

# Terms of Reference (TOR)

## 1. Background

The COVID-19 pandemic has posed acute social and economic challenges across the world, and the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region has been hit the hardest. The fast spread of COVID-19 has threatened people's lives, particularly those in vulnerable groups e.g., women, migrants, and the elderly.

In developing economies, elderly or older populations are the most impacted group as they face significant risks of developing severe symptoms from the virus and are financially vulnerable at an old age. It calls attention to the urgency of providing protection for older populations via the creation of effective social safety nets.

LAC is also highly vulnerable to a range of natural hazards, including hurricanes, earthquakes, landslides, and floods. Recognizing these vulnerabilities, Japan has supported disaster preparedness and mitigation programs aiming to reduce the loss of human lives and decrease the economic impact of disasters.

The study will collect, analyze, and examine the potential for utilizing digital technology to solve problems associated with aging and those caused by natural disasters/hazards through discussions with various stakeholders such as U.S. development agencies, international organizations, social organizations, and the private sector.

## 2. Objective(s) of the Assignment

The study will outline how digital transformation efforts in Latin America can address disaster mitigation as well as aging populations in the post-COVID-19 era.

## 3. Scope of Services, Tasks (Components), and Expected Deliverables

3.1 Three virtual private roundtables with relevant stakeholders and experts

Topics will be Aging and Disaster Mitigation in LAC

3.2 Based on the private roundtable along with additional research and interviews with relevant stakeholders, a 10-page policy brief focusing on "How to address Aging and Disaster Mitigation in the Western Hemisphere through digital transformation" will be produced. The policy brief will cover the policies of other countries for addressing aging populations, including healthcare systems, and the impact of COVID-19 on aging societies. It will also include improvement of disaster mitigation through digital technology and how technology can be improved for COVID-19 responses.

## 4. Team Composition & Qualification Requirements for the Experts

Research Director, with a Master's degree and 20 years of experience in the field of international development

Research Fellow, with a Master's degree and 8 years of experience in the field of international development

Assistant Fellow, with a Bachelor's degree and 2 years of experience

Program Coordinator, with a Bachelor's degree and 2 years of experience

## 5. Reporting Requirements and Time Schedule for Deliverables

10-page policy brief will be produced with graphs and maps using multimedia tools.

The report should be submitted by July 15, 2021 (electronic submission)