

TECHNICAL COOPERATION ABSTRACT (TC-ABSTRACT)

REGIONAL

I. BACKGROUND

| | |
|---|---|
| Country/Region: | Regional |
| Name: | Visualization Platform for the Broadband Development Index (IDBA) and its Associated Reports |
| TC Number: | RG-T2336 |
| Team Leader/Members: | Antonio García Zaballos (IFD/ICS) Team leader; Nathalia Foditsch (IFD/ICS); Felix Gonzalez (IFD/ICS); Enrique Iglesias (IFD/ICS); y Cecilia Bernedo (IFD/ICS) |
| Type of Technical Cooperation: | Research and Dissemination (RD) |
| Date of TC Abstract: | March, 2014 |
| Beneficiary: | Latin America and Caribe (LAC) |
| Executing Agency and contact name: | Institutional Capacity of the State Division (IFD/ICS), Antonio García Zaballos |
| IDB Funding Requested: | US\$400.000 |
| Financing Plan: | IDB: US\$400.000 Local: US\$ <u>0</u> Total: US\$400.000 |
| Disbursement period: | 36 months |
| Required start date: | April, 2014 |
| Type of consultants: | Firm |
| Prepared by Unit: | IFD/ICS |
| Technical Unit: | IFD/ICS |
| Unit of Disbursement | IFD/ICS |
| Responsibility: | |
| Included in country strategy: | N/A. Regional Project. |
| Included in CPD: | Yes [] No [X] |
| GCI-9 Sector Priority: | Yes [X] Institutional Strengthening No [] |

II. OBJECTIVE AND JUSTIFICATION

- 2.1 Justification. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has recently developed the “Índice de Desarrollo de la Banda Ancha” IDBA, a socioeconomic index that takes a holistic approach to measuring the degree of broadband development with a special focus in the LAC region. The analysis is articulated around four main pillars that map the different elements of the ecosystem:

- (i) public policy and strategic vision, (ii) strategic regulation (iii), infrastructure, and (iv) applications and capacity. Each of the pillars is a sub-index constructed from the set of variables (28 variables in total) that were selected according to their relevance to the pillar system and for the degree to which the data was easily available.
- 2.2 The IDBA offers a holistic approach to assess the status quo of the broadband ecosystem in the LAC region and, more importantly, to identify areas where further effort is needed. Any policymaker, government, or international organization can use the IDBA to identify areas for improvement as well as to find examples of countries within and outside the region that can be used as a model for those who are in an earlier phase of broadband development.
- 2.3 Currently the IDBA is calculated in an Excel tool, a dashboard, where given certain input variables, the platform calculates the outputs providing also several reports that allow the comparison among countries, clusters and value rankings, for example: The IDBA is calculated by means of the aggregation of 63 variables aggregated around four pillars: Public Policies and Strategic Vision, Strategic Regulation, Infrastructure and Applications and Capacity. Plus, the IDBA allows the comparison between a given country and its region. Additionally, it's possible to match the pursued results with the variables and indicators present in the index. Thus, it's possible to generate more dynamic reports, i.e. allow more options for their visualization and publish periodic information for each one of the IDB clusters (Andean Countries, Southern Cone, Central America and Caribe) and their countries.
- 2.4 The IDBA provides a global vision of the region's situation around the aforementioned pillars and is complemented with two unique products that provide deeper insight. To study the status of infrastructure (offer), the Bank has developed infrastructure maps that contain, for every municipality in the 26 IDB borrowing countries, the status of telecommunications infrastructure but also from other utilities such as electricity, water, roads or gas. To address the adoption and use issue (demand), the Bank is working on a public policies toolkit for the region, that even though will also take into account the infrastructure aspect, its focus will be around recommendations on public policies to foster broadband adoption and use.
- 2.5 These three knowledge products will integrate into a single web platform that will allow their visualization. This platform, which is being developed in a joint effort between KNL and the broadband team, will be launched on the 2014s Korean Week in May. The platform aims to be an online meeting point where governments, academia, private sector and the Bank, among others, can take advantage of the information and knowledge developed that will be available for everyone. Plus, the platform will provide the governments and the Bank with the needed tools to identify and prioritize the actions that will maximize broadband development.

