FINAL TECHNICAL REPORT / RAPPORT TECHNIQUE FINAL

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Final Technical Report

Project Title: *Open Data for Development: Enabling Global South Participation at IODC*

IDRC Project Number *108868*– **Component number** *006*

Research Organizations involved in the study: ILDA

Location of Study: Uruguay and Argentina

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Executive Summary

This report provides an overview of the activities of the project *Open Data for Development: Enabling Global South Participation at IODC*. We provide a report of what it was achieved at IODC in terms of participation, the support provided to emergent leaders and, new activities developed in the context of this grant.

1. Objectives

This project would:

   a) Identify leaders from the global south to engage in IODC and other international forums
   b) Support the participation of global south leaders (with a focus on Africa and Asia) in the 2018 IODC edition
   c) Enable south- south collaboration to explore Abrelatam organisation models and inspire/support other regions
   d) Enable the participation of women and minorities groups in the open data space
   e) Enable the data collection about 6 countries in Latin America to support the evolution of the Open Data Barometer and the production of strategic advice to latin american societies and governments

The objectives listed remained unchanged. We included a new objective, with the agreement of our current Programme Officer:

f) Explore the emerging discussions on Artificial Intelligence and Data In Latin America, through participation of government officials, civil society and private companies.

Part of this report also includes sections of the previous IDRC report (March 2019)

1.a Identify leaders from the Global South to engage in IODC and other international forums

Through a partnership with the Argentinian Government, the World Bank and OD4D we run an analysis over 150 potential candidates to attend the conference. This database is now available ([please see attached documents](#)). A selection of 32 leaders was made from this list to support travel and lodging for participation in IODC. ILDA managed the logistics for both travel and accommodation for these leaders.

2.b Support the participation of global south leaders (with a focus on Africa and Asia) in the 2018 IODC edition.

Through a partnership with the World Bank and the Argentine Government, as well as the collaboration of other entities we supported 21 leaders from Africa. Please see attached documents for a [full list](#).

2.c Enable south- south collaboration to explore Abrelatam organisation models and inspire/support other regions.

Through a partnership with Wingu- a civic association in Argentina, we formalised [Abrelatam](#) process and extracted lessons that could be used for other partners in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Full report from Wingu is available in [this link](#). Further we partnered with Polis.is and supported the evaluation of the conference through an online experiment in English and Spanish. Full report from Pol.is is available [in this link](#).

2.d Enable the participation of women and minorities groups in the open data space

Through our selection process and through the whole conference, we ensured that equal participation of women in all spaces by making sure all panes had equal participation, developed an anti-harassment policy as well as pioneered new criteria to consider women for travel grants. It was also the first time a trans woman was participating and presenting both at Abrelatam and ConDatos, which shows that this community is expanding its frontiers to be more inclusive in representation and content.

2.f. Explore the emerging discussions on Artificial Intelligence and Data In Latin America, through participation of government officials, civil society and private companies.

In November 2018 ILDA published a discussion paper called "Automatizing with caution" AI in Latin America and started the groundwork on the agenda, gathering 20 experts from government, civil society and the private sector from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Costa Rica and Uruguay to understand, discuss and eventually advance the field of data and artificial intelligence in Latin America. ILDA is now preparing a full report to expand and engage partners in projects to gather evidence and promote an informed dialogue in the region.

A workshop was developed in Montevideo on December 14th with government officials from Argentina, Brasil, Colombia, Uruguay, España, Costa Rica and México. A [paper](#) was developed and published as part of this workshop and a full report is available following [this link](#).

A follow up workshop took place in Mexico City on February 25th, organized CIDE and IDRC. ILDA participated to present part of the results of the workshop and plans to move forward.. Further, ILDA presented a paper at London Data for Policy event (2019) and co-organized an event on AI and Development with UCL and CODE in London All these efforts led to the development of a proposal on AI4D for Latin America in partnership with Centro Latam Digital

2.e *Enable the data collection about 6 countries in Latin America to support the evolution of the Open Data Barometer and the production of strategic advice to latin american societies and governments*

ILDA is currently exploring the best way forward to replicate the barometer in the Americas. We held meetings with OKFN, Web Foundation and IDB in order to explore the best way in which to develop the Barometer in the Americas. ILDA agreed to carry forward the barometer and to include more countries in the Americas in partnership with IDB and CAF. ILDA developed a f[ull proposa](#)l that has an in principle agreement from CAF and IDB to carry forward this project in 2020 for the Americas (all countries included plus Spain and Portugal) We have invested IDRC funds in developing this proposal and securing the evolution of this tool. Further we engaged in a global discussion on the future of the tool itself. At the moment we are also exploring funding from World Bank to this tool in order to cover more countries in Latin America

4. Feedback and final considerations

As usual we have encountered excellent support in IDRC team who engaged with us and supported us through this grant, particularly under very demanding circumstances such as contributing towards a global event. Objective 2.e could have been achieved on its own, but due to the lack of resources due to the introduction of objective 2d we had to realign resources. In retrospective this was positive as it forced us to reach out to regional partners and helped ILDA to gauge the need of the continuity of this tool.