

Organized crime in Latin America and the Caribbean: Promoting Research for Effective Public Policy (D2462)

Description:

The project will fund the activities of an alliance between the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the World Bank, and the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF) to generate knowledge on criminal violence in LAC, with a focus on the role of organized crime.

The main objective is to produce evidence to inform and shape the public policy debate and influence policymaking at the national, regional, and global levels. Through this alliance, we also aim to build stronger institutional capacities to better tackle this issue and identify and support the role the IDB will play in addressing this challenge.

Under this alliance, the World Bank, IDB, and CAF will participate in the following activities:

- Financing and directly producing research to advance knowledge on criminal violence in LAC, with a focus on organized crime.
- Financing and accompanying research teams and projects, preferably in collaboration with public authorities, to develop or enhance strategies for measuring criminal violence and organized crime and pilot interventions designed to prevent and mitigate their impacts.

- Facilitating meetings and sessions with policymakers, researchers, and other experts to identify areas critical for knowledge generation, generate consensus on diagnostics, and brainstorm about policy routes, and provide feedback on the research being conducted under this alliance.

Submitted by:

Santiago Perez Vincent

Submitted on:

11/30/2023

Status:

Submitted

Category:

Research and Dissemination

Tags:**Linked Ideas:****Whiteboard:****Team Leader Name**

Nathalie Alvarado

Alternate Team Leader Name

Santiago Perez Vincent

Has the proposal been discussed and authorized by the responsible sector or country department/division, as applicable?

Yes

Team Leader Responsible Department

IFD

Are there specific countries that will directly benefit from your proposal?

Yes

Mark the specific countries that will be directly benefited from your proposal?

Argentina

Bahamas

Barbados

Belize

Bolivia

Brazil

Chile

Colombia

Costa Rica

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

El Salvador

Guatemala

Guyana

Haiti

Honduras

Jamaica

Mexico

Nicaragua

Panama

Paraguay

Peru

Suriname

Trinidad y Tobago

Uruguay

Venezuela

Where applicable, describe how the proposal aligns with the respective country strategy (for each country selected)

Does the proposal align to one or more sector frameworks?

Yes, the proposal aligns with at least one sector framework

Identify and describe how the proposal aligns to the sector framework(s)

The project is directly aligned with the IDB's Citizen Security and Justice SFD, acknowledging and seeking to address the significant developmental challenges posed by crime and violence in the region, with particular emphasis on the critical role of organized crime. It also aligns with the IDB's Transparency and Integrity SFD, recognizing and seeking to address the pervasive influence of organized crime groups that often engage in corruption and money laundering activities.

Select the regional challenges and cross-cutting issues to which the proposal aligns to

Social Inclusion and Equality

Productivity and Innovation

Institutional Capacity and Rule of Law

Gender Equality

Diversity

Justify the alignment to each selection above

The project aligns with the UIS, focusing mainly on boosting institutional capacity and the rule of law. It centers on research, policy development, and working with public authorities to address crime and violence, especially organized crime. By doing so, it aims to improve citizen security and strengthen public trust in institutions, cornerstones of the rule of law. The project also aims to promote social inclusion, along with gender equality and diversity, by assessing the potentially uneven impact of crime on women, girls and vulnerable and diverse groups. Lastly, the project supports productivity and innovation by fostering a safer environment that encourages investment and economic activities.

What is the estimated funding that you need in order to implement this proposal?

400000

Select the expected outputs of this proposal

Events (other than policy dialogues)

Knowledge Products

Pilot Interventions

Are outputs strictly Knowledge Products?

No, the output is not strictly a Knowledge Product

Describe the motivation and main question(s) this TC intends to answer.

Describe the methodological approach to be used and the type of data (when applicable) which will be used

Please specify the type(s) of Knowledge Product (s) this TC encompasses:

Books (Commercial and Non-Commercial)

Others

Please provide a brief description of the output(s) selected above (The number of units planned, and the estimated cost). If you selected others, please specify.

The project's main results include:

1. Joint IDB - World Bank -CAF Flagship Report 2026: A comprehensive report assessing the scale, causes, and impacts of criminal violence in LAC, emphasizing organized crime. It aims to evaluate and enhance current policies and measurement strategies, potentially piloting new interventions, in collaboration with various experts.
2. Call for Research Proposals: This initiative will invite proposals for innovative solutions targeting criminal violence in LAC, with a focus on organized crime. The goal is to find scalable and impactful strategies, fostering a synergy between academic research and practical policymaking.
3. Discussion and Dissemination Activities: The project will facilitate discussions among policymakers, researchers, and specialists through meetings and conferences, focusing on the policy response to organized crime in LAC.

Outcomes: If the outputs are delivered successfully, what is the change expected (in capacity, knowledge, behavior, etc.)

The project benefits countries by funding research and developing new strategies, thereby informing effective policy-making. The Joint IDB - World Bank -CAF Flagship Report 2026 will provide a detailed analysis of criminal violence, guiding policy decisions. Further, the call for research proposals will encourage innovative, actionable solutions to crime. Dissemination activities will promote knowledge exchange and collaborative strategies among key stakeholders, strengthening regional approaches to combat crime.

(0) Attachments

1 Comment

Comment by Daniel Fonseca Silva 01/17/2024

The TC should be prioritized, however the amount would need to be adjusted to US\$400,000 as per internal discussions, organized crime has taken on a significant priority for the Administration, and therefore the activities to support the Bank's work in this area will be of utmost importance.