**Regional**

**IFD/CTI**

**PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & COORDINATION - RG-T2683**

**RPG Initiative**

**Building an Innovation and Entrepreneurship Ecosystem for the Pacific Alliance**

**Background**

The Competitiveness and Innovation division (IFD/CTI) at the Inter-American Development Bank is in charge of promoting the creation and growth of dynamic enterprises in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, by increasing their capabilities and the availability of the necessary tools to innovate and compete in international markets. The division’s strategic objectives are: Increase the private sector’s investment on innovation and technological development; Promote innovative entrepreneurship and the creation of new companies; Propel the productivity of companies and their capabilities in order to be enable them to form networks and compete in international markets; Create and strengthen the capacity of its institutions and the environment for innovation and productive development. To carry these strategic objectives, IFD/CTI has the following instruments at its disposal: Financing through loans and TCs; Pre-Financing through both refundable and non-refundable assistance programs; Institutional strength and of resource allocation; Generation and dissemination of knowledge products; and support for Regional Political Dialogues.

There is vast evidence[[1]](#footnote-1) of how innovation and entrepreneurship systems operate and develop within spaces or ecosystems where different actors such as entrepreneurs, investors, universities and governments interact.

There are additional conditions that need to be present for the formation of innovation ecosystems:

* An adequate business and regulatory environment.
* Markets of a sufficiently large size to justify high initial investments required for R&D.
* Freedom to allocate resources (human capital and goods) so they can be allocated to where they can have the greatest added value potential.
* Presence of secondary markets for innovation.

Thus, firms in a proper innovation system must be exposed to deep large markets where there is also freedom to relocate, services, human capital and funding, so to reach a greater efficiency. Furthermore, an extensive area where, in addition to the freedom of movement of goods, there is also a common culture and language, and a common vision about competitiveness and growth challenges, is a great opportunity for the formation of an innovation ecosystem. The Pacific Alliance possesses all of these traits and presents the ideal environment to form a regional innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem.

The Pacific Alliance is a regional integration initiative that aims to deepen integration among its members, which currently include Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, in order to accelerate economic growth and enhance competitiveness, through the free movement of goods, services, capital and people, and strengthen commercial links with the Asia Pacific Region. The PA countries have a combined market of 214 million people with an average GDP per capita of USD 16,500, and account for 35% of Latin American GDP and 50% of regional trade. The Alliance thus becomes the eighth economy in the world and the seventh largest world exporter

Its strategic vision is that of exploring the potential that regional – multinational innovation ecosystems may have. For this vision, the Pacific Alliance represents a fertile starting point. This challenge though, requires the coordination of the governments as well as technical support in order to design and execute a common agenda. Because of this, the Competitiveness and Innovation division at the Bank, as a group specialized in the development of innovation policies in Latin America and the Caribbean and specially due to its role as an active counterpart to each of the member countries of the Alliance in topics like productive development, innovation, science and technology, and competitiveness; has received a request from the Innovation Technical Group of the Pacific Alliance (GTI) to support the design and initial execution of activities aimed at developing a regional innovation ecosystem of the Pacific Alliance.

Through some prior internal work, the GTI has defined the following pillars of action on which it will concentrate its work:

* Human Capital and Training
* Cultural Mindset
* Knowledge Generation and Transfer
* Capital and Funding
* Regulatory Framework

**Consultancy objective(s)**

The objective of this consultancy is to lead the design and implementation of the Pacific Alliance Innovation and Entrepreneurship Ecosystem activities in the Alliance countries. The focus on this consultancy will be more on the coordination and implementation of the activities.

**Tasks**

The specific tasks include:

1. Participating in discussions and negotiations with key representatives from GTI, government agencies, and the private sector.
2. Coordinating the implementation of Pacific Alliance Innovation and Entrepreneurship activities, as well as participating in the evaluation and follow up of the aforementioned activities.
3. Continuous monitoring of projects in execution, assessment of results being achieved (output and outcome), and timely intervention of projects in implementation, in order to ensure smooth execution and achievement of desired results.
4. Preparing, reviewing, and editing project documents, including project-related outputs and technical reports, results matrices, among others, in close coordination with IDB and members of the Pacific Alliance GTI.
5. Identifying consultancies that may be required to produce specific outputs related to the implementation of the program, drafting terms of reference for them, overseeing the contracting process and supervising their work.
6. Ensuring timely and accurate preparation of program/project reports, including monitoring and evaluation reports, annual operating plans, implementation plans, procurement plans, among others.
7. Developing presentations on the Pacific Alliance Innovation and Entrepreneurship Ecosystem activities to support entrepreneurs, intermediaries and other stakeholders for meetings, conversations, negotiations, and updates on the Program.
8. Contributing to the communication and dissemination of the projects results and data, as well as the updating of relevant information on the Pacific Alliance regional and individual innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems evaluation.
9. Other activities as prioritized for the effective implementation of the Program.

**Reports / Deliverables [If applicable]**

The contractual will produce an indeterminate number of reports, reviews and other documents as they become necessary for the successful implementation of the Program**.** All deliverables will be done in accordance with the Pacific Alliance Innovation and Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Programs.

**Qualifications**

* + - * Advance Title/Level & Years of Experience: Masters, PhD preferably, in political sciences, economics (industrial, innovation or social sciences). At least 10 years of experiences with topics dealing with political policies, innovation, corporate innovation and international commerce.
      * Languages: Professional in English, Spanish.
* Skills:Excellent communication skills are required; strong planning, organization, and time management skills to do effective research and data analysis is required; ability to manage multiple tasks and projects is required; capacity to function effectively as a member of a multi-disciplinary team, to search for common ground, to resolve problems, and where appropriate, to recommend decisive action is desired; willingness and ability to travel frequently is desired. Capable of interacting with government counterparts of mid and high technical level.

**Characteristics of the Consultancy**

* Contractual category and modality: Defined Term Contractual, Monthly
* Contract duration:December 2015- December 2018
* Place(s) of work: IDB DC Headquarters
* Coordinator: the technical responsibilities of this consultancy will be coordinated by Juan Carlos Navarro Science and Technology Principal Technical Leader in the Competitiveness and Innovation Division (IFD/CTI).

**Payment and Conditions:** Remuneration will be determined in accordance with Bank regulations and criteria. The Bank may additionally contribute toward travel and moving expenses, if applicable. If a candidate is not a citizen or resident of the country where he/she will be working, the Bank will assist him/her to obtain the corresponding visa or work permit. If a candidate cannot obtain a visa to work at the IDB the contractual offer will be canceled.

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**Consanguinity:** Individuals with relatives working for the IDB within, and including the fourth degree of consanguinity and the second degree of affinity are not eligible for employment as staff or consultants.

**Diversity:** The Bank is committed to diversity and inclusion and to providing equal opportunities to all candidates. We embrace diversity on the basis of gender, age, education, national origin, ethnic origin, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion, and HIV/AIDs status. We encourage women, Afro-descendants and persons of indigenous origins to apply.

1. Brad Feld, Startup Communities, 2012 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)