



Click [here](#) to visit the Partnerships for Development blog



IN THE SPOTLIGHT INSPIRING INNOVATION NEWS DIGEST WHERE WE'VE BEEN OPPORTUNITIES

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER – February, 2016 – WINTER EDITION Office of Outreach and Partnerships

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Five Years Later, The Coca-Cola Company, USAID, TechnoServe, and the IDB Reflect on the Haiti Hope Project



On Monday February 29th, the IDB welcomed **The Coca-Cola Company**, the **U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)**, and **TechnoServe** to its Washington, DC headquarters for the *Haiti Hope: a Lesson in Partnership* event. Timed alongside the wrap-up of the Haiti Hope Project, a five-year public-private partnership to create sustainable economic opportunities for Haitian mango farmers and contribute to the long-term development and revitalization of the country's agricultural sector, the event brought together IDB President Luis Alberto Moreno, Chairman of the Board and CEO of The Coca-Cola Company Muhtar Kent, Administrator Gayle Smith of USAID, and TechnoServe President and CEO William Warshauer. The partners reflected upon the collaboration, and discussed the power of public-partnerships more broadly and where we can collectively go from here.

[Read More](#)

MetLife Foundation and the MIF of the IDB Group Improve Lives through \$4.4 Million Retirement Initiative

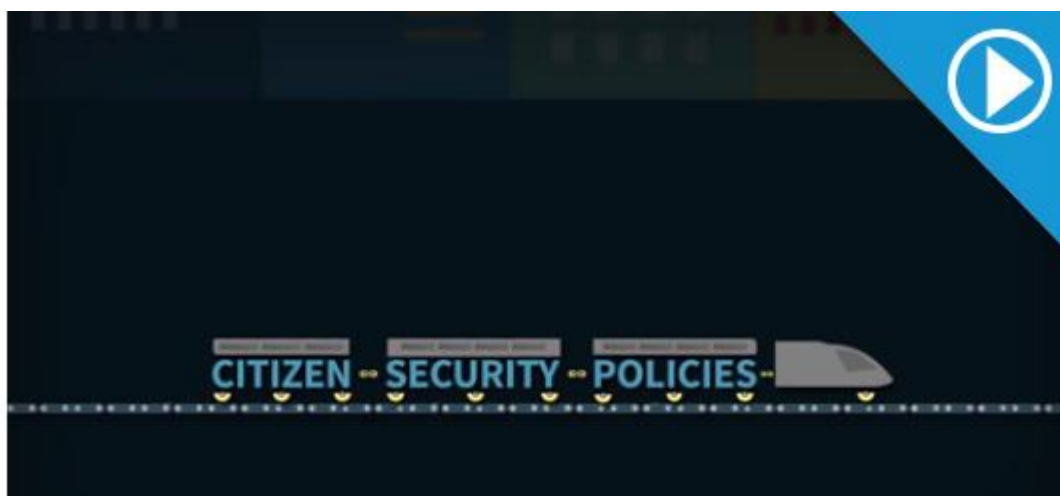


Increased life expectancy in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and the limited relevance of traditional retirement savings schemes to the conditions of low-income workers, most of whom are self-employed, has resulted in financial vulnerability for many who will reach retirement age in coming years. An estimated 130 million people in LAC are working without contributing to their pension (6 out of every 10 workers), and will not have a contributory pension to cover their living costs. Targeting 400,000 independent workers and low-income people across Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) of the IDB Group, and **MetLife Foundation** have teamed up to improve lives through an innovative pension savings plan. With each partner committing \$1.8 million, the initiative will test and disseminate innovations on pension savings products and channels to increase the use of pension savings among this target group.

[Read More](#)



Switzerland Reinforces its Standing as a Key Partner for LAC's Safety



A longtime supporter of citizen security in LAC, the **Government of Switzerland** through its **Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation** reaffirmed its commitment through a contribution of CHF

1.4 million to the Citizen Security Multi-donor Trust Fund. The contribution will improve the effectiveness of related policies, enhance dialogue and cooperation, and support institutional strengthening in the Northern Triangle.