- 2.6 **Objectives.** The main objective of this Technical Cooperation is to undertake the needed improvements on the platform as well as update the information present in the IDBA, the infrastructure maps and their corresponding reports.
- 2.7 **Expected results.** As a result of this Technical Cooperation, the governments' capacities will be strengthened. Specifically, those related to public policies and regulation aimed to foster broadband access, adoption and use. Additionally, it is expected that the platform increases the governments' awareness regarding broadband importance, provides better accessibility to governments' services, stimulates employment creation and boosts productivity both in private and public sectors. Finally, the continuity of both the web platform developed and its elements (mainly the IDBA and the infrastructure maps) will be granted for 3 years.

III. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET

- 3.1 This technical cooperation includes the following components: i) the development of the necessary additional functionality and maintenance for the platform; ii) update of the Broadband Development Index (IDBA) and its reports for a 3 years period; iii) update of the infrastructure maps and its reports for a 3 years period; iv) dissemination of the platform and its contents, as described below:
- 3.2 **Component 1 – Update of the platform and maintenance.** This component will finance the necessary updates on the platform, including the update of the visual platform that shows the IDBA, the update of the infrastructure maps web part or the upload of content regarding the broadband toolkit. It is also foreseen to finance the platform maintenance to respond to possible eventualities (e.g. the need for scaling).
- 3.3 **Component 2 – Update of the Broadband Development Index (IDBA) and its reports.** This component foresees the update of the IDBA and the generation of its 4 quarterly reports and one annual report. Regarding the IDBA, it will be financed the data gathering to update the current variables as well as possible changes that had to be done to improve the IDBA's structure. The aforementioned five reports aim to analyze IDBA data to generate a diagnostic that will provide insights about how to foster broadband access, adoption and use. Each of the 4 quarterly reports will focus on one of the 4 sub-regions defined by the IDB whilst the annual report will analyze the region under a global perspective.
- 3.4 **Component 3 – Update of the infrastructure maps and its reports.** This component foresees the update of the infrastructure maps given the rapid evolution of technology, and thus, of the reports associates (each country has a report based on the findings arisen from the infrastructure maps).

- 3.5 **Component 4 – Dissemination.** This component will finance the activities regarding the dissemination of the platform and its contents including the IDBA and map infrastructure reports.

IV. Indicative Budget

| Activity | Description | IDB/Fund Funding (US\$) | Total Funding (US\$) |
|-----------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Component 1 | Update of the platform and maintenance | 75,000 | 75,000 |
| Component 2 | Update of the Broadband Development Index (IDBA) and its reports | 100,000 | 100,000 |
| Component 3 | Update of the infrastructure maps and its reports | 175,000 | 175,000 |
| Component 4 | Dissemination | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| Total | | 400,000 | 400,000 |

V. EXECUTING AGENCY AND EXECUTION STRUCTURE

- 5.1 The Bank’s Institutional Capacity of the State Division (IFD/ICS) will be in charge of execution and will contribute the team members’ time and knowledge acquired in similar precedent operations. In that respect, the team members have led the design and development of the IDBA, the reports and infrastructure maps and have been deeply involved in the design of the platform and its features. As a result they have the technical and functional knowledge and criteria to decide the necessary updates to the platform the knowledge products and the reports. Finally, they also are responsible for producing the new content that will be part of the platform.

VI. PROJECT RISKS AND ISSUES

- 6.1 The main identified risk is related with the availability of information to update both the IDBA and the infrastructure maps. To mitigate it, the work already developed will be taken into account and also the relationships with the main telecommunications stakeholders both in the IDB countries and internationally.

VII. EXCEPTIONS TO BANK’S POLICY

- 7.1 There are no exceptions to Bank’s Policy expected.

VIII. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL CLASSIFICATION

- 8.1 Due to the nature of this TC, there are no expected environmental and social risks associated with the implementation of the project. The operation was classified as Category “C”, according to the Bank’s classification toolkit (follow link: [IDBDocs#37840752](#)).