



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Planning, Economic Affairs and Development
OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARY

PEAD (SEPPD): 11/4/74

August 7th, 2025

Mr. Julian Belgrave
Representative
Country Office of Trinidad and Tobago
Inter-American Development Bank
17 Alexandra Street, St. Clair
Port of Spain

Dear Mr. Belgrave,

**Re: No Objection of the Next Steps on IDB Compete Caribbean (CC+) Pillar 2 Project
Proposals – Trinidad and Tobago**

The Ministry of Planning, Economic Affairs and Development (MPEAD) wishes to thank the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for its continued collaboration and technical support in advancing the Compete Caribbean (CC+) Pillar 2 agenda for Trinidad and Tobago.

We acknowledge receipt of your correspondence dated July 28, 2025, outlining the proposed next steps for the two project proposals submitted under the recent CC+ Call for Projects. The Ministry is pleased to convey its no objection to the dual approach proposed, as follows:

- 1. Institute of Marine Affairs (IMA) Project:** The MPEAD is in support of the advancement of the technical cooperation (TC) grant approval process and welcome the engagement of a consultant to refine the project design and align it with the available budget of US\$200,000. We further confirm our agreement for the IDB to serve as the Executing Agency for this operation, which is scheduled to commence implementation in Q4 2025.

- 2. Tobago House of Assembly (THA) Project:** The MPEAD support the IDB's plan to engage the THA regarding its participation in a regional TC initiative focused on innovative green financing mechanisms. As mentioned by the Bank, this initiative would include THA and Antigua and Barbuda, with a focus on developing innovative green financing mechanisms. Such collaboration would promote economies of scale, enable knowledge sharing, and enhance policy coherence, thus laying the foundation to establish and potentially scale MSME green financing frameworks. We also welcome efforts to assess the alignment of this initiative with the existing Blue Economy Roadmap for Tobago, previously financed by the Bank.

The MPEAD is confident that this approach will contribute to tangible outcomes for both proposals and create opportunities for enhanced regional collaboration and knowledge exchange.

In this regard, the MPEAD has no objection to the IDB initiating technical assistance for the IMA proposal. Furthermore, the MPEAD proposes that the IDB serve as the Executing Agency for this operation which will enable the concentration of the management of activities thus minimizing the risk of delay.

Sincerely,



Permanent Secretary (Ag.)
Ministry of Planning, Economic Affairs and Development

**PERMANENT SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT**



**Ministry of Health, Wellness, Environment and Civil Service Affairs
St. John's
Antigua**

11th November 2025

Compete Caribbean Partnership Facility
The Inter-American Development Bank
"Hythe" Welches, Maxwell Main Road
Christ Church, BB17068, Barbados

RE: Confirmation of Interest and Request for IDB Execution – Strengthening Regional Institutional Capacity for Sustainable and Inclusive Financing (SIF)

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and the Department of Environment within the Ministry of Health, Wellness, Environment and Civil Service Affairs

I am writing to confirm our interest to advance with implementation of the project entitled: **Strengthening Regional Institutional Capacity for Sustainable and Inclusive Financing (SIF)**, which has been shortlisted for funding under the Compete Caribbean+ (CC+) Programme.

The objective of this Technical Cooperation (TC) is to build regional and institutional capacity to design and operationalise sustainable, inclusive financing mechanisms that strengthen SMEs' climate resilience and serve as a model for sustainable financing across the Caribbean.

The Government reaffirms its commitment to actively collaborate in the process to finalise project design and throughout project implementation. In Antigua & Barbuda, the focus is to operationalise a Sustainable Resilience Facility (SRF) targeted to vulnerable SMEs, including women-owned SMEs. In Tobago, a feasibility analysis will inform the design of a Green Financing Facility (GFF), and produce the accompanying institutional and governance frameworks to channel sustainable investment into the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

We also hereby request the **Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)** to act as the **Executing Agency** for this Technical Cooperation (TC) operation and look forward to continued partnership with the IDB toward the successful realization of the project's objectives and intended outcomes.

Sincerely,

Mr. Colin O'Keiffe
Permanent Secretary
Ministry with responsibility for Environment
On behalf of the Government of Antigua & Barbuda
and the Department of Environment