

BRIEF ON ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES ON MIGRATION, DEVELOPMENT AND REMITTANCES

Inter-American Development Bank

This note summarizes the principal activities of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) with respect to migration, development and remittances, in light of the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and the 2007 Global Forum on Migration and Development.

The Inter-American Development Bank has a strong mandate to support development and poverty reduction throughout the Latin American and Caribbean region. Under this mandate, the IDB supports member countries in social, labour and development programmes as well as provides a range of research and technical activities related to migration, remittances and development. In particular, under the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF), a private sector grant facility, the IDB has launched an extensive programme to bring awareness to the economic and development role of remittances and led a major effort to reduce the cost of remittance transactions. This paper summarizes these activities in the areas of labour and economic development and remittances and provides a list of currently approved projects, both loan and grant or technical cooperation agreements.

A. OVERVIEW, SOCIAL AND LABOUR MARKET DEVELOPMENT

While almost every region in the world both sends and receives migrants, Latin America and the Caribbean has one of the highest outmigration rates in the world. On average, 1 out of every 1,000 persons left their country of origin in the region in 2000, compared to half that rate in Northern Africa and one tenth that rate in South Asia. While it is true that the United States of America continues to be the preferred destination for Latin America's migrants, there is increasing diversity in the region's migration patterns to other developed countries and regions (e.g. Japan, Southern Europe) and within Latin America itself—Peruvians to Chile, Colombians to Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Nicaraguans to Costa Rica.

As part of its poverty and development mandate, the IDB deals with a range of social, labour and economic and policy initiatives and activities, most prominent being in documenting and addressing the role of remittances and migration in regional development (see section B). The activities of IDB include: loan and grant operations, research, support to national surveys and censuses, and awareness-raising efforts (e.g. seminars, national campaigns). The accompanying annex lists the most directly relevant loan and technical cooperation (grant) agreements, which are currently being executed. For example, the IDB has provided loan support to the "Tres por Uno" programme by Mexico, which multiplies investments of migrants in their local communities by a multiple of three with matching federal, state and local contributions (ME-L1012, US\$21 million).

As featured in the 2006 High-level Dialogue and 2007 Global Forum, the IDB has given attention to particular social needs affecting migrating populations. This includes initiatives to combat human trafficking and raise public awareness of cross-border trafficking; pilot programmes to address the worst forms of child labour; regional development and poverty-targeting that include areas of high migrant outflows, and improving access to education and health services to the poor. New initiatives in labour training are incorporating internal migrants as a target population. Under the Opportunities for the Majority Initiative announced in March of 2007, the IDB has given special attention to increase civil registration, including birth and adult registration, to improve the access of the poor to services and ensure

the provision of basic citizenship rights throughout the region. In research, the 2008 Report on Economic and Social Progress in Latin America of IDB highli

Country	Project Name	Project Number	<i>Amount (in US\$)</i>
Paraguay	<u>Bancarización de Clientes Receptores de Remesas en Paraguay</u>	PR-M1003	222,000
Peru	<u>Aumento Aporte al Desarrollo con Remesas Peruanos desde JP</u>	PE-M1010	7,200,000
Peru	<u>Apoyo a los Empresarios que Retornan al País</u>	PE-M1006	500,000
Regional	<u>Apoyo a Iniciativas Productivas a través de la Diáspora y Entidades Locales</u>	RG-M1069	3,285,000
Regional	<u>Corredores de Remesas de Inmigrantes</u>	RG-M1075	150,000
Regional	<u>Aplicación de los Principios Generales para Mercados de Remesas</u>	RG-M1083	1,759,300
Regional	<u>Mejora de la Información y Procedimientos de Bancos Centrales en Área de Remesas</u>	RG-M1059	1,306,884
Regional	<u>Movilización de Remesas a través de Entidades Microfinancieras</u>	RG-M1003	824,770
Regional	<u>Línea Actividad Asociación FOMIN-FIDA para Sector Privado Rural</u>	RG-M1019	300,000
Regional	<u>Abriendo el mercado de remesas regionales a las instituciones de microfinanzas</u>	RG-M-1110	460,000
Total		34 projects	71,400,204

REFERENCE