

DOCUMENT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

REGIONAL

**PROMOTING KNOWLEDGE AND CAPACITY BUILDING THROUGH THE REGIONAL POLICY
DIALOGUE**

(RG-T4895)

PROJECT DOCUMENT

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TCN - Nonreimbursable	P3C - OC SDP Pillar 3 - Regional Integration	100,000
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Total IDB Financing		2,000,000
Counterpart Financing		0
Total Project Budget		2,000,000
Donors:	N/A	
Disbursement Period:	30 months	
Execution Period:	30 months	
ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION		
N/A		

I. JUSTIFICATION AND OBJECTIVE

- 1.1 **Diagnostic.** Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) have made significant strides in economic and social development over recent decades. At the same time, the region's countries share a set of common structural challenges that, while varying in scope and intensity, call for coordinated and sustained policy efforts. On the economic front, growth has averaged around 1.8% annually over the past six decades, a pace that, while reflecting considerable heterogeneity across countries, points to longstanding constraints such as productivity gaps, inefficient allocation of production factors, and limited capacity to generate and adopt new technologies (IDB, *IDBStrategy+ Approach to Bolstering Sustainable Regional Growth*, 2024). On the social front, as of 2022, approximately one in three households lived in poverty or extreme poverty, with progress in poverty reduction having slowed over the past decade relative to earlier gains. These challenges tend to be more pronounced among Afro-descendant and indigenous populations, and income inequality remains a shared concern across the region (IDB, *IDBStrategy+ Approach to Reducing Poverty and Inequality*, 2024). Addressing these interrelated issues, spanning growth, social inclusion, institutional strengthening, and other priority areas, benefits from spaces where governments can exchange experiences, identify common approaches, and draw on international knowledge and expertise.
- 1.2 Effective policy solutions often emerge from structured dialogue among governments facing similar challenges. Exchanging experiences, lessons learned, and good practices among senior officials can contribute meaningfully to policy design and implementation, while identifying opportunities for regional cooperation. The Bank is well positioned to facilitate these exchanges, given its convening capacity, technical expertise, and longstanding relationships with governments across the region.
- 1.3 In 2000, the Board of Executive Directors approved the creation of the Regional Policy Dialogue (RPD) (GN-2096-2) as a mechanism to offer borrowing member countries a dedicated platform to: (i) seek solutions to shared development challenges; (ii) draw on expertise and experiences from outside the region; and (iii) generate new opportunities for regional cooperation. Through the active engagement of regional governments, the RPD establishes dialogue networks composed of senior officials responsible for public policy formulation and reform in the region's highest-priority development areas. These areas align with the Inter-American Development Bank's (IDB) Institutional Strategy core objectives of reducing poverty and inequality, addressing climate change, and bolstering sustainable growth, as further elaborated in the recently updated Thematic Framework Documents.
- 1.4 Over the past 25 years, the RPD has made a sustained contribution to strengthening key policy areas of IDB work. Consistently high-country participation, strong satisfaction ratings, and favorable feedback from government officials and external participants reflect the program's effectiveness as a regional platform for exchanging best practices, disseminating IDB knowledge, and consolidating or launching new operational areas of work.

