REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
CONSULTING SERVICES
BANK-EXECUTED OPERATIONS
FULL COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCESS

PROJECT NAME: Secretariat of the Latin America and Caribbean Resilience, Readiness, and Risk-Protection Review (LAC-4R)
SELECTION PROCESS #: RG-T4959-P001
SELECTION METHOD: Full Competitive
COUNTRY: Regional
SECTOR OR DEPARTMENT: Climate Change and Sustainable Development Sector / Disaster Risk Management Unit (CSD/DRM)
TC NAME: Latin America and Caribbean Resilience, Readiness, and Risk-Protection Review (LAC-4R)
FUNDING – TC #: RG-T4959
LINK TO TC DOCUMENT: https://www.iadb.org/en/project/RG-T4959

Attention Consulting Firms: Important Update Regarding BEO Bidder Portal Registration

All consulting firms, both new and previously registered in the BEO Portal, **must add their Business Partner Number (BP Number)** to their organization's profiles to participate or continue participating in a BEO procurement process.

Please refer to the FAQs in the Portal for more details on **"How to Find or Obtain Your BP Number"**.

Avoid delays by not waiting until the last moment to complete this update. This process may take up to **48 hours** to complete and could prevent your organization from participating in a BEO Process.

For further questions or assistance, use the live chat on the BEO Bidder Portal page or email us at ocs.procurement@iadb.org

The Inter-American Development Bank (the Bank) was established in December of 1959 to help accelerate economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean. Today, the Bank is a major catalyst in mobilizing resources for the region (For more information about the Bank, please refer to the Bank's website at www.iadb.org.)

Section 1. Purpose of this Request for Expression of Interest

1.1 The Bank is executing the above-mentioned project. The Bank intends to contract consulting services described in this Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI). The purpose of this REOI is to obtain sufficient information to enable the Bank to evaluate if the eligible consulting firms (CF) have the experience and qualifications relevant to provide the consulting services requested by the Bank.

1.2 As defined in the Corporate *Procurement Policy* (GN-2303-33), participating CF must be from a Bank's Member Country[1] or Territory[2] to be eligible to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI). The Bank will conduct the shortlisting process of the CF that expressed interest. The shortlisted CF will then be invited to continue further in the procurement process.

1.3 This REOI is not to be construed as either an RFP or an offer to contract and in no way obligates the Bank to contract anyone. The Bank reserves the right to reject any and all participating CF for any or no reason without having to provide an explanation. The Bank does not bind itself in any way to select any participating consulting firm. No debrief will be provided as to why CF have or have not been shortlisted.

Section 2. Instructions to the eligible consulting firms

2.1 Expressions of interest must be delivered using the *Bidder Portal for the Selection and Contracting of Consulting Firms for Bank-Executed Operations* (the Portal) (http://beo-procurement.iadb.org) by: *August 16, 2026*, 5:00 P.M. (**Washington, D.C., Time**) in PDF format only (Max. 45MB).

2.2 To access the Portal, the CF must generate a registration account, including ***all*** the data requested by the Portal. In the event that any of the information requested is not included, the consulting firm will not be able to participate in this or any other Bank-executed selection process for operational work. If the consulting firm has been previously registered, please validate that you have ***all*** the consulting firm's information updated and complete before submitting an EOI.

2.3 Eligible CF may partner in the form of a Consortium/joint venture (JV) to enhance their qualifications. Such Consortium/JV shall appoint one of the CF as the representative responsible for the communications, the registration in the Portal, and the submission of the corresponding documents (Lead Firm). If submitting as a Consortium/JV, the proposed structure, as well as the Lead Firm, must be maintained if the Consortium/JV proceeds in this selection process.

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[1] **Member Countries:** Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Croatia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, People's Republic of China, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad & Tobago, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela.

[2] **Eligible Territories:** a) Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Martinique, Reunion – as Departments of France; b) U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Guam – as Territories of the USA; c) Aruba – as a constituent country of the Netherlands; and Bonaire, Curacao, Sint Maarten, Saba, St Eustatius – as Departments of the Netherlands; d) Hong Kong – as a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.

