

Prototype TC - on one page 17/3/2020

BID Lab, the innovation laboratory of the BID Group, announces "CT Prototype", a new line of simplified non-reimbursable technical cooperation, aimed at testing early stage innovations and technological solutions with high impact potential. The Prototype TCs have been developed in response to the growing demand of our clients for greater agility and flexibility to support higher risk experimental solutions.

The IDB's Prototype TCs will respond to specific demands or needs, or to a particular development problem affecting the quality of life of poor or vulnerable segments of the population in Latin America and the Caribbean. The types of experimental solutions may be products or services, disruptive technologies, new business models or other types of solutions that have high potential to solve social or environmental problems. It is useful to try to understand a prototype TC as the testing of a product that, if successful in its intended market, could later attract investment and be replicated or scaled up, with a positive social or environmental impact.

If validated during implementation, these solutions could move to a "pilot" or later growth phase, with broader deployment of the solution, during which the IDB Group can test, replicate and/or scale them up elsewhere in the region with public and private sector partners.

The Prototype TCs are non-reimbursable technical cooperations for rapid implementation for a maximum amount of US\$150,000 and up to 18 months of execution, requiring a contribution of counterpart funds of at least 20% of the total project cost, with contributions in kind accepted. The administrative effort to execute these technical cooperations will be minimal, not requiring a coordinator or administrative support. They will have a simplified implementation structure, with no more than three acquisitions.

Prototype TCs may not have as their core activities: a) academic studies or research, b) evaluations of other projects or initiatives, c) extensions or expansions of projects, from the IDB Group or third parties, d) training activities, and e) events.

Prototypes will have three main stages:

1. Definition stage (2-4 months): this stage will be executed in close collaboration with IDB Lab, taking advantage of our network of partners and knowledge. It will culminate in the definition of the terms of reference for the project procurement and the justification for contracting the partners to implement the prototype. It can take place before or after the approval of the Prototype TC.
2. Implementation and data generation stage (less than 18 months): this stage will focus on implementing the solution/prototype in a controlled environment, producing data and disseminating the results. It will be carried out by specialized service providers identified in the previous stage.

3. Evaluation and knowledge dissemination stage: this stage will focus on evaluating the results of the Prototype TC and disseminating them within the IDB Group and with the IDB Lab partners, including public and private actors with the capacity to scale up the projects using the lessons learned.

The executing agencies of the IDB Lab Prototype TC may be companies (including new companies) that propose the solution to be tested; private and civil society organizations such as innovation and accelerator agencies; financial intermediaries; producer associations; knowledge institutions; and others that can demonstrate alignment with the objectives of the Prototype TC, have the capacity to disseminate the data produced in the experiment, and are legally eligible to administer IDB Lab resources)