

**ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE PROGRAM**

**(BA-0055)**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

<b>Borrower:</b>	Barbados	
<b>Guarantor:</b>	Barbados	
<b>Executing agency:</b>	Attorneys General's Office.	
<b>Amount and Source:</b>	IDB: (OC)	US\$ 8,750,000
	Local:	<u>US\$ 3,750,000</u>
	Total:	<u>US\$12,500,000</u>
<b>Financial terms and conditions:</b>	Amortization Period:	20 years
	Grace Period:	5 years
	Disbursement Period:	4 years
	Interest Rate:	variable
	Supervision and Inspection:	1.00 %
	Credit Fee:	0.75 %
	Currency:	U.S. dollars from the Single Currency Facility.

**Objectives:** The overall objective of the program is to support the Government of Barbados (GOB) in its efforts to modernize the justice sector through improving court administration and processes; enhance access to justice; and reduce economic and social costs associated with criminal behavior.

The program seeks to: (i) strengthen the overall management capacity of the courts through technological enhancement and training; (ii) enhance access to justice through the promotion of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms and improvement to the legal aid structure; (iii) implement recently passed legislation in the area of alternative sentencing and promote greater use of rehabilitative strategies aimed at youth; and (iv) improve sector coordination and crime prevention.

**Description:** The program will have three components: (i) Sector Management; (ii) Access to Justice; and (iii) Youth and Rehabilitation.

**1. Sector management (US\$4,400,000)**

Information management: To support a computerized court management system; modern court reporting capacity; establishment of a sector-wide information system, including research and monitoring capacities which will be overseen by the Task Force on Crime Prevention and include public education and outreach.

Civil society coordination: The program will develop and expand collaboration among civil society groups working in the sector. The Program Technical Unit (PTU) will assist civil society organizations in carrying out projects in the areas of foster care, conflict mediation, crime prevention, and youth training.

## **2. Access to justice (US\$1,750,000)**

Case management: The program will support the introduction and implementation of modern case management techniques in the court system, with the goal of moving cases more rapidly to resolution.

Alternative dispute resolution: Technical assistance will be provided to coordinate a pilot project which promotes the use of ADR mechanisms to broaden access to justice and provide efficient resolution of cases without resort to a formal trial.

Legal aid: The program will support a review of the current legal aid structure and the feasibility of a public defenders office.

## **3. Youth and rehabilitation (US\$4,500,000)**

Institutional strengthening of juvenile justice agencies: For the Probation Department, consultancy services in management reorganization, and training. For the reform schools, staff training and vocational programs and new curriculum development to enhance the overall sector capacity to deliver skills and lifestyle training will be developed.

Rehabilitation capacity: Staff training, including design of manuals for inmate rehabilitation; cognitive behavior training for inmates; and design of a post-release program.

Civil works: A limited program for: (i) renovation of existing reform school; (ii) construction a of new at-risk facility; and (iii) upgrading of existing agriculture and training facilities serving the penal sub-sector.

### **Bank's country and sector strategy:**

The proposed program is consistent with the Bank's country strategy in terms of efforts to modernize justice systems. The program is also consistent with the frame of reference for Bank action in modernization of the state and civil society strengthening projects. The Bank's Country Paper 1998-2001 for Barbados also includes improving the justice system as a principal area of focus.

### **Environmental/Social review:**

The proposed program contains a minor portion of physical infrastructure work, and based on the comments of CESI it is not expected to have any adverse environmental impact. The social implications of the program are significant, not only in the recovery of productive capacity of rehabilitated persons, but in its wide impact on women, youth, and the most vulnerable classes of the society.

**Benefits:** Execution of the program will result in a more efficient and accessible justice system, with greater crime prevention and rehabilitation capacity and an improved ability to coordinate activities.

**Risks:** The program will require coordination of several governmental departments and many non-governmental entities. The execution structure, particularly the PTU, is designed to make this coordination possible, and the program includes mechanisms for channeling CSO involvement. Program success will also require broad stakeholder participation and public support for rehabilitation and crime prevention efforts. Program design has included a great deal of stakeholder participation, and the program includes a significant public education and outreach sub-component to inform the public on the benefits of rehabilitation, early crime prevention and treatment of delinquency. The program seeks to implement substantial change, a risk which will be mitigated by the fullest assimilation of the new methods and technologies.

**Special contractual clauses:**

Conditions precedent to first disbursement

- (i) Selection and hiring of Program Director (PD) and establishment of PTU and selection of PTU staff (para.3.6).
- (ii) Presentation of final designs for the civil works (para. 2.15).
- (iii) Presentation of operating regulations that govern the involvement of civil society organizations in the prevention and rehabilitation activities of the loan (para. 2.4, 3.7).
- (iv) Presentation of annual work plan for the first year of execution (para. 3.16).

Other special contractual conditions

- (i) Contracting of consultants to carry out court reporting within 180 days from the date of eligibility for disbursement (para. 3.14).
- (ii) Designation of judicial officers participating in the case management pilot project (para 2.6).

**Social Equity/  
Poverty Reduction**

This operation does not qualify as a social equity enhancing project, as described in the indicative targets mandated by the Bank's Eighth Replenishment (Document AB-1704)

**Exceptions to Bank policy:**

None.

**Procurement:**

The limits over which international competitive bidding will be used for the procurement of this project are: US\$250,000 for goods and related services, and US\$1.5 million for civil works.