



INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK



REGIONAL PUBLIC GOODS

Promoting Regional Solutions for Regional Problems

**Input Statement for Working Group 2:
“Sustainable Funding Mechanisms for Regional QA – Obstacles and Options”**

**Enhancing Quality Across Borders –
Regional Cooperation in Quality Assurance in Higher Education**

**18 – 20 June 2007
Bonn, Germany**

**Kea Wollrad
RPG Program**

Key Features of the RPG Program

- ✓ **Innovative:** Only MFI to finance RPG projects.
- ✓ **New:** Created in 2004.
- ✓ **Demand-driven:** Countries can present proposals in ANY sector they consider important for cross-border cooperation.
- ✓ **Funding Mechanism:** Competitively through an annual Call For Proposals.
- ✓ **Size of Fund:** US\$10 million per year (grants).



Objective of the RPG PROGRAM

Support the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the **collective** design of solutions to issues that can only or more effectively and efficiently be addressed through **regional cooperation.**



How does the RPG PROGRAM promote regional cooperation?

Intervention in the Critical = Initial Stage

The Program:

- ✓ tries to **correct disincentives** for cooperation:
 - ✓ lack of coordination
 - ✓ adversity to risk investment (financial and human resources)
 - ✓ free-riding;
- ✓ promotes and **rewards dialogue** among countries;
- ✓ serves as a **clearinghouse** for RPG ideas;
- ✓ supports the **incubation of ideas**.



What does the RPG Program finance?

- ✓ regional decision-making: meetings (presential or virtual), workshops; technical inputs (studies).
- ✓ regional products: design of policy tools, institutional frameworks, and training moduls; communication and dissemination mechanisms (websites).
- ✓ regional training (on a pilot base) to test regional products;
- ✓ regional coordination to ensure progress in regional decision-making.



Examples of RPGs

- ✓ regional protocol (to control Chagas disease in 8 countries of Latin America)
- ✓ regional framework (to conduct population censuses in the Caribbean)
- ✓ regional system (for food fortification in Central America)
- ✓ regional system (for disaster risk management in the Caribbean tourism sector).



Sustainability of RPG Projects

RPG Program:

- ✓ Aims at being the “**spark plug**” for regional cooperation;
- ✓ supports cooperation up to a point where **benefits** become clear, so as to keep the process going;
- ✓ helps create the **institutional/regulatory framework** for cooperation.
- ✓ **mainstreams regional solutions** inside and outside the IDB for further financing.



RPG PROGRAM: Education

Consolidation of the Network of Latin American Education Portals – US\$2,150,000

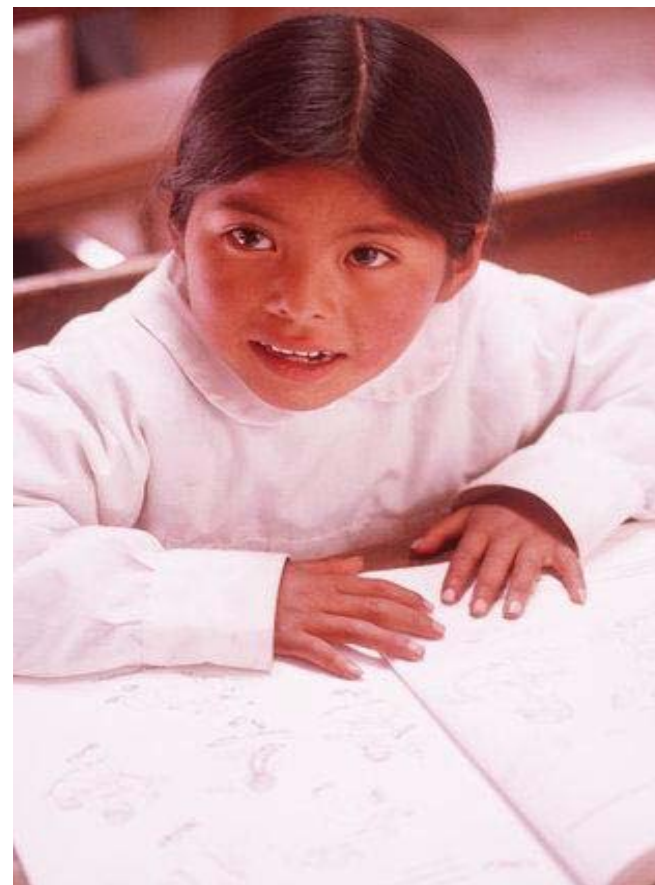
Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, México, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela

