

Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI)

SME Re-lending Project in Central American Countries

A US\$10 million loan has been provided for Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua respectively to alleviate the development constraint faced by SMEs in the Central American region due to the lack of long-term financing. The manufacturing, agricultural, and commercial sectors will all benefit from this loan.

Regional SME Re-lending Project in Central American Countries

Capital of US\$50 million is provided to assist private sector development in Central America and strengthen the commercial banks in the regions that participate in the project. The project provides SMEs with banking services, helping to solve difficulties they face in obtaining financing. Meanwhile, it creates employment opportunities and sparks economic growth.

Special Fund for the Social Transformation of Central America (FETS)

The TaiwanICDF has provided a NT\$10 million loan to establish the fund with the CABEI and assists the bank in carrying out social transformation projects in countries in the region, such as Nicaragua and Honduras, which have high debt and poverty levels. The project is being implemented to help reach the MDGs of cutting poverty in half by 2015. Subsidiary projects include upgrading Nicaraguan roads and developing infrastructure in Honduran rural areas.

Central America Farming and Fisheries Workshops

Specialists from Taiwan's seven diplomatic allies in Central America and the Dominican Republic were invited to participate in training courses held by technical missions stationed in five Central American countries and the CABEI. The technical training courses focused on rice, Oriental vegetables, shrimp, plant tissue culture, and bamboo processing.

Credit Guarantee Projects in Central American Countries

The TaiwanICDF is providing credit guarantee services for Taiwanese companies through 30 financial institutions that have cooperative relationships with CABEI. These credit guarantee services are encouraging Taiwanese enterprises to invest in overseas markets and enhance economic ties with Central American countries.

International Finance Corporation (IFC)

Investment and Lending Project to Micro-credit National S.A. —Phase I and II

The project combines international capital, technical assistance and local financial institutions to assist Haiti in establishing a new micro-financing organization to provide commercial micro-loans. The project also helps train individuals with strong financial specialties. This program will expand access to micro-financing over a five-year period.

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

ADB Education and Training Project

This project enables TaiwanICDF personnel to gain project management skills and multiple international cooperation experience from the ADB and encourages further cooperation between the two organizations. Each year, the TaiwanICDF recommends one staff member for a six-month secondment program in the ADB's project department.

Emergency Regional Support to Address the Outbreak of SARS

To prevent and control SARS outbreaks and other contagious diseases such as the Avian flu, the TaiwanICDF cooperates with the ADB in providing assistance to strengthen the national health systems of ADB member nations. The project includes: (1) providing initial assistance to prevent and control SARS and Avian flu outbreaks; (2) providing rapid assessments on public health systems to ailment outbreaks, and determining the economic impact; (3) compiling information on SARS and the Avian flu; and (4) initiating medium- and long-term technology assistance to prevent the spread of infectious diseases or provide credit to stage such projects.



Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

Aquatic Product Processing Technical Assistance Project in Nicaragua—Stage II

The TaiwanICDF sent two specialists to the Bluefield area of Nicaragua to assist National Autonomous University of Nicaragua and fishing cooperatives in the basic processing of seafood products.

Agricultural Production Reactivation in Nicaragua—Phase II

This project aims to increase the incomes of farmers in rural villages by upgrading the production and management technology of small- to medium-sized farm holders and farmers' organizations. Training courses are held and infrastructure improved to reduce production costs, helping to enhance farming technology and expand domestic and foreign markets.

Belize Tourism Development Financing Project

This project is assisting the Government of Belize in increasing employment opportunities and foreign exchange earnings from Mayan relics in an environmentally and archeologically sustainable manner.

Program for Environmental Pollution Control in Critical Areas of El Salvador

This project is establishing environmental pollution prevention and control systems in three critical areas: air quality, water quality and integrated solid waste management.

Program for Modernizing the National Congress and the Office of the Comptroller General

This project is modernizing the Dominican Republic National Congress and the Office of the Comptroller General, strengthening their legislative and oversight functions. The long-term goal is to improve democratic governance in the Dominican Republic.

European Investment Bank (EIB)

Drinking Water Distribution Project in Petion-Ville, Haiti

This project will improve the water supply in Port-au-Prince and is divided into four parts. Lots I and II are financed by the TaiwanICDF, while the EIB is financing Lots III and IV.

Organization of American States (OAS)

Youth Entrepreneurs Leadership Training Project

The TaiwanICDF cooperates with the YABT in sending experts to Guatemala and Brazil to participate in related conferences and introduce the Taiwan's SME development experience to participants. In 2004, the Fund invited Roy Thomasson, CEO of YABT, to visit Taiwan and witness the Technology Innovation Competition 100 (TIC 100).

Latin America InfoBiz Youth Information Project

The TaiwanICDF provided US\$100,000 in cooperation with the YABT, OAS to stage the InfoBiz project in Latin America. The project is creating an information and commerce platform for the region, assisting young people to start businesses and sparking economic activity throughout Latin America.

Agricultural Enterprise Video Conferences

This was also held in conjunction with YABT. Audio-visual seminars were held in May and December. Representatives from nations in the region were invited to participate and Taiwan Technical Missions in Latin America shared their experiences in training and assistance in developing agricultural enterprises in the region.

Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture

Latin America Organic Farming Conference

Representatives from Taiwan's seven diplomatic allies in Central America as well as from the Dominican Republic and Paraguay were invited to attend an organic farming seminar organized by the Taiwan Technical Mission in Panama and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). The seminar focusing on topics such as organic farming policy and facilities for horticulture crop production.

Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)

Lower Usuthu Smallholder Irrigation Project in Swaziland

This project aims to create a secure access to water for underprivileged small farmers. In the past, large water resources were mostly reserved for large-scale producers. The objectives of this project are to integrate the sub-sector of small farmers into the commercial economy through the provision of irrigation infrastructure to permit the intensification and diversification of high-value crops, and to prevent negative health impacts and environmental degradation.

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Mongolia Cooperation Fund (MCF)

The primary goal of the MCF is to assist Mongolia in reforming its economic system and transform into a market-based economy. The Fund also helps create a good investment environment that supports private sector development. In 2004, the TaiwanICDF was commissioned by the MCF to hold a training course for proprietors and executives of Mongolian SMEs.

Taipei-EBRD Financial Intermediary Investment Special Fund

This entity enhances the development of Central Asia's and Eastern Europe's private sector. With the contribution of US\$12.5 million into the "Financial Intermediary Investment Special Fund," the TaiwanICDF is engaging in various investment ventures with the EBRD in Central Asia and Eastern Europe. Currently four sub-projects are being implemented through the special fund.