2.4 Interested CF may obtain further information during office hours, 09:00 AM to 05:00 PM (**Washington, D.C. Time**), by sending an email to: Roberto Guerrero Compeán, rguerrero@iadb.org

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2.5 The Bank hereby invites eligible CF to indicate their interest in providing the services described below in the draft Terms of Reference for the consulting services. Interested CF must provide information establishing that they have the necessary experience and are qualified to perform the services. So that all responses may be properly evaluated, eligible CF must include in their submissions the information requested in the following section, with full and clear explanations.

Section 3. Consulting Services

3.1 The consulting services include the establishment and operation of the Secretariat of the Latin America and Caribbean Resilience, Readiness, and Risk-Protection Review (LAC-4R) under Technical Cooperation RG-T4959. The Secretariat, to be hosted by a university based in a Latin American and Caribbean borrowing member country of the Bank, will propose and convene a High-Level Panel of leading experts; establish and operate a regional research network of universities, research centers, and think tanks; coordinate the commissioning and peer review of a first set of 6 to 8 research papers through an open and contestable process; organize one technical workshop for research development and peer review; coordinate the preparation of a synthesis of the commissioned papers; organize the LAC-4R kickoff meeting with the Steering Committee in Q4 2026; and coordinate the academic content for the LAC-4R digital knowledge platform hosted on RiskMONITOR, an IDB website with disaster risk management-oriented content. The services are estimated to be performed over a period of 24 months from the date the contract enters into force. The estimated budget available for the consultancy is US$255,000.

3.2 Although there is no standard format for presenting an Expression of Interest, eligible CF must submit an EOI containing the following information:

1) Basic Information—Provide the official name of CF, the contact's name, email

address, phone numbers, and office address (es) of the key contact (s) responsible for the EOI.
2) Background—Provide a description of the CF. The CF may include brochures or documents that provide information about its organization, history, mission, structure, and number of staff.
3) Experience related to the requested consulting services—Provide all kinds of evidence the CF considers appropriate to show its experience and expertise in delivering services similar to those described in Annex A, Terms of Reference (e.g., brochures, reports, studies, description of similar assignments, references to cases in which it has provided similar services, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.)

3.3 Estimated budget: US$255,000, which includes author honoraria, commissioning, peer review coordination and preparation of peer-reviewed working papers, organization of one kickoff meeting and one technical workshop for research development and peer review and establishment and operation of the regional research network.

Annex A. Draft Terms of Reference

Please note that the attached Terms of Reference may be subject to changes by the Bank. The CF that have been shortlisted will be notified of these changes.

ANNEX A – Terms of reference

SECRETARIAT OF THE LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN RESILIENCE, READINESS, AND RISK-PROTECTION REVIEW (LAC-4R)
REGIONAL – Technical Cooperation RG-T4959

1. Background and Justification

Latin America and the Caribbean is among the most disaster-exposed regions in the world, and the toll has been both heavy and sustained. Between 2000 and 2025 the region recorded 1,695 disasters that caused more than 270,000 deaths, affected over 200 million people, and produced economic losses above US$365 billion (EM-DAT, 2025). Droughts, floods, and storms together accounted for close to 85 percent of the affected population, and storms alone drove roughly 55 percent of recorded economic losses. These impacts fall hardest on the poorest and most vulnerable households, damage productive and social assets, and erode development gains accumulated over decades. The pressure is intensifying rather than easing. Climate change is raising the frequency, intensity, and compounding nature of extreme events, while demographic growth, rapid and often unplanned urbanization, and the concentration of people and assets in hazard-prone areas keep widening exposure. The macroeconomic and fiscal consequences are large and, in poorer economies, persistent: disasters can generate permanent output losses of between 2.1 and 3.7 percent of GDP (Cavallo, Becerra, and

Acevedo, 2021), and in the region disasters and climate shocks could push up to 5.8 million additional people into poverty, with the heaviest burden falling on the households least able to absorb it (Bagolle, Costella, and Goyeneche, 2023). Governance reforms matter and can be measured: each additional point on the Index of Governance and Public Policy in Disaster Risk Management (iGOPP) is associated with roughly a 3 percent reduction in disaster-related fatalities (Guerrero Compeán and Lacambra Ayuso, 2020). Even so, stronger institutions have not been enough to offset accelerating hazards and rising exposure.

