

MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARY

Level 14, Eric Williams Financial Building, Independence Square, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, WI
Tel: 612 3000 ext. 2016/1329

PD (SEPPD): 11/4/74

September 6th, 2024

Ms. Carina Cockburn
Representative
Country Office of Trinidad and Tobago
Inter-American Development Bank
17 Alexandra Street, St. Clair
Port of Spain

Dear Ms. Cockburn,

Expression of Interest for the Participation of Trinidad and Tobago in the Non-Reimbursable Regional Technical Cooperation Project- RG-T4492 Generation and Strengthening of Identification Systems in the Caribbean

I refer to the above subject.

The Ministry of Planning and Development (MPD) notes that the objective of the Regional Technical Cooperation (RTC) project is to support the promotion of regional knowledge sharing and capacity building across the Caribbean countries Generation and Strengthening of Identification Systems in the Caribbean.

The Regional TC, Generation and Strengthening of Identification Systems in the Caribbean, aligns with the IDB country strategy in the area of, promoting digitalization to support economic transformation; implementing a digital identification system enhances public sector digitalization, ensuring equitable public service delivery and fostering trust in public administration. Further, this project is consistent with the National Development Strategy for Trinidad and Tobago 2016 – 2030, theme ii: Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence and theme iii: Improving Productivity through Quality Infrastructure and Transportation.

The Ministry of Digital Transformation (MDT) is interested in participating in the project, please see the attached Memorandum from the MDT with details of its focal point. In this regard, the MPD, wishes to express its interest in accessing non – reimbursable funding for the Generation and Strengthening of Identification Systems in the Caribbean (RG-T4492) towards the development of Trinidad and Tobago.

Sincerely,

Permanent Secretary (Ag.)

Ministry of Planning and Development PERMANENT SECRETARY

MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Encl.

MEMORANDUM

DT: 9/2/5 Vol II

FROM

Permanent Secretary (Ag.)

Ministry of Digital Transformation

TO

Permanent Secretary (Ag.)

Ministry of Planning and Development

Attn: Ms. Aarti Bedassie-Maharai

DATE

August 16, 2024

SUBJECT :

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Non-Reimbursable Technical

Cooperation Project - Generation and Strengthening of Identification

Systems in the Caribbean

Reference is made to your memorandum dated August 13th 2024, PD (SEPPD): 11/4/74 on the subject above.

- 2. The Ministry of Digital Transformation (MDT) wishes to confirm its interest in participating in the non-reimbursable Regional Technical Cooperation (RTC) project on the *Generation and Strengthening of Identification Systems in the Caribbean*. This is informed by a number of key projects and programmes that are in alignment with the referenced technical cooperation project through which it is expected that critical knowledge transfer will be secured and from which national digital transformation efforts may benefit.
- 3. Further, it is noted that the successful execution of the project can assist in advancing the creation of a CARICOM Single ICT Space, while positioning Trinidad and Tobago as a pivotal regional actor in the delivery of citizen-centric digital services.
- 4. As requested, please see below the names, designation and contact details of the Officials identified to serve as the Ministry's Points of Contact (POC), which information is to be relayed to the IDB:

Lead POC: Mr Devindra Ramnarine, Digital Transformation Advisor -

Devindra.Ramnarine@gov.tt / +1 (868) 612-4638 ext 1043

Alternate POC: Ms Danielle Seunarine, Digital Transformation Analyst - Danielle.Seunarine@gov.tt / +1(868) 332-1617

- 5. In addition to providing the IDB with the names of the aforementioned POCs, it is also requested that the Bank be asked to copy Ms. Gillian Macintyre, Public Management and Policy Advisor (gillian.macintyre@gov.tt) on all communication related to this project.
- 6. Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact the aforementioned individuals.
- 7. The Ministry thanks you for your support and looks forward to ongoing collaboration on this important endeavour.

Cory Belfon

Permanent Secretary (Ag.)

Level 3 & 4 Baobab Tower, Warrens, St. Michael, Barbados BB 12001 Tel. No. 1 (246) 535-1200

Email: mist@barbados.gov.bb

Please quote in reply Ref. No. 7/1/1 Vol.II

September 16, 2024

Inter-American Development Bank "Hythe" Welches Maxwell Main Road Christ Church BB17068

Dear Sir/Madam

Barbados' participation in the Inter-American Development Bank's Generation and Strengthening of Identification Systems in the Caribbean Project TC RG-T4492

Barbados is seeking to be part of the Generation and Strengthening of Identification Systems in the Caribbean Project along with regional counterparts Bahamas, Belize, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. The Cabinet of Barbados has agreed to this participation. This will allow the country to benefit significantly given the expected outcomes including knowledge sharing and capacity building among the participating countries and the sharing of relevant international experiences and best practices.

The ultimate goal of this project is the improvement of the design, implementation and fortification of these countries' national identification systems. To this end, Barbados is in the process of developing a National Digital ID System that will allow citizens and residents to verify and protect their identities and data online, access a range of public and private sector services with ease and convenience, participate in online consultations and decision-making processes, benefit from personalized and tailored services based on their needs, capabilities, age and preferences and develop digital capabilities essential to

participation in society as consumers, entrepreneurs, content providers and data sharers in the digital space.

I applaud the Bank for this timely initiative given the need for the Caribbean region to ensure that it stays abreast of the rapidly evolving technologies that will redound to the benefit of its citizens and look forward to Barbados' inclusion in the Project, working with the other countries in the region, as it continues to develop its Digital ID System.

Yours faithfully

Hondan

Francia Jordan
Permanent Secretary



GOVERNMENT OF BARBADOS MINISTRY OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND INVESTMENT (ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND INVESTMENT DIVISION)

3rd Floor East, Warrens Office Complex, Warrens, St. Michael, Barbados, West Indies Tel. No. (246) 535-1300/1361/ 1317 /Fax No. (246) 535-1368/1369 E-mail: piu.gob@barbados.gov.bb



OUR REF: 7096/00 Vol.50 **DATE:** October 1, 2024

Ms. Carina Cockburn
Representative
Inter-American Development Bank
"Hythe", Welches
Maxwell Main Road
CHRIST CHURCH

Dear Madam,

<u>Letter of Request Technical Cooperation RG-T4492 - Generation</u> <u>and Strengthening of Identification Systems in the Caribbean</u>

Reference is made to your correspondence O-CCB/CBA-473/2024 dated September 17, 2024 on the captioned subject.

The Government of Barbados (GOB) advises that there is no objection to participation in the Regional Technical Cooperation *RG-T4492 Generation and Strengthening of Identification Systems in the Caribbean* valued at US\$130,000.00. The Cabinet of Barbados has agreed to this participation which will allow the country to benefit significantly given the expected outcomes, including knowledge sharing and capacity building among the participating countries and the sharing of relevant international experiences and best practices.

Additionally, the supporting request from the Ministry of Industry, Innovation, Science and Technology is attached. The GOB acknowledges that the Bank is the Executing Agency of the TC and looks forward to its continued support.

Your favourable consideration in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

DALE FØSTER (MS.)

for Permanent Secretary (ag)
Economic Affairs and Investment

PMc/DF

c.c. Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industry, Innovation, Science and Technology