

## Technical Cooperation Abstract

### I. BASIC INFORMATION

Country/Region:	All member countries/Regional
TC Name:	Promoting the use of Administrative Registries for Statistical Purposes (the AR4S Initiative)
TC Number:	RG-T2485
Team Leader/Members:	Gilberto Moncada (IFD/ICS), Janine Perfit (IFD/ICS), Blanca Torrico (IFD/ICS), Alicia Álvarez (IFD/ICS); and Mariko Russell (IFD/ICS, Project Team Leader)
Taxonomy	Research & Dissemination
Date of TC Abstract:	May 7, 2014
Beneficiary:	IDB member countries
Executing Agency and contact name	IDB/IFD/ICS
IDB Funding Requested:	US\$470,000 (to be requested from the Institutional Capacity Strengthening Fund (ICSF) or Special Program for Institutional Development (SPID) )
Local counterpart funding:	N/A
Disbursement period (which includes execution period):	18 months
Required start date:	June 2014
Types of consultants	Individual
Prepared by Unit:	IFD/ICS
Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	IFD/ICS
Included in Country Strategy (y/n);	Yes as part of “County Systems”
TC included in CPD (y/n):	No
GCI-9 Sector Priority:	Yes (poverty targeted)

### II. OBJECTIVES AND JUSTIFICATION

- 2.1 The **main objective** of this Technical Cooperation (TC) is to establish a continuous platform for promoting the use of administrative registries (AR) for statistical production and sharing knowledge on this theme on a global basis – *Administrative Registries for Statistics (AR4S)*.
- 2.2 As the need for making public institutions more effective, efficient and open is increasing, the role that official statistics are expected to play also is rapidly becoming more important. Specifically in the context of promoting results-based public sector management many countries in the region are looking for ways to **modernize the national statistical system (NSS), which is an integral part of the non-fiduciary country system**. The sources of official statistics produced by the NSS generally include censuses, sample-based surveys and AR, which **are a potential source of low-cost, continuous, and geographically complete statistical data** that usually already exist as part of the administrative processes of various government ministries and agencies.
- 2.3 In Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), **AR is the source of statistics that is less frequently utilized** compared to censuses and sample-based surveys, which are more costly. Current challenges to the use of AR include the technical and institutional weaknesses of the LAC national statistical offices to exercise authority over the production of AR across the NSS, as well as lack of capacity on the part of the ministries and agencies that administer registries. In view of this situation, the Bank has been exploring ways to work with partners that can transfer knowledge regarding the use of AR from the countries that are advanced in these them, including Nordic countries and the Republic of Korea.
- 2.4 Based on the lessons learned from these activities, **the Bank has positioned itself as the lead institution in promoting the use of AR in the context of the MDB MoU Contact Group**<sup>1</sup>. As

<sup>1</sup> Following an agreement by the Heads of Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to improve collaboration on statistical activities among their organizations to support the post-2015 framework, the Heads of MDBs, the IMF and the UN Secretary General signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on April 19, 2013 to foster improved collaboration in building the statistical capacity of client countries. The MOU lays out the guiding principles necessary to improve the scope, quality and

the first operation in this theme, the Bank is beginning to implement a Regional Public Goods (RPG) program with the countries of the Andean Community to promote the use of use population and business registries for statistical production<sup>2</sup>. A conceptual framework and common methodology will be developed to create an Integrated System of Population and Business Registries, drawing on the experiences of the member institutions of the said Group. For the Bank to effectively fulfill the said function in the MOU group and play a catalytic role in the institutional strengthening of the NSS in the region, it is necessary to establish a high-profile technical secretariat that promotes the theme of AR. This secretariat will function as the center of all AR activities for: i) generating and sharing knowledge regarding the production and use of AR on a global level; and ii) coordinating events for outreach and knowledge sharing purposes.

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

3.1 The TC proposes to establish a technical secretariat for Promoting the use of Administrative Registries for Statistical Purposes (AR4S) through the following activities:

#### 3.2 **Component I – Establishment of AR4S Secretariat as a Knowledge Sharing Platform**

##### *(a) Creation of AR Portal*

This subcomponent would assist with the creation of an AR Portal which will: i) create a one-stop source and repository for the theme of an AR for statistical purposes; and ii) create an avenue for communication for all parties interested in the theme. For this purpose, the use of the IDB tool *Comunidades* will be explored in consultation with the Knowledge and Learning Sector (KNL).