The Inter-American Investment Corporation Reallocates Shares as Part of \$2 Billion Capital Increase

In December 2015, the Inter-American Investment Corporation (IIC) of the IDB Group agreed to reallocate shares as part of the institution's \$2.03 billion capital increase. A signal of commitment to the LAC region, demand by shareholders surpassed the available number of shares. The Board of Directors earmarked significant additional shares for **China, Korea** and **Canada**, recognizing their increasing trade and investment with LAC. **Spain** will also increase its participation in the IIC's capital.

[Read More](#)

INSPIRING INNOVATION

Maersk and the IDB Partner to Empower LAC's Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises

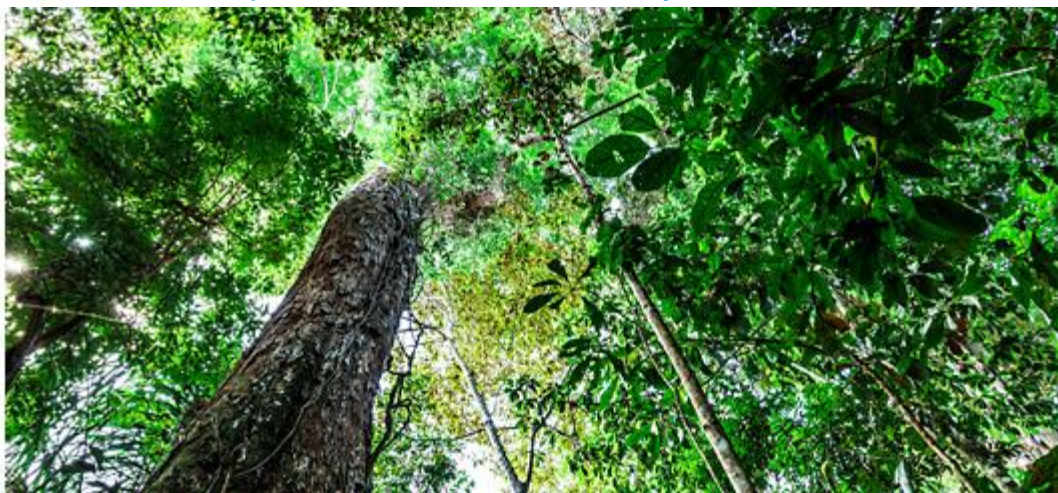


Through ConnectAmericas, a web-based platform that empowers small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to go global, a new partnership between the IDB and **Maersk Line's** intraAmericas shipping line, **Sealand**, will tap into the company's logistics, planning, and customs expertise. The partners will develop training and information programs for inclusion in ConnectAmericas, directed primarily at Colombia, Mexico and Peru with information tailored to each country's unique needs. OurCrowd, an Israeli a venture capital-crowdfunding hybrid platform, also brought its knowledge ConnectAmericas through a [video message](#) with its Vice President for the Americas Audrey Jacobs, who was interviewed at the Outsource2LAC event. ConnectAmericas is made possible by a collaboration between the IDB, **Google, VISA, DHL**, and **Alibaba.com**.

[Read More](#)



Through a \$40 Million Agreement, Paraguay and the IDB Team Up around Sustainable Forestry



A partnership formalized between the IDB and **Paraguay's Institute of Social Welfare** will extend the long term financing of sustainable forestry investments, expanding a previous agreement made in 2012 to support private sector growth to include the forestry sector as well. The new framework agreement will allocate the equivalent of \$40 million to support companies operating in the forestry sector and invest in biomass, solid wood and silvopasture.

At the Paris Climate Talks, IDB Urges Action, Highlights Partnership and Climate Finance

During and following the 2015 Paris Climate Conference (COP21), IDB President Luis Alberto Moreno urged climate action *now*, highlighting the impacts of climate change already visible in the LAC region. Emphasizing its new partnership with two global coffee companies—**Starbucks and ECOM**—around business-based solutions for Central American farmers, the President also emphasized the role of climate finance as a creative solution for adaption and mitigation challenges.

