

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Contracting of a consulting firm to develop the Marcos Canul Neighborhood integral urban development plan in Orange Walk Town

Belize
BL-T1168-001

BL-T1168

[Web link to approved document]

Support to the Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program BL-L1046

1. Background and Justification

1.1 **Context.** The population in Belize is growing fast, showing one of the highest annual growth rates in the region (1.52%)¹. The country's two city and seven town councils, responsible for urban regulation, construction permits, and local urban services, do not have adequate tools and capacities to lead a holistic, sustainable² development. These municipalities face specific interconnected challenges, such as improving the provision of urban services, local economic diversity, and community integration while also seeking to increase their resilience and capabilities across the board to manage growth effectively.

1.2 Unplanned urban growth and inadequate management have aggravated the deficit in providing urban services (Table 1). For example, only 10% of the streets in these three cities have stormwater drains, leading to frequent floods during heavy rain episodes. Similarly, lacking quality public spaces, such as green areas, limits social interactions and integration. Naturally, these deficits are more noticeable in vulnerable areas³, where many poor and displaced families live.

Table 1. Selected Urban Services Indicators per Municipality

Indicator	Orange Walk ^(a)	Corozal ^(b)	San Pedro ^(c)	Belize City
Paved roads (district)	11,7% ^(d)	7,7% ^(d)	8%	42,3% ^(d)
Drinking water ^(e)	87.6%	81.4%	83%	90% ^(f)
Sewer System	0% (94,5% septic tanks)	0%	20%	35% ^(f)
Drainage ^(g)	76% (15% concrete)	n/a	5.3% concrete	n/a
Public spaces	3.96 sq mt/ inhabitant	n/a	4.05 sq mt / inhabitant	n/a

¹ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs: “Why population growth matters for sustainable development”; February 2022.

² In this document, the term “sustainable” is used in its broad sense, including environmental, social, urban, and economic/financial aspects.

³ In San Mateo, a vulnerable neighborhood of San Pedro with 2,329 inhabitants, there is no coverage of paved roads, sidewalks, sewage, stormwater drainage, bike lanes, street vegetation, nor public spaces (IDOM; 2023).

Indicator	Orange Walk ^(a)	Corozal ^(b)	San Pedro ^(c)	Belize City
Qualified green areas ^(h)	n/a	n/a	0.8 sq mt / inhabitant	3.8 sq mt/ inhabitant ^(f)
Bike Lanes	0 km	0 km	0 km	0 km

- (a) Investment and Organizational Development Plan for Orange Walk (Economía Urbana; 2023).
- (b) Corozal Town Municipal Development Plan (MDP; 2013).
- (c) IDOM 2023.
- (d) [Annual technical report of the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing \(2021\)](#). Respectively, Gravel roads are 56.8%; 84.4% and 89.5%; and earth roads 0.8%; 3.9 and 2.8%.
- (e) Public or private piped into dwelling or yard (District's totals); 2010 Census.
- (f) [Department of Environment - Belize](#).
- (g) Permeable and impermeable drainage systems. Concrete drains such as half round drains, underdrains, catch pits, precast concrete trap drains, and V-shape block drains.
- (h) The World Health Organization recommended the availability of a minimum of 9 m² of green space per individual (Health Indicators of Sustainable Cities in the Context of the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development. WHO; Geneva, Switzerland: 2012).

- 1.3 In 2022, intra-regional migrants comprised approximately 12% of Belize's population.⁴ In recent years, population growth has been explained mainly through migration factors: between 2019 and 2022, the population grew by 2.8%, primarily due to immigration.⁵ Since migrants are predominantly settling in precarious areas, this rapid influx intensifies the challenges in urban services provision, placing a strain on Belize's infrastructure.⁶ In the vulnerable San Mateo (San Pedro) neighborhood, 17% of the population is foreign-born. They mainly migrated for economic reasons, but language barriers limit their access to skills development, employment, and social networks.
- 1.4 Additionally, while women represent about 51% of all migrants (SIB, 2021), Belize registered one of the lowest gender parity scores of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) in 2023 (0.696).⁷ Even though women have higher levels of education than men, their labor-market participation, employment levels, and wages are lower than men's (IDB, 2020). Across the LAC region, public infrastructure poses many accessibility challenges for people with disabilities.⁸ In Belize, the current legal framework lacks robust regulations ensuring infrastructure designs adhere to universal accessibility standards, thereby denying people with disabilities access to crucial services.⁹
- 1.5 In addition to physical and social elements, urban sustainability is also compromised by economic factors. The local economy's dependence on a single source of income threatens economic performance and sustainable growth. 85% of the population in Corozal and Orange Walk (OW) depends on the sugar sector.¹⁰ Tourism holds a great promise to help diversify the economy of these small towns. Still, the lack of incentives to attract private investments and adequate infrastructure to improve the commercialization of traditional products and services is why both districts receive just 4% of the national tourists' visits. To enhance the competitiveness of the

⁴ IDB Calculation based on data from the Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB).

⁵ The percentage increase represents the change in the share of immigrant stocks for the period 2019-2022. IDB calculation based on data from the SIB.

⁶ Even though there is an information gap about migrants' access to basic services, surveys conducted by CID-Gallup in 2010, point out that access to water services by migrants is about 64%, significantly lower than the national average.

⁷ Global Gender Gap Report, World Economic Forum (WEF), 2023.

⁸ [Breaking Barriers, WB, 2021](#)

⁹ ["Marco legal de los derechos de las personas con discapacidad: América Latina y El Caribe", Bregaglio, IDB 2021.](#)

¹⁰ The sector is estimated to account for about 4–5% of total GDP and 8% of total employment. (Can Belize cope with the new world sugar market? IMF 2016).

tourism sector, Belize needs not only better urban planning, land use regulation, and access to urban services but also to improve the availability and quality of Belizean-made handicrafts and the commercialization of traditional products and to deeper integrate local communities and artisans into the tourism value chain.¹¹ In OW, for example, local vendors in the public market carry out their activities in poor conditions, exposed to the sun and rain, without solid flooring, drinking water, or safe electricity.¹²

- 1.6 Across these challenges, Belize faces significant climate change risks, including hurricanes, flooding, rising sea levels, coastal erosion, coral bleaching, and droughts¹³, alongside extreme temperature events.¹⁴ Corozal Town, located in the low-lying Corozal district, is highly flood-prone, with ongoing coastal erosion threatening its sea wall integrity (MDP, 2013). Climate change exacerbates impacts of coastal hazards, such as erosion and flooding, on property, infrastructure, and communities.¹⁵ Orange Walk, situated between wetlands and the New River, experiences annual floods affecting over 100 families.¹⁶ Ambergris Caye is susceptible to hurricanes, floods, and other disasters.¹⁷ While 58.2% of the Caye is affected by flood-prone areas, the main risks identified are storm surge, strong winds, and coastal erosion (IDOM, 2023). While the National Government handles disaster preparedness and response, municipalities are critical in bolstering resilience through green infrastructure, sustainable planning, and proactive measures.
- 1.7 **Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program (BL-L1046 and BL-J0007)**. In line with the government plan to transform Belize into a more inclusive and sustainable country (Plan Belize MTDS 2022-2026) and by the objective of the Country Strategy 2022-2025 to achieve robust, inclusive, and sustainable growth, Belizean authorities seek assistance from the Bank to design and implement multisectoral and sustainable interventions to trigger the development of northern Belize, and to improve social sustainability by integrating vulnerable migrant populations and host communities. In response, the Bank recently approved the Operation “Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program” (BL-L1046 & BL-J0007). The specific objectives are (i) to improve access to selected urban services, (ii) to support local economic growth, and (iii) to facilitate the social and economic integration of vulnerable populations, such as migrants and women.
- 1.8 The program will be used as a pilot project to learn from its implementation and be able to replicate promising practices in future interventions. Besides the mentioned development challenges, the three major towns of northern Belize also present the opportunity to learn from three different urban typologies (coastal, island, and inland) to improve future interventions in other urban areas of the country. Jointly work along with the Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government (MRTCDLLG) in charge of the strengthening of local authorities, will reinforce the catalytic purpose of this Program, generating capabilities to replicate activities across the Country with own or external resources. The Program will complement government’s current efforts to implement the MTDS in these three towns.
- 1.9 The program BL-1046 is structured into two components: (i) Institutional Strengthening for Sustainable Development, aiming to strengthen municipal and national capacities through (a) the elaboration of municipal institutional strengthening plans, municipal development plans,

¹¹ [Belize Tourism & Conservation Adaptation Plans and National Sustainable Tourism Master Plan for Belize 2030 \(NSTMP\)](#)

¹² OW Town Council information and field visits.

¹³ IDB Country Strategy 2022-2025.

¹⁴ [WB](#), 2023.

¹⁵ IDB BL-T1080 ([ATN/MD-15572-BL](#) and [ATN/OC-15573-BL](#)): Final Report “Bay Shoreline Management Plan: Planning for Climate Resilience” (2018).

¹⁶ Orange Walk Flood Mitigation Concept Note (Catalyst Solutions CG; 2022).

¹⁷ From 62 events that occurred in the past, 67% were hurricanes, 22% were floods, and the remaining 11% were epidemics and fires (DesInvetar Sendai developed by UNDRR; July 2023).

sustainable zoning plans with a gender approach and climate change considerations, coastal management plans, public-private collaboration plans, the implementation of digital tools for sustainable urban development, and specific activities to support the integration of migrants and their host communities; and (ii) Sustainable Urban Investments, with two types of interventions: (a) neighborhood upgrading projects in vulnerable communities; and (b) creating or upgrading public spaces and public facilities in prioritized areas in terms of the local economy or tourism attraction. Table 2 presents projects currently prioritized by the municipalities.

- 1.10 **Identified Investments:** Component II will finance sustainable urban services' investments such as (i) public spaces and municipal facilities (i.e., public markets, accommodations for local vendors, tourist centers, kindergartens, primary health care, and cultural centers)²¹ and (ii) the provision of essential urban infrastructure (water, sewage, drainage, efficient public lighting, improvement of existing municipal roads, sidewalks, bike lanes, among others). Interventions will be implemented in vulnerable²² neighborhoods and prioritized²³ urban areas.
- 1.11 **Integral Intervention in the Marcos Canul Neighborhood.** As part of the identified investments, the Marcos Canul Neighborhood located in the northwestern area of Orange Walk Town, was considered a strategic investment because of the social and environmental impact of an integral intervention such as the one proposed. The approximate area is 41.1 acres. Boundaries: North San Martin Street; East Yo Creek Street and Guinea Grass Street; South San Andres Street; and West undetermined.
- 1.12 In this context, the Housing and Urban Development Division (HUD) needs services from a consulting firm to develop the feasibility studies for the integral improvement of the Marcos Canul neighborhood, comprising technical designs for public space, roads, sidewalks, drainage systems, public lighting, and any other relevant infrastructure, aiming to improve the urban quality in the area. Technical studies should consider (i) Topographic survey and soil sampling; (ii) landscaping and architectural designs, identifying alternatives for nature based-solutions; (iii) roads and sidewalks' designs; (iv) drainage system designs; (v) Materials and resources and works' sustainability (quality assurance and control); (vi) Detailed budget and schedule of the works. Also, a stakeholders engagement strategy must be considered. The proposal must incorporate climate-responsive design features, such as green infrastructure, permeable surfaces, rainwater harvesting, and energy-efficient lighting and, whenever possible, integrate biodiversity enhancements, habitat restoration, and ecosystem services into design concepts.
- 1.13 Two alternatives must be presented, taking into account variations in materials, constructive solutions, and budget. Additionally, the proposals should consider factors of gender, diversity (including accessibility for people with disabilities) and the integration of migrant populations. These alternatives will be reviewed with the town council to develop a more detailed final design proposal.

2. **Objectives**

- 2.1. Aiming to improve the urban quality of the Marcos Canul Neighborhood, the objective of this consultancy is to develop detailed technical executive designs that include public spaces, roads, sidewalks, drainage systems, public lighting, and other related infrastructure. In addition, this assignment includes the precise quantification of materials and labor, an itemized budget with detailed cost estimates, a project schedule, and the preparation of draft bidding documents.

3. **Scope of Services**

- 3.1. The team will be responsible for:

- 3.1.1. Identify, gathering and categorize data and documents necessary for the designs.

- 3.1.2. Perform topographic survey, soil sampling and any other measurements for designs and

calculations.

- 3.1.3. Drafting, adapting, piloting, and recording questionnaires and in-depth interviews.
- 3.1.4. Identifying and recruit key stakeholders to interview in coordination with Town Council representatives.
- 3.1.5. Documenting all activities, dates, and sources of information.
- 3.1.6. Producing of all plans, tables, figures, and images of the reports.
- 3.1.7. Producing two alternatives, with preliminary technical designs, budgeting and works schedule, to discuss and validate with stakeholders and representatives of the Town Council.
- 3.1.8. Producing the final designs and calculations for the selected alternative.
- 3.1.9. Developing draft documents for bidding process

4. Key Activities

4.1. Activities will be performed in 4 non-consecutive phases:

4.2. Phase 1 – Comprehension (0.5 month)

- 4.2.1. Define the work plan, methodology and timeline for the consultancy. Describe the approach and methods for conducting the studies, samples and designs, data collection and analysis tools, and stakeholder engagement.
- 4.2.2. Detail the process for developing architectural and technical designs, integrating nature-based solutions, and considering climate change resilience.
- 4.2.3. Identify and analyze any relevant documents for the consultancy, including specific diagnosis data, previous strategic and/or sectoral plans (i.e. water and sanitation, drainage systems, housing, risk management, community engagement, roads paving, social infrastructure, public space, among others), investment plans, and any information regarding urban, environmental, social, fiscal and economic aspects of the Marcos Canul neighborhood and its area of influence (surrounding neighborhoods and protected/natural areas).
- 4.2.4. Coordinate actions and information with other ongoing activities, specifically: (i) BWS and/or Energy enterprise projects or designs (ii) roads paving strategy (iii) IDB's loans under preparation and implementation; (iv) other bilateral and multilateral efforts; (v) IDB's implementation of a digital tools for urban growth scenarios and urban vulnerability management.
- 4.2.5. In coordination with Town Council representatives, identify key stakeholders for the implementation of activities. During this phase, ensure that considerations of gender, diversity (including accessibility for people with disabilities) and the integration of migrant populations are addressed to be included in the following phases.

