

THE IDB IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO IN BRIEF

Country Strategy

The Country Strategy (2011-2015) was approved in November 2011. Lending of up to US\$1.5 billion is envisaged during the CS period, reflecting the increasing importance of the development partnership between the IDB and the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. This new strategy aims to help Trinidad and Tobago to transition its economy to a post-hydrocarbon model. In this context, the IDB will provide support in the following areas: (1 financial sector regulation and supervision; (2) public sector management; (3) education; (4) social protection; (5) climate change; (6) energy; (7i) water and sanitation; and (8) transport. The strategy also envisages private sector development, fiscal sustainability, and integral solutions for local government, as areas for further dialogue during the strategy period.

Lending and Disbursements

Loan approvals for 2011 totalled US\$290 million. The first phases of three programmatic PBL loans, totaling US\$190 million, were approved, promoting Government policy reforms in the areas of Energy, Climate Change and Financial Sector Regulation and Supervision. One hybrid loan, with a US\$45 million PBL component and a US\$5 million investment loan component, in the area of Social Protection was also approved as well as an investment loan in the area of Wastewater Infrastructure Improvement, totaling US\$50 million. Total disbursements for the year amounted to US\$241.9 million of which, US\$235 million were from the PBLs approved this year.

These operations strengthen the IDB's engagement with the Government as it augments the existing portfolio which includes the areas of Education, Housing, Public Sector Modernization, Water and Sanitation and Citizen Security.

Grants

In addition to its lending, the IDB has also provided US\$5 million in grants. Grant resources in 2011 further advanced the Government's reform agenda as it provided funding for support in areas such as: the consolidation of Social Safety Net programs; improving the efficiency of financial management and procurement functions; improving corporate governance; the development of the Sustainable Energy Program; institutional strengthening of the Auditor General's department and the enhancement of the Education strategy.