- 1.5 The RPD adds distinctive value to the Bank along three dimensions: it sustains continuous engagement with senior policymakers in the region's priority sectors; it converts that engagement into a concrete pipeline of TCs, loans and analytical products; and it serves as a privileged channel for disseminating IDB knowledge to the audiences best positioned to act on it. The combination is difficult to replicate through bilateral country dialogues or standalone events alone. Several examples illustrate this contribution in practice. In 2025, the Open Government network centered its dialogue on integrity, public control systems, auditing, and transparency across LAC. That exchange directly informed a decision by the Institutions Sector to dedicate one of its 2026 Regional Technical Cooperations to supporting the Control Agenda in Peru, Colombia, and Chile. In the area of environmental and social systems strengthening, building on the 2025 RPD cycle, 2026 work lines include modernizing environmental and social licensing and oversight processes, with an emphasis on leveraging data intelligence to strengthen compliance, expanding the inspections course, and continuing technical exchanges on priority topics such as energy transition and socioenvironmental conflict management. The RPD has also proven valuable as a channel for disseminating IDB analytical products, notably the flagship Salud Mesoamérica Initiative in the Health, Nutrition and Population; the technical note Towards Better Prison Management in Latin America and the Caribbean in the Citizen Security network; and the monograph Funding and Financing of Public Transport in Latin America and the Caribbean in the Transport network (see Appendix 1, Table 1 for additional examples).
- 1.6 In 2024, VPS and Knowledge and Learning Division (KLD) conducted a comprehensive evaluation of the RPD to assess its impact and identify opportunities for improvement. The evaluation highlighted three areas for attention: i) greater consistency in implementation; ii) stronger mechanisms for capturing and codifying lessons learned; and iii) clearer pathways between dialogue outcomes and policy influence. It further emphasized the need to standardize best practices, improve post-event follow-up, and integrate RPD insights more systematically into broader IDB initiatives.
- 1.7 Building on these findings, VPS and KLD devoted 2025 to upgrading the RPD evaluation framework and developing a consolidated survey dashboard as a management tool ([DRP Survey Analytics Dashboard — Power BI](#)). Based on 911 responses from 28 events held during 2025, the dashboard points to a systematic positive impact and to deeper engagement with policymakers: 93% of government participants reported being able to apply knowledge gained to policy design or reform, 81 % indicated they would recommend the IDB as a provider of relevant and cutting-edge knowledge, and 67% expressed interest in requesting technical assistance from the Bank.
- 1.8 **Request.** This Technical Cooperation (TC) responds to the IDB's interest, through the Vice-Presidency for Sectors and Knowledge (VPS/VPS), in sustaining and strengthening the RPD as a core instrument for knowledge exchange and dissemination platform and capacity building in LAC. A financing request of US\$2,000,000 from OC-SDP Pillar 3 is submitted to support the arrangement, coordination, and execution of dialogues across 20 networks over 30 months, commencing in April 2026, benefiting all 26 IDB borrowing member countries.

- 1.9 **Objective.** The general objective of this TC is to support the RPD to promote high-level policy dialogue between Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries and Bank officials to identify innovative practices, strengthen institutional capacity, share experiences from the LAC region and other regions in the world, improve the quality of reform strategies, and promote evidence-based discussions in the region. At the same time, the RPD allows the Bank to receive direct feedback on countries' public policy priorities, subsequently informing Bank's future operational program. The objective of this operation is to finance the activities of the RPD in 2026 and 2027.
- 1.10 **Complementarity.** As a direct complement to the Bank's operational and knowledge programs, the TC facilitates knowledge transfer and technical exchange by presenting policy-oriented research, impact evaluations, and diagnostic tools to senior officials. This structured engagement enables governments to interact directly with the evidence base relevant to their policy priorities, supporting more informed decision-making and helping them identify binding constraints, assess trade-offs, and design or reformulate policies on stronger analytical foundations.
- 1.11 **Strategic Alignment.** This TC is consistent with the IDB Group Institutional Strategy: Transforming for Scale and Impact (CA-631) and is aligned with the objectives of Reducing Poverty and Inequality, Addressing Climate Change, and Bolstering Sustainable Growth since the RPD addresses public policy dimensions to help countries design effective policies to tackle these challenges. Also, the TC is aligned with the operational focus areas of Gender Equality and Inclusion of Diverse Population Groups, Biodiversity, Natural Capital and Climate Action, and Institutional Capacity, Rule of Law, and Citizen Security since the RPD will focus on strengthening the capacity of states by promoting dialogue and cooperation among LAC policymakers and international experts to promote gender equality, diversity, climate change mitigation, environmental sustainability, and institutional strengthening in the region. The TC seeks to ensure that the knowledge reforms outlined in the institutional strategy are implemented. In particular, the RPD constitutes a key mechanism for engagement with policymakers and for facilitating knowledge transfer. The RPD helps structure communication around themes relevant to policy debates and private sector decision-making—one of the three main pillars of the Knowledge Reforms, alongside improving knowledge governance and strengthening data and knowledge systems