4.3. Phase II – Comprehensive Diagnosis (2 months)

- 4.3.1. Define the work plan, methodology and timeline for the consultancy. Describe the approach and methods for conducting the studies, samples and designs, data collection and analysis tools, budgeting as well as and stakeholder engagement.
- 4.3.2. Assess climate change risks and vulnerabilities related to infrastructure and public spaces in the neighborhood.

4.4. Phase III – Development of concept design for two alternatives (2,5 months)

- 4.4.1. Conduct a topographic survey to gather elevation data, contours, and terrain characteristics of the project area. Services shall include but not be limited to undertaking site investigations,

soil and geotechnical surveys and topographical surveys and any other test, survey, and/or investigation deemed necessary to reliably, effectively, and efficiently inform the design of the site, building foundations and site works. Those investigations should at a minimum include four (4) test holes to carry out a Standard Penetration Test (SPT) or equivalent sub-surface investigation so as to determine soil bearing capacity and foundation suitability, soil percolation test(s) to design an adequate wastewater treatment system, and a detailed (horizontal and vertical) topographical survey of the entire project site, to include the location of above ground, underground and underwater utilities.

- 4.4.2. To develop architectural and technical (at concept level) for roads, sidewalks, drainage systems, and public lighting, considering safety, functionality, aesthetics, and sustainability
- 4.4.3. Identify the materials and resources required for construction. Identify and evaluate alternatives for nature-based solutions (NBS),¹⁸ and if possible, integrate biodiversity enhancements, habitat restoration, and ecosystem services into design concepts ensuring compatibility with climate-resilient strategies, and local regulations.
- 4.4.4. For the alternative matrix, it is suggested to incorporate climate-responsive design and resilience strategies, including flood mitigation measures, heat island reduction, drought-tolerant landscaping, and adaptive design principles including features, such as green infrastructure, permeable surfaces, rainwater harvesting, and energy-efficient/renewable energy options, availability of materials, constructive technologies.
- 4.4.5. To develop and preliminary budget, including constructive technologies and materials and a works schedule outlining tasks, milestones, and deliverables, for an estimate of 18 months.
- 4.4.6. In coordination with the Town Council, identify key stakeholders, including government agencies, local communities, businesses, NGOs, and contractors. Plan stakeholder engagement activities, such as workshops, public meetings, design reviews, and progress updates. Incorporate feedback and input from stakeholders into the design and decision-making process.
- 4.4.7. Develop reports, plans, designs, and related documents for the two alternatives.

4.5. Phase IV – Development of selected alternative (3 months)

- 4.5.1. Perform soil sampling and analysis to assess soil properties, stability, and suitability for construction.
- 4.5.2. To develop architectural and technical designs for roads, sidewalks, drainage systems, and public lighting.
- 4.5.3. Conduct a comprehensive risk assessment, identifying potential risks related to design, construction, environmental impacts, budget overruns, and stakeholder engagement. Develop risk mitigation strategies, contingency plans, and monitoring protocols to manage risks effectively.
- 4.5.4. Develop a detailed budget and quantity estimate, including constructive technologies and materials. Prepare a comprehensive works schedule outlining tasks, milestones, and deliverables, for an estimate of 18 months.
- 4.5.5. Develop draft terms of reference and other related documents for bidding process.

5. Expected Outcome and Deliverables

- 5.1. The expected outcome of the consultancy is: the reports, plans, designs, and related documents for the integral improvement of the Marcos Canul neighborhood and draft ToRs for the bidding process for the works.

¹⁸ such as green roofs, bio-retention swales, tree planting, and urban green spaces

5.2. The firm will prepare and deliver four reports:

- 5.2.1. **Deliverable 1.** A first report, containing a detailed work plan, work methodology and timeframe for carrying out the activities.
- 5.2.2. **Deliverable 2.** A diagnosis report, with a comprehensive characterization of the area, including physical and socio-economic considerations, as well as environmental and risks and exposure to natural hazard. Identification of needs and stakeholders.
- 5.2.3. **Deliverable 3.** Concept designs and related reports, plans, budget and materials' definition, schedule for the works, and detailed matrix for two alternatives, which will be discussed and prioritized with Town Council Representatives.
- 5.2.4. **Deliverable 4.** Feasibility study for the selected alternative, comprising reports, plans, budget, schedule, etc. Draft ToRs for works' bidding process.

6. Project Schedule and Milestones

The estimated time for the development of the studies are 8 months.

Phase	Deliverable	Schedule
1	Work plan, work methodology and timeframe	0,5 month after contract signature. (2 weeks)
2	Comprehensive characterization of the area	2,5 months after contract signature. (10 weeks)
3	Identification, concept designs and selection of alternatives	5 months* after contract signature. (20 weeks)
4	Feasibility study for the selected alternative	8 months* after contract signature. (32 weeks)

(*) This deadline must estimate the presentations and approvals from the Town Council, CEU and IDB.

- 6.1. The acceptance of deliverables must be given by the IDB when all comments received during the revision process are included in the submitted reports. Upon approval, the IDB will disburse payments.

7. Reporting Requirements

- 7.1. A first report, containing a detailed work plan, work methodology and timeframe for carrying out the activities), as well as the resources needed and preliminary stakeholders' identification and proposed workshops (if needed).
- 7.2. A second report with general characterization and diagnosis
- 7.3. A third report with the identification and selection of alternatives as well as a ppt presentation considering key aspects.
- 7.4. A final report and technical annexes with the development of the selected alternative as well as a ppt presentation showing the main aspects considered, recommendations for the implementation and budget summary.
- 7.5. Products shall be produced in English.

8. Acceptance Criteria

- 8.1. All deliverables should be sent via email to Martín Soulier (msoulier@iadb.org) following project schedules and milestones. Deliverables will be approved once included IDB and Town Council comments and recommendations.

9. Other Requirements

- 9.1. The consulting team should follow all ethics norms regulating research stipulated by the Inter-American Development Bank, as well as by the national governments where data will be collected.
- 9.2. Interaction with national or subnational government officials should be coordinated with the Inter-American Development Bank.
- 9.3. Firm’s personnel shall visit the site at least two times to gather information, validate actions proposals, and to take final measurements and develop the technical designs.
- 9.4. The IDB expects the Consultant firm to have suitable personnel qualifications with extensive experience in relevant fields. The team should be multidisciplinary and must meet minimum criteria as follows:
 - 9.4.1. Robust experience in urban planning, economic development, infrastructure projects, risk management projects, environmental management, gender and indigenous peoples, among others.
 - 9.4.2. Display experience in working with public policy decision-makers and stakeholders (government, developers, investors, civil society, NGOs, universities) in related projects.
 - 9.4.3. Substantial track record in successfully undertaking similar multidisciplinary projects providing high-level advice and/or recommendations to local or national government.
 - 9.4.4. Demonstration of expertise in project engineering, budgeting, and project design at least on pre-feasibility stage.
 - 9.4.5. Strong analytical skills and excellent written and oral communication skills is essential.
- 9.5. It is expected that the Consultant firm provides a team of expert professionals who have suitable qualifications and extensive experience in the relevant fields. Experts assigned to the project should expect a minimum dedication (according to the task assigned) and should not add up more than 100% of their time when combined with other tasks assigned to the expert. The consultant firm should include as a minimum the following key experts:

KEY EXPERTS				
Designation for this Assignment	Education	General Experience (years)	Specific Experience	Level of effort
Project Director	Master’s degree or above in urbanism or related fields.	12	8 years as consultancy director or specialized advisor in related consultancies.	60%
Urban Development/Urban Planning expert	Civil engineering, architecture, urbanism, or related degrees. Master’s degree or above in related fields.	10	6 years in urban/development planning or urban information systems or execution of related studies on land use planning or urbanism. GIS use and/or risk management desired.	50%

KEY EXPERTS				
Designation for this Assignment	Education	General Experience (years)	Specific Experience	Level of effort
Budget and programming specialist	Architecture, engineering, economic or administrative sciences, or related degrees.	5	3 years of experience in cost estimation, preparing budget reports, financial analysis, and monitoring infrastructure projects or similar tasks.	60%
Environmental expert	Engineering, ecology, earth sciences, environmental sciences, environmental management, or related degrees. Master's degree or above in related fields.	5	6 years in environmental or climate change management, and/or land use planning, evaluation and/or natural risk prevention. Experience in environmental assessment of projects financed by multilateral organizations is required. Experience in natural heritage conservancy, the implementation of adaptation and mitigation actions for climate change and the integration of nature-based solutions in urban and infrastructure projects is desirable.	30%
Social expert ¹⁹	Social, human, health, educative, economic, administrative or communicative sciences.	6	4 years as a social expert in environmental management projects or infrastructure projects, or community development projects. Experience in social assessment of projects financed by multilateral organizations is required. Experience in participatory urban design processes and community engagement.	40%
Gender expert ²⁰	Social, human, educative or economic sciences, or related degrees. Master's degree or above in related fields.	5	3 years of experience in projects or regulations related to gender and indigenous peoples.	30%
Surveyor*	Surveyor, Geotechnical Engineer, Civil Engineer, Structural Engineer, or related degrees.	5	3 years of experience in projects with similar characteristics	20%

(*) This professional does not have to be part of the company. In order to carry out these measurements, studies and tests, the company may subcontract the services to an external professional or specialized company that has the appropriate certifications.

9.6. The consultant firm may propose additional experts. It is up to the discretion of the consultant team to determine the composition of their team beyond the minimum requirements mentioned above.

¹⁹ Social expert shall carry out the diagnosis of the social dimensions, the proposal of actions prioritized on these fields.

²⁰ Social and Gender experts could be combined in one expert with experience required for both designations.

SUGGESTED SUPPORT EXPERTS				
Designation for this Assignment	Education	General Experience (years)	Specific Experience	Level of effort
Project Design Specialist	Architecture, engineering, economic or administrative sciences, or related degrees. Master's degree or above in related fields.	8	4 years of demonstrated experience in pre-feasibility studies design, direction or coordination.	30%
Risk management specialist	Engineering, geology, earth/environmental sciences, or related degrees. Master's degree or above in related fields.	6	4 years in geotechnics and natural risk prevention. Demonstrated experience in GIS management.	30%
Demography specialist	Social, human, or economic sciences. Master's degree or above in related fields.	6	4 years of demonstrated experience in related projects.	20%
Mobility/transport expert	Architecture, engineering, economic or administrative sciences, or related degrees. Master's degree or above in related fields.	6	4 years in urban transport planning, land use zoning, bicycle networks and the pedestrian environment, and/or logistic.	20%
GIS Expert	Architecture, engineering, geography or related degrees.	4	2 years of demonstrated experience in related projects.	20%
Administrative coordinator	Economic or administrative sciences, or related degrees.	2	Demonstrated experience in related projects.	50%

10. Supervision and Reporting

10.1. This contract is supervised by Martín Soulier (msoulier@iadb.org); with whom the consulting team should report all progress.

11. Schedule of Payments

11.1. Payment terms will be based on project milestones or deliverables. The Bank does not expect to make advance payments under consulting contracts unless a significant amount of travel is required. The Bank wishes to receive the most competitive cost proposal for the services described herein.

Deliverable	%
1. Work plan, work methodology and timeframe	20%
2. Comprehensive characterization of the area	20%
3. Identification, concept designs and selection of alternatives	30%
4. Feasibility study for the selected alternative	30%
TOTAL	100%

Consulting services to review and update the pre-feasibility study, for bidding process, of the Heritage Plaza, Mother's park and St. Paul Boardwalk projects in Corozal. Individual Consultant

Post of duty: Belize

The IDB Group is a community of diverse, versatile, and passionate people who come together on a journey to improve lives in Latin America and the Caribbean. Our people find purpose and do what they love in an inclusive, collaborative, agile, and rewarding environment.

Established in 1959, the Inter-American Development Bank (“IDB” or “Bank”) is the main source of financing for economic, social and institutional development in Latin America and the Caribbean. It provides loans, grants, guarantees, policy advice and technical assistance to the public and private sectors of its borrowing countries.

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Country Office in Belize (CID/CBL) (i) supports the design, implementation and administration of development projects and programs (loans and grants); (ii) leads and maintains the dialogue with the Government of Belize (GOB), its key public sector institutions (Ministries), representatives of the private sector and civil society members; (iii) monitors the country’s macroeconomic, political and social environment; (iv) coordinates the preparation of economic sector work relevant for the country and the region and (v) monitors the evolution of the business climate in the country and identifies potential private sector development opportunities.

Context. The population in Belize is growing fast, showing one of the highest annual growth rates in the region (1.52%)¹. The country's two city and seven town councils, responsible for urban regulation, construction permits, and local urban services, do not have adequate tools and capacities to lead a holistic, sustainable² development. These municipalities face specific interconnected challenges, such as improving the provision of urban services, local economic diversity, and community integration while also seeking to increase their resilience and capabilities across the board to manage growth effectively.

Unplanned urban growth and inadequate management have aggravated the deficit in providing urban services (Table 1). For example, only 10% of the streets in these three cities have stormwater drains, leading to frequent floods during heavy rain episodes. Similarly, lacking quality public spaces, such as green areas, limits social interactions and integration. Naturally, these deficits are more noticeable in vulnerable areas³, where many poor and displaced families live.

