

## Technical Cooperation Document

### I. BASIC PROJECT DATA

▪ Country/Region:	Regional
▪ TC Name:	Technical management of the Broadband Special Program
▪ TC Number:	RG-T2769
▪ Team Leader/Members:	Roberto Manrique (IFD/IFD, Team Leader); Maria Ines Vasquez (IFD/IFD); Blanca Torrico (IFD/CTI) Project Assistant; and Sofia Greco (LEG/SGO)
▪ Taxonomy:	Research & Dissemination
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	March, 2016
▪ Beneficiary:	26 IDB borrowing countries
▪ Executing Agency and contact name:	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), through the Institutions for Development Sector (IFD/IFD)
▪ Donors providing funding:	Broadband Special Program (BBD)
▪ IDB Funding Requested:	US\$140,000
▪ Local counterpart funding, if any:	N/A
▪ Disbursement period (which includes execution period):	24 months
▪ Required start date:	July, 2016
▪ Types of consultants (firm or individual consultants):	Individual consultants and Firms
▪ Prepared by Unit:	IFD/IFD
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	IFD/IFD
▪ Included in Country Strategy (y/n);	N/A
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	N/A
▪ GCI-9 Sector Priority:	“Support Competitive Global and Regional Integration”, and “Institutions for Growth and Social Welfare” strategies

### II. OBJECTIVE AND JUSTIFICATION

- 2.1 In March 2013, the Inter-American Development Bank (the Bank) approved the launching of the Broadband Special Program (BBD) financed with resources from the Ordinary Capital and a Multi-Donor Fund. The BBD aims at creating an institutional and regulatory framework in the region to boost competition and investment in order to enhance access, adoption and usage of Broadband services.
- 2.2 Since its inception, the BBD has provided technical support to the 26 Bank borrowing countries to help enhance their capabilities to: (i) develop public policies and governance models to ensure the leadership of entities involved in designing and implementing broadband strategies; (ii) develop strategic regulation to foster effective, sustainable competition, while providing legal certainty for investment and laying the foundation for greater regional coordination and standardization of regulatory matters; and (iii) strengthen the capacities of relevant entities to pursue the objectives universal broadband access, usage, and adoption.

- 2.3 The present Technical Cooperation (TC) is aligned with the provisions stated in the “Proposal for the Creation of a Special Program and a Multidonor Fund for Broadband Services”. This document establishes that a maximum of 7% of the BBD annual resource allocation would be set aside to finance operating expenses” (GN-2704 paragraph 3.3). These resources would contribute to enhance the impact of the Program by executing a timely and efficient technical management; assessing the BBD portfolio and carrying on the associated monitoring and dissemination activities. As part of this set aside in previous years, TCs (RG-T2370, RG-X1216 and RG-X1243) have supported the BBD Technical Secretariat to maintain a high quality performance of the portfolio, with a solid disbursement ratio and a low rate of alerts,<sup>1</sup> and increase its visibility through creative dissemination and communications strategies. For instance, in October 2015, jointly with other Institutions for Development Sector Funds, the BBD showcased the results and impacts of most emblematic BBD projects. Moreover, the BBD hold a regional event “[Broadband Applications for Development – Hackathon](#)” in Medellin, where entrepreneurs from Andean countries gathered to develop innovative applications. The event was showcased the critical support that the BBD provides to innovation and to the development of digital solutions to improve the lives of citizens in the region.
- 2.4 Building on the results and lessons from previous, similar TCs, this TC will make it possible to closely monitor the portfolio in order to maintain high quality technical performance and support the effective showcasing of the results of the BBD. The TC will also finance and support a comprehensive evaluation of the BBD to analyze its results, and highlight its major achievements and challenges ahead.
- 2.5 The TC is aligned with the Bank’s Institutional Strategy since its expected results contribute to enhance projects that aim at strengthening the capacity of the state and providing inclusive broadband services.
- 2.6 **Objectives:** The goal of this technical cooperation is ensure a proactive and sound portfolio management of the program that maintains high quality performance of the projects; increases the visibility of the results achieved by BBD funded operations and supports an effective reporting of results.

### III. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES/COMPONENTS AND BUDGET

- 3.1 The activities proposed in this technical cooperation are structured as follows:
- 3.2 **Component 1: Comprehensive evaluation of the BBD program (US\$80,000).** This component will finance consultancy services for carrying out a comprehensive assessment of the projects and activities carried out by the BBD from 2013 to 2016. This assessment will contribute to gauge how the BBD has supported and enhanced the broadband and digital agendas in IDB member countries and the region as a whole, and created more awareness of the importance of strengthening broadband access to improve the lives of Latin

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<sup>1</sup> The percentage of TCs in alert in 2015 was 0% and in 2016 (Q1) was 3%.

America and the Caribbean (LAC) citizens. The evaluation will cover the whole period of operations of the BBD.