##### *(b) Preparation of an AR4S Base Document*

A technical paper will be produced that will: i) make a business case on further promoting the AR4S; ii) provide a brief description of the AR4S situation of LAC countries; and iii) make recommendations on strategic directions in which the AR4S initiative should go.

##### *(c) Provision of Technical Advisory Services*

This subcomponent will finance professional services from an expert in AR4S who will act as the core technical person of the AR4S Secretariat and will manage the entirety of the project.

#### 3.3 **Component II - Organization of an AR4S Knowledge Sharing International Conference**

##### *(a) Participation of experts and stakeholders*

The deliverables of this subcomponent are: i) identification and invitation of relevant participants in the AR4S international conference to be held in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2014, which will be comprised of global AR4S experts from the countries where the use of AR for statistical purposes is at an advanced stage, international organizations that form part of the MoU Contact Group and LAC statistics producers from NSO and other NSS agencies; and ii) all logistical arrangements related conference services.

##### *(b) Involvement of the RPG project by the Andean Community*

A technical workshop of the above-mentioned Regional Public Goods project “Population and Housing Statistics Produced with the Use of Official Administrative Registries” will form part of the AR4S conference agenda.

##### *(c) Launching of the Statistics Expert Group*

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accessibility of the data, and to strengthen client countries’ capacity to produce high-quality statistics for monitoring development outcomes, including post-2015 development goals.

<sup>2</sup> “Population and Housing Statistics Produced with the Use of Official Administrative Registries” (ATN/OC-14340-RG).

A group of statistical experts, who can advise the Bank on globally important matters and trends, will be formed as the Statistics Expert Group. Members of this Group will participate in the Conference to carry out a launching ceremony and a panel discussion on AR4S.

***(d) Preparation of the final document through the discussion during the conference***

The paper mentioned in I-(b), to be distributed to the participants of the conference prior to the event, will incorporate a set of agreed-upon principles and proposed actions to promote AR4S. It will be published as the final product of the conference and will be the base operational document for the AR4S initiative.

- 3.4 The project is expected to be implemented over an 18-month period with technical oversight provided by a principal consultant, who will be an expert in the theme. The indicative budget of the TC is shown in the table below:

<b>Component</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Budget for item US\$</b>
<b>Establishment of AR4S Secretariat</b>	(a) Creation of AR Portal	US\$80,000
	(b) Preparation of base document	US\$50,000
	(c) Technical advisory services	US\$100,000
<b>Organization of an International Conference</b>	(d)(e)(f) Participation of experts and stakeholders, including CAN and Expert group	US\$170,000
	(g) Preparation of the final document	US\$50,000
	<b>Contingencies</b>	US\$20,000
	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>US\$470,000</b>

#### **IV. EXECUTING AGENCY AND EXECUTION STRUCTURE**

- 4.1 The administrative and technical supervision of the proposed TC will be under the responsibility of IFD/ICS.
- 4.2 Any contracting will be undertaken following the Bank's policies and procedures. The procurement of individual consulting services will be carried out by the IDB in accordance with Human Resources Department (HRD) policies. The procurement of services different from consultants will be carried out by the Bank in accordance with Corporate Procurement Policies (GN-2303-20).

#### **V. MAJOR ISSUES**

- 5.1 This TC requires a strong commitment and ownership on the part of different stakeholders of the participating countries, not only by the national statistical offices (NSO) but also by the policymaking bodies such as planning offices of the central governments. The project team will ensure that beneficiaries agree to proactively participate in the knowledge-sharing platform on a continuous basis. Also, the TC will ensure that the materials developed, particularly the AR4S base document, will be peer reviewed by a broad range of experts.

#### **VI. EXCEPTIONS TO BANK POLICY**

- 6.1 No exceptions to Bank policy are envisioned.

#### **VII. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL STRATEGY**

- 7.1 According to the Environment and Safeguards Compliance Policy (OP-703), the TC has been classified as category C. No potential negative environmental and/or social impacts of the TC were identified and therefore no mitigation strategy is required to address any impact. See [IDBdocs#38742580](#)