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Bike Lanes	0 km	0 km	0 km	0 km

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- (g) Permeable and impermeable drainage systems. Concrete drains such as half round drains, underdrains, catch pits, precast concrete trap drains, and V-shape block drains.
- (h) The World Health Organization recommended the availability of a minimum of 9 m² of green space per individual (Health Indicators of Sustainable Cities in the Context of the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development. WHO; Geneva, Switzerland: 2012).

In 2022, intra-regional migrants comprised approximately 12% of Belize's population.⁴ In recent years, population growth has been explained mainly through migration factors: between 2019 and 2022, the population grew by 2.8%, primarily due to immigration.⁵ Since migrants are predominantly settling in precarious areas, this rapid influx intensifies the challenges in urban services provision, placing a strain on Belize's infrastructure.⁶ In the vulnerable San Mateo (San Pedro) neighborhood, 17% of the population is foreign-born. They mainly migrated for economic reasons, but language barriers limit their access to skills development, employment, and social networks.

Additionally, while women represent about 51% of all migrants (SIB, 2021), Belize registered one of the lowest gender parity scores of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) in 2023 (0.696).⁷ Even though women have higher levels of education than men, their labor-market participation, employment levels, and wages are lower than men's (IDB, 2020). Across the LAC region, public infrastructure poses many accessibility challenges for people with disabilities.⁸ In Belize, the current legal framework lacks robust regulations ensuring infrastructure designs adhere to universal accessibility standards, thereby denying people with disabilities access to crucial services.⁹

In addition to physical and social elements, urban sustainability is also compromised by economic factors. The local economy's dependence on a single source of income threatens economic performance and sustainable growth. 85% of the population in Corozal and Orange Walk (OW) depends on the sugar sector.¹⁰ Tourism holds a great promise to help diversify the economy of these small towns. Still, the lack of incentives to attract private investments and adequate infrastructure to improve the commercialization

⁴ IDB Calculation based on data from the Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB).

⁵ The percentage increase represents the change in the share of immigrant stocks for the period 2019-2022. IDB calculation based on data from the SIB.

⁶ Even though there is an information gap about migrants' access to basic services, surveys conducted by CID-Gallup in 2010, point out that access to water services by migrants is about 64%, significantly lower than the national average.

⁷ Global Gender Gap Report, World Economic Forum (WEF), 2023.

⁸ [Breaking Barriers, WB, 2021](#)

⁹ ["Marco legal de los derechos de las personas con discapacidad: América Latina y El Caribe", Bregaglio, IDB 2021.](#)

¹⁰ The sector is estimated to account for about 4–5% of total GDP and 8% of total employment. (Can Belize cope with the new world sugar market? IMF 2016).

of traditional products and services is why both districts receive just 4% of the national tourists' visits. To enhance the competitiveness of the tourism sector, Belize needs not only better urban planning, land use regulation, and access to urban services but also to improve the availability and quality of Belizean-made handicrafts and the commercialization of traditional products and to deeper integrate local communities and artisans into the tourism value chain.¹¹ In OW, for example, local vendors in the public market carry out their activities in poor conditions, exposed to the sun and rain, without solid flooring, drinking water, or safe electricity.¹²

Across these challenges, Belize faces significant climate change risks, including hurricanes, flooding, rising sea levels, coastal erosion, coral bleaching, and droughts¹³, alongside extreme temperature events.¹⁴ Corozal Town, located in the low-lying Corozal district, is highly flood-prone, with ongoing coastal erosion threatening its sea wall integrity (MDP, 2013). Climate change exacerbates impacts of coastal hazards, such as erosion and flooding, on property, infrastructure, and communities.¹⁵ Orange Walk, situated between wetlands and the New River, experiences annual floods affecting over 100 families.¹⁶ Ambergris Caye is susceptible to hurricanes, floods, and other disasters.¹⁷ While 58.2% of the Caye is affected by flood-prone areas, the main risks identified are storm surge, strong winds, and coastal erosion (IDOM, 2023). While the National Government handles disaster preparedness and response, municipalities are critical in bolstering resilience through green infrastructure, sustainable planning, and proactive measures.

About this position

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Country Office in Belize (CID/CBL) (i) supports the design, implementation and administration of development projects and programs (loans and grants); (ii) leads and maintains the dialogue with the Government of Belize (GOB), its key public sector institutions (Ministries), representatives of the private sector and civil society members; (iii) monitors the country's macroeconomic, political and social environment; (iv) coordinates the preparation of economic sector work relevant for the country and the region and (v) monitors the evolution of the business climate in the country and identifies potential private sector development opportunities.

Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program (BL-L1046 and BL-J0007). In line with the government plan to transform Belize into a more inclusive and sustainable country (Plan Belize MTDS 2022-2026) and by the objective of the Country Strategy 2022-2025 to achieve robust, inclusive, and sustainable growth, Belizean authorities seek assistance from the Bank to design and implement multisectoral and sustainable interventions to trigger the development of northern Belize, and to improve social sustainability by integrating vulnerable migrant populations and host communities. In response, the Bank recently approved the Operation "Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program" (BL-L1046 & BL-J0007). The specific objectives are (i) to improve access to selected urban services, (ii) to support local economic growth, and (iii) to facilitate the social and economic integration of vulnerable populations, such as migrants and women.

The program will be used as a pilot project to learn from its implementation and be able to replicate promising practices in future interventions. Besides the mentioned development challenges, the three major towns of northern Belize also present the opportunity to learn from three different urban typologies (coastal, island, and inland) to improve future interventions in other urban areas of the country. Jointly work along

¹¹ [Belize Tourism & Conservation Adaptation Plans and National Sustainable Tourism Master Plan for Belize 2030 \(NSTMP\)](#)

¹² OW Town Council information and field visits.

¹³ IDB Country Strategy 2022-2025.

¹⁴ [WB](#), 2023.

¹⁵ IDB BL-T1080 ([ATN/MD-15572-BL](#) and [ATN/OC-15573-BL](#)): Final Report "Bay Shoreline Management Plan: Planning for Climate Resilience" (2018).

¹⁶ Orange Walk Flood Mitigation Concept Note (Catalyst Solutions CG; 2022).

¹⁷ From 62 events that occurred in the past, 67% were hurricanes, 22% were floods, and the remaining 11% were epidemics and fires (DesInvetar Sendai developed by UNDRR; July 2023).

with the Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government (MRTCDLLG), in charge of the strengthening of local authorities, will reinforce the catalytic purpose of this Program, generating capabilities to replicate activities across the Country with own or external resources. The Program will complement government’s current efforts to implement the MTDS in these three towns.

The program BL-1046 is structured into two components: (i) Institutional Strengthening for Sustainable Development, aiming to strengthen municipal and national capacities through (a) the elaboration of municipal institutional strengthening plans, municipal development plans, sustainable zoning plans with a gender approach and climate change considerations, coastal management plans, public-private collaboration plans, the implementation of digital tools for sustainable urban development, and specific activities to support the integration of migrants and their host communities; and (ii) Sustainable Urban Investments, with two types of interventions: (a) neighborhood upgrading projects in vulnerable communities; and (b) creating or upgrading public spaces and public facilities in prioritized areas in terms of the local economy or tourism attraction. Table 2 presents projects currently prioritized by the municipalities.

Identified Investments: Component II will finance sustainable urban services’ investments such as (i) public spaces and municipal facilities (i.e., public markets, accommodations for local vendors, tourist centers, kindergartens, primary health care, and cultural centers) and (ii) the provision of essential urban infrastructure (water, sewage, drainage, efficient public lighting, improvement of existing municipal roads, sidewalks, bike lanes, among others). Interventions will be implemented in vulnerable neighborhoods and prioritized urban areas.

Table 3. Identified Projects

Resilient Intervention	Components	Estimated cost (US\$)
COROZAL		\$1,877,200
	Mothers’ Park upgrading	\$131,500
	Children’s Park upgrading	\$192,500
	Basketball court and Amphitheater area enhancement	\$258,500
	Seaside Pathway	\$165,000
	Fisherman’s Pier upgrading	\$79,200
	Municipal pier upgrading and welcome center	\$225,500
	St. Paul’s Boardwalk (seawall protection)	\$825,000
ORANGE WALK		\$6,500,568
	(i) Two new public spaces connected by shared street¹ interventions	
Initial interventions of the River Walk Development Strategy	a) Tourist Park	\$528,000
	b) Independence Park upgrading ²	\$231,000
	c) Main St., Church St., and Park Street restoration	\$1,160,500
	ii) Naranjal Street upgrade over the New River.³	\$1,001,000
New Public Market and multipurpose public space.	Construction of market infrastructure	\$1,144,000
	Sports Complex ⁴	\$550,000
Integral intervention in the Marcos Canul neighborhood	Pavement, drainage, water supply, sewage, public lighting, public space, sidewalks.	\$1,886,068

(1) Components: sidewalk widening, public lighting, stormwater retrofit, and tree planting.

(2) The park is located next to La Inmaculada R.C. Primary School (910 students, 15 with special needs).

(3) Components: permeable pavement, drainage, boardwalk, tree planting, public lighting, facilities for street vendors

(4) The complex will be located in front of St. Peter’s School, with 324 students (almost 10%, 31 students, present disabilities).

The integral proposal for Corozal is based on the existing studies of Jacobs (2018), Vividarch Co. Ltd (2018), and Caracol Architectural Design (2023) to configure a project with a unified appearance, which takes into account criteria for adaptation and mitigation to climate change, in addition to conditions for the integration of the migrant population, with a gender perspective and accessibility for people with disabilities.

Table 4. Sample projects Corozal

Comprehensive public space upgrading, tourism facilities, and seawall protection	Mother’s park upgrading
	Children’s Park upgrading
	Enhancement of Basketball court and Amphitheater area
	Seaside Pathway
	Fisherman’s pier upgrading
	Municipal pier upgrading and welcome center
	St. Paul’s boardwalk (next to Mother’s Park) seawall protection

1. Comprehensive public space upgrading, tourism facilities, and seawall protection

A comprehensive proposal that includes the concepts and designs developed by VIVIDARCH Co. Ltd (2018) and Caracol Architectural Designs (2023) for public spaces and piers, and Jacobs (2018) for the seawall protection. The purpose of this proposal is to have an integral design that unifies the image, and considers aspects of climate resilience and nature-based solutions, in addition to promoting the local economy and tourism, to position the municipality as a destination of interest.

1.1 Mother’s Park upgrading

Area	0.4 AC. (1618.74 M²)
Amenities	Covered area (palapa), bench seating, landscaping, children’s playground, lighting.

In an effort to enhance the allure of Mother’s Park, a comprehensive plan for landscaping improvements is underway, aiming to elevate this socially significant space along the captivating coastline of Corozal Town. The landscaping project involves introducing a diverse array of indigenous flora, strategically curated to not only enhance the visual appeal of the park but also to promote biodiversity and sustainability. Pathways will wind through the park, inviting visitors to leisurely stroll and immerse themselves in the beauty of nature. Additional seating will provide cozy spots for contemplation and community gatherings. The existing statue and mural celebrating the essence of motherhood will be kept and rehabilitated where necessary. This initiative reflects the community’s commitment to creating a harmonious and inviting environment where residents and visitors alike can connect with nature and celebrate the enduring spirit of motherhood.

1.2 Children’s Park upgrading

AREA	0.3 AC (1,214 M²).
AMENITIES	Playgrounds, walkway, landscaping, benches, lights, parking

The envisioned improvements to Children’s Park, nestled within the expansive Heritage Plaza concept, represent a comprehensive effort to create a vibrant and family-friendly space that blends recreation,

nature, and cultural elements. General landscaping initiatives will transform the park into a lush and inviting oasis, with thoughtfully curated greenery, flower beds, and walking paths that harmonize with the surrounding environment.

Preserving and rehabilitating existing concrete animal statues within the park pays homage to its historical and artistic elements, ensuring that these whimsical sculptures continue to captivate and inspire the imagination of young visitors. The installation of new and improved playgrounds introduces innovative and inclusive play structures, catering to various age groups and promoting physical activity, creativity, and social interaction.

To enrich the park experience, designated spaces for food and craft vendor stalls will be integrated, offering a variety of local treats and handmade crafts. These additions not only contribute to the local economy but also create a lively atmosphere for families to enjoy. Adequate parking spaces will be provided, ensuring convenient access for visitors and promoting the park as a central gathering place within the Heritage Plaza.

A scenic walkway along the sea will be introduced, providing breathtaking views and creating a serene ambiance for leisurely strolls. Benches strategically placed along the walkway offer spaces for relaxation and contemplation, inviting visitors to soak in the natural beauty of the coastal surroundings. These seating areas also provide opportunities for socializing and community engagement.

1.3 Enhancement of Basketball Court and Amphitheater Area

Size	0.5 AC (2023.43. M²)
Amenities	Covered basketball court, resurfacing, stage seating, landscaping, changing room.

The envisioned enhancements for the outdoor basketball court represent a holistic transformation, redefining the space into a dynamic community hub that caters to a myriad of needs and activities.

The installation of a protective roof over the court signifies a commitment to year-round usability, shielding players and spectators from the elements and providing a versatile venue for events.

Adjacent to the court, the addition of a small stage with tiered seating elevates the space into a cultural focal point, facilitating community performances, gatherings, and celebrations. Simultaneously, the resurfacing and vibrant painting of the court not only improves its functionality but also contribute to a visually appealing and energizing environment. The construction of changing rooms adjacent to the court further enhances the facility's practicality, offering athletes/performers a dedicated space for preparation and personal care, thereby encouraging increased participation in sports activities.

