

Technical Cooperation Abstract

I. Basic Project Data

- Country/Region: Ecuador
- TC Name: Support to Ecuador for the Habitat III Conference
- TC Number: EC-T1328
- Team Leader/Members: Michael Donovan Team Leader; Patricio Zambrano-Barragán Co-Team Leader; Javier León, Robin Rajack, Gilberto Chona, Jesús Navarrete; and Dianela Ávila (IFD/FMM); and Maria Sofia Greco (LEG/SGO)
- Taxonomy: Client Support
- Reference to Request: [Letter of request](#)
- Date of TC Abstract: July 2015
- Beneficiary: Ministerio de Desarrollo Urbano y Vivienda (MIDUVI)
- Executing Agency: Inter-American Development Bank through the Fiscal and Municipal Management Division (IFD/FMM)
- IDB Funding Requested: US\$150,000
- Local counterpart: n/a
- Disbursement period: 30 months
- Required start date: August 2015
- Types of consultants: Firms and individual consultants
- Prepared by Unit: IFD/FMM
- Unit of Disbursement Responsibility: Institutions for Development Sector (IFD/IFD)
- Included in Country Strategy: No
- Included in CPD: No
- GCI-9 Sector Priority: Institutions for growth and social welfare

II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 This Technical Cooperation (TC) seeks to support Ecuador to prepare and host the Habitat III United Nations (UN) Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Quito, October 2016). Habitat III will be the largest urban summit ever held in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and the UN plans that it will approve a strategy to implement the commitments of a New Urban Agenda, including the monitoring of urban targets in the UN's forthcoming Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The UN has invited all member states, intergovernmental organizations, and nongovernmental organizations with consultative status to participate. The TC's objectives align with commitments outlined in the Institutions for Growth and Social Welfare Sector Strategy (GN-2587-2) and the Update to the IDB Institutional Strategy (2016–2019) whose Corporate Results Framework will be informed by the SDGs.
- 2.2 Strengthening the institutional capacity of governments in the region to pursue global urban policy goals at scale is critically needed. Though progress has been made in reducing slum conditions since Latin American and Caribbean governments signed

the Habitat Agenda in 1996,¹ significant challenges remain.² According to the UN, 113 million residents in LAC live in informal settlements. In Ecuador, approximately 70% of new housing is constructed in the informal housing market.³ Improving city management through citizen engagement, municipal legislative reform, and training of the civil service, need to be addressed to achieve global urban targets.

- 2.3 The proposal includes two components to assist Ecuador to prepare for Habitat III through research and policy dialogue. This TC seeks to assist the Ecuadoran Government's preparations for Habitat III given their role as the host of Habitat III and co-chair of the Bureau of the Habitat III Preparatory Committee. The proposal seeks to strengthen Ecuador's capacity to achieve the urban-specific targets which will be established in the SDGs in September 2015. Accordingly, this TC reinforces (i) IDB's commitment to supporting public agencies guiding urban development, as described in the IDB Country Strategy with Ecuador 2012-2017, and (ii) translate the SDGs into meaningful country level targets.⁴

III. Description of activities and outputs

- 3.1 **Component 1. Institutional Support for Urban Analysis (US\$60,000).** It will support Ecuador's lead Habitat III agency, *Ministerio de Desarrollo Urbano y Vivienda* (MIDUVI), to create an urban data portal to track SDG urban targets, which will be shared with other countries during Habitat III as a potential model for SDG implementation. The component will allow MIDUVI to hire two specialists (one economist and one geographer) to build this system. To ensure sustainability post-Habitat III, this component will fund the drafting of a long-term strategy for the establishment, staffing, and financial support of a unit within the Department of Human Settlements and Habitat (*Subsecretaría de Asentamientos Humanos y Hábitat*), which tracks commitments to SDG urban goals and displays municipal data. The data will also inform Ecuador's participation in the Habitat III preparatory processes, described in Component 2.
- 3.2 **Component 2. Participation in Habitat III Preparatory Processes (US\$90,000).** It will finance the participation of Ecuadoran experts in each of the ten Policy Units⁵ convened by the Habitat III Secretariat to inform the Habitat III outcome document that will be discussed during the third global preparatory meeting of Habitat III in Indonesia (July 2016). Experts, who will represent both government and non-governmental organizations, will utilize information from Component 1. The Component will also finance the organization of Ecuador's pre-Habitat III National Urban Forum (NUF). To be held in Guayaquil (April 2016), the NUF will provide a multi-stakeholders platform to assess Ecuador's urban policies and discuss future