[Read More](#)

Kiva.org, the U.S. State Department, and the IDB Launch the Women's Empowerment Fund

In San Francisco last week the IDB joined representatives from **the U.S. State Department** and **Kiva.org** to launch the Women's Entrepreneurship Fund, which will harness the untapped economic potential of women entrepreneurs and address the barriers they face in accessing finance. Over the course of five years, the Fund will aim to crowdfund loans to one million women entrepreneurs, matching dollar-for-dollar what Kiva's lenders provide on Kiva.org. The Fund will enable women entrepreneurs to access loans from \$450 to \$100,000, and will design and deliver flexible loan products tailored to businesswomen's needs.

[Read More](#)

NEWS DIGEST

The “la Caixa” Banking Foundation Catalyzes Socioeconomic Growth in Colombia



To generate employment opportunities for Colombia’s most vulnerable communities, the IDB and the **“la Caixa” Banking Foundation** joined forces, co-financing two new socioeconomic development projects targeting rural areas. Signed into being by the IDB’s Manager for the Office of Outreach and Partnerships Bernardo Guillamon and the Foundation’s Director General Jaume Giró, the agreement includes a grant of 500,000 euros from the “la Caixa” Banking Foundation and IDB support in the form of a loan. In addition, volunteers from CaixaBank will contribute to improve the managerial skills and systems of the supported entities. Implemented under the IDB’s Social Entrepreneurship Program, the funds will be administered by the Multilateral Investment Fund of the IDB Group.

[Read More](#)



Japan Joins Efforts to Improve the Lives of LAC Infants



Working through the IDB-managed Japan Special Fund Poverty Reduction Program, the **Government of Japan** pledged its support to [the Sustained Program to Improve Nutrition, or Spoon](#). Launched in 2014 by the IDB and **PepsiCo Foundation**, the project seeks to prevent undernutrition and reduce the risk of obesity in babies living in poor communities. The program will feature a focus on feeding practices, a behavioral change strategy for parents and caregivers, and a nutritional supplement containing the vitamins, minerals and essential fatty acids children need during their first 6 to 24 months of life,. The support from Japan will strengthen the implementation of key actions to improve the nutritional status of infants and young children, and provide the monitoring tools necessary to supervise program implementation and generate knowledge and learning.



At COP21, the IDB Announces Support for the Sustainable Colombia Initiative

The IDB has announced its support for the launch of Sustainable Colombia, a country-wide initiative that takes a systemic approach to addressing rural development, climate change, environmental sustainability, and social inequality in areas characterized by armed conflict. The IDB's initial support has included grants totaling \$1.5 million, with a focus on program coordination, the formulation of a pipeline of investment projects, and work on the international climate change agenda. Planned on a 15-year horizon with three tranches, Sustainable Colombia will be open for partnerships with bilateral development agencies and international donors.

[Read More](#)

IDB Becomes First Regional Development Bank to Join Better Than Cash Alliance

This January the IDB joined the Better Than Cash Alliance, a partnership of governments, companies, and international organizations that works to accelerate the transition from cash to digital payments. Working toward the objective of driving inclusive growth and reducing poverty in LAC, the new partnership will promote knowledge sharing, best practices, and the development of the digital payments ecosystem by bringing together key public and private sector actors instrumental in achieving this goal.

[Read More](#)

A New Alliance with Latinobarómetro Gauges Public Opinion in the Region

The IDB has partnered up with **Latinobarómetro**, a public opinion survey that annually reaches 18 countries and more than 600 million people, to measure the opinion of Latin Americans on issues that impact the design of public policy. This latest initiative will be led by the IDB's Institute for the Integration of Latin America and the Caribbean (INTAL), and was announced alongside the reveal of a study comprised of 20,000 interviews about regional and global integration.

[Read More](#)

The University of Maryland and IDB Team Up around Natural Resource Management

In February, the IDB and **the University of Maryland (UMD)** formalized their partnership with a focus on knowledge exchange and capacity building in the areas of environmental intelligence and security, specifically as it pertains to water, food, energy, climate, and ecosystems. UMD will provide technical support for the use of its own Global Change Assessment Model (GCAM), a dynamic-recursive model featuring technology-rich representations of the economy, energy sector, land use, and water. Linked to a climate model that can explore climate change mitigation policies and the development of energy technology, the IDB would use this tool to run simulations for LAC countries, helping to identify supply and demand for these natural resources over the next decades.