Underlying these challenges is a knowledge problem. The evidence base on disaster risk in the region is fragmented across institutions, hazards, and sectors, and it is rarely synthesized into the coherent, policy-relevant analysis that finance ministries, sector authorities, and development partners need in order to act. The Latin America and Caribbean Resilience, Readiness, and Risk-Protection Review (LAC-4R) responds to that gap. Modeled on the Latin America and Caribbean Inequality Review (LACIR), it adapts a proven architecture, namely a high-level expert panel, commissioned research, a flagship synthesis, and sustained dissemination, to the disaster risk agenda, organizing the work around the three goals of the disaster risk management agenda: more resilient countries, better prepared societies, and financially protected economies.

The LAC-4R is a two-phase initiative. This operation (RG-T4959) constitutes Phase 1, a 24-month effort that establishes the institutional architecture and delivers a first, self-contained body of evidence. A central piece of that architecture is a Latin American university that will act as the Secretariat of the Review. These Terms of Reference govern the competitive selection of that university, which will be contracted as a consulting firm to commission research, coordinate peer review, and establish and operate a regional research network of universities, research centers, and think tanks. The Secretariat is the operational and academic anchor of the initiative in the region. Without it the Bank cannot convene the network, manage the commissioning and review cycle at arm's length from the authors, or sustain the continuity that distinguishes the LAC-4R from one-off reporting exercises. The LACIR precedent, in which the London School of Economics hosted the secretariat and coordinated the panel, the commissioning, and the dissemination, demonstrates the value of anchoring this function in an academic institution of regional standing.

2. Objectives

The objective of this consultancy is to establish and operate the Secretariat of the LAC-4R during Phase 1, providing the academic coordination and network management required to deliver a first set of 6 to 8 peer-reviewed research papers with a synthesis, and to lay the institutional foundation for Phase 2. The specific objectives are to:

1. Propose, for the Bank's approval, the membership of a High-Level Panel of leading experts, and convene and support it through the commissioning and review cycle.
2. Establish and operate a regional research network of universities, research centers, and think tanks, with clear governance, balanced thematic and geographic coverage, and a work plan.
3. Support the Steering Committee and the High-Level Panel in defining the thematic

agenda and validating the analytical clusters under the three goals of the disaster risk management agenda.

4. Coordinate the commissioning of 6 to 8 research papers through an open and contestable process, and manage the peer review at arm's length from the authors.
5. Organize the LAC-4R kickoff meeting with the Steering Committee in Q4 2026.
6. Organize one technical workshop for research development and peer review, convening the authors, the High-Level Panel, and the network.
7. Coordinate the preparation of a synthesis that draws out the cross-cutting findings of the commissioned papers.
8. Coordinate the academic content for the LAC-4R digital knowledge platform hosted on RiskMONITOR, and support dissemination.

3. Scope of Services

The Secretariat will act as the operational and academic coordination hub of the LAC-4R during Phase 1. The scope covers the full commissioning and review cycle for the first set of papers, the convening of the High-Level Panel, the establishment and day-to-day operation of the regional research network, the organization of the kickoff meeting and one technical workshop, the coordination of the synthesis, and support to the dissemination of results through the digital knowledge platform.

