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INSPIRING INNOVATION



Germany and the IDB Enter a New Decade of Partnership



In Berlin this Friday, President Luis Alberto Moreno of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) joined Hans-Joachim Fuchtel, German Governor and Parliamentary State Secretary to [the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development \(BMZ\)](#), to renew the Germany-IDB partnership agreement for an additional ten years. A partnership critical to driving the IDB's climate change and green growth agenda, the partners have already accomplished much, pioneering projects such as the first Concentrated Solar Power plant in Latin America, and generating knowledge to help mainstream green topics within IDB operations. Ranking as the top contributor to the Bank's Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Initiative and a driver of innovative, out-of-the-box climate and environment-focused solutions, an upcoming IDB publication will tell the story of the region's longstanding relationship with its European counterpart, and will soon be available at www.iadb.org/partnerships. In the mean time, you can learn about Germany-IDB collaboration around climate change by [checking out this video](#).

[Demand Solutions 2.0 Once Again Sparks Innovation at the IDB](#)



The IDB once again partnered with **the Blum Centers at UC Berkeley and UCLA** to host the second edition of Demand Solutions: Ideas for Improving Quality of Life. A one-day event showcasing some of the world's most creative minds, Demand Solutions has become a platform for discussing and fostering innovation, as well as networking with entrepreneurs, development professionals, and other likeminded individuals. The 2014 event ended with a Venture Night, where some of the most disruptive startups established by LAC's young entrepreneurs pitched their ideas. Named LAC's Most Innovative Startup, Victoria Alonsoperez's Uruguay-based Chipsafer won a US\$30,000 prize from the IDB and **MasterCard** to expand this platform for tracking the location and health of cattle herds. [Other winners](#) came from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and Guatemala.

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It's Getting Hot, Hot, Hot: KfW and BMZ Bring Geothermal Electricity to Latin America



KfW Development Bank, by order of the **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)**, launched the first climate initiative for geothermal energy for Latin America. Unveiled at the UN Climate Change Conference, the EUR €760 million Facility supports the preparation and construction of geothermal power plants in ten Latin American countries. The Facility also counts on the collaboration of the IDB and several of its partners, including **the Agence Française de Développement, the CAF, the European Investment Bank, the Japan International Cooperation Agency, and the World Bank.**

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Going Global: the European Investment Bank and the IDB Partner for SME Internationalization



This fall, **European Investment Bank (EIB)** President Werner Hoyer and IDB President Moreno signed in a joint effort to support the internationalization of European and Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Through two facilities totaling up to US\$100 million in financing, the partners will support European Union (EU)-based firms with foreign direct investment in LAC, LAC businesses trading with the EU, European SMEs with trade ties or a presence in LAC, and internationalizing LAC SMEs. The Facility was announced at ["Lateinamerika Tag"](#), Germany's most significant event for celebrating economic ties to LAC.

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The UK's DFID Commits GBP£10 Million to Improving Citizen Security in Jamaica

The Department for International Development (DFID) of the **United Kingdom** has committed GB£10 million to support the "Citizen Security and Justice Programme III" in Jamaica. Led by the IDB and the Government of Jamaica, the program enhances citizen security and justice in target communities by promoting peaceful culture, improving employability and labor market attachment, and community justice services. This is DFID's third contribution in this sector, with an initial grant of GB£750,000 for the "Support for the Expansion of the Citizen Security and Justice Program II" in Jamaica in 2010, and an additional grant for GB£7.25 Million in 2012.



Switzerland Gives Haiti's Coffee Growers a Leg Up

Though Haiti's cocoa sector employs about 20,000 smallholder producers, most of these producers live below the poverty line due to low yields and quality, limited technical knowledge, and other obstacles. As a result, **the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)** contributed more than US\$1 million to a US\$6 million initiative, joining the IDB's MIF, **Catholic Relief Services**, and various partners in the Haitian cocoa industry to help small-scale farmers expand into global supply chains. Ultimately, the partners aim to catalyze change by enhancing production, quality, and the capacity of farmer cooperatives.