A Report on Philanthropy and Social Investment Explores Giving in Latin America

A partnership between **the Avina Foundation, Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmaker Support, the Association of Corporate Foundations (Colombia), the Center for Philanthropy (Mexico), the Group of Foundations and Companies (Argentina), the Group for Social Investment (Brazil)**, and the IDB is promoting philanthropy and social investment by studying it. The first-ever study of its kind in Latin America, the new report profiles the trajectory of and challenges and opportunities associated with giving in the region. A profile on the study can be found on the Avina Foundation's *InContext* page, which discusses sustainable development.

[Read More](#)

In Line with G20 Infrastructure Cooperation, the IDB and the Global Infrastructure Hub Formalize Partnership

This February the IDB and **the Global Infrastructure Hub (GIH)** formalized cooperation around closing the infrastructure gap in Latin America and the Caribbean. While the Australia-based GIH will serve as a knowledge partner in this space, the IDB is also expecting to approve in the upcoming days the authorization to become a technical partner of **the Global Infrastructure Facility**, a funding mechanism for project preparation that will help both the IDB and LAC stay in line with G20 action on infrastructure cooperation.

Through its Emerging and Sustainable Cities Initiative, the IDB Partners with 100 Resilient Cities

Pioneered by the Rockefeller Foundation, 100 Resilient Cities and the IDB have partnered around urban development and resilience in cities, with both organizations starting the partnership around the IDB's Emerging and Sustainable Cities Initiative to collaborate in cities of mutual interest. Starting in Santiago de Los Caballeros, Dominican Republic, the partners will develop a resilience strategy, provide access to a platform of innovative tools to support strategy implementation, and integrate cities into the 100 Resilient Cities Network in order to build a global community for sharing strategies and ideas.

From Micro to Super (Bowl): Coffee Growers in Peru and Honduras Hit Primetime TV

Small things occasionally grow VERY big. That's what happened when two projects run by the IDBG's MIF to support small-scale coffee bean growers became linked to a Super Bowl 50 commercial. Worth an estimated \$5 million, the ad for New York's Death Wish Coffee indirectly promoted their original sources in Peru and Honduras, where the IDB's Social Entrepreneurship Program has provided training and credit to more than 3,000 small coffee producers to, among other things, achieve the certifications required to sell to international markets.

[Read More](#)

IDB Partner Citi Foundation Looks to Accelerate Pathways

IDB partner **Citi Foundation** commissioned the Accelerating Pathways global research initiative, conducted by the Economist Intelligence Unit to offer an in-depth look at how 35 global cities support young people's economic ambitions. Including a city-level index and a survey of youth meant to spark dialogue, the initiative aligns well with the IDB and Citi Foundation's shared focus on empowering young people, as well as the IDB's work with **Citi** through [the \\$500 million Education, Youth and Employment \(EYE\) bond](#).

[Read More](#)



Alongside the U.S. Geological Survey, the World Bank, and Germany's Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources, the IDB Studies Extractives in LAC

Extractives are a key but delicate industry in LAC. That's why the IDB formalized a partnership with **the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)** of the United States Department of the Interior in early 2016, collaborating to compile and analyze geospatial data related to the sector. Focusing on infrastructure, resource and reserve information, exploration activity and published assessments of undiscovered resources for LAC, the partnership will tap into USGS's geotechnical expertise and the IDB's close government relationships to conduct a thorough and publicly accessible survey of extractives in the region. The IDB also formalized a partnership with **Germany's Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources** and the **World Bank**, collaborating for the joint-deployment of a Mining Governance Assessment which will provide detailed sector-specific reports to support decision-making by governments and investors around extractives.

In Partnership with Uruguay-Based RIDGE, the IDB Promotes Economic Policy as a Vehicle for Growth

In Montevideo, Uruguay this December the IDB formalized a partnership with RIDGE, the Research Institute for Development Growth and Economics. In a Memorandum of Understanding signed by José Juan Ruiz, General Manager and Chief Economist of IDB's Department of Research, and Joseph Stiglitz, RIDGE Chairman and recipient of the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences in 2001, the partners pledged to strengthen the dialogue about economic policy as a vehicle for LAC's development. A product of the International Economic Association, the Uruguay-based

RIDGE operates with support from the Ministry of Economics and Finance of Uruguay, aiming to promote the development and dissemination of economics research with particular emphasis on economic development, international economics, and economic growth.