Preserving the nearby amphitheater underscores the project's commitment to honoring the cultural heritage of the area. Its historical significance will be carefully maintained, ensuring it continues to serve as a cherished space for cultural events and community gatherings. The surrounding streets will undergo a transformative shift from vehicular to pedestrian-only traffic, fostering a pedestrian-friendly atmosphere that encourages community interaction and cultural exploration. General landscaping initiatives will be implemented, introducing green spaces, walkways, and seating areas that seamlessly integrate with the surroundings. This comprehensive approach aims to create a vibrant and inclusive space that promotes community engagement, cultural expression, and active lifestyles. The envisioned improvements collectively transform the outdoor basketball court and its surrounding area into a dynamic and cohesive community space, enriching the quality of life for residents and fostering a sense of pride in their shared environment.

1.4 Seaside Pathway.

Size	90 M
Amenities	Sewall, Kiosks, bench seating, bathroom upgrade, general landscaping

The Seaside Pathway, spanning a scenic 90-meter stretch between Mother's Park and Heritage Park, is poised for a series of thoughtful enhancements. Recognizing the importance of preserving the delicate coastal ecosystem, a key component of the improvement plan involves the strategic installation of coastline protection. Native mangroves, revered for their ecological significance, will be planted along the pathway, offering a natural buffer against erosion and promoting biodiversity. Complementing the mangroves, protective boulders will be strategically placed to safeguard the pathway, ensuring its longevity in the face of coastal dynamics.

To create an inviting and recreational atmosphere, the pathway will be meticulously landscaped, featuring well-placed benches for visitors to soak in the breathtaking views and lights for added security at night. Interspersed along the route, a few kiosks will be introduced, providing a platform for local vendors to showcase and sell their culinary creations, allowing visitors to savor the flavors of the region.

In a commitment to convenience and accessibility, the nearby bathroom facilities, located next to the House of Culture, will undergo renovation. Upgrades will include modern amenities and accessibility features, transforming it into a well-equipped public facility.

1.5 Fisherman's Pier upgrading

Length	30 M
Amenities	Dock for local fishermen, area to clean and sell fish, minor structural repairs, lighting, moorings.

The Fisherman's Pier, a modest 30-meter-long concrete structure integral to the local fishing community, is set to undergo necessary to improve its functionality and convenience.

The planned improvements include basic structural repairs to ensure the pier's longevity and safety. The surface of the pier will undergo resurfacing, providing a smooth and secure foundation for fishermen as they carry out their daily activities. Solar-powered lights will be strategically installed along the pier. Improved mooring points for boats and new fenders to help protect the docked boat and the pier itself. Works will also encompass the construction of a concrete table complete with shade – fisherfolk can now clean and prepare their catch for sale.

1.6 Municipal Pier upgrading and Welcome Center

Size	60 M
Amenities	Structural repairs, resurfacing, additional benches, covered areas, improved lighting, ticket booths, Welcome Centre.

The revitalization of the municipal pier will increase functionality and aesthetics, aiming to enhance its role as a vital maritime gateway. Resurfacing the pier with suitable materials will ensure a smooth and durable surface that can withstand the rigors of maritime activity. Improved mooring facilities and fenders will be strategically installed, providing a secure and efficient docking solution for boats and vessels, contributing to the overall safety and convenience of maritime operations.

To cater to the comfort of visitors and locals alike, the waiting area on the pier will undergo a significant upgrade. New and improved benches, strategically placed along the pier's length, will offer comfortable seating for those awaiting water taxis or enjoying the panoramic views. Shading structures will be integrated into the design, providing respite from the elements and creating a more pleasant experience for users.

The entry of the pier will see the construction of essential amenities, including ticketing booths for water taxi operators, streamlining the boarding process and contributing to efficient maritime logistics. A welcoming center for visitors will be established, providing information about local attractions, services, and activities, enhancing the overall visitor experience. Additionally, a security booth will be installed to bolster security measures, ensuring the safety of both residents and tourists. Ample lighting will be strategically placed along the pier, enhancing visibility during evening hours and fostering a safe and inviting atmosphere. General landscaping initiatives will complement the infrastructure improvements, incorporating greenery, walkways, and seating areas to create a visually appealing and functional public space.

1.7 St. Paul's Boardwalk seawall protection

Size	115M
Amenities	Extended sidewalk (boardwalk), seawall, steps for sea access and wave protection, mangrove strip, protection boulders.

The proposed improvements to the coastline protection infrastructure along 1st Street, near St. Paul's Church, are designed to address the challenges posed by the failing seawall while integrating innovative solutions that harmonize with both the natural environment and the community's needs. A holistic approach, blending hardcore and nature-based solutions, will be implemented to ensure the long-term resilience and functionality of the coastal area.

To fortify the coastal edge, a combination of stepped shoring and strategically placed boulders will be introduced. This design not only serves as a robust defense against wave energy but also creates an aesthetically pleasing and natural barrier. The incorporation of native mangroves along the shoreline enhances the ecological resilience of the area. These mangroves, protected by the boulders, serve as a natural buffer, absorbing wave energy and providing a conducive environment for the propagation of propagules.

As part of the improvement plan, an expanded sidewalk will be introduced, offering additional space for pedestrian access and use. This not only enhances safety and convenience for those walking along the coastline but also promotes a sense of community and connectivity. The expanded sidewalk will be designed to accommodate social gatherings, creating a welcoming space for residents and visitors to enjoy the scenic views and engage in communal activities.

This innovative blend of nature-based solutions and infrastructure improvements not only addresses the immediate need for coastline protection but also adds value to the community. The project aims to create a resilient and inviting coastal environment that reflects a harmonious coexistence between human activities and the natural ecosystem, fostering community engagement and ecological sustainability in the heart of 1st Street.

What you'll do:

The objective of the consultancy is to complete the existing pre-feasibility studies, for bidding process, of the Heritage Plaza, Mother's park and St. Paul Boardwalk projects in Corozal.¹⁸

The following aspects must be developed:

- i) **Topographic Survey.** Conduct a topographic survey to gather elevation data, contours, and terrain characteristics of the project area.

¹⁸ Based on studies for Heritage Plaza (2016 and 2023) and pre-feasibility study (IDB, 2023)

- ii) **Architectural/engineering designs.** i) architectural-engineering design (including basic infrastructure, machinery, facilities and equipment required, together with the distribution of the physical space, technical specifications regarding water, wastewater, drainage, electrical networks, voice and data if necessary¹⁹, special requirements of the work) and description of project components; and ii) infrastructure considerations with nature-based solutions. The proposals should consider factors of gender, diversity (including accessibility for people with disabilities) and the integration of migrant populations.
- iii) **Quantities and detailed budget** This section will develop: i) definition of the total costs in relation to the investment (CAPEX) and operation (OPEX) during its useful life (including the need for reinvestments); ii) flow of costs at market prices for the useful life of the project.
- iv) **Works schedule.** For an estimate of 18-month works.
- v) **Project risks. This section must identify** the risks (social, technical, legal, institutional, etc.) that may affect the construction and operation of the project, along with their corresponding mitigation measures and costs.
- vi) **Project Approval.** Outline the necessary approvals and permits from relevant authorities based on the feasibility study recommendations.
- vii) **Draft of bidding documents.**

In order to carry out these activities, all the information already developed on the project, as well as all public information that is useful for the preparation of the documents and technical plans must be reviewed. Permanent contact must be made with the authorities of the Town Council and the IDB.

What you'll need

- **Education:** Master's degree (or equivalent advanced degree) in urban planning, architecture, civil engineering or other fields relevant to the responsibilities of the role.
- **Experience:** At least 10 years of experience in the development of proposals, project execution, contract management and/or monitoring and evaluation of urban/infrastructure projects.
- **Languages:** Proficiency in English. Additional knowledge of Spanish is preferable

Key skills:

- Learn continuously.
- Collaborate and share knowledge.
- Focus on clients.
- Communicate and influence.
- Innovate and try new things.

Requirements:

- **Citizenship:** You are either a citizen of Belize or a citizen of one of our 48-member countries with residency or legal permit to work in Belize
- **Consanguinity:** You have no family members (up to the fourth degree of consanguinity and second degree of affinity, including spouse) working at the IDB, IDB Invest, or IDB Lab.

Type of contract and duration:

- **Type of contract:** Products and External Services Consultant (PEC), Lump Sum.
- **Length of contract:** 3 months.
- **Work Location:** On site.

What we offer

The IDB group provides benefits that respond to the different needs and moments of an employee's life. These benefits include:

- A competitive compensation package.

¹⁹ In case of need of wi-fi or other kind of technology inside the buildings or public space.

- A flexible way of working. You will be evaluated by deliverable.

Our culture

At the IDB Group we work so everyone brings their best and authentic selves to work, willing to try new approaches without fear, and where they are accountable and rewarded for their actions. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) are at the center of our organization. We celebrate all dimensions of diversity and encourage women, LGBTQ+ people, persons with disabilities, Afro-descendants, and Indigenous people to apply.

We will ensure that individuals with disabilities are provided reasonable accommodation to participate in the job interview process. If you are a qualified candidate with a disability, please e-mail us at diversity@iadb.org to request reasonable accommodation to complete this application.

Our Human Resources Team reviews carefully every application.

About the IDB Group

The IDB Group, composed of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), IDB Invest, and the IDB Lab offers flexible financing solutions to its member countries to finance economic and social development through lending and grants to public and private entities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

About IDB

We work to improve lives in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through financial and technical support for countries working to reduce poverty and inequality, we help improve health and education and advance infrastructure. Our aim is to achieve development in a sustainable, climate-friendly way. With a history dating back to 1959, today we are the leading source of development financing for Latin America and the Caribbean. We provide loans, grants, and technical assistance; and we conduct extensive research. We maintain a strong commitment to achieving measurable results and the highest standards of integrity, transparency, and accountability.

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About IDB Lab

Is the innovation laboratory of the IDB Group. We mobilize financing, knowledge, and connections to drive innovation for inclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean. We believe innovation is a powerful tool that can transform our region, providing today unprecedented opportunities to populations that are vulnerable due to economic, social, or environmental factors. IDB Lab has a commitment to gender quality and diversity as part of its development mandate. The Strategy and Impact unit supports IDB Lab in the development of strategy, connections and knowledge, and impact measurement and reporting.

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About IDB Invest

IDB Invest, a member of the IDB Group, is a multilateral development bank committed to promoting the economic development of its member countries in Latin America and the Caribbean through the private

sector. IDB Invest finances sustainable companies and projects to achieve financial results and maximize economic, social, and environmental development in the region. With a portfolio of \$14.1 billion in asset management and 325 clients in 25 countries, IDB Invest provides innovative financial solutions and advisory services that meet the needs of its clients in a variety of industries.

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<https://twitter.com/BIDInvest>

Consulting services to review and update the pre-feasibility study, for bidding process, of the public facilities (Public Market and Sports Complex) in Orange Walk.

Post of duty: Belize

The IDB Group is a community of diverse, versatile, and passionate people who come together on a journey to improve lives in Latin America and the Caribbean. Our people find purpose and do what they love in an inclusive, collaborative, agile, and rewarding environment.

Established in 1959, the Inter-American Development Bank (“IDB” or “Bank”) is the main source of financing for economic, social and institutional development in Latin America and the Caribbean. It provides loans, grants, guarantees, policy advice and technical assistance to the public and private sectors of its borrowing countries.

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Context. The population in Belize is growing fast, showing one of the highest annual growth rates in the region (1.52%)¹. The country’s two city and seven town councils, responsible for urban regulation, construction permits, and local urban services, do not have adequate tools and capacities to lead a holistic, sustainable² development. These municipalities face specific interconnected challenges, such as improving the provision of urban services, local economic diversity, and community integration while also seeking to increase their resilience and capabilities across the board to manage growth effectively.

Unplanned urban growth and inadequate management have aggravated the deficit in providing urban services (Table 1). For example, only 10% of the streets in these three cities have stormwater drains, leading to frequent floods during heavy rain episodes. Similarly, lacking quality public spaces, such as green areas, limits social interactions and integration. Naturally, these deficits are more noticeable in vulnerable areas³, where many poor and displaced families live.

Table 5. Selected Urban Services Indicators per Municipality

Indicator	Orange Walk ^(a)	Corozal ^(b)	San Pedro ^(c)	Belize City
Paved roads (district)	11,7% ^(d)	7,7% ^(d)	8%	42,3% ^(d)
Drinking water ^(e)	87.6%	81.4%	83%	90% ^(f)
Sewer System	0% (94,5% septic tanks)	0%	20%	35% ^(f)
Drainage ^(g)	76% (15% concrete)	n/a	5.3% concrete	n/a
Public spaces	3.96 sq mt/ inhabitant	n/a	4.05 sq mt / inhabitant	n/a

¹ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs: “Why population growth matters for sustainable development”; February 2022.

² In this document, the term “sustainable” is used in its broad sense, including environmental, social, urban, and economic/financial aspects.

³ In San Mateo, a vulnerable neighborhood of San Pedro with 2,329 inhabitants, there is no coverage of paved roads, sidewalks, sewage, stormwater drainage, bike lanes, street vegetation, nor public spaces (IDOM; 2023).

Indicator	Orange Walk ^(a)	Corozal ^(b)	San Pedro ^(c)	Belize City
Qualified green areas ^(h)	n/a	n/a	0.8 sq mt / inhabitant	3.8 sq mt/ inhabitant ^(f)
Bike Lanes	0 km	0 km	0 km	0 km

- (a) Investment and Organizational Development Plan for Orange Walk (Economía Urbana; 2023).
- (b) Corozal Town Municipal Development Plan (MDP; 2013).
- (c) IDOM 2023.
- (d) [Annual technical report of the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing \(2021\)](#). Respectively, Gravel roads are 56.8%; 84.4% and 89.5%; and earth roads 0.8%; 3.9 and 2.8%.
- (e) Public or private piped into dwelling or yard (District's totals); 2010 Census.
- (f) [Department of Environment - Belize](#).
- (g) Permeable and impermeable drainage systems. Concrete drains such as half round drains, underdrains, catch pits, precast concrete trap drains, and V-shape block drains.
- (h) The World Health Organization recommended the availability of a minimum of 9 m² of green space per individual (Health Indicators of Sustainable Cities in the Context of the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development. WHO; Geneva, Switzerland: 2012).