Nestlé Dominican Republic, ADOPEM, and the IDB Bring Business Opportunities to Women in the DR

Nestlé Dominican Republic (DR) and ADOPEM Savings and Credit Bank teamed up with the IDB's Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) on a microfranchise model benefiting low-income women in the DR. The partners will expand an inclusive distribution model initially developed by Nestlé DR to market its products in low-income communities. Working through a micro franchise-based network of women from these communities and as part of Nestlé's Shared Value Creation strategy, the project will benefit 4,500 low-income women (many whom are heads of household) with traditionally limited opportunities. This is the second project within the IDB-MIF and [Citi Foundation SCALA program](#).

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The Nordic Development Fund Invests in Cities and Renewable Energy

Further expanding the Nordic Development Fund (NDF)-IDB relationship, NDF representatives joined IDB President Moreno in November to sign in two new agreements. As such, the NDF will provide EUR €4 million in continued support to the Emerging and Sustainable Cities Initiative (ESCI), following up on the results of previous NDF-IDB support to midsize cities in Bolivia, Honduras and Nicaragua. Another grant of EUR €0.5 million will develop a strategy and investment plan for renewable energy in the Bay Islands in Honduras.

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Uplifting LAC's Girls, Norway Contributes to the IDB's Gender and Diversity Fund

Intended to catalyze investment into interventions that expand female labor force participation and close earning gaps in LAC, the **Government of Norway** made a contribution of US\$850 thousand to the IDB's Multi-Donor Gender and Diversity Fund.

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Korea and the IDB Formalize Collaboration around Upcoming Annual Meeting in Busan



Deputy Prime Minister Choi Kyung Hwan of the **Government of Korea** and IDB President Moreno gathered in November to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) formalizing Korea-IDB collaboration around the upcoming IDB Annual Meeting of the Boards of Governors. To be held in Busan, Korea at the end of March, the selection of Korea as the host country reflects the strong ties between the country and the IDB, as well as the country and the LAC region more generally.

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With IDB Support, Latin NCAP Announces Phase V Results

The **New Car Assessment Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (Latin NCAP)** announced the results of its fifth phase, noting room for improvement and setting ambitious goals for 2015. The IDB provides financial support to Latin NCAP in its efforts to improve car safety standards in LAC as part of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety.

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JICA Reinforces its Longstanding Commitment to LAC

With an eye on Latin America, valued partner the **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)** has joined the IDB as an investor in the MGM Sustainable Energy Fund. A green private equity fund in the US, the JICA has announced a planned investment of US\$10 million to support the expansion of Japanese companies in Latin America.

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The IDB Commemorates the 40th Anniversary of the Declaration of Madrid

The **Government of Spain's** Minister for Economy and Competitiveness Luis de Guindos joined IDB President Moreno for the 40th anniversary of the Declaration of Madrid, which formalized entry of the IDB's first non-regional members. As a result, full membership was extended to 15 countries

in 1976 and 1977: **Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Israel, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom**, and the former Yugoslavia. **Portugal** and **Norway** joined in 1980 and 1986, and **Croatia** and **Slovenia** joined once Yugoslavia ceased to be a member in 1993. Later, **the Republic of Korea** became a member country in 2005 and **the People's Republic of China** became a member country in 2009. Today, the IDB has 20 non-regional members that bring experience, funding, and valued partnership to LAC.

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The OECD and the IDB Renew their Partnership

In December, **the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** and the IDB reaffirmed the importance of their partnership by renewing their institution MoU for an additional five years. Gathering in Veracruz, the partners formalized a cooperation framework that will facilitate collaboration in areas including structural reforms, governance, society, and innovation. A longstanding IDB partner, the OECD has an extensive agenda with the IDB with more than 35 ongoing joint projects and activities on wide range of topics, including statistics, sustainable development and economic policy and reform.

The Salud Mesoamerica 2015 Partnership Makes Progress—and Gets Noticed

After 18 months of hard work and well-earned results, the Salud Mesoamerica 2015 (SM2015) alliance comprised of the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Carlos Slim Foundation**, and the **Government of Spain** gained recognition in *The Economist*, in an article citing the health disparity characterizing the LAC region and the progress made this ambitious partnership.