Alongside the Votorantim Institute, the IDB Supports Sustainable Urban Growth in Brazil

The city of Tres Lagoas became the sixth Brazilian metropolis to join [the IDB's Emerging and Sustainable Cities Initiative](#). Through a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the IDB and **Votorantim Institute**, the new partnership marks the Initiative's first collaboration with the private sector in Brazil. Specifically, the partners will work together to draft a Sustainable Action Plan for the city, and to financially and technically support Tres Lagoas as it works toward sustainable urban development.

[Read More](#)

The IDBG's Multilateral Investment Fund Positions Crowdfunding as a Key Opportunity in LAC

"Crowdfunding democratizes financial opportunities..." wrote representatives of the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) of the IDB Group for the *Huffington Post*. In an article that surveys the state of crowdfunding in key LAC countries, the MIF's César Buenadicha and Elizabeth Boggs Davidsen discuss IDB efforts to lay the foundation for crowdfunding in the region, and the studies it has pioneered about crowdfunding in Mexico (2014) and in Chile (2015) to analyze the market in each country, and identify the elements essential to accelerating the crowdfunding "ecosystem" in the region more broadly.

[Read More](#)

WHERE WE'VE BEEN

Establishing Trade Links and Investment Ties with China through Key Events



In 2015, the IDB, The Financial Times Live and The Banker jointly launched an exclusive series of trade-focused executive briefings titled “Trade Links with the New Latin America.” In Shanghai, the November edition discussed the challenges and opportunities related to LAC ties with Asia and the Pacific. The event brought together senior policy makers and business leaders for a discussion of the private sector’s role in trade and investment. In that same month, the Bank participated in the 9th Chinese Enterprises Outbound Investment Conference. Promoting overseas investment, the event attracted 600 guests including enterprises, industrial associations, and more.

[Read More](#)

Throughout Europe, the IDB Promotes Key Business Opportunities in LAC

The IDB’s Office in Europe continues promoting business opportunities in LAC through diverse platforms. In Zurich, the Bank participated in a roundtable on contracts and investments in the region which positioned the IDB as a partner of choice. In another seminar organized by the Belgium Foreign Trade Agency and sponsored by BNP PARIBAS and the European Investment Bank, among others, the IDB emphasized the LAC region. Lastly, the Bank participated in 2015 [Portugal Exportador](#) to promote SME internationalization through the ConnectAmericas.



Beijing Seminars Discuss Production Capacity Cooperation and Environment, Health, and Safety

At two Beijing events this January, the IDB teamed up with Chinese partners to discuss priority topics. In one example, the Bank and **the People’s Bank of China** co-organized a seminar on China-LAC cooperation around production capacity and global value chains. Bringing together Chinese government agencies, financial institutions, and other organizations, the event unveiled the flagship IDB report “[Rethinking Productive Development](#).” In another event co-organized with **the China Development Bank**, the IDB provided [technical guidelines](#) on environment, health and safety. Available in English and Chinese, these [can be used by Chinese companies and investors](#) implementing projects in LAC.

The European Venture Philanthropy Association and the IDB Talk Venture Philanthropy in Madrid

Under the umbrella of **the European Venture Philanthropy Association (EVPA)** Annual Meeting, the IMIF and EVPA co-organized an event on corporate social impact studies, building and scaling a venture philanthropy organization, and leveraging venture philanthropy to engage governments, among other topics. Bringing together a diverse group of business, foundation, and public sector representatives, the organizations represented included IDB partners the Ayuntamiento de Madrid, Telefónica, BBVA, and Gas Natural Fenosa. As a follow up, the MIF will organize a joint event in Madrid this April with EVPA and **FORETICA**, continuing discussions on venture philanthropy in LAC.

In Tokyo, a Pacific Alliance Seminar Bolsters Asia-LAC Ties

In January the IDB’s Office in Asia co-hosted a seminar for the Pacific Alliance. Held in Tokyo, the seminar brought together more than 140 participants from companies, commercial offices, business organizations, academia, governments, and media. The Ambassadors of Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, delivered presentations on key commercially-focused topics, while the IDB’s Manager for Integration and Trade Antonio Estevadeordal, discussed the role of value chains in the Pacific Alliance.

