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DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE ECLAC SYSTEM, 2000-2001

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADC	Andean Development Corporation
ALAF	Latin American Railways Association
BLADEX	Latin American Export Bank
CABEI	Central American Bank for Economic Integration
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CDCC	Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee
CELADE	Latin American Demographic Centre
CLADES	Latin American Centre for Economic and Social Documentation
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FTAA	Free Trade Area of the Americas
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
ILO	International Labour Organization
ILPES	Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning
LAIA	Latin American Integration Association
OAS	Organization of American States
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OLADE	Latin American Energy Organization
OLAMI	Latin American Mining Organization
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
SELA	Latin American Economic System
SIECA	Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Integration
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
WTO	World Trade Organization

INTRODUCTION

The ECLAC secretariat hereby submits the following draft programme of work of the ECLAC system for 2000-2001 to the States members of the Commission for their consideration. The proposed programme of work, which will serve as a framework for the Latin American and Caribbean region and for ECLAC as they step into the twenty-first century, forms part of the medium-term plan for 1998-2001 approved by the United Nations General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

The draft programme has been prepared on the basis of three fundamental considerations: first, the situation in the region and how it has changed during the 1990s, in conjunction with the regional development priorities that have grown out of that set of conditions; second, emerging issues at the international level that affect the region and that demand an effort on the part of the Latin American and Caribbean countries to adapt to prevailing circumstances; and third, the many exigencies of the United Nations reform effort, which make it necessary to take a more selective approach to the preparation of the work programme.

An important consideration in relation to the first of these factors is that during the last 10 years Latin America and the Caribbean have been plotting out a strategic change of course as the region shifts from an inward-looking development process to an export orientation, from a situation in which the State plays a leading role to one in which greater emphasis is placed on market signals, although public policy continues to serve as a tool for promoting development. Thus, there is every reason to believe that by the time the region crosses the threshold into the next century, the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean will have consolidated this first stage of strategic reforms and will be working to refine this new strategy and to adapt it to changing circumstances.

Within this context, a number of worrisome structural problems are looming over the region. Perhaps the most obvious one is the Latin American and Caribbean economies' apparent inability to create enough jobs to absorb all the members of the economically active population. This situation also has an impact in terms of poverty and the chances of alleviating it, since open unemployment and underemployment are the main causes of poverty in the region.

This opens up a wide array of issues, including: (i) the application of technical progress in productive enterprises, especially in the case of small and medium-sized firms; (ii) the development of environmentally sound technologies for tapping the region's natural resources; (iii) the achievement of increasing levels of domestic saving and how to channel those funds into productive investments; (iv) the creation of an institutional context that is conducive to investment, growth and governance; (v) investments in human resources designed, *inter alia*, to upgrade the education and health systems; (vi) backstopping for lower-income strata through public spending and more participatory decision-making processes; and (vii) the consolidation of the institutional underpinnings for pluralistic, participatory

political systems. These issues, in turn, raise conceptual and practical questions that need to be addressed in the Commission's programme of work.

Another set of issues that necessarily has a strong influence on the ECLAC programme of work has to do with global trends and their possible implications for the development of Latin America and the Caribbean. The trend towards an increasing degree of internationalization will presumably continue, at least in terms of the flow of goods, most services, information and finance. Access to technologies will not be unlimited, however. On the contrary, the move towards greater protection of industrial property rights is taking on international proportions. It is unlikely, however, that restrictions on the movement of manpower from one country to another will be relaxed; in fact, international migration may come to be a major source of conflict between developed and developing countries. ECLAC will therefore continue to assign a high priority to collaborative efforts with the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean aimed at taking advantage of the opportunities offered by internationalization and mitigating any negative repercussions it may have.

These subject areas have been grouped into 12 subprogrammes, each of which is outlined below. The synopsis of each subprogramme begins with a brief introduction, followed by a description of the subjects covered, a listing of the activities to be conducted and a summary of the projected outputs of those activities. In some cases, the descriptions of the topics to be addressed by the subprogramme are followed by a list of activities whose execution is subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

The first four subprogrammes deal with the Commission's work in the field of economic development (subprogrammes 1-4); these are followed by the activities to be undertaken in the area of social development (subprogrammes 5-7), the environment, strategic management and State reform, statistics and economic projections, and the activities to be undertaken in the Central American and Caribbean subregions.

This draft programme of work is organized differently than those submitted to the Commission in the past, in that all the activities that focus on mainstreaming the gender perspective have been placed in a specific subprogramme (subprogramme 6). The decision to propose the creation of this new subprogramme stems from the secretariat's perception of a growing tendency on the part of the Governments of the region to change their traditional approach to gender issues. This change is reflected in a new focus on gender mainstreaming in national affairs which is sure to have an impact at the regional and subregional levels. Within the framework of this new approach, the secretariat is seeking to position itself on two different fronts, adopting an inward-looking perspective on the ECLAC programme of work and an outward-looking stance in terms of its technical cooperation activities.