¹ The Habitat Agenda was ratified by 171 countries. The IDB participated in Habitat II and financed preparatory workshops through the Program to Support Activities for the World Conference Habitat II (TC-96-01-02-3-RG), which established the Latin American and Caribbean Commission on Human Settlements and supported the publication of [A City for All: The Future of Human Settlements in Latin America and the Caribbean](#).

² Luis Alberto Moreno (2014), [Quito, una discusión para el futuro](#), *El País*, December 26.

³ MIDUVI (2009) *Política Habitacional y Servicios de Agua y Saneamiento: Período 2009-2025*, cited in FMM/CEC (2012) *Nota Sectorial. Desarrollo urbano, vivienda y patrimonio cultural*.

⁴ See [MDG Joint Statement for Rio+20](#).

⁵ The Habitat III Secretariat has established ten policy units: (i) Right to the City, (ii) Socio-Cultural Urban Framework, (iii) National Urban Policies, (iv) Urban Governance, (v) Municipal Finance, (vi) Urban Spatial Strategy, (vii) Urban Economic Development Strategy, (viii) Urban Ecology and Resilience, (ix) Urban Services, and (x) Housing Policies ([Issue Papers and Policy Units of the Habitat III Conference](#)).

urban positions with a view towards Habitat III.⁶ The NUF will promote active civil society participation from national and international organizations and enhance the capacity of governments through knowledge transfer and urban policy dialogue.

IV. Budget

- 4.1 The total cost of this operation has been estimated at US\$150,000, and will be financed by the Bank on a non-reimbursable basis.

Table 1. Indicative Budget (US\$)

Activity/Component	Description	IDB Funding	Total Funding
Component 1. Institutional Support for Urban Analysis	Institutional Support for Urban Analysis (SDG urban target tracking system, two consultants, and urban research strategy)	60,000	60,000
Component 2. Participation in Habitat III Preparatory Processes	Participation in Habitat III Preparation (support for National Urban Forum and participation of Ecuador experts in Policy Units for Habitat III outcome document)	90,000	90,000
Total		150,000	150,000

- 4.2 The Bank will finance individual consultants and the seminars (including participants' transport and lodging costs). The TC will cover the costs of the publications described.

V. Executing agency and execution structure

- 5.1 The Bank through IFD/FMM will be responsible for the execution of this TC. The procurement of firm consulting services will be carried out in accordance with the Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants Financed by the Inter-American Development Bank (GN-2350-9).

VI. Project Risks and issues

- 6.1 A potential risk for this TC is the possibility that national governments, especially small and vulnerable countries, do not prioritize the implementation of urban SDGs or participate in Habitat III. To mitigate this risk, the TC team will place special focus on ensuring continuous medium-term presence in the Habitat III preparatory events and will ensure that country commitments from the New Urban Agenda are reflected in country and sectoral strategies in the long-term.

VII. Environmental and Social Classification

- 7.1 Given the involvement of this TC in institutional strengthening and policy dialogue, negative environmental and social impacts are not foreseen. Consequently, this TC is estimated as Category "C".

⁶ National Urban Forums are one of the main elements of the Habitat III country engagement and were recommended to the Secretary General of Habitat III by member states ([GC24/5](#)) to strengthen participation.