In France, Emphasizing the Importance of Green Finance

Cognizant that green finance is a creative, critical solution to addressing green challenges around the world, IDB representatives participated in a full-day workshop that focused on knowledge sharing as a vehicle for scaling up green finance through Local Financial Institutions. The event was co-organized by IDB partners **the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** and **the French Development Agency (AFD)**.



In Tokyo, Discussing the Realities, Culture, and Opportunities in LAC Countries

The IDB's Office in Asia continues positioning the LAC region as a land of opportunity, participating in and co-hosting seminars that unveil the unique landscape of various countries and highlight their potential. In an event organized by IDB partner **the Japan International Cooperation Agency**, participants discussed the energy sector in the Dominican Republic, while another co-hosted with **the Japan Association of Latin America and the Caribbean** explored the Mexican economy. Lastly, the IDB co-sponsored an exhibit showcasing the work of Ana Mercedes Hoyos, a Colombian painter who continues the legacy of Afro-descendant communities in Colombia through art.

In Korea, Highlighting Lessons and Opportunities

In Seoul, the IDB participated in two events highlighting lessons from Korea and the opportunities for interaction with LAC as well. Through the Leverage in Asia event, participants explored Asia's resilience during the global financial crisis and the present loosening of financial conditions in advanced markets, discussing how these conditions brought rising leverage to many emerging markets in recent years. In a symposium on supporting Korean companies in LAC, 160 participants discussed the opportunities for Korean enterprise in the LAC region. The event was sponsored by Korea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the International Contractors Association of Korea.

OPPORTUNITIES

You're Invited: the 2016 AgroLAC 2025 Partner & Project Conference



If you're interested in propelling Latin American agriculture into a new era, join us at the next Collaborating Partner meeting for AgroLAC 2025, a multi-donor funding platform created to achieve

this goal. Hosted by **the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)** in Cali, Colombia from March 30th to April 1st, the event will bring AgroLAC 2025 partners up to speed on how the platform will work and promote networking for project development.

[Read More](#)

Save the Date: Join us to Discuss Private Sector Resilience this May



Please join **the Nordic Development Fund (NDF)** and the MIF of the IDB Group to discuss the common challenges and the uncommon opportunities presented by global climate change. Organized by Proadapt, a program run in collaboration by the organizing partners, the Conference will feature presentations by firms and private organizations in climate-smart agriculture, tourism, insurance, transportation, infrastructure, banking, sustainable and resilient cities, among other topics.

[Register here](#)

Interested in Corporate Social Innovation? Join us at CSR Innolabs

At a CSR Innolabs Workshop in Madrid, Spain, key companies will gather to discuss the role of corporate social innovation in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and how to integrate this into business strategies. Scheduled for April 27th, the workshop will discuss the latest trends, knowledge, tools and best practices for the integration of SDGs in business strategy through models of corporate social innovation. If you're interested in participating, [contact us](#).

IDB Partner Zayed Foundation Rewards LAC Schools through Zayed Future Energy Prize

With the objective of expanding access to energy and improving lives through clean technology, the [Zayed Future Energy Prize](#) encourages global high schools to submit a proposal for measurable initiatives to promote renewable energy and sustainability. Three secondary schools in Bolivia, Colombia, and Mexico were selected as finalists for proposals distinguished by their impact, innovation, and long-term vision. Committed to finding solutions that will meet the challenges of climate change, energy security and the environment, the competition is once again accepting submissions in categories that range from Large Corporations, SMEs, NGOs, Lifetime Achievement and Global High Schools. The deadline is June 27, 2016.

[Read More](#)

2016 Call for Proposals: Promoting Regional Public Goods in LAC

The IDB has launched the 2016 Call for Proposals of the Initiative for the Promotion of Regional Public Goods (RPG) in LAC, which supports projects resolving challenges and seizing opportunities for development through regional cooperation. Since 2004, the RPG Initiative has financed 124 projects, investing a total of more than \$93 million. The 2016 edition will RPGs produced collectively by a minimum of three IDB borrowing-member countries. The deadline for proposals is April 7th, 2016.

[Read More](#)

Inter-American Development Bank
1300 New York Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20577
USA

iadb.org

