



Interoffice Memorandum

Date: 15 December 2011

To: Rebeca Grynszpan
Associate Administrator

From: Niky Fabiancic
Deputy Regional Director

OSG# 970
28 DEC 2011

Subject: Request for extension of Direct Implementation authorization for Regional Project “Strengthening National Capacities to meet MDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean.”

I am pleased to request for your consideration and approval, the Direct Implementation (DIM) of the above mentioned regional project, Atlas AWARD Number 00057479, based in the Regional Service Center in Panama, from 1st January, 2012 to 31st December, 2013.

Brief description and objectives of the project.

In a region primarily consisting of Middle Income Countries with vast differences in institutional capacity, even within the same country, Capacity Development of public institutions is a key niche of UNDP. The regional project: “Strengthening National Capacities to meet the MDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean” has contributed to the capacity development in several different countries in the region in the areas of disaster risk reduction, conservation of protected areas, HIV/AIDS, Commerce, Teacher’s Welfare, Climate Change and local and regional government. The project will continue responding to demand from COs and their counterparts, however, the project will focus more on hotspot countries (determined based on the interest and change readiness) and focus on upscaling capacity development from one institution to national Capacity Dialogues and Capacity Development Facilities.

There are two new expected outputs of the project:

1. Quality advisory services provided in support of capacity development processes for public institutions and implementing partners.
2. Quality Knowledge, communicational and marketing materials produced and/or shared to strengthen and promote CDLAC’s services.

The general objective of this Regional Project is strengthening of UNDP as a player, developer and disseminator of Capacity Development knowledge. The products derived from this project will meet the following requirements:



- Have a clear focus on capacity development; the ultimate goal of these products is to support the capacity of actors at a national level (public institutions and their implementing partners).
- Close the gap between research and practice. Practitioners and policy makers have limited time to read through lengthy technical documents and need answers to their everyday decisions. Therefore, the aim is to produce quality knowledge about institutional capacities and capacity development in the region and develop practical and flexible products for domestic partners.

Justification for Direct Implementation

In this case, the extension of the Direct Implementation is advisable for the following reasons:

1. The project has a broad regional reach and offers quality services for Latin America and the Caribbean, provides support to UNDP country offices in capacity building, and manages and socializes capacity development knowledge. Such an executing entity should have the ability to mobilize resources and to convene a wide variety of national and international stakeholders and partners. UNDP is the only UN agency that has a regional coverage with offices in 24 countries and has the capacity and coordination to promote alliances and partnerships through its country offices and focal points in Latin America and the Caribbean.
2. The project calls for an organization that has the experience and management capacity to implement regional projects efficiently and effectively, to mobilize resources and coordinate the various national and international actors. The Regional Service Center for Latin America and the Caribbean, through its Capacity Development Practice Area and its subjects have the experience required coordinating a regional project.

Consequently, RBLAC would appreciate your authorization under the DIM modality for the Regional Project “Strengthening National Capacities to support the achievement of the MDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean.”.

Attached documentations:

1. Project Document,
2. Report of progress for Initiation Work Plan
3. Results and Resources Framework
4. Risk log
5. Annual work Plan
6. Virtual Pac Mail
7. Virtual PAC Comments
8. Memorandum for your signature requesting DIM authorization to the Associate Administrator.



Your authorization for the direct implementation of this regional project would be greatly appreciated.

Approved: Rebeca Grynspan

Rebeca Grynspan
Associate Administrator

Date: 30 Dec. 2011

Cleared by OSG: Verena Ardman

Date: 29 Dec 11