Regional System to Assess and Develop Citizenship Competencies – US\$1,500,000

Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama

Regional Engineering Accreditation System for the Greater Caribbean (in preparation- US\$350,000)

Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Panama



Our Website

<http://www.iadb.org/int/bpr>

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INT Integration and Regional Programs Department

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Call for proposals

In accordance with the Guidelines of the Initiative, the IDB will offer non-reimbursable resources of up to US\$10 million to finance projects that support the development of RPGs in Latin America and the Caribbean

2006 Call for Proposals
Complete Document

Conceptual Framework

About RPGs: The collective action concept comprises two basic dimensions: the regional dimension and the public dimension. Not only does the public good need to be regional in nature and generate shared benefits for the participating countries but the solution has to be produced collectively. [More info](#)

Projects

Caribbean Tourism - A vital RPG
Contingency plans for the tourism is linked to our broader strategic plan and target for the sector and will complement the recently approved Caribbean Emergency Relief Agency (CERA) Initiative. [More info](#)

Proposals must be submitted to IDB Headquarters no later than October 16, 2006. You can submit your proposal by fax (1- 202- 623- 1687), by electronic mail to BPR@iadb.org or by regular mail to the following address:

Inter-American Development Bank
1300 New York Ave. NW, STOP W-0610
Washington, DC 20577
USA
Attention: Initiative for the Promotion of Regional Public Goods

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Preliminary consultation

A one-page abstract may be sent to make a preliminary consultation on eligibility, using the following format. Consultations may be sent up through this Web page **until Friday October 6, 2006**.

First Name *
Last Name *
Country *
Email *

Describe the RPG:
Describe why is the good produced (Public or private interest):
Describe who produces the good:
Describe the form of production:
Weakest Link, Summation or Best Shot:
Describe the nature of the opportunity or problem:
(Transnational or Sum of national problems)

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Regional Public Goods

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Improvement of statistics for measuring quality of life - ATN/OC-9256-RG

Countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, República Dominicana, Uruguay

Sector: Social development

Description:
The public good to be financed will be technical and methodological standards and a set of concepts and tools to be adopted by the region's statistics offices, so that they can generate better social statistics with greater coverage. Included will be shared variables and definitions, best practices, technical recommendations for making best use of statistics, and the development of tools for open data access.

Executing Agency:
Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)

Documents:
• Profile (IDB website)
• Operations Plan

Results:
• Logical Framework Matrix
• Advance

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About RPGs

On March 22, 2004, the Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved the Initiative for the Promotion of Regional Public Goods (RPGs).

The Initiative responds to the increasing demand for RPGs during the last ten years. Its importance is derived mainly from policy reforms oriented to open internal markets, to encourage competitiveness in a global economy and to take advantage of technological changes. The regional public goods are also essential to face vulnerabilities created by greater integration, such as the transmission of financial crises and cross-border spreading of human and animal diseases. In addition, the RPGs are perceived more and more like part of the solution of long-term development problems in an wide range of sectors.

Additionally the Bank has wanted to contribute to the worldwide discussion of public goods, especially integrating the regional vision to this discussion. For this reason the Bank has participated in different complementary activities to the Initiative for the promotion of RPGs. This web site tries to concentrate some of the results of these activities and to make them available to regular work groups in the subject and other people committed with development.

Publications

See here books and working papers about regional public goods

Conceptual Framework

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Caribbean Tourism - A vital RPG

Contingency plans for the tourism is linked to our broader strategic plan and target for the sector and will complement the recently approved Inter-American Development Bank Regional Public Goods Initiative. Deputy Co-ordinator of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Relief Agency (CERA) Elvis Nurse said this was a decisive action to change the loss profile of island economies. [More info](#)

"Third sector" in Brazil highlight RPGs

The Brazilian magazine "revista do terceiro setor" (third sector) profiled this week, an interview with Laura Bocalandro, Chief of Regional Technical Cooperation and the Regional Public Goods Initiative. To see the entire interview, please click here. [More info](#)

Red GEALC at the OAS General Assembly

GEALC Network (Network of Leaders of Electronic Government of Latin America and the Caribbean) was highlighted as a successful case at the last General Assembly of the Organization of American States. [More info](#)



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INTEGRATION AND REGIONAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT

Thank You

Gracias

Obrigado

Merci

Danke

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RPG Program