- 3.3 The evaluation will develop three levels of analysis: First, the evaluation will cover the management of the program within the Bank, and the relations established with the main stakeholders. At this level, the evaluation will address the following topics: (i) alignment of the program with the IDB Institutional Strategy and other relevant sector and country strategies; (ii) governance, quality and effectiveness of the technical management; and (iii) stakeholder management and networks established with the main stakeholders (member countries, donors, senior management, and project team leaders, among others). Second, the evaluation will provide an assessment of the alignment of the TCs with the general objectives and components of the BBD program and their contribution to support and enhance Banks's loan portfolio. Third, the evaluation will focus on a representative sample of TCs financed by the BBD and will assess the results of the projects vis a vis the objectives of the BBD (contribution to expanding access, adoption, and use of broadband; design of national broadband plans or national digital agendas; strengthen the broadband and digital agenda in the region, etc.).
- 3.4 The activities to conduct the evaluation will include (i) document review; (ii) projects review; (iii) interviews with key stakeholders; and (iv) select field visits to specific locations where projects are implemented. Further details regarding the activities that will be conducted for the evaluation are included in the terms of reference attached as Annex I.
- 3.5 The expected result of this component is to consolidate evidence of the BBD results, lessons and best practices from the projects and activities financed by the program.
- 3.6 **Component 2: Technical support to the BBD and dissemination activities (US\$60,000).** This component will support activities to achieve an adequate portfolio management, systematization of results, and support the dissemination of key projects results and activities. The activities include (i) portfolio monitoring, including the preparation of quarterly and annual reports; (ii) identification and systematization of BBD projects' results in coordination with team leaders; and (iii) preparation of dissemination materials and events (videos, brochure, infographics, BBLs, etc.).
- 3.7 The expected result of this component is to improve monitoring and oversight of results achieved and to enhance visibility of BBD projects funded results. For the latter, the team will ensure that all sub regions all well represented and that relevant public sector audiences is specifically targeted. These efforts will contribute to increase the recognition within internal and external stakeholders.

**Table 1. Indicative Results Matrix**

Indicator	Unit of measure	Baseline	End of project target	Means of verification
<b>Output Indicators:</b>				
<b>Component 1: Comprehensive evaluation and effective reporting of results</b>				
BBD evaluation report approved by IFD	Final evaluation report	0	1	Final document
<b>Component 2: Technical support to the BBD and dissemination activities</b>				
Dissemination products published (videos, brochure or infographics)	# of brochure or infographics on the Broadband program # of Broadband videos	3 1	5 2	Infographics published Videos on IDB website
Dissemination events organized and focused on the Broadband project results(BBLs, seminars, presentations)	# of events (presentations and BBLs)	0	4	List of participants per event
Quarterly business review	# of business reviews reports	0	8	Business reports sent to Bank Management

3.8 The total amount of this project will be US\$140,000 fully funded by the Bank through the Broadband Special Program (BBD). Table 2 disaggregates the budget by components and activities. For more details see the Annex II.

**Table 2. Indicative Budget**

Components	Description	IDB	Total
<b>Component 1</b>	BBD assessment report		
Comprehensive evaluation and effective reporting of results		80,000	80,000
<b>Subtotal Component 1</b>		<b>80,000</b>	<b>80,000</b>
<b>Component 2</b>	Portfolio monitoring	30,000	30,000
Technical support to the BBD and dissemination activities	Organization of dissemination events	10,000	10,000
	Media and communication products	20,000	20,000
<b>Subtotal Component 2</b>		<b>60,000</b>	<b>60,000</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>140,000</b>	<b>140,000</b>

#### IV. EXECUTING AGENCY AND EXECUTION STRUCTURE

- 4.1 The IDB, through Institutions for Development Sector (IFD), will be the executing agency. IFD technically manages the BBD since its establishment, among other funds and special programs, and has a leading role with LAC countries on the thematic area of the proposed TC. Hence, IFD is well positioned both to conduct and facilitate the proposed activities. Additionally, this is a regional project that involves the coordination with projects teams and beneficiary institutions in different countries.
- 4.2 Prior to the initiation of the activities in any country, letters of non-objection will be sought from the Bank's liaison offices in such countries.

- 4.3 IFD will monitor project implementation through coordination with all relevant units of the Bank. The unit of disbursement responsibility will be IFD.
- 4.4 **Procurement.** The Bank will contract individual consultants, consulting firms and non-consulting services in accordance with Bank's current procurement policies and procedures. .

## **V. PROJECT RISKS AND ISSUES**

- 5.1 The main risk is related to the ability to capture high quality information from BBD projects and activities; which may affect both the evaluation and the monitoring and dissemination activities. This risk will be mitigated by working closely with the team leaders to ensure access to valuable and relevant information for the adequate execution of activities included in this TC. Also, their initial involvement in the design, production and organization of dissemination products and activities will mitigate the risk of limited visibility of the BBD results.

## **VI. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL CLASSIFICATION**

- 6.1 Given the nature of the program, there are no associated environmental or social risks. Based on the Environment and Safeguards Compliance Policy (OP-703) this operation is classified as "C." (See [Safeguards Policy Filter Report and the Screening Form](#)).

### **Annexes:**

- Annex I: [Terms of Reference](#)
- Annex II: [Procurement Plan](#)

TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT OF THE BROADBAND SPECIAL PROGRAM

RG-T2769

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this operation was approved for financing under the Technical Management of the Broadband Special Program (**BBD**) through a communication dated **June 9, 2016** and signed by Su Hyun Kim. Also, I certify that resources from said fund are available for up to **US\$140,000** in order to finance the activities described and budgeted in this document. This certification reserves resource for the referenced project for a period of **four (4) calendar months** counted from the date of eligibility from the funding source. If the project is not approved by the IDB within that period, the reserve of resources will be cancelled, except in the case a new certification is granted. The commitment and disbursement of these resources shall be made only by the Bank in US dollars. The same currency shall be used to stipulate the remuneration and payments to consultants, except in the case of local consultants working in their own borrowing member country who shall have their remuneration defined and paid in the currency of such country. No resources of the Fund shall be made available to cover amounts greater than the amount certified herein above for the implementation of this operation. Amounts greater than the certified amount may arise from commitments on contracts denominated in a currency other than the Fund currency, resulting in currency exchange rate differences, i.e. represent a risk that will not be absorbed by the Fund.

*Original Signed*

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Sonia M. Rivera

Chief

Grants and Co-Financing Management Unit

ORP/GCM

*07/01/2016*

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Date

Approved:

*Original Signed*

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Ana Maria Rodriguez-Ortiz

Manager

Institutions for Development Sector

IFD/IFD

*07/05/2016*

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Date