

## Inter-American Development Bank



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## WHAT IS IDB?

The Inter-American Development Bank is devoted to improving lives. Established in 1959, the IDB is a leading source of long-term financing for economic, social and institutional development in Latin America and the Caribbean. The IDB also conducts cutting-edge research and provides policy advice, technical assistance and training to public and private sector clients throughout the region.

## WHAT IS THE ROLE OF IDB?

IDB coordinates its work with an [Institutional Strategy](#). The strategy identifies three key priorities:

*Social inclusion and equality*

*Productivity and innovation*

*Regional economic integration*

and three cross-cutting issues to consider:

*Gender equality, inclusion and diversity*

*Climate change and environmental sustainability*

*Institutional capacity and the rule of law*

To articulate the work of the IDB Group in each of its borrowing member countries, the Group prepares joint Country Strategies. To ground specific areas of work based on the priorities of the Institutional Strategy, IDB Group specialists prepare Sector Strategies that are approved by the Executive Board. In addition, The IDB's [Vision 2025](#) outlines the new Administration's priorities to advance implementation of the Institutional Strategy for the 2021–2025 period and respond to the challenges that Latin America and the Caribbean faces and will continue to face in the years to come, and a path to come out of the crisis with more sustainable growth and resilience.

## IDB AND WASH

Financing investments to secure the human rights to water and sanitation has been a priority since the inception of IDB. In fact, their first project, 60 years ago, focused on improving water and sanitation infrastructure, particularly latrines, in Peru. Today, their vast portfolio of knowledge and operations, managed by the [Water and Sanitation](#) division, support the region's governments to achieve equitable universal access to quality services for all.

**Aquafund** is the main multi-donor mechanism for technical cooperation or grants, or supporting investments in water and sanitation. It is supported by the Governments of Spain, Switzerland and Austria, as well as PepsiCo Foundation. Aquafund is one of the initiatives that provide investment in WATSAN in both rural and urban areas. The AquaFund is a twin fund capitalized with IDB funds along with donor's contributions, with the participation of PepsiCo Foundation, the Swiss Cooperation through SECO – Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs - and SDC - Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Austrian Ministry of Finance and the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development AECID

**FECASALC** is the Spanish Fund for Water and Sanitation for Latin America and the Caribbean. It is a strategic alliance between the Government of Spain and the IDB. It was created in 2008 with the aim of targeting peri-urban and rural areas to improve their access to water and sanitation systems. Promoting the human rights to water and sanitation is one of the alliance's explicit objectives.

The IDB's focus on the human rights to water and sanitation (HRWS) agenda has focused on the implementation of the approach, providing the region's governments and sector entities with tools to advance the criteria and principles of the HRWS framework. For doing so, it has developed two manuals. A first one clarifying the approach directed to WSS staff in the region, and a second one with more than 50 good practices that help advance the approach. In addition, is working with partners such as SIWI, WaterLex, IWA and ONGAWA to advance the agendas or public toilets in urban areas; how to implement a program ensuring a minimum amount of water to all; the HRWS and regulation, and other strategic lines.

## PUBLICATIONS



Derecho al agua y al saneamiento:  
Servicios inclusivos  
universales (2020)



Water and  
Sanitation Services  
in Latin America:  
Access and Quality  
Outlook (2021)



Lineamientos para la  
gestión social en  
proyectos de agua  
potable y saneamiento  
en comunidades  
rurales (2018)

## THE WAY FORWARD

**IDB has focused on supporting the realization of the human rights to water and sanitation in the Latin American region, with specific focus on targeting populations living in situations of vulnerability or marginalisation, for example rural populations. I look forward to sharing knowledge with IDB on these themes, which are central to my vision of my mandate.**

Pedro Arrojo-Agudo

UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation

\*The Special Rapporteur held a meeting with IDB representatives on 28 May 2021