In 2022, intra-regional migrants comprised approximately 12% of Belize's population.⁴ In recent years, population growth has been explained mainly through migration factors: between 2019 and 2022, the population grew by 2.8%, primarily due to immigration.⁵ Since migrants are predominantly settling in precarious areas, this rapid influx intensifies the challenges in urban services provision, placing a strain on Belize's infrastructure.⁶ In the vulnerable San Mateo (San Pedro) neighborhood, 17% of the population is foreign-born. They mainly migrated for economic reasons, but language barriers limit their access to skills development, employment, and social networks.

Additionally, while women represent about 51% of all migrants (SIB, 2021), Belize registered one of the lowest gender parity scores of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) in 2023 (0.696).⁷ Even though women have higher levels of education than men, their labor-market participation, employment levels, and wages are lower than men's (IDB, 2020). Across the LAC region, public infrastructure poses many accessibility challenges for people with disabilities.⁸ In Belize, the current legal framework lacks robust regulations ensuring infrastructure designs adhere to universal accessibility standards, thereby denying people with disabilities access to crucial services.⁹

In addition to physical and social elements, urban sustainability is also compromised by economic factors. The local economy's dependence on a single source of income threatens economic performance and sustainable growth. 85% of the population in Corozal and Orange Walk (OW) depends on the sugar sector.¹⁰ Tourism holds a great promise to help diversify the economy of these small towns. Still, the lack of incentives to attract private investments and adequate infrastructure to improve the commercialization of traditional products and services is why both districts receive just 4% of the national tourists' visits. To enhance the competitiveness of the tourism sector, Belize needs not only better urban planning, land use

⁴ IDB Calculation based on data from the Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB).
⁵ The percentage increase represents the change in the share of immigrant stocks for the period 2019-2022. IDB calculation based on data from the SIB.
⁶ Even though there is an information gap about migrants' access to basic services, surveys conducted by CID-Gallup in 2010, point out that access to water services by migrants is about 64%, significantly lower than the national average.
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regulation, and access to urban services but also to improve the availability and quality of Belizean-made handicrafts and the commercialization of traditional products and to deeper integrate local communities and artisans into the tourism value chain.¹¹ In OW, for example, local vendors in the public market carry out their activities in poor conditions, exposed to the sun and rain, without solid flooring, drinking water, or safe electricity.¹²

Across these challenges, Belize faces significant climate change risks, including hurricanes, flooding, rising sea levels, coastal erosion, coral bleaching, and droughts¹³, alongside extreme temperature events.¹⁴ Corozal Town, located in the low-lying Corozal district, is highly flood-prone, with ongoing coastal erosion threatening its sea wall integrity (MDP, 2013). Climate change exacerbates impacts of coastal hazards, such as erosion and flooding, on property, infrastructure, and communities.¹⁵ Orange Walk, situated between wetlands and the New River, experiences annual floods affecting over 100 families.¹⁶ Ambergris Caye is susceptible to hurricanes, floods, and other disasters.¹⁷ While 58.2% of the Caye is affected by flood-prone areas, the main risks identified are storm surge, strong winds, and coastal erosion (IDOM, 2023). While the National Government handles disaster preparedness and response, municipalities are critical in bolstering resilience through green infrastructure, sustainable planning, and proactive measures.

About this position

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The program will be used as a pilot project to learn from its implementation and be able to replicate promising practices in future interventions. Besides the mentioned development challenges, the three major towns of northern Belize also present the opportunity to learn from three different urban typologies (coastal, island, and inland) to improve future interventions in other urban areas of the country. Jointly work along with the Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government (MRTCDLLG), in charge of the strengthening of local authorities, will reinforce the catalytic

¹¹ [Belize Tourism & Conservation Adaptation Plans and National Sustainable Tourism Master Plan for Belize 2030 \(NSTMP\)](#)

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purpose of this Program, generating capabilities to replicate activities across the Country with own or external resources. The Program will complement government’s current efforts to implement the MTDS in these three towns.

The program BL-1046 is structured into two components: (i) Institutional Strengthening for Sustainable Development, aiming to strengthen municipal and national capacities through (a) the elaboration of municipal institutional strengthening plans, municipal development plans, sustainable zoning plans with a gender approach and climate change considerations, coastal management plans, public-private collaboration plans, the implementation of digital tools for sustainable urban development, and specific activities to support the integration of migrants and their host communities; and (ii) Sustainable Urban Investments, with two types of interventions: (a) neighborhood upgrading projects in vulnerable communities; and (b) creating or upgrading public spaces and public facilities in prioritized areas in terms of the local economy or tourism attraction. Table 2 presents projects currently prioritized by the municipalities.

Identified Investments: Component II will finance sustainable urban services’ investments such as (i) public spaces and municipal facilities (i.e., public markets, accommodations for local vendors, tourist centers, kindergartens, primary health care, and cultural centers) and (ii) the provision of essential urban infrastructure (water, sewage, drainage, efficient public lighting, improvement of existing municipal roads, sidewalks, bike lanes, among others). Interventions will be implemented in vulnerable neighborhoods and prioritized urban areas.

Table 6. Identified Projects

Resilient Intervention	Components	Estimated cost (US\$)
COROZAL		\$1,877,200
	Mothers’ Park upgrading	\$131,500
	Children’s Park upgrading	\$192,500
	Basketball court and Amphitheater area enhancement	\$258,500
	Seaside Pathway	\$165,000
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	Municipal pier upgrading and welcome center	\$225,500
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ORANGE WALK		\$6,500,568
	(i) Two new public spaces connected by shared street¹ interventions	
Initial interventions of the River Walk Development Strategy	a) Tourist Park	\$528,000
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	c) Main St., Church St., and Park Street restoration	\$1,160,500
	ii) Naranjal Street upgrade over the New River.³	
New Public Market and multipurpose public space	Construction of market infrastructure	\$1,144,000
	Sports Complex ⁴	\$550,000
Integral intervention in the Marcos Canul neighborhood	Pavement, drainage, water supply, sewage, public lighting, public space, sidewalks.	\$1,886,068

(1) Components: sidewalk widening, public lighting, stormwater retrofit, and tree planting.

(2) The park is located next to La Inmaculada R.C. Primary School (910 students, 15 with special needs).

(3) Components: permeable pavement, drainage, boardwalk, tree planting, public lighting, facilities for street vendors

(4) The complex will be located in front of. St. Peter’s School, with 324 students (almost 10%, 31 students, present disabilities).

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Table 7. Sample projects for Orange Walk

Initial interventions of the River Walk Development Strategy	(i) Two new public spaces connected by shared space interventions
	a) Tourist Park (at the end of Church Street)
	b) Independence Park upgrading
	c) Main St., Church St. and Park St. Restoration (sidewalk widening, public lighting, bike lanes, stormwater retrofit, tree planting)
	ii) Naranjal street upgrade (permeable pavement, drainage, boardwalk, tree planting, public lighting, light facilities for street vendors) over the New River.
New Public Market and multipurpose public space.	Construction of market infrastructure
	Sports Complex

1. New Public Market and Sports Complex.

1.1 Market Building

Area	0.5 AC. (2,023 M²)
Market Building (Total)	~ 10,000 Sq. Ft. (930 m ²)
No. Of Stalls (Proposed)	50
Amenities	Visitor Seating Area, Landscaping, Ample Lighting, Restrooms.

The proposed area for the new market building, and measuring 0.5 acres, currently serves as a car park with small stores lining its perimeter. While functional, this area's potential for community-oriented activities is compromised by its primary role as a parking space. The integration of small stores along its edges further limits the space available for retail purposes. Considering the community's evolving needs, there is an opportunity to reimagine this area as a vibrant hub for a more inviting market experience. By repurposing the space and prioritizing community-friendly features, the proposed area could transform into a dynamic focal point, fostering a sense of unity and shared experiences among residents.

The envisioned market area blends tradition and modernity, creating a unique and inviting space for vendors and visitors. With a traditional market layout and well-spaced stalls, the area preserves the authenticity of a traditional market experience. A thoughtfully designed seating area fosters community and social interaction. Meticulous landscaping turns the market into a green oasis, enhancing its role as a hub for commerce. Ample lighting ensures a safe and welcoming atmosphere, transitioning seamlessly from day to night. This concept aims to create a functional, modern, and tradition-rooted market environment for a delightful experience for locals and visitors.

1.2 Sports Complex

AREA	1.3 AC. (5,260.91 M²)
COMPLEX (TOTAL)	Sports Field (0.70 ac.) Park (0.60 ac.)

AMENITIES

Futsal field (synthetic turf), volleyball/basketball court (concrete), running path, stage seating area, landscaping, ample lighting, restrooms. Park area.

The playground area, once 1.3 acres for the adjacent school, has been used for parking and vendors for four years, reducing green space and outdoor activity areas. To reclaim this historical space, envision a versatile sports complex. It includes a synthetic-turf football field, concrete volleyball/basketball courts, and stage seating for events.

The complex is enclosed for safety, with a ticket booth for entry. Strategic lighting allows night events, and a peripheral park area with benches and trees completes the vision, creating a vibrant community space that balances sports, leisure, and nature. Visitors will get to experience these facilities using the integrated 800 foot long running track that winds its way through the park.

The new sports complex, located near St. Peter's Primary School, will be easily accessible to all students, including those with disabilities. Students from the school can conveniently enjoy the facility during school hours. Additionally, the complex will be open to the public on evenings and weekends, encouraging community involvement and promoting an active lifestyle for everyone.

What you'll do:

The objective of the consultancy is to complete the existing pre-feasibility studies, for bidding process, of the New Public Market and Sports Complex for Orange Walk Town.¹⁸

The following aspects must be developed:

- i) **Topographic Survey.** Conduct a topographic survey to gather elevation data, contours, and terrain characteristics of the project area.
- ii) **Architectural/engineering designs.** i) architectural-engineering design (including basic infrastructure, machinery, facilities and equipment required, together with the distribution of the physical space, technical specifications regarding water, wastewater, drainage, electrical networks, voice and data if necessary¹⁹-, special requirements of the work) and description of project components; and ii) infrastructure considerations with nature-based solutions. The proposals should consider factors of gender, diversity (including accessibility for people with disabilities) and the integration of migrant populations.
- iii) **Quantities and detailed budget** This section will develop: i) definition of the total costs in relation to the investment (CAPEX) and operation (OPEX) during its useful life (including the need for reinvestments); ii) flow of costs at market prices for the useful life of the project.
- iv) **Works schedule.** For an estimate of 18-month works.
- v) **Project risks. This section must identify** the risks (social, technical, legal, institutional, etc.) that may affect the construction and operation of the project, along with their corresponding mitigation measures and costs.
- vi) **Project Approval.** Outline the necessary approvals and permits from relevant authorities based on the feasibility study recommendations.
- vii) **Draft of bidding documents.**

What you'll need

- **Education:** Master's degree (or equivalent advanced degree) in urban planning, architecture, civil engineering or other fields relevant to the responsibilities of the role.

¹⁸ Based on pre-feasibility study (IDB, 2023)

¹⁹ In case of need of wi-fi or other kind of technology inside the buildings or public space.

- **Experience:** At least 10 years of experience in the development of proposals, project execution, contract management and/or monitoring and evaluation of urban/infrastructure projects.
- **Languages:** Proficiency in English. Additional knowledge of Spanish is preferable

Key skills:

- Learn continuously.
- Collaborate and share knowledge.
- Focus on clients.
- Communicate and influence.
- Innovate and try new things.

Requirements:

- **Citizenship:** You are either a citizen of Belize or a citizen of one of our 48-member countries with residency or legal permit to work in Belize
- **Consanguinity:** You have no family members (up to the fourth degree of consanguinity and second degree of affinity, including spouse) working at the IDB, IDB Invest, or IDB Lab.

Type of contract and duration:

- **Type of contract:** Products and External Services Consultant (PEC), Lump Sum.
- **Length of contract:** 3 months.
- **Work Location:** On site.

What we offer

The IDB group provides benefits that respond to the different needs and moments of an employee's life. These benefits include:

- A **competitive compensation** package.
- **Leave and vacations:** 2 days per month of contract + gender-neutral parental leave.
- **Health Insurance** the IDB Group provides a monthly allowance for the purchase of health insurance.
- **Savings plan:** The IDB Group cares about your future, depending on the length of the contract, you will receive a monthly savings plan allowance.
- **Hybrid and flexible** work schedules.
- **Health and wellbeing:** Access to our Health Services Center which provides preventive care and health education for all employees.
- **Development support:** We offer learning opportunities to boost your professional profile such as seminars, 1:1 professional counseling, and much more.

Consultant Part-Time

- A **competitive compensation** packages.
- A flexible way of working. You will be evaluated by deliverable.

Our culture

At the IDB Group we work so everyone brings their best and authentic selves to work, willing to try new approaches without fear, and where they are accountable and rewarded for their actions.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) are at the center of our organization. We celebrate all dimensions of diversity and encourage women, LGBTQ+ people, persons with disabilities, Afro-descendants, and Indigenous people to apply.

We will ensure that individuals with disabilities are provided reasonable accommodation to participate in the job interview process. If you are a qualified candidate with a disability, please e-mail us at diversity@iadb.org to request reasonable accommodation to complete this application.

Our Human Resources Team reviews carefully every application.

About the IDB Group

The IDB Group, composed of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), IDB Invest, and the IDB Lab offers flexible financing solutions to its member countries to finance economic and social development through lending and grants to public and private entities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

About IDB

We work to improve lives in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through financial and technical support for countries working to reduce poverty and inequality, we help improve health and education and advance infrastructure. Our aim is to achieve development in a sustainable, climate-friendly way. With a history dating back to 1959, today we are the leading source of development financing for Latin America and the Caribbean. We provide loans, grants, and technical assistance; and we conduct extensive research. We maintain a strong commitment to achieving measurable results and the highest standards of integrity, transparency, and accountability.

