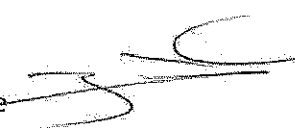




**Interoffice Memorandum**

**Date:** 24 January 2017

**To:** Susan McDade  
Deputy Director  
Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean

**From:** Richard Barathe   
Director a.i.  
Regional Hub - LAC

**Subject:** Request of an extension of DIM authorization for the Regional Project: "Multidimensional Progress Agenda for Human Development in Latin America and the Caribbean"

I am pleased to request your consideration and approval of an extension of the Direct Implementation (DIM) authorization for the Regional Project "Multidimensional Progress Agenda for Human Development in Latin America and the Caribbean" - Atlas AWARD 00084774, Project IDs: 00092631 – from January 2017 until December 2018. This extension is requested to continue with the implementation of activities as foreseen in the substantive revision attached.

**Brief summary of the project objectives**

The Toolkit and set of methodologies that will be generated through the project will support policy makers in their efforts to formulate solutions following a multidimensional (intersectoral and inter-territorial) approach that tackles more effectively specific development objectives at country level. To this end, the project will develop a multidimensional progress toolkit, which aims to provide country-specific landing of SDGs based on government priorities. Through the development of sets or "combos" of specific policies that link processes of social, economic and environmental change, the toolkit will implement in demand driven manner the following three instruments which will finalized and disseminated through the project:

- **Country Specific Metrics & Drivers.** Construction of multidimensional metric for countries who demand it, analyzing: i) for countries where poverty is a priority, the determinants for exiting or sliding back into poverty and the vulnerability condition of people and groups; ii) for countries where environment-related issues are the priority, data gathering and analysis on this topic will guide the discussion; iii) the same logic would apply for citizen security, adolescence pregnancy and other priorities defined at the country or territory level.



- Planning and public investment information vis-à-vis the SDGs will enable a benchmark regarding prioritization of SDGs at any given country or territory willing to move forward the agenda.
- Demand-driven interlinkage. Includes the identification of specific public policy options to address inter-sectoral, inter-territorial and life-cycle challenges. This process will be data-informed and it will probably incorporate findings from the previous step, and will also consider participation, dialogue and subjective measurements on the topic to be covered.
- Fiscal space for SDGs. Fiscal simulation tool to analyze the effect of possible changes in taxes, transfers and subsidies; as well as microsimulation for closing labor, social and gender of gaps. This tool is currently under-revision and its first step consists on fine-tuning it.

To help implement the set of tools developed, the project will rely on a roster of consultants in the region that will include experts, UNDP Programme Officers, and Government Officials who will be trained in the use of one or several tools to provide assistance to countries in their application for the advancement of the SDGs.

In addition, and considering the high demand of country office requests for support, the project will continue presenting the findings of the Report in field offices as well as workshops with national counterparts for the implementation of the tools at the national level.

Through the set of tools developed, the project will assist in the definition of combos which will provide a starting point for the intersectoral and inter-territorial coordination of policies, enabling to bring together national priorities with the 2030 Agenda. The output of the analyses, which fully respects the MAPS approach, will guide on how to accelerate achievements of policy efforts by eliminating obstacles to specific targets.

### **Justification of DIM extension**

The extension of the DIM implementation is advisable for the following reasons:

1. The project, which has a wide regional scope offering support to the Region, will require an executing agency with the capacity to coordinate different components (capacity building, technical assistance and knowledge management products and services) and to assist a wide array of UNDP COs and government's counterparts. In addition, the executing agency must have the capacity to mobilize resources and convene a wide variety of national and international stakeholders to support project activities.
2. The project seeks to add value and to be effective in the provision of technical assistance in SDGs in the region. It requires building and sustaining regional technical expertise and capacities that given its economies of scale are better articulated and more efficiently managed following a regional approach.
3. The Direct Implementation of the project will facilitate direct service delivery so that it can meet emerging clients' demands for technical assistance and support in a wider range of circumstances. Combined with country office capacities, DIM implementation will enable the



project to seek and secure new business opportunities, providing an effective mechanism to meet national demands and donor needs for quick response and implementation.

4. The Regional Center for Latin America and the Caribbean has the required experience to coordinate this regional project as demonstrated through the successful implementation of activities in previous phases as well as its management expertise of other regional projects.

Consequently, we would appreciate your authorization under the DIM modality for this Regional Project.

*Attached documentations:*

- Annual Work Plan (AWP) 2016
  - Regular Budget Revision (ATLAS AWP and ATLAS cover page)
  - Budget Revision Clearance Slip
  - Progress Report 2015
- AWARD 00084774, Project ID: 00092631. DIM authorization from 1 January 2017 until 31 December 2018.

Cleared and Approved by: *Susan McDade*  
Susan McDade  
Deputy Director  
Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean

Date: *8 Feb 2017*