II. COMPONENTS

- 2.1 **Component 1. Policy Dialogues conducted with LAC policymakers (USD\$2,000,000).** This component will finance the arrangement, coordination, and execution of regional and sub-regional meetings to discuss issues that have been identified as the primary development challenges for LAC countries. The meetings' primary participants will be key stakeholders, including high-level officials directly involved in policymaking design and implementation, representatives from civil society and the private sector, academia, and former policymakers. Over the years, ensuring the participation of a diverse range of stakeholders in the RPD has enriched policy discussions and contributed to more holistic policy recommendations. The networks may produce supplementary background studies, which will be developed by external consultants who are experts in their respective fields, to be utilized as input for the agenda or discussed during the dialogues. Most meetings will be held in Washington, D.C., or in the region, as convened by the RPD Coordinators, who will work closely with VPC Departments and Country Offices when planning the meetings and will ensure, prior to the initiation of activities in a country, that the Bank has obtained the non-objection of the Country Liaison Authority (liaison authority with the Bank) where activities will take place. Whenever appropriate teams will coordinate with other Multilateral Development Banks. The TC will finance the participation of high-level policymakers and invited experts, prioritizing C&D countries, including the travel expenses of senior government officials from eligible countries to regional or international meetings, particularly those related to regional projects in which the Bank is or may be involved. IDB Staff expenses are not eligible for financing under this TC, nor are they allowed to supplement the network's administrative expenses. When relevant, invitations will be extended to experts and officials from other regions, international organizations, think tanks, and universities to contribute knowledge, innovative practices, and relevant experiences, enriching the dialogue.
- 2.2 The Divisions of the Vice-Presidency for Sectors and Knowledge (VPS) implement the RPD networks through an RPD Coordinator appointed by the corresponding Division Chief. The RPD networks consist of influential policymakers from borrowing member countries, and these networks arrange gatherings that feature government officials and significant stakeholders from the sector engaged in policymaking. Their presence allows for the sharing of sectoral knowledge and expertise.
- 2.3 The RPD Secretariat¹ will maintain updated information on upcoming event dates, venues, and topics on the RPD internal page, and will share all network work plans with the Knowledge Advisory Committee (KAC). In parallel, RPD teams will coordinate closely with Country Offices well in advance for events held in the region.

¹ The RPD Secretariat is integrated by the TC's Team Leader and the RPD Facilitator. Among others, the main RPD Secretariat functions are reviewing and approving the network's work plans, providing guidance and support to comply with the RPD initiative requirements (events announcements, producing minutes, satisfaction surveys, annual report, etc.), reviewing and approving financial expenses, among others.

- 2.4 To strengthen knowledge management across the program, KLD will serve as a strategic partner building on the 2024 evaluation, the TC translates its three main findings: i) consistency in implementation; ii) codification of lessons learned; and iii) pathways from dialogue to policy influence into concrete operational changes to the RPD program through three workstreams led by KLD in coordination with the RPD Coordinators. First, to strengthen **consistency in implementation** across the 20 networks, KLD will issue updated methodological guidelines and streamlined planning, logistics, facilitation, and reporting templates for use across all networks. Second, to improve the **codification of lessons learned**, KLD will deploy a strengthened evaluation framework that includes updated participant and post-event surveys and the consolidated dashboard referenced in paragraph 1.7, to support cross-network learning, performance tracking, and management decision-making. Third, to sharpen the **pathways from dialogue to policy influence**, KLD will convene structured peer exchanges with RPD Coordinators to identify practical needs, share lessons learned across networks, and refine the tools and approach over the course of the 2026–2027 execution period. Upon completion of the annual program cycle, results will be consolidated into the KAC annual report, ensuring that insights generated through dialogue are integrated into the Bank's broader knowledge ecosystem.
- 2.5 Technical expertise in the design and execution of network activities will be the responsibility of the RPD Coordinators from VPS's Divisions.

Expected Results.

- 2.6 At the output level, the TC is expected to deliver 20 high-level regional and sub-regional policy dialogue events across the RPD's 20 thematic networks (one from each network listed in Table 1).
- 2.7 At the outcome level, the TC aims to sustain and deepen the program's demonstrated impact along two dimensions. First, maintaining high participant satisfaction, with a minimum average of 90% of attendees rating RPD events as satisfactory or highly satisfactory. Second, strengthening knowledge uptake and policy applicability, with at least 96% of participants reporting that they were able to extract actionable lessons from knowledge presented during RPD meetings and apply them to their own country context.
- 2.8 **Beneficiaries.** This TC benefits all 26 IDB borrowing member countries. Direct beneficiaries are senior policymakers and public servants, with approximately 50 participants per network and roughly 1,000 per year across the program. Indirect beneficiaries include the institutions they represent and the broader public-sector bodies with which they are affiliated, through strengthened institutional capacities, improved reform strategies, and enhanced policy outcomes.

III. BUDGET

- 3.1 The total cost of this TC is US\$2,000,000, financed by the Ordinary Capital Strategic Development Program (OC-SDP), P3C. The specific networks that the

OC-SDP will finance are detailed in Table 1, and the indicative budget for the operation is shown in Table 2. The execution period will be 30 months.

