TC ABSTRACT

I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	BRAZIL/CSC - Southern Cone
▪ TC Name:	Innovation and Digital Health to improve health in the Amazon region
▪ TC Number:	BR-T1562
▪ Team Leader/Members:	NELSON, JENNIFER A (SCL/SPH) Team Leader; GOES SHIBATA, LEONARDO (SCL/SPH) Alternate Team Leader; ROCHA, MARCIA GOMES (SCL/SPH); PABLO JOSE OREFICE (SCL/SPH); BUSCARONS CUESTA, LUIS (SCL/SPH); CASCO, MARIO A. (ITE/IPS); AVILA, KRYSIA A (LEG/SGO); GUERRA, MARTHA M. (SCL/SPH); DE AZEVEDO, EDUARDO HENRIQUE (KIC/ICD); PATELLI JULIANI BOSCARIOL, IVAN (KIC/ICD); GABRIEL CATAN (LAB/INV)
▪ Taxonomy:	Client Support
▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC:	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	26 Jul 2023
▪ Beneficiary:	Ministry of Health
▪ Executing Agency:	INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
▪ IDB funding requested:	US$315,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding:	US$0.00
▪ Disbursement period:	36 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Individuals; Firms
▪ Prepared by Unit:	SCL/SPH - Social Protection & Health
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	CSC/CBR - Country Office Brazil
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n): ▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	No No
▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020:	Social inclusion and equality; Institutional capacity and rule of law; Diversity

II. Objective and Justification

2.1 Support the design of strategic digital health initiatives in Brazil.

2.2 The Amazon Region, despite covering almost 60% of the Brazilian territory, is home to only 13% of the country's population. This region is characterized by a low population density, with communities located at great distances from urban centers, facing considerable accessibility challenges. In addition, the region faces poor social and health indicators. Aggravating the situation, there is a notable shortage of health professionals in the region. Digital Health provides an opportunity to address the challenges of access and availability of health professionals in the Amazon Region. In locations with a significant deficit of health professionals - including primary care physicians or specialists - Telehealth is a viable alternative to provide these services. However, the unique context of the Amazon Region demands an adaptation of the Telehealth strategies applied in large urban centers. There is a need for a cultural adaptation of procedures, with the aim of ensuring patient-centered care adapted to regional specificities. There are already ongoing initiatives to provide telehealth services to the population of the Amazon Region, including indigenous peoples. However, none of these attempts has been consolidated as a public policy to date. In order to plan the expansion of these services, the Ministry of Health is in the process of evaluating the available alternatives. Digital Health provides an opportunity to address the challenges of access and availability of health professionals in the Amazon Region. In locations with a significant deficit of health professionals - including

primary care physicians or specialists - Telehealth is a viable alternative to provide these services. However, the unique context of the Amazon Region demands an adaptation of the Telehealth strategies applied in large urban centers. There is a need for a cultural adaptation of procedures, with the aim of ensuring patient-centered care adapted to regional specificities. There are already ongoing initiatives to provide telehealth services to the population of the Amazon Region, including indigenous peoples. However, none of these attempts has been consolidated as a public policy to date. In order to plan the expansion of these services, the Ministry of Health is in the process of evaluating the available alternatives.

III. Description of Activities and Outputs

3.1 **Component I: Support for the design of the SEIDIGI Digital Health Innovation Laboratory.** This component will finance consultancies in addition to workshops and visits for knowledge exchange of best practices to support the design of the SEIDIGI Digital Health Innovation Laboratory.

3.2 **Component II: Design of telehealth services for different models of care in the Amazon for the indigenous populations.** This component will finance consultancies to conduct a landscape analysis of current digital health services available to the Amazon population. This will include both qualitative and quantitative analyses of the existing infrastructure, systems, and perceptions of users and providers.

IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
Component I: Support for the design of the SEIDIGI Digital Health Innovation Laboratory.	US$165,000.00	US$0.00	US$165,000.00
Component II: Design of telehealth services for different models of care in the Amazon for the indigenous populations.	US$150,000.00	US$0.00	US$150,000.00
Total	**US$315,000.00**	**US$0.00**	**US$315,000.00**

V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

5.1 The Bank will be the executing agency of this TC given the Bank's technical and administrative capacity, providing agility in the execution process.

5.2 As requested by Ministry of Health, the Bank will be the executing agency of this TC given the Bank's technical and administrative capacity, providing agility in the execution process. The Bank has extensive experience and technical expertise in the areas to be addressed in this TC, particularly in Digital Health and Innovation.

VI. Project Risks and Issues

6.1 Two potential risks were identified: (i) tools and services developed may not generate adequate ownership at country level. As a mitigation measure, counterparts and collaborators will be involved in the design and testing of any tool and service, paying special attention to incorporating their input into the design; and (ii) lack of coordination between departments within the Ministry of Health and with subnational governments. As a mitigation measure, regular meetings between project stakeholders will be conducted to review the implementation plan, discuss technical aspects related to the interventions, ensure decision-making quality, and identify - and mitigate - possible challenges related to implementation.

VII. Environmental and Social Classification

7.1 The ESG classification for this operation is "undefined".