

TC ABSTRACT

I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	JAMAICA/CCB - Caribbean Group
▪ TC Name:	Implementation of the ConnectJA application to support diaspora outreach
▪ TC Number:	JA-T1230
▪ Team Leader/Members:	SAIZ, ANA MARIA (SCL/MIG) Team Leader; HARRIS, JEREMY TYLER (SCL/MIG) Alternate Team Leader; SAMUELS, ROCHELLE KAYE (CCB/CJA); SHELLYANNE LUTAS (CCB/CJA); SOBRAL DE ELIA, MARIANA (SCL/MIG); JIMENEZ MOSQUERA, JAVIER I. (LEG/SGO); ADELA DAVALOS (SCL/MIG)
▪ Taxonomy:	Client Support
▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC:	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	15 May 2024
▪ Beneficiary:	Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade (MFAFT)
▪ Executing Agency:	INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
▪ IDB funding requested:	US\$50,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding:	US\$0.00
▪ Disbursement period:	12 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Individuals; Firms
▪ Prepared by Unit:	SCL/MIG - Migration Unit
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	SCL/MIG - Migration Unit
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):	No
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	No
▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020:	Productivity and innovation

II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 2.1 The objective of this Technical Cooperation (TC) is to support the efforts of the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade (MFAFT) in the launch of the ConnectJA mobile application to connect with the Jamaican diaspora. By achieving this, the TC will provide the government agencies with a channel to communicate with Jamaicans living abroad regarding government services available to them and opportunities to engage with ongoing development projects in the country. The app will be formally launched at Jamaica's biennial Diaspora Conference in mid-2024.
- 2.2 The Jamaican diaspora plays a significant role in the country's economy, both through financial and non-financial contributions. Remittances sent by Jamaicans living abroad contribute substantially to the country's foreign exchange reserves, household income, and overall economic stability. According to available data, remittances to Jamaica have grown steadily since 2018. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, remittances grew 20,8% in 2020 and 20,4 % in 2021. Remittances decreased 0,4% in 2023, reaching a total of US\$ 3.558 million dollars, which represents 20,6% of the country's GDP.

III. Description of Activities and Outputs

- 3.1 **Component I: Data Processing and loading in ConnectJA.** This component will support the data capture process to complete the information in the system, including connections with Jamaican consulates and honorary consuls around the world, Jamaican Diaspora Organizations (JDOs), services provided to Jamaicans abroad and to Jamaicans considering return, and relevant aspects of Jamaica's Vision 2030 development goals.
- 3.2 **Component II: Technical support and training.** fund training sessions for the consulting firm to transfer knowledge of the system administration tools to officials of the PIOJ and MFAFT and partners in the JDOs that will be maintaining and updating the data in the application
- 3.3 **Component III: Deployment and dissemination of ConnectJA.** The TC will support the PIOJ and MFAFT to publicize the application and leverage ongoing activities, including the Diaspora Conference as well as other events with JDOs to build the user base

IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
Data Processing and loading in ConnectJA	US\$25,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$25,000.00
Technical support and training	US\$10,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$10,000.00
Deployment and dissemination of ConnectJA	US\$15,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$15,000.00
Total	US\$50,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$50,000.00

V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

- 5.1 The Bank will execute this TC through the Migration Unit (SCL/MIG). MIG has been working with The Ministry of Finance and the Public Service (MOFPS) and has been advised that the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) and the Jamaican Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade (MFAFT) have commenced the development of an application and a portal to communicate with the Jamaican diaspora. Continuous dialogue with PIOJ and the MFAFT will inform the activities to be carried out. Specifically, the Bank will coordinate the planning and execution of activities with these two institutions.
- 5.2 The Bank has the knowledge of the 26 countries of the Region and, therefore, is in the best position to fulfill the functions. In addition, and as mentioned above the Bank is already supporting the country with the development of the application and portal, which reinforces this TC's importance. Having the Bank as executor will ensure that lessons learned are shared and used in Jamaica and other countries. The team leader will monitor the progress of the execution through the output and results indicators included in the Results Matrix. The project team will be responsible for the preparation and submission to the donor of the project reporting in compliance with the stipulations of the Administration Agreement and with the requirements of the TC Monitoring and Reporting System (TCM) (OP-1385-4).

VI. Project Risks and Issues

- 6.1 The risks associated with TC implementation are low. If there are technical difficulties, the TC provides the funding and expertise to respond to relevant issues. There is a risk that the app does not receive a strong response or usage, but risk will be reduced

through a robust outreach program and partnering with relevant diaspora community stakeholders.

VII. Environmental and Social Aspects

- 7.1 This TC does not have applicable requirements of the Bank's Environmental and Social Policy Framework (ESPF).