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https://twitter.com/the_IDB

About IDB Lab

Is the innovation laboratory of the IDB Group. We mobilize financing, knowledge, and connections to drive innovation for inclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean. We believe innovation is a powerful tool that can transform our region, providing today unprecedented opportunities to populations that are vulnerable due to economic, social, or environmental factors. IDB Lab has a commitment to gender quality and diversity as part of its development mandate. The Strategy and Impact unit supports IDB Lab in the development of strategy, connections and knowledge, and impact measurement and reporting.

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https://twitter.com/IDB_Lab

About IDB Invest

IDB Invest, a member of the IDB Group, is a multilateral development bank committed to promoting the economic development of its member countries in Latin America and the Caribbean through the private sector. IDB Invest finances sustainable companies and projects to achieve financial results and maximize economic, social, and environmental development in the region. With a portfolio of \$14.1 billion in asset management and 325 clients in 25 countries, IDB Invest provides innovative financial solutions and advisory services that meet the needs of its clients in a variety of industries.

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Consulting services to review and update the pre-feasibility study, for bidding process, of the public spaces and shared streets projects in Orange Walk, and supervision of the individual consultancies for projects in Corozal and Orange Walk.

Post of duty: Belize

The IDB Group is a community of diverse, versatile, and passionate people who come together on a journey to improve lives in Latin America and the Caribbean. Our people find purpose and do what they love in an inclusive, collaborative, agile, and rewarding environment.

Established in 1959, the Inter-American Development Bank (“IDB” or “Bank”) is the main source of financing for economic, social and institutional development in Latin America and the Caribbean. It provides loans, grants, guarantees, policy advice and technical assistance to the public and private sectors of its borrowing countries.

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Context. The population in Belize is growing fast, showing one of the highest annual growth rates in the region (1.52%)¹. The country's two city and seven town councils, responsible for urban regulation, construction permits, and local urban services, do not have adequate tools and capacities to lead a holistic, sustainable² development. These municipalities face specific interconnected challenges, such as improving the provision of urban services, local economic diversity, and community integration while also seeking to increase their resilience and capabilities across the board to manage growth effectively.

Unplanned urban growth and inadequate management have aggravated the deficit in providing urban services (Table 1). For example, only 10% of the streets in these three cities have stormwater drains, leading to frequent floods during heavy rain episodes. Similarly, lacking quality public spaces, such as green areas, limits social interactions and integration. Naturally, these deficits are more noticeable in vulnerable areas³, where many poor and displaced families live.

Table 8. Selected Urban Services Indicators per Municipality

Indicator	Orange Walk ^(a)	Corozal ^(b)	San Pedro ^(c)	Belize City
Paved roads (district)	11,7% ^(d)	7,7% ^(d)	8%	42,3% ^(d)
Drinking water ^(e)	87.6%	81.4%	83%	90% ^(f)
Sewer System	0% (94,5% septic tanks)	0%	20%	35% ^(f)
Drainage ^(g)	76% (15% concrete)	n/a	5.3% concrete	n/a

¹ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs: “Why population growth matters for sustainable development”; February 2022.

² In this document, the term “sustainable” is used in its broad sense, including environmental, social, urban, and economic/financial aspects.

³ In San Mateo, a vulnerable neighborhood of San Pedro with 2,329 inhabitants, there is no coverage of paved roads, sidewalks, sewage, stormwater drainage, bike lanes, street vegetation, nor public spaces (IDOM; 2023).

Indicator	Orange Walk ^(a)	Corozal ^(b)	San Pedro ^(c)	Belize City
Public spaces	3.96 sq mt/ inhabitant	n/a	4.05 sq mt / inhabitant	n/a
Qualified green areas ^(h)	n/a	n/a	0.8 sq mt / inhabitant	3.8 sq mt/ inhabitant ^(f)
Bike Lanes	0 km	0 km	0 km	0 km

- (a) Investment and Organizational Development Plan for Orange Walk (Economía Urbana; 2023).
- (b) Corozal Town Municipal Development Plan (MDP; 2013).
- (c) IDOM 2023.
- (d) [Annual technical report of the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing \(2021\)](#). Respectively, Gravel roads are 56.8%; 84.4% and 89.5%; and earth roads 0.8%; 3.9 and 2.8%.
- (e) Public or private piped into dwelling or yard (District’s totals); 2010 Census.
- (f) [Department of Environment - Belize](#).
- (g) Permeable and impermeable drainage systems. Concrete drains such as half round drains, underdrains, catch pits, precast concrete trap drains, and V-shape block drains.
- (h) The World Health Organization recommended the availability of a minimum of 9 m² of green space per individual (Health Indicators of Sustainable Cities in the Context of the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development. WHO; Geneva, Switzerland: 2012).

In 2022, intra-regional migrants comprised approximately 12% of Belize's population.⁴ In recent years, population growth has been explained mainly through migration factors: between 2019 and 2022, the population grew by 2.8%, primarily due to immigration.⁵ Since migrants are predominantly settling in precarious areas, this rapid influx intensifies the challenges in urban services provision, placing a strain on Belize’s infrastructure.⁶ In the vulnerable San Mateo (San Pedro) neighborhood, 17% of the population is foreign-born. They mainly migrated for economic reasons, but language barriers limit their access to skills development, employment, and social networks.

Additionally, while women represent about 51% of all migrants (SIB, 2021), Belize registered one of the lowest gender parity scores of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) in 2023 (0.696).⁷ Even though women have higher levels of education than men, their labor-market participation, employment levels, and wages are lower than men's (IDB, 2020). Across the LAC region, public infrastructure poses many accessibility challenges for people with disabilities.⁸ In Belize, the current legal framework lacks robust regulations ensuring infrastructure designs adhere to universal accessibility standards, thereby denying people with disabilities access to crucial services.⁹

In addition to physical and social elements, urban sustainability is also compromised by economic factors. The local economy's dependence on a single source of income threatens economic performance and sustainable growth. 85% of the population in Corozal and Orange Walk (OW) depends on the sugar sector.¹⁰ Tourism holds a great promise to help diversify the economy of these small towns. Still, the lack

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of incentives to attract private investments and adequate infrastructure to improve the commercialization of traditional products and services is why both districts receive just 4% of the national tourists' visits. To enhance the competitiveness of the tourism sector, Belize needs not only better urban planning, land use regulation, and access to urban services but also to improve the availability and quality of Belizean-made handicrafts and the commercialization of traditional products and to deeper integrate local communities and artisans into the tourism value chain.¹¹ In OW, for example, local vendors in the public market carry out their activities in poor conditions, exposed to the sun and rain, without solid flooring, drinking water, or safe electricity.¹²

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	a) Tourist Park (at the end of Church Street)
	b) Independence Park upgrading
	c) Main St., Church St. and Park St. Restoration (sidewalk widening, public lighting, bike lanes, stormwater retrofit, tree planting)
	ii) Naranjal street upgrade (permeable pavement, drainage, boardwalk, tree planting, public lighting, light facilities for street vendors) over the New River.
New Public Market and multipurpose public space.	Construction of market infrastructure
	Sports Complex

1. Two new public spaces connected by shared space interventions

1.2 Tourist Park (Palmar Rd.)

Area	0.6 AC. (2,428.11 M2)
Amenities	Palapas, landscaping, exercise equipment, kiosks, riverbank protection, kids playground equipment, street paving.

The present state of the small riverside park reveals a charming and accessible space near to downtown Orange Walk Town. Featuring an existing palapa, the park serves as a delightful haven along the riverside. Its popularity is evident as school children, accompanied by parents and guardians, frequent the area for various activities. The park functions as a communal space where families gather, with children enjoying their lunches and the park serves as a convenient waiting area for school pickups. This engagement highlights the park's role not only as a scenic retreat but as a vital and cherished community space, fostering connections and providing a welcoming environment for both relaxation and social activities.

The planned riverside park combines nature with community features. Small palapas provide shaded spots for relaxation, and gabion baskets along the riverbank act as both protective barriers and art.

Lush landscaping creates a green haven, with benches strategically placed for enjoying scenic views. The park includes vendor kiosks for local commerce, outdoor exercise equipment for fitness, and a formalized parking area for accessibility. In essence, it aims to be a well-rounded space, offering relaxation, recreation, and community engagement by the river.

¹⁸ Investment and Organizational Development Plan for Orange Walk (Economía Urbana; 2023)

1.2 Independence Park Upgrading

At present, a portion of Independence Plaza is allocated to a fast-food establishment, characterized by a shipping container food stall complemented by park benches and parasols for customer comfort. Additionally, a small stage, presently in a state of disrepair, is present, alongside a modest stall and a flag-raising area. Approximately half of the total area is covered with tarmac, while a dirt track provides riverbank access, with the remaining space featuring green areas, mainly grass with few fringe trees.

Area	1 Ac.
Park	0.45 Ac.
Amenities	Skate Park, Rock Wall, Riverbank protection, Stage Seating Area, Landscaping, Lighting.

The current state of the small riverside park is characterized by concrete bench seats and a persistent challenge of inundation following heavy rainfall, lasting for weeks at a time¹⁹. This flooding is a significant issue, impacting the accessibility and functionality of the park during such events.

Additionally, a section of the park has been leased to a private individual, boasting a small restaurant and bar within its confines. While this adds an element of commercial activity, it also raises considerations about the park's dual role as a public space and a leased commercial venture. Addressing the flooding issue and navigating the balance between public and private interests will be essential for optimizing the park's utility and ensuring a positive experience for both visitors and the commercial establishment.

The riverside park conceptualization aims to achieve a harmonious balance between recreation and environmental conservation. Situated along the riverbank, the park incorporates various recreational features while preserving the natural landscape. Skateboard enthusiasts can enjoy a small ramp specially designed for their passion, and for the more adventurous, a rock wall. The park also includes some stage seating and pathway access under the adjacent bridge that will provide a link to the House of Culture. Riverbank protection in the form of gabion baskets will be installed, combining functionality with visual appeal. Additional trees and bench seating will enhance the park's landscaping, providing visitors with tranquil spaces to relax and enjoy the serene environment.

To add to the park's functionality, the project will see the formalizing of the connection between Independence Park and the House of Culture. This is a 50 ft. long pathway under the nearby bridge. The pathway is currently being used but will require renovation in the form of clearing excessive vegetation, establishing a formal pathway and installing adequate lighting to improve access and security during the night.

1.3 Shared streets corridor

Main Street presently serves as a unidirectional asphalt thoroughfare aligned alongside the river. Spanning a distance of around 1,500 feet, originating in close proximity to Independence Plaza, it intersects with Church Street. The latter trajectory leads towards the river, culminating in an underdeveloped public space, denoted as plot 4611. Collectively, the harmonious alignment of Main Street and Church Street forms a contiguous corridor, spanning approximately 2,000 feet in length and 32 feet in width. This proposal outlines improvements for this corridor and the culminating public space.

In the contemporary urban milieu, streets not only function as mere conduits but also serve as fertile grounds for interaction and communal engagement. Shared space frameworks are useful tools for holistically retrofitting streets as places. The management shared spaces usually implies a distribution of

¹⁹ Approximately once every 5 years

space so that different modes of mobility can coexist. The Netherlands Knowledge Centre describe a shared space as “a new concept of holistic planning, designing and maintaining public space, in which the design is done in such a way that the interests and the individual responsibility of all users of that space comes first.” the shared space concept can be hugely beneficial to communities experiencing this tension between lost public space and the push from car traffic. It looks for public spaces where cars are guests, not masters, of the public realm. As Fred Kent says, "If you plan for cars and traffic, you get cars and traffic. But if you plan for people and places, you get people and places" (Project for Public Spaces 2017).

1.3.1 Main Street- Church Street - Park Street

Total Length	750 M (2,455 FT.)
Park St.	130 m (425 ft.)
Church St.	150 m (490 ft.)
Main St.	470 m (1,540 ft.)
Amenities	Wider sidewalks, landscaping, benches, improved lighting, improved drainage, handicap access.

The proposal to enhance the existing commercial corridor is a strategic endeavor aimed at transforming the urban landscape into a vibrant and pedestrian-friendly hub. The introduction of wider sidewalks will provide a more comfortable and inviting environment for pedestrians, encouraging strolling and fostering a sense of community. The incorporation of plants along the corridor not only adds a touch of greenery but also contributes to a visually appealing streetscape. Bench seats strategically placed offer resting spots for shoppers and locals alike, promoting social interaction. Improved lighting not only enhances safety but also extends the usability of the corridor into the evening, creating a lively atmosphere. The possibility of integrating bike lanes aligns with the town's commitment to sustainability, offering an alternative mode of transportation. This enhanced commercial corridor serves as a vital link, seamlessly connecting key points of interest that include the Main Market, Independence Park, Central Park and Tourist Park.

2. *New River Riverwalk*

2.1 Naranjal St. Riverwalk.

Length	300 mt or 400 mt.
Amenities	Pedestrian walk, improved lighting, paved street, exercise equipment, benches, kiosks, reinforced concrete retaining wall.

The proposed sustainable urban development project is an ambitious initiative that aims to transform the area along the New River, near the Maracas Restaurant, into a vibrant and eco-friendly public space. At the heart of this project is the construction of a boardwalk that will not only provide a scenic pathway for residents and tourists to enjoy, but also serve as a catalyst for positive change in the community.

The boardwalk will be thoughtfully designed to accommodate various amenities and features. One of the main goals is to create a welcoming and comfortable environment for people to gather and relax. To achieve this, the boardwalk will be equipped with strategically placed benches, providing ample seating for individuals to sit and enjoy the breathtaking views of the river.

In addition to the benches, the boardwalk will also house kiosks that will offer various services and refreshments. These kiosks will showcase local businesses and artisans, providing them with an opportunity to showcase their products and contribute to the local economy.

