk that could prevent achieving the results of this project is the lack of ownership and engagement over the design of temporary experiments and policy recommendations from the part of the local government, which would lead to proposals that are disconnected from their interests and possibilities of action, or to difficulties in implementation. To mitigate this risk, an adequate process of evaluation will be developed to select the participating local government.
- 6.2 In addition, to increase their sense of ownership, the local government will be named as the leading agent of the knowledge exchange partnership. Also, throughout the different stages of the project, the participating authorities will be responsible for setting goals and defining expected outputs that fit their needs. The Cities LAB team will hold periodic coordination meetings with all relevant stakeholder groups involved in the knowledge exchange partnership.

VII. Environmental and Social Classification

- 7.1 The ESG classification for this operation is "undefined".