

TC ABSTRACT

I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	REGIONAL/CCB - Caribbean Group
▪ TC Name:	One Safe Caribbean Against Organized Crime
▪ TC Number:	RG-T4590
▪ Team Leader/Members:	WILKS, JASON MALCOLM (IFD/ICS) Team Leader; SERRANO BERTHET, RODRIGO (IFD/ICS) Alternate Team Leader; BRATHWAITE, NEECA N. (CCB/CTT); VILA SAINT ETIENNE, SARA (LEG/SGO); BUENO LONDONO DANIELA (IFD/ICS); SUTTON HEATHER MAY (IFD/ICS); ANGEL CANARETE HUGO ALBERTO (ITE/IPS)
▪ Taxonomy:	Client Support
▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC:	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	08 Oct 2024
▪ Beneficiary:	Governments of Barbados, Bahamas, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago
▪ Executing Agency:	INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
▪ IDB funding requested:	US\$1,110,000.00
▪ Local counterpart funding:	US\$0.00
▪ Disbursement period:	36 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Individuals; Firms
▪ Prepared by Unit:	IFD/ICS - Innovation in Citizen Services Division
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	CCB/CTT - Ctry Off Trinidad & Tobago
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):	No
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	Yes
▪ Alignment to the IDB Group's Institutional Strategy: Transforming for Scale and Impact (CA-631):	Institutional capacity and rule of law; Indigenous People; Afro-descendants; Diversity

II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 The objective of this TC is to enhance the capacity of member states within the Caribbean to effectively combat transnational organized crime. The specific objectives of this TC are to: (i) improve data generation and diagnostic assessment capabilities related to serious and organized crime; and (ii) strengthen the regional intelligence-sharing and analysis architecture.
- 2.2 Addressing crime and violence is the number one issue of concern to Caribbean citizens, which requires comprehensive and targeted evidence-based interventions. The Global Organized Crime Index listed the Caribbean region with a criminality score of 3.95 whereas its South American and Central American counterparts are enlisted with a criminality score of 5.94 and 6.28, respectively. When it comes to Transnational Organized Crime (TOC), the Caribbean region faces significant challenges including drug trafficking, human trafficking, and money laundering. The region's strategic location, serving as a transit point between South and North America, makes it particularly vulnerable to drug trafficking. During a Regional Symposium: Violence as a Public Health Issue in April 2023, Caribbean Heads of Government highlighted the need for more effective regional intelligence sharing to reduce the risks for timely criminal threat analysis and informed decision-making to address transnational organized crime.
- 2.3 There are several new and emerging crimes across the region including cybercrimes and environmental crimes for which the Caribbean region must be adequately equipped to investigate and prosecute. With the absence of such capabilities within the region, it

is pertinent to develop institutional capacity by forming partnerships with regional and international partners in developing research products and publications to help provide early warning information and strategic intelligence in these areas to help guide and shape policy, operational and programmatic responses. Also critical to addressing the new and emerging crimes and security threats is the ability of the Caribbean region to have its own trusted primary intelligence hub and data acquisition center. The CARICOM IMPACS Regional Intelligence Fusion Centre (RIFC) currently serves in this capacity with a great need for support to better utilize the existing regional architecture via the provision of the targeted training and capacity development. Given the operational scope of other regional and international intelligence actors such as the Regional Security System (RSS) Operational Units – Digital Forensic Laboratory and the Asset Recovery Units regional architecture and the Interpol National Central Bureau (NCB) Network, it is beneficial to develop a bi-directional flow between and these entities and the IMPACS RIFC to ensure the streamlining of data collection, analysis and sharing.

- 2.4 Another key factor in ensuring the success of the regional intelligence gathering and sharing framework lies in the confidence of Caribbean countries in the institutionalized ability of the intelligence actors to collect, analyze, share, investigate and prosecute crimes in a timely manner. One of the main vehicles for achieving this confidence is having vetted personnel. Following the Conference of Heads of Government at its 39th Meeting in July 2018, it was mandated that both the CARICOM IMPACS and the RSS engage in an exercise to develop a regional standard for vetting procedures of law enforcement, border security and intelligence officials.

III. Description of Activities and Outputs

- 3.1 **Component 1. Enhancing data generation mechanisms for transnational organized crime (US\$320,000.00).** This will involve: (i) adequate staffing of the emerging crimes desk(s); and (ii) provision of technical resources. It will also facilitate the diagnostic assessment of a measurement regime for gaps in investigative, prosecutorial, defense, judicial and custodial processes and infrastructure related to serious and organized crime.
- 3.2 **Component 2. Strengthen the regional intelligence-sharing and analysis architecture (US\$790,000.00).** This will include: (i) developing a standardized regional vetting policy for law enforcement to investigate and prosecute transnational organized crime; (ii) facilitating joint operations and training for CARICOM IMPACS, RSS and Interpol's National Central Bureau (NCB) Network; and (iii) capacity building initiatives for CARICOM IMPACS, RSS and Interpol's NCB network in operational and strategic intelligence

IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Total Funding
Enhancing data generation mechanisms for transnational organized crime	US\$320,000.00	US\$320,000.00
Strengthen the regional intelligence- sharing and analysis architecture	US\$790,000.00	US\$790,000.00
Total	US\$1,110,000.00	US\$1,110,000.00

V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

- 5.1 As requested by the beneficiary governments, the Executing Agency will be the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) through the Innovation in Citizen Services Division (IFD/ICS), in accordance with the guidelines and requirements established in the Technical Cooperation Policy (GN-2470-2) and Annex II of Procedures for the Processing of Technical Cooperation Operations and Related Matters (OP-619-4). The project team is led by Jason Wilks (IFD/ICS), Senior Public Management Sector Specialist who serves as focal point for IFD/ICS citizen security projects in the Caribbean, who will supervise the overall TC components. Operational support will be provided by colleagues from the respective country offices.
- 5.2 The justification for the Bank as Executing Agency is due to IFD/ICS being well equipped to manage this operation and assure the coordination needed, owing to the involvement of state and non-state actors in the project and recent experience executing initiatives to strengthen the capacity of technical counterparts to reduce youth violence in the region.

VI. Project Risks and Issues

- 6.1 No major risks are expected in the execution of this TC. This TC supports the ongoing work in citizen security, providing implementing partners with an opportunity to expand and share knowledge across the region. Therefore, active participation of technical counterparts is expected to complement the work carried out by consultants and the IDB to complete these activities in a timely manner. The beneficiary governments have supported previous work with the IDB on citizen security and given the priority of addressing transnational organized crime, preparation and execution of activities is anticipated to be efficient.

VII. Environmental and Social Aspects

- 7.1 This TC does not have applicable requirements of the Bank's Environmental and Social Policy Framework (ESPF).