

TC ABSTRACT
Institutional Strengthening of the National Population Registry (RENAP)

I. Basic project data

- **Country/Region:** Guatemala
- **TC Name:** Launching of National Identity Management Plan
- **TC Number:** GU-T1219
- **Team Leader/Members:** Mia Harbitz (IFD/ICS), Team Leader; Benjamin Santa Maria (ICS/CGU); Ivan Arcos Axt (IFD/ICS); TBD (Legal) and Nathalie Hoffman (IFD/ICS).
- **Indicate if:** Client support
- **Reference to Request:** (IDBdocs# 37690838)
- **Date of TC Abstract:** 05/04/2013
- **Beneficiary:** Government of the Republic of Guatemala
- **Executing Agency and contact name:** National Population Registry (RENAP)
- **IDB Funding Requested:** US\$400,000
- **Local counterpart funding, if any:** US\$50,000
- **Disbursement period (which includes execution period):** 27 months
- **Required start date:** June 15th, 2013
- **Types of consultants (firm or individual consultants):** Individual consultants
- **Prepared by Unit:** IFD/ICS
- **Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:** CGU/ICS
- **Included in Country Strategy (y/n):** Y¹; **TC included in CPD (y/n):** N
- **GCI-9 Sector Priority:** Yes

II. Objective and Justification

Until 2005, the legal identity was decentralized and the municipalities were responsible for providing residence cards. Civil records were also decentralized. That year a sweeping electoral reform included a key policy change centralizing all population registries in one institution; the National Population Registry (*Registro Nacional de las Personas* (RENAP)).

RENAP is the institution in charge of enrolling, organizing and maintaining the unique record identification of all natural persons, to register the vital events and actions relating to their civil status, as well as to provide the new Personal Identification Document. To this end RENAP is responsible for the design and implementation of the required strategies and procedures.

However, RENAP has identified the principal barrier that impedes to properly accomplish its mandate. In spite of recent efforts by RENAP, it has been extremely difficult to combat the chronic late and under-registration problem in Guatemala which in part is due to poverty, cultural barriers and difficult access for RENAP, which contributes to higher levels of social, political and economic exclusion for its citizens. Two of the causes on the supply side are: (i) the lacks of adequate technology and institutional capacity (administrative capability and human capital) to efficiently accomplish its mandate; and (ii) to interface and/or interoperate with other agencies to verify and authenticate identities.

To solve these key challenges, RENAP has developed a work plan and envisions a progressive and concerted approach in order to improve service delivery to the citizens and residents of Guatemala.

¹ This TC is aligned with the strategic objective in the Country Strategy that seeks to strengthen the concept of universal social protection.

The main objective of this TC is to strengthen RENAP's capacity to issue reliable ID documents with a high level of trust through: (i) establishing a new organizational structure; (ii) developing a strategy to improve the interconnection and interoperability between the RENAP and other public agencies; and (iii) enhancing RENAP's capacity to properly deliver its services. These steps will contribute to eliminate late- and under registration of births and deaths in Guatemala.

This TC is aligned with GCI-9, specifically under its priority area "Institutions for growth and social welfare," as it supports Guatemalan national civil registry system. It is also considered in the Bank's "Sector Strategy Institutions for Growth and Social Welfare" explicitly under "Registries for Social and Economic Growth."

III. Description of activities

Component 1: Institutional Strengthening of RENAP. In order to establish a dynamic and efficient organizational structure the project will finance the development of a Strategic Plan that will include: (i) an administrative procedures manual; (ii) a scheme for annual and long term operating plans; (iii) indicators that measure determined results; (iv) a new organizational chart; (v) indicators to measure RENAP's institutional capacity; and (vi) a human capital assessment and a proposal for a permanent training program designed to improve the human capital of the RENAP. This component is aimed at developing a new organizational structure that will enable RENAP to efficiently and transparently carry out its mandate as established by law.

Component 2: Promoting universal registration. Based on the first component, this one will improve RENAP's capacity to eliminate the under registry of births. This component will: (i) carry out studies to analyze the persistent late and under-registration problem in the country and tailor means to overcome the problem; (ii) define the procedures and mechanisms of interagency involvement and work to reduce the rate of underreporting in hospitals and offices; (iii) establish a baseline for vital events data as a foundation for political planning and decision making processes; and (iv) develop a communication strategy for the issue of underreporting.

Component 3: Studies and Workshops. The RENAP both uses and produces information, and the immediate stakeholders can be found across the public sector, including the citizens and residents. In order to strengthen RENAP's capacity for dialogue and problem solving it is necessary to: (i) establish the channels for inter-agency communication by knowledge sharing through workshops and other events; and (ii) provide RENAP with access to relevant experiences abroad to be abreast of international developments in identity management that is relevant to the Guatemalan system.

IV. Budget

The total cost of the project will be US\$450,000. The Bank will provide US\$400,000 from a trust fund, and the RENAP will contribute with US\$50,000. The resources provided by the Bank will be non-refundable.

Components	IDB	RENAP	Total
Component 1 Institutional Strengthening	US\$200,000	-----	US\$200,000
Component 2 Promoting universal registration	US\$140,000	-----	US\$140,000
Component 3 Studies and Workshops	US\$40,000	-----	US\$40,000
Program administration	-----	US\$50,000	US\$50,000
Final audit	US\$10,000	-----	US\$10,000
Contingencies	US\$10,000	-----	US\$10,000
TOTAL	US\$400,000	US\$50,000	US\$450,000

V. Executing agency and execution structure

The Project will be implemented by the RENAP, who will be responsible for all technical and administrative aspects, and who has the experience and capacity to implement the project. There will be a RENAP team with a designated coordinator responsible of this project. In particular, this team will: (i) administer all financial resources related to the project; (ii) coordinate, foresee and approve, as a first instance, the execution of each activity in this project; (iii) support the organization of any event, workshop or meeting related to this project; (iv) report periodically to the Bank about any financial disbursements related to the project; (v) carry out any contractual clauses agreed with the Bank; and (vi) report about the project every time the Bank requested it.

The procurement processes will be carried out under the Bank policies. The unit responsible for these processes will be the RENAP's Institutional Procurement Unit (IPU). The Bank will approve any acquisition or hiring processes made by RENAP.

VI. Project Risks and issues

In order to properly implement this project the following risks have been identified: (i) delays in the procurement process; and (ii) some resistance to institutional changes, especially from the current employees. However, in addition to the workshops and the information campaigns, other measures to mitigate these possible risks will be identified. A final audit is considered under the procedures designated by the Bank.

VII. Environmental and Social Classification

There are no environmental or social risks associated with the activities outlined in this operation, therefore its environmental classification is "C."