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The GIZ-Led Inclusive Business Action Network Launches with the IDB at the Helm in LAC

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), a key IDB partner, established the Inclusive Business Action Network (IBAN), a global go-to network for all relevant players in the inclusive business space. Leading IBAN efforts in LAC, IDB Manager Luis Roz travelled to Germany for the unveil of the initiative, which will provide a platform for companies, governments, development institutions and investors to facilitate business models that focus on the so-called Bottom of the Pyramid.

WHERE WE'VE BEEN

[Citi Foundation, World Vision, and the IDB's MIF Team Up to Promote Inclusive Distribution](#)



Alongside **Citi Foundation** and **World Vision**, the IDB's Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) held a workshop in Antigua, Guatemala on Accessing New Markets through Inclusive Distribution Networks. Organized as part of the SCALA program on inclusive distribution, the event shared experiences, lessons learned, and launched SCALA's community of practice. Watch the video above to hear from participants.

[IDB Partners Gather to Discuss the Future of the Americas](#)



At the **Clinton Foundation's** Future of the Americas event in December, IDB President Moreno joined a high-level dialogue with public and private sector leaders to discuss the collaborative promotion of economic prosperity, investment, and innovation across the Western Hemisphere. At the Miami event, President Moreno was joined by partners including **Americas Society/Council of the Americas**, **Cisco Systems**, **Digicel Group**, **International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)**, **Organization of American States**, **Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development**, **The Nature Conservancy**, and the **Governments of Aruba, Colombia, Panama, the United States** and more.

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[The X Encuentro Empresarial Iberoamericano Sparks Dialogue about Economic Growth](#)



The IDB once again participated in the X Encuentro Empresarial Iberoamericano, an event organized by Mexico's Secretaría General Iberoamericana, the Government of Mexico, and COMCE. Participants shared experiences related to positioning innovation, education, and human capital as factors essential to investment, economic growth, and productivity. Alongside other development banks, IDB representatives discussed how financing innovation can drive business development.

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The Global Impact Investing Network and the IDB Take an Impact Investing Roadshow to Europe

In collaboration with the **Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN)**, the IDB's Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Julie T. Katzman held two impact investing breakfasts in Utrecht and Geneva in November. Highlighting the Bank's high prioritization of the topic, Ms. Katzman led discussions with experienced impact investors and institutional investors interested in the space, presenting the IDB approach to and definition of impact investing alongside recently closed and live deals in LAC.



Japan and LAC Collaborate on Disaster Risk Management through the IDB's Office in Asia

In December, the IDB dove into the **Government of Japan** and the **World Bank's** Disaster Risk Management efforts by co-organizing the Latin America—Japan Cooperation for Risk Management event. The seminar included 100 representatives from both business and academia, and reflected the region's growing focus on disaster risk management.

Business Opportunities in Ecuador Showcased Before a Wide Japanese Audience

In collaboration with the **Government of Ecuador's** Embassy in Japan, the IDB's Office in Asia held an event on Ecuador's ample economic opportunities. Part of the Bank's effort to promote investment opportunities in LAC among international audiences, more than 100 individuals attended the event.

OPPORTUNITIES

Want to Feed the World? Join Us.

With population growth, climate change, and other factors making the next 10-20 years a critical window for resolving food insecurity, the IDB is recruiting partners to take action. Building on the conversation we started with our [our dynamic food security report](#), we are launching a multi-partner effort with the [AgroLAC 2025 Multi-Donor Funding Platform](#), which is in the market for founding partners! Join us as we build partnerships to support Latin America as the world's next breadbasket.

Join the Health Equity Movement: Global Health Corps Fellows Now Accepting Applications

Global Health Corps Fellows, whose mission it is to mobilize a global community of emerging leaders to build the health equity movement, are accepting applications for 2015-2016 fellowships now through February 3, 2015. Two fellowships are available at the IDB and many more at other prestigious organizations.

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