- 3.2 This TC will finance activities associated with arranging, coordinating, and conducting regional and sub-regional meetings involving senior government officials from LAC countries. The activities will encompass developing knowledge products that will be presented and discussed during the meetings.

Table 1. Fund assignment by networks (US\$)

Component I	Network	Division	Amount
Component I: Policy Dialogues conducted with LAC policymakers	Climate Change Network	Climate Change & Sustainable Development Sector/Climate Change Division (CSD/CCS)	100,000
	Housing and Urban Development Network	Housing & Urban Development (CSD/HUD)	100,000
	Disaster Risk Management Network	Disaster Risk Management Unit (CSD/DRM)	100,000
	Financial Institutions Network	Institutions for Development sector/Connectivity, Markets, and Finance Division (IFD/CMF)	100,000
	Fiscal and Municipal Management Network	Fiscal Management Division (IFD/FMM)	100,000
	Open Government Network	Institutional Capacity of the State (IFD/ICS)	100,000
	Citizen Security Network	Citizen Security Division (IFD/CIS)	100,000
	Energy Network	Infrastructure and Energy Sector/Energy Division (INE/ENE)	100,000
	Transport Network	Transport Division (INE/TSP)	100,000
	Water and Sanitation Network	Water and Sanitation Division (INE/WSA)	100,000
	Trade and Investment Network	Productivity, Trade and Innovation Sector Trade and Investment (PTI/TIN)	100,000
	Innovation Network	Competitiveness, Technology and Innovation Division (PTI/CTI)	100,000
	Agriculture and Rural Development Network	Agriculture and Rural Development Division (PTI/ARD)	100,000
	Macroeconomic Policy and Finance Network	Department of Research and Chief Economist (RES)	100,000
	Education Network	Social Sector/Education Division (SCL/EDU)	100,000
	Gender Equality and Diversity Network	Gender and Diversity Division (SCL/GDI)	100,000
	Migration Network	Migration Unit (SCL/MIG)	100,000
	Social Protection and Labor Market Network	Social Protection and Labor Markets Division (SCL/SPL)	100,000
	Health, Nutrition and Population Network	Health, Nutrition and Population (SCL/HNP)	100,000
	Environmental and Social Safeguards Network	Environmental and Social Solutions (VPS/ESG)	100,000
Total			2,000,000

Table 2. Indicative Budget (US\$)

Component	P3C
Component I. Policy Dialogues	
Hiring consultants to organize logistics for meetings	200,000
Travel and per diem for participants (approx. 20 to 50 external participants per meeting)	1,200,000
Consultants for complementary background studies	100,000
Other expenses (editing, interpretation services, catering, events logistics)	500,000
Grand Total	2,000,000

IV. EXECUTION STRUCTURE

- 4.1 **Executing Agency.** The TC will be executed by the IDB in accordance with the Technical Cooperation Policy (GN-2470-2) and the Procedures for the Processing of Technical Cooperation Operations and Related Matters (OP-619-4), through the Vice-Presidency for Sectors and Knowledge (VPS), which will house the RPD Secretariat.
- 4.2 Each network will have a designated Coordinator responsible for liaising with the RPD Secretariat throughout network implementation and reporting. The following VPS divisions will be responsible for executing TC activities, each led by its respective RPD Coordinator: CSD/CCS, CSD/HUD, CSD/DRM, IFD/ICS, IFD/CIS, IDF/CMF, PTI/CTI, IFD/FMM, INE/ENE, INE/TSP, INE/WSA, PTI/ARD, PTI/TIN, SCL/HNP, RES/RES, SCL/EDU, SCL/GDI, SCL/SPL, SCL/MIG, and VPS/ESG.
- 4.3 **Procurement.** The activities to be executed by this TC are included in the Procurement Plan (Annex III). They will be contracted in accordance with Bank policies as follows: (i) The "Administrative Regulation on Complementary Workforce" (AM-650) to contract individual consultants; and (ii) The "Corporate Procurement Policy" (GN-2303-33) to contract consulting firms for services of an intellectual nature and procure logistics and other related services. The main unit responsible of disbursement will be VPS/VPS.
- 4.4 **Execution and Disbursement Period.** The execution period and disbursement period for this TC is 30 months. This is an artifact of the rolling basis of TC funding for the RPD. Each network has a yearly US\$100,000 budget to carry out the activities programmed by each Coordinator.
- 4.5 **Monitoring, Reporting, and Supervision.** The monitoring and supervision of the activities planned under this proposal will be reported according to the Technical

Cooperation Monitoring and Reporting System (TCM) (OP-1385-4). The Team Leader will be responsible for submitting the annual report according to the TCM, with the support and input of the RPD coordinators (each RPD Coordinator will submit to the RPD Secretariat a completion report with all generated deliverables and achieved outcomes).

