

FTAA – CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON SMALLER ECONOMIES

PARAGUAY

**SPECIFIC PROJECT PROFILE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE HEMISPHERIC
COOPERATION PROGRAM - RELATED TO INVESTMENT**

1. Project title

“Program of Institutional Strengthening in Investment”

2. Background

Several Paraguayan government institutions are directly linked to competition in investment, whether domestic or foreign.

Bilateral investment agreements have been the topic most frequently addressed by these institutions, which are grouped together in an interagency commission.

This commission is composed of persons who received on-the-job training on this topic. We should note the interdisciplinary nature of this topic, which substantively enriches the work on this matter and the bilateral and multilateral negotiations in which these persons take part.

3. Rationale

The degree of complexity of the ongoing negotiations on this topic, which is reflected in the large number of bracketed items in the respective chapter. The number of brackets is due, principally, to the different approaches ascribed to given institutes, because the proposals in question come from various integration processes with differing jurisdictional structures, objectives, and philosophies. This means that understanding of the processes must be enhanced.

4. Objectives of the project

Strengthening the institutional capacity of competition agencies: Training, and improving the skills of, negotiators.

5. Inputs: resources needed for the project

Financial resources needed for:

- participation in seminars and courses on the topic,
- internships at international agencies,
- the formulation of diagnoses and analyses of the domestic situation in this area,
- direct technical assistance to institutions from international experts

6. Expected results

Trained officials
Strengthened institutional capacity in this area

INVESTMENT

Category	Specific needs
Participation in Seminars and courses on the subject	<p>Training of Technicians of the General Office for Industrial Policy for the negotiations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The participation of 5 officials in courses and seminars abroad. Includes accommodations and airfares. • Seminars at the local level with the participation of international experts. • Specialization courses abroad – 5 courses • International-level seminars 5 seminars per year • National-level seminars 5 seminars per year <p>USD 32,000</p>
Trainee programs in international organizations	<p>Cost of airfare and accommodations for 15 days for an average of 5 technicians (per year)</p> <p>USD 30,000</p>
Drafting the diagnosis and analysis of the national situation on this issue	<p>Technical assistance in the design, analysis, drafting of proposals and their implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiring of foreign consultant (including airfare, per diems, and remuneration) USD 30,000 • Hiring of national consultant (USD 18,000)
Technical assistance for institutions provided by international experts	<p>Technical advice (hiring of foreign technicians)</p> <p>Hiring of foreign consultant (including airfare, per diems, and remuneration) (USD 30,000)</p>