REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

CONSULTING SERVICES

Selection # as assigned by e-Tool: RG-T3704-P002

Selection Method: Simplified competitive selection

Country:  *Mexico*

*Sector: Social Protection and Health*

*Funding – TC #: RG-T3704*

*Project #: ATN/KP-18135-RG*

*TC name: Innovative COVID-19 Response Using ICT Tools: Knowledge sharing between LAC and Korea in Public Health Emergency Preparedness*

*Description of Services: This consultancy is to provide support against COVID 19 through analyzing the capacity of public health emergency response systems in Mexico in the context of detection, prevention, response and recovery and develop tools to monitor progress made in this area. Through this consultancy, the firm will also share its experience in strengthening public health emergency response system in Korea for the countries in the LAC region will be able to strengthen their system.*

*Link to TC document:* <https://www.iadb.org/en/project/RG-T3704>

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is executing the above mentioned operation. For this operation, the IDB intends to contract consulting services described in this Request for Expressions of Interest.

Expressions of interest must be delivered using the IDB Portal for Bank Executed Operations (<http://beo-procurement.iadb.org/home>) by: *December 15 2020*, 5:00 P.M. (Washington D.C. Time).

The consulting services (“the Services”) include *conducting a series of online knowledge sharing programs on Korea’s public health emergency response system and recommendations for LAC region including workplace health management in times of pandemics, and providing a policy recommendation paper on measures to strengthen the public health emergency response system in Mexico including workplace safety measures during a pandemic and during the return to normality.*

Eligible consulting firms will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: [*Policy for the Selection and Contracting of Consulting firms for Bank-executed Operational Work*](http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?DOCNUM=38988574) - GN-2765-1. All eligible consulting firms, as defined in the Policy may express an interest. If the Consulting Firm is presented in a Consortium, it will designate one of them as a representative, and the latter will be responsible for the communications, the registration in the portal and for submitting the corresponding documents.

The IDB now invites eligible consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the services described below in the draft summary of the intended Terms of Reference for the assignment. Interested consulting firms must provide information establishing that they are qualified to perform the Services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Eligible consulting firms may associate in a form of a Joint Venture or a sub-consultancy agreement to enhance their qualifications. Such association or Joint Venture shall appoint one of the firms as the representative.

Interested eligible consulting firms may obtain further information during office hours, 09:00 AM to 05:00 PM, (Washington D.C. Time) by sending an email to: *Luis Tejerina,* *luist@iadb.org*

Inter-American Development Bank

Division: *SCL/SCL*

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 Selection process # RG-T3704-P002

# TERMS OF REFERENCE

## Public health emergency response capacity building

Regional

RG-T3704

[Innovative COVID-19 Response Using ICT Tools: Knowledge Sharing Between LAC and Korea in Public Health Emergency Preparedness](https://convergence.iadb.org/Operation/RG-T3704)

1. **Background and Justification**
	1. When COVID 19 hit the countries in Latin America and the Caribbean few countries were ready with information systems in place to react and produce the necessary data to help authorities face the crisis. Countries like Uruguay, Argentina have developed chatbots to answer questions and provide information on COVID-19 to citizens. Colombia launched an informative platform to follow up with the evolution of COVID-19 in the country and launched an app to track COVID-19. Peru and Costa Rica developed dashboards and analytics to monitor the spread of the disease. However, use of digital tools in the LAC region in general was limited due to lack of infrastructure, governance structures for a scenario like this one and policies to back the use of digital technologies during pandemics. Furthermore, responses from various countries were heterogeneous and, in some cases, not led by the Ministries of health. Digital solutions were imported from other regions and implemented in a rush to respond to the challenge without vetting their applicability in the region or strategic planning regarding the role they played in the overall health system response to the pandemic.
	2. Digital health interventions are commonly used tools to improve efficiency and quality of health care (Nelson et al. 2019) and they are also proven to be effective during public health emergencies (Allen at al. 2019). According to a recent IDB’s publication, in times of public health emergencies, stronger information systems are important, and digital tools were used to serve as emergency response systems, client communication systems, public health and disease surveillance systems and so on. The report also emphasized the importance of non-digital factors such as institutional capacity, and legal framework to maximize the effectiveness of the digital tools in times of public health emergencies (Park et al. 2020)
	3. South Korea is one of the countries that had made the relevant investments and reacted quickly to manage the crisis using data and technology. Korea regularly suffers contingencies that can have serious public health consequences from yearly typhoon to infectious disease outbreaks, which led to development of public health emergency preparedness and response capacity and building resilience (OECD, 2020) Especially against the infectious disease outbreak the country system after MERS outbreak in 2015. MERS outbreak gave important lessons to Korea as gaps of the systems were discovered, which later the government successfully filled institutional, legal frameworks to enhance the country’s emergency preparedness.
	4. Considering risks for public health, preparedness for public health emergencies became a key policy priority in Korea. The first steps entailed reflection in its legal and institutional framework related to the important risks for pandemic outbreaks and disasters. Currently, Korea’s legal framework for public health emergencies is based on an all-hazard approach. The Framework Act on the Management of Disasters and Safety of 2015 clarifies the responsibilities of national to local governments all across the risk management cycle, from prevention, preparedness to response and recovery. The Act also provide instructions to all levels of government to establish both a Safety Management Committee for Policy planning and implementation and a Disaster and Safety Countermeasures Headquarter for operational response, as well as the development of Safety management Plans in all local governments, corresponding with the national Master Plan for Safety management developed every five years (OECD, 2020).
2. **Objectives**
	1. This consultancy will provide support against COVID 19 by analyzing the capacity of public health emergency response systems in Mexico in the context of detection, prevention, response and recovery and develop tools to monitor progress made in this area. Through this consultancy, the firm will also share the Korean experience in strengthening public health emergency response systems for the countries in the LAC region.
3. **Scope of Services**
	1. Provide a series of online knowledge sharing programs on Korea’s public health emergency response system and recommendations for LAC region including workplace health management in times of pandemics.
	2. A policy recommendation paper on measures to strengthen the public health emergency response system in Mexico including workplace safety measures during a pandemic and during the return to normality.
4. **Key Activities**

