

**SUPPORT FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF CONSUMER PROTECTION
IN THE SECTOR OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
(TC-98-02-03-5)**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BENEFICIARY AND EXECUTING AGENCY: Instituto Brasileiro de Defesa do Consumidor (IDEC).

OBJECTIVES: The principal objective of the project is to broaden consumer participation in the privatization process of public utilities sectors such as water, electricity and telecommunications, as well as in the monitoring and control of the provision of these basic services. The project also foresees supporting and training existing consumer associations in São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Paraná to become active in basic public utility monitoring (water, electricity and telecommunications) in addition to expanding training to other states.

To attain these objectives, the following components are foreseen: (i) Evaluation of the regulatory frameworks of the public utilities sectors (water, electricity and telecommunications) in the states of São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Paraná; (ii) Preparation of action plans; (iii) Training program for consumer associations; (iv) Public information campaign aimed at consumer rights, rational utility use and sustained consumption.

The project will be implemented in the states of São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Paraná.

FINANCING PLAN:	MIF (Window II):	US\$ 834,000
	Counterpart:	US\$ 834,000
	Total:	US\$ <u>1,668,000</u>

EXECUTION:	Execution period:	36 months
	Disbursement period:	42 months

EXCEPTIONS TO BANK'S POLICY: None.

CONDITIONS PRIOR TO FIRST DISBURSEMENT: As a condition prior to the first disbursement, IDEC will provide evidence to the Bank's satisfaction of the creation of the Project Coordination Team (see paragraph 4.2).