Governance. Following the architecture of the LACIR, the initiative is governed by three bodies. A Steering Committee, composed of the Bank and the Secretariat, directs the work, sets the thematic agenda, and validates the analytical clusters and the commissioning. A High-Level Panel of leading experts, indicatively 8 to 12, provides intellectual direction and peer review across the research program; the Secretariat proposes candidate Panel members, secures their participation, and convenes the Panel, with the final composition validated by the Steering Committee, and the Panel may include Bank technical staff. The Secretariat is the executive and academic coordination arm that operationalizes the decisions of the Steering Committee and the Panel and runs the regional research network. This mirrors the LACIR model, in which the host institution convened and coordinated the panel while overall direction rested with a small steering committee.

The Secretariat will not author the commissioned papers itself. Research authors are contracted separately as individual consultants, and the Secretariat's role is to organize and manage the process by which they are identified, commissioned, reviewed, and brought to publication standard. This separation protects the independence and contestability of the research, consistent with the LACIR model, in which the choice of authors rested with the panel rather than with the host institution. The Secretariat is expected to bring its own academic capacity to bear on coordination, quality assurance, and convening, while keeping the commissioning open and competitive.

All services will be delivered in coordination with the Bank's Disaster Risk Management Unit (CSD/DRM) and will draw, where relevant, on the Bank's existing disaster risk information architecture, including RiskMONITOR and RiskHUB, and on consolidated external sources such as EM-DAT and national databases.

Research themes. The research program is organized around the three goals of the disaster risk management agenda, which serve as the Review's themes, in the spirit of the five themes that structured the Latin America and Caribbean Inequality Review. Within each theme the Steering Committee and the High-Level Panel will validate a set of analytical clusters and commission papers against them. The indicative thematic agenda is as follows:

1. **Theme 1 · More resilient countries.** Risk information and risk identification; disaster risk governance, mandates, and coordination, including the political economy incentives that bias systems toward response over prevention; resilient and risk-informed public infrastructure; nature-based solutions; risk-informed territorial and land-use planning; and fiscal incentives for preventive investment. Illustrative questions: which governance reforms most reduce loss of life and asset damage, building on the iGOPP evidence, and what are the costs and benefits of resilient infrastructure and nature-based solutions relative to the cost of inaction.
2. **Theme 2 · Better prepared societies.** Adaptive and shock-responsive social protection; inclusive early warning systems; the measurement of social vulnerability; and the long-term effects of disasters on human capital, health, and education. Illustrative questions: how can social protection be made shock-responsive at scale and who is left out of early warning coverage, and what are the persistent human-capital costs of disasters for affected children and households.
3. **Theme 3 · Financially protected economies.** The macroeconomics of resilience and the public finance of disaster risk; fiscal risk and the contingent liabilities of governments; sovereign and subnational disaster risk financing; risk-transfer and insurance instruments, including catastrophe bonds and contingent credit; and the protection gap. Illustrative questions: how large are the fiscal and growth effects of disasters in the region and how should governments combine budgetary, contingent, and risk-transfer instruments, and what would close the catastrophe protection gap.

The clusters above are indicative. The Steering Committee and the High-Level Panel will confirm the final set, the balance across themes, and the country cases, taking into account analytical gaps relative to the DRM Action Plan 2026-2030, policy and operational relevance for the Bank, data availability, and balanced coverage across the Bank's 26 borrowing member countries.

4. Key Activities

The Secretariat will carry out, at a minimum, the following activities, organized along the lines of the LACIR:

1. **Secretariat set-up and governance.** Within the first weeks of the contract, establish the Secretariat function, designate the key team, and agree with the Bank an inception report setting out the work plan, the governance and protocols of the Steering Committee and the High-Level Panel, the commissioning and peer-review protocol, and a detailed calendar of deliverables and milestones. Organize the LAC-4R kickoff meeting with the Steering Committee in Q4 2026.
2. **High-Level Panel.** Propose to the Bank candidate members for a High-Level Panel of

leading experts in disaster risk, climate, economics, and public policy, drawn from the region and beyond, balanced across the three themes, and proportionate to the scale of Phase 1; secure their participation; and convene and support the Panel through the commissioning and review cycle, supporting the Steering Committee in validating its final composition. The Panel provides intellectual direction and peer review across the research program, in the manner of the LACIR panel of scholars.