To encourage physical activity and promote a healthy lifestyle, the boardwalk will also feature exercise equipment. This will provide residents and visitors with an opportunity to engage in outdoor activities such

as jogging, cycling, or even simple stretching exercises. The integration of exercise equipment into the boardwalk design aims to promote a culture of fitness and well-being within the community.

Stormwater management will also be a significant aspect of the project. The area becomes inundated periodically (once every 5 years). And as such the resiliency of the construction materials must take this into consideration. Additionally, the project will also aim to provide stormwater relief for the nearby wetland, by installing strategically placed cross culverts along Naranjal St.

Note: There are two (2) proposal for this intervention. Option (1) is a 300 m river walk and Option (2) is a 400 m riverwalk. The difference results from the uncertainty of land acquisition. There are four private lots adjacent to the river. If these lots can be made public, then the 400m option will be considered. As it will be able to connect two well-known business establishments – Maracas and Palm Island.

What you'll do:

The objective of the consultancy is to complete the existing pre-feasibility studies, for bidding process, of the Initial interventions of the River Walk Development Strategy²⁰ consisting in two new public spaces connected by shared space interventions²¹ and Naranjal street upgrading²² over the New River for Orange Walk Town and supervision of the consultancies “to review and update the pre-feasibility study, for bidding process, of the public facilities (Public Market and Sports Complex) in Orange Walk” and “to review and update the pre-feasibility study, for bidding process, of the Heritage Plaza, Mother's park and St. Paul Boardwalk projects in Corozal”.

According to the above, the consultancy will be divided in two parts:

1. **Technical development of the Initial interventions of the River Walk Development Strategy**, in which the following aspects must be carried out: i) Topographic survey; ii) Architectural/engineering designs; iii) Detailed budget iv) Works schedule; v) project risks; vi) Community engagement plan; vii) Project approval; and viii) Draft of bidding documents. It is highly recommended to consider nature base solutions every time is possible.
 - i. **Topographic Survey.** Conduct a topographic survey to gather elevation data, contours, and terrain characteristics of the project area. Services shall include but not be limited to undertaking site investigations, soil and geotechnical surveys and topographical surveys and any other test, survey, and/or investigation deemed necessary to reliably, effectively, and efficiently inform the design of the site, building foundations and site works. Those investigations should at a minimum include four (4) test holes to carry out a Standard Penetration Test (SPT) or equivalent sub-surface investigation so as to determine soil bearing capacity and foundation suitability, soil percolation test(s) to design an adequate wastewater treatment system, and a detailed (horizontal and vertical) topographical survey of the entire project site, to include the location of above ground, underground and underwater utilities.
 - ii. **Architectural/engineering designs.** i) architectural-engineering design (including basic infrastructure, machinery, facilities and equipment required, together with the distribution of the physical space, technical specifications regarding water, wastewater, drainage, electrical networks, voice and data if necessary²³-, special requirements of the work) and description of

²⁰ Based on pre-feasibility study (IDB, 2023)

²¹ a) Tourist Park (at the end of Church Street); b) Independence Park upgrading; and c) Main St., Church St. and Park St. Restoration (sidewalk widening, public lighting, bike lanes, stormwater retrofit, tree planting)

²² Permeable pavement, drainage, boardwalk, tree planting, public lighting, light facilities for street vendors.

²³ In case of need of wi-fi or other kind of technology inside the buildings or public space.

project components; and ii) infrastructure considerations with nature-based solutions. The proposals should consider factors of gender, diversity (including accessibility for people with disabilities) and the integration of migrant populations.

- iii. **Quantities and detailed budget** This section will develop: i) definition of the total costs in relation to the investment (CAPEX) and operation (OPEX) during its useful life (including the need for reinvestments); ii) flow of costs at market prices for the useful life of the project.
- iv. **Works schedule.** For an estimate of 18-month works.
- v. **Project risks. This section must identify** the risks (social, technical, legal, institutional, etc.) that may affect the construction and operation of the project, along with their corresponding mitigation measures and costs.
- vi. **Project Approval.** Outline the necessary approvals and permits from relevant authorities based on the feasibility study recommendations.
- vii. **Draft of bidding documents.**

In order to carry out these activities, all the information already developed on the project, as well as all public information that is useful for the preparation of the documents and technical plans must be reviewed. Permanent contact must be made with the authorities of the Town Council and the IDB.

2. Supervision of consultancies “to review and update the pre-feasibility study, for bidding process, of the public facilities (Public Market and Sports Complex) in Orange Walk” and “to review and update the pre-feasibility study, for bidding process, of the Heritage Plaza, Mother’s park and St. Paul Boardwalk projects in Corozal, in which the following aspects must be carried out:
 - i. Review and give recommendations to designs and documents.
 - ii. Conduct inspections – if necessary- of the sites to validate the proposals and technical solutions.
 - iii. Participate in meetings and consultations with CEU, Town Council and/or IDB, and other key stakeholders to confirm any specific requirements for the projects.

What you'll need

- **Education:** Master’s degree (or equivalent advanced degree) in urban planning, architecture, civil engineering or other fields relevant to the responsibilities of the role.
- **Experience:** At least 10 years of experience in the development of proposals, project execution, contract management and/or monitoring and evaluation of urban/infrastructure projects.
- **Languages:** Proficiency in English. Additional knowledge of Spanish is preferable

Key skills:

- Learn continuously.
- Collaborate and share knowledge.
- Focus on clients.
- Communicate and influence.
- Innovate and try new things.

Requirements:

- **Citizenship:** You are either a citizen of Belize or a citizen of one of our 48-member countries with residency or legal permit to work in Belize
- **Consanguinity:** You have no family members (up to the fourth degree of consanguinity and second degree of affinity, including spouse) working at the IDB, IDB Invest, or IDB Lab.

Type of contract and duration:

- **Type of contract:** Products and External Services Consultant (PEC), Lump Sum.
- **Length of contract:** 4 months.
- **Work Location:** On site.

What we offer

The IDB group provides benefits that respond to the different needs and moments of an employee's life. These benefits include:

- A **competitive compensation** package.
- **Leave and vacations:** 2 days per month of contract + gender-neutral parental leave.
- **Health Insurance** the IDB Group provides a monthly allowance for the purchase of health insurance.
- **Savings plan:** The IDB Group cares about your future, depending on the length of the contract, you will receive a monthly savings plan allowance.
- **Hybrid and flexible** work schedules.
- **Health and wellbeing:** Access to our Health Services Center which provides preventive care and health education for all employees.
- **Development support:** We offer learning opportunities to boost your professional profile such as seminars, 1:1 professional counseling, and much more.

Consultant Part-Time

- A **competitive compensation** packages.
- A flexible way of working. You will be evaluated by deliverable.

Our culture

At the IDB Group we work so everyone brings their best and authentic selves to work, willing to try new approaches without fear, and where they are accountable and rewarded for their actions.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) are at the center of our organization. We celebrate all dimensions of diversity and encourage women, LGBTQ+ people, persons with disabilities, Afro-descendants, and Indigenous people to apply.

We will ensure that individuals with disabilities are provided reasonable accommodation to participate in the job interview process. If you are a qualified candidate with a disability, please e-mail us at diversity@iadb.org to request reasonable accommodation to complete this application.

Our Human Resources Team reviews carefully every application.

About the IDB Group

The IDB Group, composed of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), IDB Invest, and the IDB Lab offers flexible financing solutions to its member countries to finance economic and social development through lending and grants to public and private entities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

About IDB

We work to improve lives in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through financial and technical support for countries working to reduce poverty and inequality, we help improve health and education and advance infrastructure. Our aim is to achieve development in a sustainable, climate-friendly way. With a history dating back to 1959, today we are the leading source of development financing for Latin America and the Caribbean. We provide loans, grants, and technical assistance; and we conduct extensive research. We maintain a strong commitment to achieving measurable results and the highest standards of integrity, transparency, and accountability.

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About IDB Lab

Is the innovation laboratory of the IDB Group. We mobilize financing, knowledge, and connections to drive innovation for inclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean. We believe innovation is a powerful tool that can transform our region, providing today unprecedented opportunities to populations that are vulnerable due to economic, social, or environmental factors. IDB Lab has a commitment to gender quality and diversity as part of its development mandate. The Strategy and Impact unit supports IDB Lab in the development of strategy, connections and knowledge, and impact measurement and reporting.

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About IDB Invest

IDB Invest, a member of the IDB Group, is a multilateral development bank committed to promoting the economic development of its member countries in Latin America and the Caribbean through the private sector. IDB Invest finances sustainable companies and projects to achieve financial results and maximize economic, social, and environmental development in the region. With a portfolio of \$14.1 billion in asset management and 325 clients in 25 countries, IDB Invest provides innovative financial solutions and advisory services that meet the needs of its clients in a variety of industries.

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Support for the Central Executing Unit – CEU for the Technical Cooperation BL-T1168 and BL-L1046 implementation. Product External Consultant

Post of duty: Belize

The IDB Group is a community of diverse, versatile, and passionate people who come together on a journey to improve lives in Latin America and the Caribbean. Our people find purpose and do what they love in an inclusive, collaborative, agile, and rewarding environment.

Established in 1959, the Inter-American Development Bank (“IDB” or “Bank”) is the main source of financing for economic, social and institutional development in Latin America and the Caribbean. It provides loans, grants, guarantees, policy advice and technical assistance to the public and private sectors of its borrowing countries.

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Country Office in Belize (CID/CBL) (i) supports the design, implementation and administration of development projects and programs (loans and grants); (ii) leads and maintains the dialogue with the Government of Belize (GOB), its key public sector institutions (Ministries), representatives of the private sector and civil society members; (iii) monitors the country’s macroeconomic, political and social environment; (iv) coordinates the preparation of economic sector work relevant for the country and the region and (v) monitors the evolution of the business climate in the country and identifies potential private sector development opportunities.

Context. The population in Belize is growing fast, showing one of the highest annual growth rates in the region (1.52%)¹. The country's two city and seven town councils, responsible for urban regulation, construction permits, and local urban services, do not have adequate tools and capacities to lead a holistic, sustainable² development. These municipalities face specific interconnected challenges, such as improving the provision of urban services, local economic diversity, and community integration while also seeking to increase their resilience and capabilities across the board to manage growth effectively.

Unplanned urban growth and inadequate management have aggravated the deficit in providing urban services (Table 1). For example, only 10% of the streets in these three cities have stormwater drains, leading to frequent floods during heavy rain episodes. Similarly, lacking quality public spaces, such as green areas, limits social interactions and integration. Naturally, these deficits are more noticeable in vulnerable areas³, where many poor and displaced families live.

Table 10. Selected Urban Services Indicators per Municipality

Indicator	Orange Walk ^(a)	Corozal ^(b)	San Pedro ^(c)	Belize City
Paved roads (district)	11,7% ^(d)	7,7% ^(d)	8%	42,3% ^(d)
Drinking water ^(e)	87.6%	81.4%	83%	90% ^(f)
Sewer System	0% (94,5% septic tanks)	0%	20%	35% ^(f)
Drainage ^(g)	76% (15% concrete)	n/a	5.3% concrete	n/a

¹ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs: “Why population growth matters for sustainable development”; February 2022.

² In this document, the term “sustainable” is used in its broad sense, including environmental, social, urban, and economic/financial aspects.

³ In San Mateo, a vulnerable neighborhood of San Pedro with 2,329 inhabitants, there is no coverage of paved roads, sidewalks, sewage, stormwater drainage, bike lanes, street vegetation, nor public spaces (IDOM; 2023).

Indicator	Orange Walk ^(a)	Corozal ^(b)	San Pedro ^(c)	Belize City
Public spaces	3.96 sq mt/ inhabitant	n/a	4.05 sq mt / inhabitant	n/a
Qualified green areas ^(h)	n/a	n/a	0.8 sq mt / inhabitant	3.8 sq mt/ inhabitant ^(f)
Bike Lanes	0 km	0 km	0 km	0 km

- (i) Investment and Organizational Development Plan for Orange Walk (Economía Urbana; 2023).
- (a) Corozal Town Municipal Development Plan (MDP; 2013).
- (b) IDOM 2023.
- (c) [Annual technical report of the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing \(2021\)](#). Respectively, Gravel roads are 56.8%; 84.4% and 89.5%; and earth roads 0.8%; 3.9 and 2.8%.
- (d) Public or private piped into dwelling or yard (District's totals); 2010 Census.
- (e) [Department of Environment - Belize](#).
- (f) Permeable and impermeable drainage systems. Concrete drains such as half round drains, underdrains, catch pits, precast concrete trap drains, and V-shape block drains.
- (g) The World Health Organization recommended the availability of a minimum of 9 m² of green space per individual (Health Indicators of Sustainable Cities in the Context of the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development. WHO; Geneva, Switzerland: 2012).

In 2022, intra-regional migrants comprised approximately 12% of Belize's population.⁴ In recent years, population growth has been explained mainly through migration factors: between 2019 and 2022, the population grew by 2.8%, primarily due to immigration.⁵ Since migrants are predominantly settling in precarious areas, this rapid influx intensifies the challenges in urban services provision, placing a strain on Belize's infrastructure.⁶ In the vulnerable San Mateo (San Pedro) neighborhood, 17% of the population is foreign-born. They mainly migrated for economic reasons, but language barriers limit their access to skills development, employment, and social networks.

Additionally, while women represent about 51% of all migrants (SIB, 2021), Belize registered one of the lowest gender parity scores of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) in 2023 (0.696).⁷ Even though women have higher levels of education than men, their labor-market participation, employment levels, and wages are lower than men's (IDB, 2020). Across the LAC region, public infrastructure poses many accessibility challenges for people with disabilities.⁸ In Belize, the current legal framework lacks robust regulations ensuring infrastructure designs adhere to universal accessibility standards, thereby denying people with disabilities access to crucial services.⁹

In addition to physical and social elements, urban sustainability is also compromised by economic factors. The local economy's dependence on a single source of income threatens economic performance and sustainable growth. 85% of the population in Corozal and Orange Walk (OW) depends on the sugar sector.¹⁰ Tourism holds a great promise to help diversify the economy of these small towns. Still, the lack

⁴ IDB Calculation based on data from the Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB).