The selected firm will:

* 1. Develop a series of online knowledge sharing programs on Korea’s public health emergency response system for Mexico including workplace health management in times of pandemics, and epidemiological surveillance in the workplace.
	2. Develop a learning material on the basic components of an emergency response system.
	3. Document and prepare a report on how the Korean emergency response system works and recommendations and best practices for the region based on Korea’s experience
	4. Review literature and existing documentation of Mexico on their emergency response systems.
	5. Conduct phone interviews or video interviews to collect more information on emergency response systems in Mexico.
	6. Conduct analysis of the public health emergency response system of Mexico in terms of detection, prevention, response and recovery.
	7. Developing a policy recommendation paper on measures to strengthen the public health emergency response system in Mexico including workplace safety measures during a pandemic and during the return to normality. Recommendations should consider national and community strategies for conducting tests within the context of society reopening
	8. Development of guidelines on how to implement similar analyses for other countries in the region, including the workplace safety measures to reopen the society.
1. **Expected Outcome and Deliverables**
	1. Product 1: Workplan and proposed sample of countries and outline of report
	2. Product 2: Learning material on the basic components of an emergency response system
	3. Product 3: A series of online learning programs on Korea’s emergency response system
	4. Product 4: Draft report on emergency response systems in Mexico
	5. Product 5: Final report on Mexico and best practices for the region based on Korean experience including guidelines for implementing studies of public emergency response systems
2. **Project Schedule and Milestones**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Month** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** |
| Product 1 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Product 2 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Product 3 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Product 4 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Product 5 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |

1. **Reporting Requirements**
	1. The firm will be required to send progress reports every 15 days with progress or products and plans for the remainder of the project.
2. **Acceptance Criteria**
	1. Responsible person: Luis Tejerina, Sector Lead specialist of Economics in Social Protection and Health Division
3. **Other Requirements**
	1. Expertise in the Korean public emergency response system
	2. Prior experience working with Korean Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is highly valued.
	3. Consanguinity: You have no family members (up to fourth degree of consanguinity and second degree of affinity, including spouse) working at the IDB Group.
	4. Education: Team should include an epidemiologist with at least 5 years of experience in the analysis of emergency response systems
	5. Experience: Understanding of the Korean emergency response system. At least 5 years of experience in analyzing emergency response systems of other countries.
	6. Languages: English and Korean
4. **Supervision and Reporting**
	1. Responsible persons: Luis Tejerina, Sector lead specialist of Economics in Social Protection and Health Division/ Social Sector, will accept the products.
5. **Schedule of Payments**
	1. Payment terms will be based on project milestones or deliverables. The Bank does not expect to make advance payments under consulting contracts unless a significant amount of travel is required. The Bank wishes to receive the most competitive cost proposal for the services described herein.
	2. The IDB Official Exchange Rate indicated in the RFP will be applied for necessary conversions of local currency payments.

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| **Payment Schedule** |
| **Deliverable** | **%** |
| Product 1 | 10 |
| Product 2 | 10 |
| Product 3 | 25 |
| Product 4 | 25 |
| Product 5 | 30 |
| **TOTAL** | 100% |