

## TC ABSTRACT

### I. Basic project data

▪ Country/Region:	The Bahamas
▪ TC Name:	Feasibility studies for a climate risk-resilient coastal zone management investment program
▪ TC Number:	BH-T1029
▪ Team Leader/Members:	Team Leader: Cassandra Rogers (RND/CBA); Alternate Team Leader: Michele Lemay (INE/RND); Members: Maria Claudia Perazza, Lisa Restrepo (INE/RND); Duncan Gromko (SCF/SMU); Gerard Alleng (INE/CCS); Roy Parahoo (FMP/CBA); Mario Castenada (FMP/CES); Syreta Roberts (CCB/CBH).
▪ Indicate if: Operational Support, Client Support, or Research & Dissemination.	Operational Support
▪ If Operational Support TC, give number and name of Operation Supported by the TC:	Number is pending 2014 programming mission
▪ Reference to Request: (IDB docs #)	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	October 15, 2013
▪ Beneficiary:	Government of The Bahamas
▪ Executing Agency and contact name	Ministry of Environment and Housing
▪ IDB Funding Requested:	US\$650,000
▪ Local counterpart funding, if any:	US\$162,000
▪ Disbursement period (which includes execution period):	18 months
▪ Required start date:	January 2014
▪ Types of consultants (firm or individual consultants):	Firms and individual consultants
▪ Prepared by Unit:	INE/RND
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	UBH
▪ Included in Country Strategy (y/n):	Y
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	Y
▪ GCI-9 Sector Priority:	(i) Supporting development in small and vulnerable countries; and (ii) climate change, sustainable (including renewable) energy, and environmental sustainability

### II. Objective and Justification

2.1 The general objective of the technical cooperation (TC) is to strengthen capacity for the phased establishment of a climate risk-resilient Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Program for The Bahamas. The specific objectives of the technical cooperation are to: (a) support existing initiatives that could contribute to a national ICZM policy framework; (b) build the foundational capacity for developing and implementing an investment program

in ICZM; and (c) provide designs and feasibility analyses for the investment program for consideration for financing. The investment program to be designed through the technical cooperation would be aimed at optimizing the contribution of the coastal zone to national sustainable economic development and building resilience to coastal hazards including the impacts of climate change through ICZM. The implementation of a risk-based ICZM approach will also assist the country in meeting the development target of 20% conservation of the nearshore environment by 2020.

- 2.2 The Government of The Bahamas (GOBH) has made several advances towards climate risk-resilient ICZM which make this TC and the investment program it aims to develop a timely initiative in its shift towards a sustainable economy. These advances include, for example, planning legislation approved in 2010 (Planning and Subdivisions Act of 2010), which includes provision for land use planning, environmental management and the protection of natural resources for New Providence and the Family Islands, including the provision of infrastructure and services to the built environment that address the issues of the coastal zone vulnerability and sensitivity to habitat protection, and the establishment of a Town Planning Committee to support same; and the Bahamas National Geographic Information Systems Centre as the national focal point for technical management, training and clearing house of geospatial data. In addition, in responding to the threat of climate change, the National Climate Change Committee, a multi-sectoral group of key public and private sector agencies and non-governmental organizations formed as a sub-committee under the Bahamas Environment, Science and Technology (BEST) Commission, has responsibility for coordinating the national response to climate change at the local, national, regional and international levels. The Ministry of Tourism and the National Coastal Awareness Committee are also implementing several related activities including public education and outreach awareness programs; and initial studies in storm surge modeling and in coastal and marine research and data collection have been completed. These recent developments complement several on-going activities including the BEST Commission and studies in coastal and marine research and data collection and hazard mapping and vulnerability assessments conducted by the Bahamas National Trust as well as private sector stakeholders that can all contribute to a solid foundation for a permanent ICZM Program.
- 2.3 The work to be undertaken through the TC will contribute to the design of an investment program that builds on best practice and lessons learned in ICZM in the Caribbean while simultaneously recognizing the unique characteristics of The Bahamas coastal zone, including its ecological diversity and the dispersed nature of the small island archipelago. As such the investment loan to be designed through the technical cooperation will combine: (i) sound science on assets, processes and risks in the coastal zone, including those associated with natural disasters and climate change; (ii) an effective governance structure involving key stakeholders; and (iii) investments that address specific relevant issues for sustainable coastal development in The Bahamas (such as erosion, flooding, conflicts between coastal uses, coastal public access and water quality), with innovative approaches.
- 2.4 The proposed TC will contribute to the following GCI-9 lending program priority targets: (i) supporting development in small and vulnerable countries (GN-2616-2); and (ii) climate change, sustainable (including renewable) energy, and environmental sustainability (iii) the IDB's Integrated Strategy for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation and Sustainable Renewable Energy (GN-2609-1) and its Action Plan (2012-2015 GN-2609-3), specifically its

strategic line to strengthen institutional capacity through the economic assessment of climate change vulnerabilities to the Region and benefits of alternative adaptation measures<sup>1</sup>. The technical cooperation is also aligned with the objectives of the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services program. The proposed TC is included in the 2013 Bahamas Country Programming Document.