⁵ The percentage increase represents the change in the share of immigrant stocks for the period 2019-2022. IDB calculation based on data from the SIB.

⁶ Even though there is an information gap about migrants' access to basic services, surveys conducted by CID-Gallup in 2010, point out that access to water services by migrants is about 64%, significantly lower than the national average.

⁷ Global Gender Gap Report, World Economic Forum (WEF), 2023.

⁸ [Breaking Barriers, WB, 2021](#)

⁹ ["Marco legal de los derechos de las personas con discapacidad: América Latina y El Caribe", Bregaglio, IDB 2021.](#)

¹⁰ The sector is estimated to account for about 4–5% of total GDP and 8% of total employment. (Can Belize cope with the new world sugar market? IMF 2016).

of incentives to attract private investments and adequate infrastructure to improve the commercialization of traditional products and services is why both districts receive just 4% of the national tourists' visits. To enhance the competitiveness of the tourism sector, Belize needs not only better urban planning, land use regulation, and access to urban services but also to improve the availability and quality of Belizean-made handicrafts and the commercialization of traditional products and to deeper integrate local communities and artisans into the tourism value chain.¹¹ In OW, for example, local vendors in the public market carry out their activities in poor conditions, exposed to the sun and rain, without solid flooring, drinking water, or safe electricity.¹²

Across these challenges, Belize faces significant climate change risks, including hurricanes, flooding, rising sea levels, coastal erosion, coral bleaching, and droughts¹³, alongside extreme temperature events.¹⁴ Corozal Town, located in the low-lying Corozal district, is highly flood-prone, with ongoing coastal erosion threatening its sea wall integrity (MDP, 2013). Climate change exacerbates impacts of coastal hazards, such as erosion and flooding, on property, infrastructure, and communities.¹⁵ Orange Walk, situated between wetlands and the New River, experiences annual floods affecting over 100 families.¹⁶ Ambergris Caye is susceptible to hurricanes, floods, and other disasters.¹⁷ While 58.2% of the Caye is affected by flood-prone areas, the main risks identified are storm surge, strong winds, and coastal erosion (IDOM, 2023). While the National Government handles disaster preparedness and response, municipalities are critical in bolstering resilience through green infrastructure, sustainable planning, and proactive measures.

Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program (BL-L1046 and BL-J0007). In line with the government plan to transform Belize into a more inclusive and sustainable country (Plan Belize MTDS 2022-2026) and by the objective of the Country Strategy 2022-2025 to achieve robust, inclusive, and sustainable growth, Belizean authorities seek assistance from the Bank to design and implement multisectoral and sustainable interventions to trigger the development of northern Belize, and to improve social sustainability by integrating vulnerable migrant populations and host communities. In response, the Bank recently approved the Operation “Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program” (BL-L1046 & BL-J0007). The specific objectives are (i) to improve access to selected urban services, (ii) to support local economic growth, and (iii) to facilitate the social and economic integration of vulnerable populations, such as migrants and women.

The program will be used as a pilot project to learn from its implementation and be able to replicate promising practices in future interventions. Besides the mentioned development challenges, the three major towns of northern Belize also present the opportunity to learn from three different urban typologies (coastal, island, and inland) to improve future interventions in other urban areas of the country. Jointly work along with the Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government (MRTCDLLG) in charge of the strengthening of local authorities, will reinforce the catalytic purpose of this Program, generating capabilities to replicate activities across the Country with own or external resources. The Program will complement government’s current efforts to implement the MTDS in these three towns.

The program BL-1046 is structured into two components: (i) Institutional Strengthening for Sustainable Development, aiming to strengthen municipal and national capacities through (a) the elaboration of municipal institutional strengthening plans, municipal development plans, sustainable zoning plans with a gender approach and climate change considerations, coastal management plans, public-private collaboration plans, the implementation of digital tools for sustainable urban development, and specific

¹¹ [Belize Tourism & Conservation Adaptation Plans and National Sustainable Tourism Master Plan for Belize 2030 \(NSTMP\)](#)

¹² OW Town Council information and field visits.

¹³ IDB Country Strategy 2022-2025.

¹⁴ [WB](#), 2023.

¹⁵ IDB BL-T1080 ([ATN/MD-15572-BL](#) and [ATN/OC-15573-BL](#)): Final Report “Bay Shoreline Management Plan: Planning for Climate Resilience” (2018).

¹⁶ Orange Walk Flood Mitigation Concept Note (Catalyst Solutions CG; 2022).

¹⁷ From 62 events that occurred in the past, 67% were hurricanes, 22% were floods, and the remaining 11% were epidemics and fires (DesInvetar Sendai developed by UNDRR; July 2023).

activities to support the integration of migrants and their host communities; and (ii) Sustainable Urban Investments, with two types of interventions: (a) neighborhood upgrading projects in vulnerable communities; and (b) creating or upgrading public spaces and public facilities in prioritized areas in terms of the local economy or tourism attraction. Table 2 presents projects currently prioritized by the municipalities.

Identified Investments: Component II will finance sustainable urban services' investments such as (i) public spaces and municipal facilities (i.e., public markets, accommodations for local vendors, tourist centers, kindergartens, primary health care, and cultural centers) and (ii) the provision of essential urban infrastructure (water, sewage, drainage, efficient public lighting, improvement of existing municipal roads, sidewalks, bike lanes, among others). Interventions will be implemented in vulnerable neighborhoods and prioritized urban areas.

Table 11. Identified Projects

Resilient Intervention	Components	Estimated cost (US\$)
COROZAL		\$1,877,200
	Mothers' Park upgrading	\$131,500
	Children's Park upgrading	\$192,500
	Basketball court and Amphitheater area enhancement	\$258,500
	Seaside Pathway	\$165,000
	Fisherman's Pier upgrading	\$79,200
	Municipal pier upgrading and welcome center	\$225,500
	St. Paul's Boardwalk (seawall protection)	\$825,000
ORANGE WALK		\$6,500,568
	(i) Two new public spaces connected by shared street¹ interventions	
Initial interventions of the River Walk Development Strategy	a) Tourist Park	\$528,000
	b) Independence Park upgrading ²	\$231,000
	c) Main St., Church St., and Park Street restoration	\$1,160,500
	ii) Naranjal Street upgrade over the New River.³	\$1,001,000
New Public Market and multipurpose public space.	Construction of market infrastructure	\$1,144,000
	Sports Complex ⁴	\$550,000
Integral intervention in the Marcos Canul neighborhood	Pavement, drainage, water supply, sewage, public lighting, public space, sidewalks.	\$1,886,068

(1) Components: sidewalk widening, public lighting, stormwater retrofit, and tree planting.

(2) The park is located next to La Inmaculada R.C. Primary School (910 students, 15 with special needs).

(3) Components: permeable pavement, drainage, boardwalk, tree planting, public lighting, facilities for street vendors

(4) The complex will be located in front of St. Peter's School, with 324 students (almost 10%, 31 students, present disabilities).

About this position

The Housing and Urban Development División (CSD/HUD) of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) strives to help Latin American and Caribbean cities address the New Urban Agenda (Habitat III), aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement. Our work includes an urban portfolio and a knowledge program focused on sustainability and climate change mainstreaming.

Beyond cross-cutting themes such as climate change, resilience, and gender equality, our operations in the IDB's Housing and Urban Development Division are structured around four action areas: (i) urban infrastructure and services, including neighborhood upgrading; (ii) housing; (iii) habitat, public landscape, and heritage; (iv) institutions, governance, and management.

In this respect, the Housing and Urban Development Division (HUD) needs for an individual consultant to support the CEU in implementing the activities planned in the technical cooperation, specifically related to the review of pre-investment studies for the design and construction of the prioritized projects for Orange Walk and Corozal, coordinate efforts to mainstream climate change aspects within studies and designs, and facilitate coordinating activities involving key stakeholders, and workshops to support the validation of pre-investment studies. The ideal candidate should have previous experience working in the coordination and oversight of infrastructure projects. Previous experience working for Multilateral Organizations, national or local governments, or the Government of Belize is highly desirable.

What you'll do:

The selected candidate will:

Identify, Analyze, Review, Planning and Coordinate

- Define the work plan and a basic timeline for the consultancy.
- Identify and analyze any relevant document for the consultancy, including specific diagnosis data, previous strategic plans for the beneficiary municipalities, sectoral development plans, investment plans, and any information regarding urban, environmental, social, fiscal and economic aspects of Ambergris Caye, Corozal and Orange Walk Towns.
- Support the review of pre-investment studies, deliver recommendations and feedback.
- Follow-up the development of the consultancies carried out in the framework of the TC.
- In coordination with the CEU representatives, identify key stakeholders for the development of the pre-investment studies and the design and implementation of capacity building activities.
- In coordination with the Bank and CEU representatives, carrying out of virtual meetings and in-place visits to consolidate information, get a first-hand impression of the areas, hold meetings with relevant stakeholders, support other consultancies development, and any other relevant activity for the consultancy.
- Collaborate with the CEU in the review and validation of intermediate and final products of the TC and the Program, the design and implementation of pilot projects and capacity building activities, the preparation of presentations and other tasks to ensure the delivery of products meets the requirements of the CEU
- Participate in technical meetings and propose recommendations to support the CEU technical team to solve any challenges for the development of the activities.
- Supervise the inclusion of gender, diversity (including accessibility for people with disabilities), and the integration of migrant populations considerations in the proposals and activities to be developed by the CEU.

In order to carry out these activities, all the information already developed on the identified projects, as well as all public information that is useful for the preparation of the document must be reviewed. Permanent contact must be made with the authorities of each municipality and the IDB.

Deliverables and payments timeline

The consultant will submit monthly/bimonthly reports to the Team Leader, previous acceptance of the CEU representative appointed to supervise the contract.

The reports shall be delivered in English language and shall contain the activities developed during the period and other relevant information, clearly identifying the results obtained, difficulties, and information gaps in accordance with the adopted methodological procedure.

The Consultant shall collaborate closely with the executing agency, municipalities as well as the borrower to assure compliance with the standards and time periods required for the approval and adequate execution of the consultation. Nevertheless, the Consultant shall be responsible for collecting information and being informed as to the deadlines and project management standards required by the country and the borrower.

What you'll need

- **Education:** Master's degree in urbanism, economics, social science, public administration, local development, international development, or other fields relevant to the responsibilities of the role.
- **Experience:** A minimum of 5 years of relevant professional experience in the public and/or private sector. At least 3 years' experience with multilateral development institutions or other external donors would be an asset
- **Languages:** Proficiency in English. Working communication skills in Spanish (written and oral).
- **Areas of Expertise:** The candidate should have a demonstrated capacity for documents elaboration; excellent coordination, communications, organizational and interpersonal skills.

Requirements:

- **Citizenship:** You are a citizen of one of our 48-member countries.
- **Consanguinity:** You have no family members (up to the fourth degree of consanguinity and second degree of affinity, including spouse) working at the IDB, IDB Invest, or IDB Lab.

Type of contract and duration:

- **Type of contract:** National Consultant Part-Time.
- **Length of contract:** 20 months.
- **Work Location:** On site.
- **Responsible person:** The consultant will be supervised by Martin Soulier Faure (CSD/HUD). MSOULIER@iadb.org Sector Sr Specialist

What we offer

The IDB group provides benefits that respond to the different needs and moments of an employee's life. These benefits include:

- A **competitive compensation** packages.
- A flexible way of working. You will be evaluated by deliverable.

Our culture

At the IDB Group we work so everyone brings their best and authentic selves to work, willing to try new approaches without fear, and where they are accountable and rewarded for their actions.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) are at the center of our organization. We celebrate all dimensions of diversity and encourage women, LGBTQ+ people, persons with disabilities, Afro-descendants, and Indigenous people to apply.

We will ensure that individuals with disabilities are provided reasonable accommodation to participate in the job interview process. If you are a qualified candidate with a disability, please e-mail us at diversity@iadb.org to request reasonable accommodation to complete this application.

Our Human Resources Team reviews carefully every application.

About the IDB Group

The IDB Group, composed of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), IDB Invest, and the IDB Lab offers flexible financing solutions to its member countries to finance economic and social development through lending and grants to public and private entities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

About IDB

We work to improve lives in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through financial and technical support for countries working to reduce poverty and inequality, we help improve health and education and advance infrastructure. Our aim is to achieve development in a sustainable, climate-friendly way. With a history dating back to 1959, today we are the leading source of development financing for Latin America and the Caribbean. We provide loans, grants, and technical assistance; and we conduct extensive research. We maintain a strong commitment to achieving measurable results and the highest standards of integrity, transparency, and accountability.

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About IDB Lab

Is the innovation laboratory of the IDB Group. We mobilize financing, knowledge, and connections to drive innovation for inclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean. We believe innovation is a powerful tool that can transform our region, providing today unprecedented opportunities to populations that are vulnerable due to economic, social, or environmental factors. IDB Lab has a commitment to gender quality and diversity as part of its development mandate. The Strategy and Impact unit supports IDB Lab in the development of strategy, connections and knowledge, and impact measurement and reporting.

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About IDB Invest

IDB Invest, a member of the IDB Group, is a multilateral development bank committed to promoting the economic development of its member countries in Latin America and the Caribbean through the private sector. IDB Invest finances sustainable companies and projects to achieve financial results and maximize economic, social, and environmental development in the region. With a portfolio of \$14.1 billion in asset management and 325 clients in 25 countries, IDB Invest provides innovative financial solutions and advisory services that meet the needs of its clients in a variety of industries.

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