- 4.6 **Evaluation.** To ensure the quality and relevance of the dialogue, the RPD uses satisfaction surveys particularly among country officials. In recent years, the satisfaction survey has been expanded to capture the audience's opinion on the event's organization in terms of time distribution between presentations and dialogue, the content of the presentations, the potential for generating technical cooperation, and operations. These surveys help to analyze the impact of RPD activities in the short-term and to measure the application of the knowledge gained. When conducting surveys, all processing of personal data will be handled following the Bank's Guidelines to the Personal Data Privacy Policy (GN-3030), in case of any doubt the Privacy Team (within Office of Strategic Planning and Dev. Effectiveness/Strategic Corporate and Operations data unit SPD/SCO) will be contacted (dataprivacy@iadb.org).

V. POTENTIAL RISKS

- 5.1 It has been identified that there is a low risk of cancellation of on-site events caused by unforeseen circumstances, including security concerns in the country where they are scheduled or health-related issues like the pandemic outbreak. To mitigate these risks, the transition from on-site to virtual events can be accomplished using digital tools, which have already been successfully utilized during the Dialogues held amidst the COVID-19 pandemics.
- 5.2 **Intellectual Property.** The knowledge products generated within this Technical Cooperation will be the property of the Bank and may be made available to the public under a creative commons license. However, at the request of a beneficiary, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation "Procedures for the Publication of Knowledge Products" (AM-331), the intellectual property of said products may also be licensed to one or more direct beneficiaries through specific contractual commitments that shall be prepared with the advice of the Legal Department.

VI. EXCEPTION TO BANK POLICIES

- 6.1 Exceptions to Bank policy are not foreseen.

VII. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASPECTS

- 7.1 This Technical Cooperation is not intended to finance pre-feasibility or feasibility studies of specific investment projects or environmental and social studies associated with them; therefore, this TC does not have applicable requirements of the Bank's Environmental and Social Policy Framework (ESPF).

REQUIRED ANNEXES:

- Annex II: Results Matrix
 - Annex III: Terms of Reference
 - Annex IV: Procurement Plan
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Appendix. Table 1. Documented operational translation cases

Network	Year	Operational translation case	Source / Mechanism
SCL/SPL	2017–2025	Early Childhood Development Innovation Fund mobilized US\$10 million for 23 projects across 10 countries	Anchored in SPL RPD; closing event held during 2025 RPD
SCL/GDI	2018 → 2024	Caribbean countries expressed operational interest in social security schemes (2018); Paraguay/Honduras replication requests on skills (2024)	Caribbean Pensions Network spin-off; private-sector LMK format
SCL/HNP	2023–2024	1,007 organic downloads of "Smart Spending for Health" publication;	Public launch event during RPD; Bricenia simulation
IFD/CMF)	2024	Project FuSSE (Fully Scalable Settlement Engine) opened operational assistance with 4+ countries; Ecuador and Uruguay formalized entry via Project Agreements	RPD discussions on payment-systems modernization; IDB–BIS MoU
CSD/DRM	2024	TC RG-T4536 (Strengthening alliances for forest-fire mutual aid) launched	Presented and approved within the 2024 DRM RPD
SCL/MIG	2024	Caribbean-specific PLAC pensions chapter requested; labor-mobility TC and loan pipeline broadened	MIG and LMK Joint Collaboration
IFD/FMM	2024	Bilateral requests from 10 countries in the region for tailored support on smart public procurement spending	DRP bilateral discussions; IDB FMM specialists matched country agendas to support packages
IFD/CIS	2025	Rapid Response Task Force launched, enabling 15-day TC approvals for security crises	Direct outcome of 11th RPD / Regional Security and Justice Summit
INE/TSP	2025	Participant survey designed to feed PBL, investment loan, CLIPP, and Global Credit Line preliminary policy matrices	Pre-event survey of LAC authorities; OECD/ITF partnership
IFD/ICS (Open Government)	2025–2026	2026 Regional Technical Cooperation supporting the Control Agenda in the Andean Countries	Direct outcome of the 2025 Open Government RPD on integrity, public control systems, auditing and transparency
VPS/ESG	2025–2026	2026 work lines on data-intelligence-driven licensing and oversight; inspections course expansion; energy transition exchanges	Built on 2025 ESG RPD cycle