### III. Description of activities

3.1 The proposed activities are described in the following table. Expected outputs and results are fully consistent with the IDB's Disaster Risk Management Policy, Climate Change Strategy and the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Program.

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	EXPECTED OUTPUTS	EXPECTED RESULTS
<b>COMPONENT 1 : Support to Policy Framework and Institutional Sustainability for risk-resilient ICZM</b>			
<b>1.1</b> Policy support and analysis	(i) Technical analyses supporting the development of a Policy Framework and providing the rationale and justification for ICZM in The Bahamas including: (a) economic analysis of the contribution of the coastal zone to the national economy and the sustainable development of potential growth poles, including coastal ecosystem services mapping and assessment;(b) inventory of critical coastal protection infrastructure (existing and proposed); (c) identification of gaps for vulnerability and risk assessment; (d) analysis and selection of geographic priorities in the Family Islands; and (e) an assessment of the legal and regulatory framework for environmental management in the context of sustainable coastal development.	Technical reports	Strengthened coastal zone management and capacity to respond to coastal vulnerability including climate change
<b>1.2</b> Capacity building for ICZM	(i) Sensitisation and training on best practices and lessons learned in sustainable coastal development risk-resilient ICZM in the Caribbean; (ii) support for establishment of an execution unit for the investment program.	Capacity building workshops; operational support	
<b>1.3</b> Public awareness and consultation	(i) Surveys and focus groups to assess public awareness and understanding of ICZM opportunities and issues; (ii) public and private sector consultations for initiation of ICZM Policy Framework and action plan; (iii) multi-media campaigns.	Surveys; public and private sector consultations; multi-media campaigns	
<b>COMPONENT 2 : Design and feasibility analysis of risk-resilient ICZM investment program</b>			
<b>2.1</b> Design of baseline studies	(i) Identification of baseline information gaps (e.g., coastal and oceanographic processes, hazards, risk) and how to fill them cost-effectively; (ii) preparation of terms of reference for baseline studies; (iii) preliminary design of national integrated coastal information platform.		
<b>2.2</b> Feasibility analysis	(i) Identification of coastal infrastructure investment priorities; (ii) preparation of designs for pilot investments; and (iii) feasibility analysis of investments (socioeconomic, environmental, institutional).		

<sup>1</sup> <http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getDocument.aspx?DOCNUM=36938123>

#### IV. Budget

4.1 The total budget for this technical cooperation has been estimated in US\$812,000 as shown in the following table.

<b>Indicative Budget</b>				
<b>Activity/Component</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>IDB/Fund Funding US\$</b>	<b>Counterpart Funding (in kind)</b>	<b>Total Funding US\$</b>
<b>COMPONENT 1 : Support to Policy Framework and Institutional Sustainability for climate-resilient ICZM</b>				
<b>1.1</b>	Policy support and analysis	200,000	50,000	250,000
<b>1.2</b>	Capacity building for ICZM	75,000	50,000	125,000
<b>1.3</b>	Public awareness and consultation	75,000	2,000	77,000
<b>COMPONENT 2 : Design and feasibility analysis of climate-resilient ICZM investment program</b>				
<b>2.1</b>	Design of baseline studies	50,000	30,000	80,000
<b>2.2</b>	Feasibility analysis	250,000	30,000	280,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>650,000</b>	<b>162,000</b>	<b>812,000</b>

#### V. Executing agency and execution structure

5.1 The IDB will execute the TC at the request of the Government of The Bahamas and will be responsible for the administration of the procurement of the consulting services.

#### VI. Project Risks and issues

6.1 The establishment of a climate-resilient ICZM program in The Bahamas involves an array of institutions responsible for planning and making decisions regarding investments in the coastal zone, information management, monitoring and enforcement. There is a risk of lack of institutional coordination in the articulation of the Policy Framework. However this risk will be largely mitigated by establishing a Technical Advisory Committee for the TC involving those institutions making decisions about the sustainable development of the coastal zone, maintaining them informed and seeking advice throughout the execution of the technical cooperation. The possibility of transforming the Technical Advisory Committee into a more formalized coordination structure for ICZM will be addressed during the course of execution.

#### VII. Environmental and Social Classification

7.1 It is not anticipated that the activities to be financed under this TC will have negative direct or indirect social or environmental effects. Therefore the project team considers that, according to the Bank's Safeguards Screening Toolkit, this operation should be given a classification of [Category "C"](#) because: (i) there are no environmental or social risks; (ii) and there is direct contribution to solve environmental issues.