

### Quick facts

Brazil, Chile and Argentina are the most advanced countries in the region's incubation activities:

- Brazil has 339 incubators across 23 states, hosting 2,327 companies
- Chile has 19 incubators across 9 regions, hosting 2 entrepreneurship centers and 414 businesses
- Argentina has 26 incubators mainly in the capital city and urban areas, hosting 237 enterprises



*"infoDev's Incubator Initiative has been undoubtedly the most important global effort contributing to helping business incubators around the world to address the main issues affecting innovation and entrepreneurship in developing countries, and to help policymakers identify the value of business incubators as a critical tool for economic progress."*

Laboratorio Tecnológico del Uruguay

The iDisc website is a crucial tool to facilitate the knowledge sharing process for LAC, as well as other regional networks. More information can be found on [www.iDisc.net/lac](http://www.iDisc.net/lac).

## Business Incubation in Latin America and the Caribbean

### infoDev's Business Incubator Initiative

The Incubator Initiative has supported more than 60 business incubators in countries worldwide with financial and technical assistance, leading to the establishment of five regional networks in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Middle East and Northern Africa. Within the framework of the Incubators Initiative, *infoDev* services include:

- Financial and technical assistance
- Knowledge-sharing and networking
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Research on challenges and opportunities

### Incubator Activity in the Region

*infoDev* has provided over \$3 million in financial support to several incubators across the Latin America and Caribbean Region (LAC). These incubators have partnerships with various organizations with different stakeholders including government agencies, financial institutions and venture capitalists.

Business incubation in Latin-America and the Caribbean, within the wider context of innovation and innovation systems, covers a wide spectrum of incubation activities, ranging from the incubation of high-growth high-technology firms to social incubation. There is ample innovation in 'social technologies', including incubation of cooperatives and even entire communities where the companies belong to the community. There is also an increasing realization of the importance of fostering the development of innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems beyond national boundaries, which is particularly important for creating critical mass in smaller countries.

There is increasing interest in forming associations among incubators in the region. The main associations of incubators and business parks are: AIPyPT in Argentina, ANPROTEC in Brazil, ChileIncuba in Chile, PeruIncuba in Peru and URUNOVA in Uruguay. Together they constitute RELAPI (Latin-American Network of Associations of Technology Parks and Business Incubators), which is devoted to promoting entrepreneurship and innovation in the region.

### How to get involved

- ✓ Get to know about activities on [www.infoDev.org/businessincubation](http://www.infoDev.org/businessincubation)
- ✓ Visit LAC business incubation community website at [www.relapi.org](http://www.relapi.org)
- ✓ Regional network and developments, e-mail the *infoDev* team at [infodev@worldbank.org](mailto:infodev@worldbank.org) and Mr. César Yammal, LAC Regional Facilitator for *infoDev*, at [cyammal@gmail.com](mailto:cyammal@gmail.com)

