

TC ABSTRACT

I. Basic Project Data

▪ Country/Region:	REGIONAL/IDB
▪ TC Name:	Gender and Diversity Lab
▪ TC Number:	RG-T3729
▪ Team Leader/Members:	BUSTELO, MONSERRAT (SCL/GDI) Team Leader; FRISANCHO, VERONICA (RES/RES) Alternate Team Leader; BLANDIN ANDINO, LOURDES GABRIELA (SCL/GDI); URQUIOLA RALERO, MONTSERRAT (RES/RES); PARRA, AGLAE ELIZABETH (RES/RES)
▪ Taxonomy:	Research and Dissemination
▪ Number and name of operation supported by the TC:	N/A
▪ Date of TC Abstract:	11 Aug 2020
▪ Beneficiary:	LAC
▪ Executing Agency:	INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
▪ IDB funding requested:	US\$175,532.00
▪ Local counterpart funding:	US\$0.00
▪ Disbursement period:	36 months
▪ Types of consultants:	Firms
▪ Prepared by Unit:	SCL/GDI - Gender and Diversity
▪ Unit of Disbursement Responsibility:	SCL - Social Sector
▪ TC included in Country Strategy (y/n):	No
▪ TC included in CPD (y/n):	No
▪ Alignment to the Update to the Institutional Strategy 2010-2020:	Gender equality; Diversity

II. Objective and Justification

- 2.1 This Technical Cooperation (TC) will fund the implementation of the Gender and Diversity Lab (GDLab). The GDLab seeks to produce cutting-edge applied research that informs policy design to reduce inequalities both in terms of opportunities and economic development for vulnerable population (specifically: women, people with disabilities, afro descendants, indigenous peoples, and the LGBTQ+ community) in LAC. The GDLab will produce knowledge and rigorous evidence and disseminate them. This evidence will be used to guide the design or reform of programs and policies implemented by LAC governments and to design IDB's operations in LAC.
- 2.2 Inequalities based on gender and other traits are simply unjust. In addition, to the important tangible and intangible costs they impose on vulnerable populations, inequalities also slow down growth and development in the region.
- 2.3 Despite important improvements in recent decades, Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) still faces challenges regarding inequalities based on group identities.
- 2.4 On one hand, women's role as the primary caregivers of children limit the progress achieved and issues such as work/life balance and the glass ceiling remain at the forefront of policy discussions. Considerable occupational segregation and gender pay gaps persist while women are overrepresented in the informal sector, characterized by variable pay and job insecurity (Scott et al., 2016; Marchionni et al., 2019a; Marchionni et al., 2019b, Bustelo et al., 2019). Furthermore, many women still lack access to reproductive technology. Maternal mortality was 67 deaths per 100,000 women in

2015 (ECLAC), and pregnancy rates among adolescents (15 - 19 years old) was 20 points above the world average and more than 40 points above the rate in OECD countries (UNICEF). Gender-based violence is widespread in the region: one in three women in LAC experiences physical and/or sexual violence at some point in her life (Bott et al., 2014), and this has a detrimental impact (physical and psychological) on survivors' health. It also increases the likelihood that children will suffer mistreatment, such as physical punishment or negligent/ dysfunctional care (Bott et al., 2014; Holt, Buckley, and Whelan, 2008; Gage and Silvestre, 2010).

- 2.5 The region also has a long history of exclusion and discrimination based on ethnicity and other identities, that deter the development of several minority groups in their private and public action spheres. Although there is some degree of variation across groups and countries, indigenous peoples, African descendants, people with disabilities, and LGBTQ+ individuals all tend to experience higher poverty rates, unemployment and risk of abuse or violence; lower educational attainment; limited access to public services; and underrepresentation in decision-making bodies (DAP, 2019).
- 2.6 In a rapidly changing globalized economy that tends to penalize those who do not adapt, inequalities of opportunities quickly expand and become more visible. On one hand, the digital revolution radically transformed productive processes and is leaving behind those who started off at a disadvantage. More recently, the worldwide pandemic has further exposed the fragility of our national economies and the vulnerability of traditionally disadvantaged groups. While palliating efforts are always commendable (e.g., retooling programs to tap new job demands or emergency subsidies to cope with stay-at-home orders), it is crucial that the region continues to work in the design of evidence-based policies that tackle persisting inequalities of opportunities across groups.

III. Description of Activities and Outputs

- 3.1 **Component I: Implementation of the GDLab's website.** This component will finance the creation and maintenance of a website. The creation of the GDLab and the launch of the website will help strengthen the Bank's position in the efforts to alleviate horizontal inequalities related to gender and other identities.
- 3.2 **Component II: Production and dissemination of knowledge.** The GDLab will foster both the systematization of existing knowledge within the Bank as well as the generation of new rigorous evidence on areas in which we still have limited expertise and knowledge to inform operations. The GDLab will provide that space both to experiment, produce knowledge, and take stock of the rigorous evidence to effectively inform programs throughout the region that can contribute to reduce gender and diversity gaps.
- 3.3 **Component III: Launch event of the GDLab.** This component will finance a virtual launch event that will contribute to give visibility and positioning to the Bank on the subject. The event will present the Bank's work through the products developed in Component 1 and 2 and will showcase the proposed agenda of the Lab for the coming years. The event's format will aim at facilitating a knowledge exchange among high-level academic experts that can be socialized among key actors in the public policy sphere.

IV. Budget

Indicative Budget

Activity/Component	IDB/Fund Funding	Counterpart Funding	Total Funding
Implementation of the GDLab's website	US\$10,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$10,000.00

Production and dissemination of knowledge	US\$160,532.00	US\$0.00	US\$160,532.00
Launch event of the GDLab	US\$5,000.00	US\$0.00	US\$5,000.00
Total	US\$175,532.00	US\$0.00	US\$175,532.00

V. Executing Agency and Execution Structure

- 5.1 The IDB will be the executing agency through RES/RES and SCL/GDI.
- 5.2 Since all research activities will be coordinated by RES/GDI, it is sensible that the administration of the resources is centralized by the bank.

VI. Project Risks and Issues

- 6.1 No risks have been identified for this operation.

VII. Environmental and Social Classification

- 7.1 The ESG classification for this operation is "C".