3. **Regional research network.** Identify, invite, and confirm the founding members of a regional research network of universities, research centers, and think tanks, with attention to coverage across the three goals of the disaster risk management agenda and to geographic balance across the Bank's borrowing member countries. Define the network's governance, membership terms, and modes of collaboration, and operate it through the life of the contract, including regular communication and at least one convening.
4. **Thematic agenda and clusters.** Support the Steering Committee and the High-Level Panel in refining the thematic agenda and validating the analytical clusters under each of the three goals, building on the indicative themes set out in Section 3.
5. **Commissioning.** Draft, with the Steering Committee and the support of the Panel, the terms of reference for each of the 6 to 8 papers; support the Panel in reviewing paper concepts and agreeing the commissioning; identify candidate authors through an open and contestable process; and contract the selected authors as individual consultants, subject to the Bank's no objection. Following the LACIR practice, author honoraria, administered by the Secretariat, are paid in two tranches, half on commissioning and half on acceptance of the final paper.
6. **Peer review and quality assurance.** Manage the peer-review process for the commissioned papers, channeling comments from the High-Level Panel and external referees to the authors, tracking revisions across drafts, and verifying that final papers meet the agreed academic and citation standards before publication.
7. **Technical workshop.** Organize one technical workshop for research development and peer review, convening the authors, the High-Level Panel, and the network. The Secretariat is responsible for the academic program, the assignment of discussants, and the documentation of the workshop. A second workshop is foreseen under Phase 2 of the initiative. Participant travel and venue costs are administered by the Secretariat as part of this consultancy.
8. **Synthesis.** Coordinate the preparation of a synthesis of the commissioned papers that draws out the cross-cutting findings and their policy and operational implications for the Bank and its member countries.
9. **Platform, dissemination, and launch.** Announce the Review and the regional research network early in the assignment; coordinate the academic content of the LAC-4R digital knowledge platform, which the Bank will build as a module linked to RiskMONITOR, ensuring that the papers and the synthesis are delivered in publication-ready form and organized for use by finance ministries, sector authorities, partner institutions, and the public; and support dissemination of

results in coordination with CSD/DRM.

10. Reporting. Report to the Team Leader on progress against the work plan, flag risks early, and deliver the progress and final reports specified in the corresponding sections of the complete Terms of Reference.

5. Expected Outcome and Deliverables

By the close of Phase 1 the Bank will have a Latin American university established and operating as Secretariat, a functioning regional research network, a first body of 6 to 8 peer-reviewed papers with a synthesis, and the academic content for a digital knowledge platform linked to RiskMONITOR. Together these constitute a self-contained contribution to the regional evidence base and the justification for the Phase 2 request. The deliverables below correspond to the outputs defined in the Project Document.

Deliverable 1 · Inception report. Work plan; governance and protocols for the Steering Committee, the High-Level Panel, commissioning, and peer review; a proposed membership for the High-Level Panel; and a detailed calendar of deliverables and milestones.

Deliverable 2 · Regional research network established and operational. Confirmed founding membership, governance and membership terms, network work plan, and evidence of the network's operation. Corresponds to Output 1.3 of the Project Document.

Deliverable 3 · Commissioning package. Terms of reference for the first set of 6 to 8 papers, a roster of authors arrived at through an open and contestable process, and confirmation that the authors have been contracted by the Secretariat with the Bank's no objection. Supports Output 1.1.

Deliverable 4 · Technical workshop and peer review. Workshop program, list of participants and discussants, a workshop report, and a consolidated set of peer-review comments transmitted to authors. Corresponds to Output 1.2.

Deliverable 5 · Final research products and closeout. The 6 to 8 peer-reviewed papers finalized to publication standard, the synthesis, the academic content for the digital knowledge platform delivered to CSD/DRM, and a final report on the operation of the Secretariat and the network. Completes Output 1.1 and consolidates Output 1.3.