

**Research Department Competition and Productivity in LAC. Research PEC Consultant****Post of Duty: Remote: 48-member countries**

The IDB Group is a community of diverse, versatile, and passionate people who come together on a journey to improve lives in Latin America and the Caribbean. Our people find purpose and do what they love in an inclusive, collaborative, agile, and rewarding environment.

**About this position**

RES generates innovative ideas that support the strategic policy agenda of the IDB and its member countries to achieve inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean. To maximize the impact of its research, we carry out activities that serve as inputs to bank departments, governments, the academic community, and public opinion in the region. We advise management on economic and development issues, conduct research and analysis on macro- and microeconomic trends, and oversee the development of the IDB's quantitative and analytical databases.

We are looking for a Research Assistant Consultant, you will help with the research for the DIA 2025.

You will work in the Research department with Matias Busso (RES), Vanessa Alvarez (RES), Cezar Santos (RES), Phillip Keefer (IFD/IFD). This team is currently conducting research to understand the economic effects of competition and market power in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). In the last 40 years, there has been a rapid increase in the profit share of large firms in the U.S. and other developed economies. Large firms have grown larger by capturing higher market shares in their industries. At the same time, wages have not kept the same pace and have stagnated. While these superstar firms kept rising, business dynamism declined substantially, and startup firms' share reached record lows in these economies. Moreover, this trend has also been linked to the decline in the labor share over time. This tendency has been noted in different industries, such as services, retail, and wholesale. Though there is evidence of market power in developed economies, less is known about these issues in emerging economies in general and in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) in particular. The DIA 2025 aims to better understand how competitive markets are in LAC and how they have evolved. It will assess the effect that competition (or lack thereof) has on aggregate welfare, productivity growth, and inequality. Is lack of competition hurting consumers, limiting investment and R&D? Are anticompetitive practices preventing the entry and growth of new productive firms? Is there a lack of competition in the labor market or concentration in the output market and what are the implications for income inequality? How can governments and policymakers help markets function better (through procurement, regulation/deregulation, antitrust policy)? These are some of the questions that the DIA 2025 will tackle.

**What you'll do:**

- Work closely with IDB specialists involved in writing the 2025 Development in the Americas on the topic of Competition and Productivity to define a research project, specify the methodology, the data sources, and expected output.

- Write a detailed proposal for this project.
- Conduct rigorous policy-relevant research on the designated topic using standard analytic methods such as experimental economics, experimental and quasi-experimental impact evaluation methods, and economic valuation; the research must be of quality and rigor required to publish in a peer-reviewed indexed international journal.
- Write high-quality publications reporting the results of this research.
- Actively participate in a network of scholars and practitioners focused on competition and productivity by engaging in discussion and providing feedback on research questions and knowledge gaps, methodological issues, and policy implications.

### **Deliverables and Payments Timeline:**

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<b><u>Deliverable #</u></b>	<b><u>Percentage</u></b>	<b><u>Planned Date to Submit</u></b>
Delivery of Research proposal	20%	January 2024
Delivery of draft report.	40%	July 2024
Delivery and acceptance of the final report.	40%	November 2024

### **What you'll need**

- **Education:** •Ph.D. in Economics, Public Health, Public Policy, or a related field relevant to the responsibilities of the role.
- **Experience:** At least 5 years of progressive experience as a senior researcher.
- **Languages:** Proficiency in Spanish and English, spoken and written, is required. Additional knowledge of French and Portuguese is preferable.

### **Key skills:**

- Learn continuously.
- Collaborate and share knowledge.
- Focus on clients.
- Communicate and influence.
- Innovate and try new things.

### **Requirements:**

- **Citizenship:** You are a citizen of one of our 48-member countries.
- **Consanguinity:** You have no family members (up to the fourth degree of consanguinity and second degree of affinity, including spouse) working at the IDB, IDB Invest, or IDB Lab.

### **Type of contract and duration:**

- **Type of contract:** Products and External Services Consultant (PEC), Lump Sum

- **Length of contract:** 12 months
- **Work Location:** Remote.

**What we offer**

The IDB group provides benefits that respond to the different needs and moments of an employee's life. These benefits include:

- A **competitive compensation** package.
- A flexible way of working. You will be evaluated by deliverable.

**Our culture**

At the IDB Group we work so everyone brings their best and authentic selves to work, willing to try new approaches without fear, and where they are accountable and rewarded for their actions.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) are at the center of our organization. We celebrate all dimensions of diversity and encourage women, LGBTQ+ people, persons with disabilities, Afro-descendants, and Indigenous people to apply.

We will ensure that individuals with disabilities are provided reasonable accommodation to participate in the job interview process. If you are a qualified candidate with a disability, please e-mail us at [diversity@iadb.org](mailto:diversity@iadb.org) to request reasonable accommodation to complete this application.

**Our Human Resources Team reviews carefully every application.**

**About the IDB Group**

The IDB Group, composed of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), IDB Invest, and the IDB Lab offers flexible financing solutions to its member countries to finance economic and social development through lending and grants to public and private entities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**About IDB**

We work to improve lives in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through financial and technical support for countries working to reduce poverty and inequality, we help improve health and education and advance infrastructure. Our aim is to achieve development in a sustainable, climate-friendly way. With a history dating back to 1959, today we are the leading source of development financing for Latin America and the Caribbean. We provide loans, grants, and technical assistance; and we conduct extensive research. We maintain a strong commitment to achieving measurable results and the highest standards of integrity, transparency, and accountability.

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**About IDB Lab**

Is the innovation laboratory of the IDB Group. We mobilize financing, knowledge, and connections to drive innovation for inclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean. We believe innovation is a powerful tool that can transform our region, providing today unprecedented opportunities to populations that are vulnerable due to economic, social, or environmental factors. IDB Lab has a commitment to gender quality and diversity as part of its development mandate. The Strategy and Impact unit supports IDB Lab in the development of strategy, connections and knowledge, and impact measurement and reporting.

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**About IDB Invest**

IDB Invest, a member of the IDB Group, is a multilateral development bank committed to promoting the economic development of its member countries in Latin America and the Caribbean through the private sector. IDB Invest finances sustainable companies and projects to achieve financial results and maximize economic, social, and environmental development in the region. With a portfolio of \$14.1 billion in asset management and 325 clients in 25 countries, IDB Invest provides innovative financial solutions and advisory services that meet the needs of its clients in a variety of industries.

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