<b>Country</b>	<b>Incubator &amp; Mission</b>	<b>Contact information</b>
<b>Bolivia</b>	<i>Quipus Cultural Foundation</i> Capacity building grant to strengthen national competitiveness through training and R&D of ICT by enhancing the Foundation's capacity to serve as incubator for new projects reducing the digital divide.	Mr. Peter McFarren, President, e-mail: <a href="mailto:McFarren@entelnet.bo">McFarren@entelnet.bo</a> Website: <a href="http://www.quipusbolivia.org">www.quipusbolivia.org</a>
<b>Brazil</b>	<i>ANPROTEC - Associação Nacional de Entidades Promotoras de Empreendimentos Inovadores</i> Capacity building grant to further strengthen recently established RELAPI by directly supporting the mission and objectives proclaimed in its statute.  <i>Joint grantees: Instituto Gênesis da PUC-Rio &amp; Minas Gerais Incubators Network &amp; Technological Incubator of Popular Cooperatives of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro – ITCP</i> Capacity building grant for improving economic results, commercializing, training and creating better instruments for monitoring and evaluation of incubators, tenants and companies through substantial improvement in the use and diffusion of ICT.	Mr. Jose Eduardo Fiates, President, e-mail: <a href="mailto:anprotec@anprotec.org.br">anprotec@anprotec.org.br</a> Websites: <a href="http://www.anprotec.org.br">www.anprotec.org.br</a> , <a href="http://www.redeincubator.org.br">www.redeincubator.org.br</a> , <a href="http://www.relapi.org">www.relapi.org</a>  Mr. Christiano Becker, President, RMI, e-mail: <a href="mailto:becker@dcc.ufmg.br">becker@dcc.ufmg.br</a> , Website: <a href="http://www.rmi.org.br">www.rmi.org.br</a>
<b>Chile</b>	<i>Access Nova Incubación</i> Operational grant to extend the technological incubation concept by reducing entrance barriers, minimizing risk through mentoring, fostering good management, and becoming an important economic and social instrument for universities and local communities.	Mr. Antnio Holgado, e-mail: <a href="mailto:aholgado@dii.uchile.cl">aholgado@dii.uchile.cl</a> Website: <a href="http://www.incubadora.accessnova.cl">www.incubadora.accessnova.cl</a>
<b>Colombia</b>	<i>Corporación para el Desarrollo de Tunia (Corpotunia)</i> Planning grant to develop and test both direct and virtual approaches to providing training and support aimed at strengthening competitive rural agro-enterprises.  <i>Joint Grantees: Incubadora Parque Tecnológico Del Software De Cali (Parquesoft) &amp; INNOVAR and Corporación Bucaramanga Emprendedora (CBE)</i> Operational grant to develop two regional incubator centers, build capacity in their management teams, and design a business intelligence center.	Mr. William Alvarez, e-mail: <a href="mailto:corpotionia@caucanet.net.co">corpotionia@caucanet.net.co</a> Website: <a href="http://www.corpotunia.org">www.corpotunia.org</a>  Mr. Adolfo Naranjo, Executive Director, Innovar, e-mail: <a href="mailto:innovar@innovar.org">innovar@innovar.org</a> Website: <a href="http://www.innovar.org">www.innovar.org</a> <a href="http://www.bucaincu.org.co">www.bucaincu.org.co</a>
<b>Costa Rica</b>	<i>Comisión Asesora en Alta Tecnología de Costa Rica (CAATEC)</i> Capacity building grant to facilitate the development of competitive ICT-enabled SMEs through the creation of an e-business incubation model.	Dr. Ricardo Monge, e-mail: <a href="mailto:rmonge@caatec.org">rmonge@caatec.org</a> Website: <a href="http://www.caatec.org">www.caatec.org</a>
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	<i>Cyberpark of Santo Domingo</i> Operational grant to facilitate enhancement of SMEs' international competitiveness by promoting more efficient use of ICT	Mr. Eddy Martinez, e-mail: <a href="mailto:emartinez@cei-rd.gov.do">emartinez@cei-rd.gov.do</a> Website: <a href="http://www.wati.com.do">www.wati.com.do</a>
<b>Ecuador</b>	<i>Incoval, Emprender, Stratega BDS, Ecuadorian Network of Incubators</i> Capacity building grant to strengthen the national incubator network by training recent member through an online platform for procurement of incubator services and knowledge sharing	Mr. Ivan Hernandez, CEO, e-mail: <a href="mailto:ihernandez@stratega.com.ec">ihernandez@stratega.com.ec</a> Website: <a href="http://www.stratega.com.ec">www.stratega.com.ec</a>
<b>Mexico</b>	<i>University of Guadalajara</i> Capacity building grant to accelerate more effective use of ICT at the Technology Based Incubator for creating new competitive Mexican SMEs that can participate in the global economy.	Mr. Juan Villalvazo, Head IEFT, e-mail: <a href="mailto:jvillalv@newton.dip.udg.mx">jvillalv@newton.dip.udg.mx</a> Website: <a href="http://www.dip.udg.mx">www.dip.udg.mx</a>
<b>Panama</b>	<i>City of Knowledge Foundation</i> Operational grant to facilitate new activities that will help the incubator to reach out to more prospective clients all over the country and deliver better solutions to them.	Mr. Jorge Arosemena, Director, e-mail: <a href="mailto:anavarro@ciudadelsaber.org.pa">anavarro@ciudadelsaber.org.pa</a> Website: <a href="http://www.cdspanama.org">www.cdspanama.org</a>
<b>Paraguay</b>	<i>Fundación Enlace</i> Planning grant to produce a replicable methodology to design regional innovation systems, and support incubation and emerging ventures.	Mr. Marcos Tatijewski, e-mail: <a href="mailto:proyectos@cedial.org.py">proyectos@cedial.org.py</a> Website: <a href="http://www.enlace.org.py">www.enlace.org.py</a>
<b>Peru</b>	<i>Centro de Innovación y Desarrollo de la Pontificia Universidad Católica</i> Operational grant to strengthen institutional capacity, certify staff of existing incubators, promote emergence of new ICT companies, and disseminate knowledge of local and international business incubation experiences.	Ms. Joaquin Mavila, Manager, e-mail: <a href="mailto:jgonzal@pucp.edu.pe">jgonzal@pucp.edu.pe</a> Website: <a href="http://www.pucp.edu.pe/invest/cide">www.pucp.edu.pe/invest/cide</a>
<b>Uruguay</b>	<i>Ingenio–Incubadora de empresas LATU – ORT</i> Operational grant to increase the ICT capabilities of tenants through new services and post-incubation, and to increase knowledge exchange and training with incubators and incubator associations throughout the world.	Ing. Miguel Brechner, President, e-mail: <a href="mailto:mbello@latu.org.uy">mbello@latu.org.uy</a> Website: <a href="http://www.latu.org/incubadora">www.latu.org/incubadora</a>