

TC ABSTRACT

I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	EL SALVADOR/CID - Isthmus & DR
▪ TC Name:	Support the preparation and execution of the Smart and Comprehensive Health Program (ES-L1160)
▪ TC Number:	ES-T1363
▪ Team Leader/Members:	ASTORGA, IGNACIO JOSE (SCL/SPH) Team Leader; SANCHEZ, MARIA DENI (SCL/SPH) Alternate Team Leader; MUNGUIA ALDANA, KAREN ELAY (CID/CES); TORIZ MONROY, MIRIAM PATRICIA (VPC/FMP); NELSON, JENNIFER A (SCL/SPH); PABLO JOSE OREFICE (SCL/SPH); DALAISON BOICHUK, WILHELM IVAN (INE/INE); LANDAZURI-LEVEY, MARIA C. (LEG/SGO); ADAM FRESNO, ALVARO (VPS/ESG); SILVEIRA, SHEYLA (SCL/SPH); CARPIZO RIVA PALACIO, CARLOS IGNACIO (VPC/FMP); ORTIZ RAMIREZ TANIA RUTH (CID/CES); LAGOS DIAZ GRACE ELENA (INE/INE); DELFS ILIEVA ISABEL (SCL/SPH); CASCO, MARIO A. (ITE/IPS); MENDEZ FLORENCIA MAGDALENA (SCL/SPH)
▪ Taxonomy:	Operational Support
▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC:	Smart and Comprehensive Health Program - ES-L1160
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	14 Dec 2023
▪ Beneficiary:	Ministry of Health of El Salvador
▪ Executing Agency:	INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
▪ IDB funding requested:	US\$800,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding:	US\$0.00
▪ Disbursement period:	24 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Individuals
▪ Prepared by Unit:	SCL/SPH - Social Protection & Health
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	CID/CES - Country Office El Salvador
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):	Yes
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	Yes
▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020:	Social inclusion and equality; Environmental sustainability; Gender equality

II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 This TC will support the preparation of the Smart and Integral Health Program, with the objective to improve the populations health by strengthening hospital infrastructure and equipment; digital health services; increasing the coverage of the emergency services and improving the operational efficiency of the public system.
- 2.2 **Resilience and sustainability:** Every year, the region loses social infrastructure capital due to disasters caused by extreme climate. El Salvador does not scape of this reality and is a very vulnerable country to climate change and natural disasters. The Ministry of Health (MINSAL) has 31 hospitals and 490 primary care centers. 30% of the hospitals have more than 50 years of construction, and 22% of the primary care centers need to be rebuilt. These facilities are vulnerable to climate change conditions and have recurrent interruption of the services due to floodings and electrical malfunction. The MINSAL has the objective to improve the resilience against natural disaster (to assure the continuity of services) of the whole hospital network and key

primary care centers, and additionally to strengthen the organization of the multi-hazard response against natural and sanitary risks. In this context the TC will help the country to validate a methodology to identify and prioritize key intervention to assure the resiliency and emergency response. To improve the sustainability of the health system, the MINSAL has identify that the centralization of some support services including laboratory, blood bank and hospital laundry can increase the efficiency, reducing capital and operations costs (CAPEX+OPEX) in a range in a range of 20% - 40%. This model will replace the atomized provision model where for example each hospital has its own laundry.

- 2.3 **Digital Health:** El Salvador has made significant efforts to have a solid and sustainable health information system. The MINSAL has connected all primary health care centers to the Integrated Health Information System (SIS) and with support from the IDB, have created a digital health transformation agenda and roadmap, outlining their vision and targets from 2021-2025. Key milestones include having an integrated and interoperable system that improves priority health outcomes for the country, including non-communicable diseases. Diabetes is the chronic disease with the greatest burden of disability for the adult population in El Salvador and the one that generates the greatest demand on the health system and significant costs for the health sector and economic productivity, representing a challenge for the Global Health and Universal Health Coverage. Digital solutions designed to encourage behavioral change towards the adoption of healthy lifestyles have shown efficacy in the prevention of diabetes, are cost effective, and have been included by the World Health Organization (WHO) in the set of recommended interventions to address this disease. Additionally, the implementation of the new network management model will require new organizational and governance arrangements, indispensable for the sustainability of the innovations, given that the current MINSAL organization didn't include these services. Finally, the expansion of the digital services will require the broad adoption of institutions, health professionals and citizens, this is a key element that need to be assessed in a permanent way.

III. Description of Activities and Outputs

- 3.1 **Component 1: Infrastructure investment to improve the healthcare resiliency and efficiency.** this component will finance (i) the preparation of resilience investment portfolio including 13 primary care centers and 5 hospitals; (ii) the conceptual design of four Medical Emergency System (SEM) Bases, Metropolitan hospital laundry and Hypocenter, and (iii) three regional laboratories and two workshops in climate change and health, and healthcare management.
- 3.2 **Component 2: Consolidation and expansion of strategic digital health investments.** This component will finance (i) the preparation Minimal Viable Product-MVP for prediabetes prevention; (ii) the organization model of the Integrated Health Network (RIIS) unit; (iii) a survey to assess the adoption and use of ICTs in the health sector, from the point of view of institutions, health professionals and citizens; and (iv) the development of the business and technical architecture of the updated SIS.

IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/ Total Fund Funding
Component 1: Infrastructure investment to improve the healthcare resiliency and efficiency	US\$365,000.00
Component 2: Consolidation and expansion of strategic digital health investments	US\$435,000.00
Total	US\$800,000.00

V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

- 5.1 Based on a request from the GOES (Government of El Salvador), the executing agency of this TC will be the IDB, through Social Protection and health Division (SCL/SPH). IDB team includes experts in digital health and health infrastructure that will supervise the consultancies.
- 5.2 The Bank will be executing this TC given the high level of complexity and technical expertise required to prepare the terms of reference of the studies and assessments involved, as well as to supervise their implementation. SCL/SPH has the capacity and technical expertise required to carry out these processes. Additionally, the hiring of international consultants may be required, for which the IDB hiring process is more agile, reducing the risk of delays in execution.

VI. Project Risks and Issues

- 6.1 For the TC to achieve its objectives, the main risks are related with coordination among administrative and technical departments within the MINSAL as well as other key stakeholders, such as the Innovation Secretary, in charge of expanding digital services in the country. Insufficient levels of coordination could lead to delays in execution as well as sub-optimal decisions. To mitigate these risks, operation ES-L1160 will promote regular meetings amongst project's stakeholders to review the operation's implementation plan, to discuss technical aspects related to the interventions, to ensure the quality of decisions, and to identify – and mitigate – any potential execution-related challenges. Given that the digital service for pre-diabetes is an innovative solution, delays in design and deployment may occur, effecting the ability to properly evaluate the solution. This risk will be mitigated through close supervision and use of agile methodologies during design and implementation of the solution.

VII. Environmental and Social Aspects

- 7.1 This Technical Cooperation is intended to finance pre-feasibility or feasibility studies of specific investment projects and the environmental and social studies associated with them; therefore, the terms of reference and products of this TC will be consistent with the applicable requirements of the Bank's Environmental and Social Policy Framework (ESPF).