The scarcity of resources currently affecting the work of the United Nations, together with the demand for greater accountability, makes it necessary for ECLAC to be even more selective than ever in deciding what activities should be undertaken and to concentrate on those areas in which its comparative advantages will enable it to make a more valuable contribution to the Governments of its member countries. This draft programme of work thus seeks to refine the institutional identity of ECLAC as the only regional institution that takes a systematic approach to the examination of development issues facing the Latin American and Caribbean countries from a regional perspective by combining analytical work with operational initiatives in the fields of specialized information, advisory services, training and support for regional and international cooperation.

The Commission has agreed to introduce a new management approach on an experimental basis which may subsequently be applied in other parts of the United Nations system. This new approach, whose aim is to make optimum use of the resources made available to the secretariat to produce substantive results, is based on a clearly-defined principle: greater accountability counterbalanced by a greater delegation of authority and greater flexibility within the framework of existing rules and regulations. Using this new managerial approach, ECLAC will broaden its analytical work and advisory services in connection with economic issues in the region and will take maximum advantage of the resources allocated to it. Using this approach, it will seek to execute a programme of work that is relevant to the end users of the Organization's work —its member Governments— and to do so more efficiently and effectively.

SUBPROGRAMME 1: LINKAGES WITH THE GLOBAL ECONOMY, COMPETITIVENESS AND PRODUCTION SPECIALIZATION

Presentation

With the establishment of the World Trade Organization (WTO), the trade policy agenda has expanded enormously in terms of both scope and complexity, and the boundaries between trade policy and national policies on investment and development have become blurred. In addition, WTO has replaced the multilateral rounds of trade negotiations that were conducted periodically, since it incorporates in its operations mechanisms for reaching agreements on a systematic, on-going basis. Implementation of the Final Act, adopted at Marrakech rests on fulfilment of the commitments made at the conclusion of the Uruguay Round; these commitments call for new sectoral-level negotiations, chiefly on services and agricultural products, to begin before the end of this century, in accordance with a timetable to be agreed upon beforehand. At the discretion of the Ministerial Meeting, other items may be included on the agenda, and this makes it all the more important that countries undertake the necessary technical and policy preparation, so that they can identify and promote their interests at these negotiations.

The world economic and trade situation is notable for the multiplicity of ties which link countries with different levels of economic and social development. North-South ties are of particular importance, but intra-South links are showing growing dynamism both within and among developing regions. As a result, the limited resources available to the countries of the region for analysing these issues will continue to be in great demand, especially when the analysis needs to take into account the bilateral, subregional and hemispheric levels at which these issues are being discussed.

The general objectives of this subprogramme are to provide the member States with analytical information and empirical studies on the main trends in the world economy and the challenges and opportunities these present with regard to their linkages to the global economy; to undertake comparative studies of experience in the field of export development, both in the region and elsewhere, in order to examine the variables that influence the capacity of exports to stimulate other sectors of the economy, and then to make policy recommendations; and to contribute to the analysis of trade policies and the evolution of the regulatory framework governing international trade, with a view to maximizing use of the available opportunities for action and strengthening the region's bargaining power.

The programme of work for the biennium 2000-2001, which the International Trade, Finance and Transport Division will be mainly responsible for executing, comprises seven subject areas. The first six of these encompass activities relating to the analysis of trends in the global economy and in the trade policies of Latin America and the Caribbean; globalization and the changing international environment; national trade policies and the rules governing international trade; specific issues raised by changes in the structure of international competition; distributive aspects of the region's linkages with the global economy; and patterns of trade specialization.

The seventh and last subject area covers activities relating to international transport and export competitiveness.

1. Activities

Subject area 1.1: Analysis of global trends in the world economy and in the trade policies of Latin America and the Caribbean

Recurrent publications

- (i) Panorama de la inserción internacional de América Latina y el Caribe. Edición 2000.
- (ii) Panorama de la inserción internacional de América Latina y el Caribe. Edición 2001.

The main objective of this annual publication is to conduct an ongoing analysis of the region's linkages with the global economy, trade policy instruments that can help improve those linkages in the framework of multilateral and regional agreements and the factors that influence demand in the markets constituted by the industrialized countries, other developing countries and large multinational corporations. The publication is divided into four parts: (i) the global economy, which examines short-term trends and structural changes in the world economy that affect opportunities for trade and investment in the region; (ii) trade and trade policy in Latin America and the Caribbean, which reviews highlights of the previous year and the start of the current year in the region, with reports on individual countries; (iii) the process of regional integration in Latin America and the Caribbean, which examines trends in regional and subregional integration over the same period, with reports on the various regional subgroups; and (iv) selected trade and trade policy issues.

Subject area 1.2: Globalization and the changing international environment

- (a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to examine the trend towards the globalization of markets and its impact on the integration of the region's economies.

(b) Publications

(i) Two studies on recent trends in the patterns and main flows of international trade; external financing and foreign direct investment; growth trends in the region's main export markets; and the dynamic expansion of linkages of the various countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, and of the region as a whole, with the global economy (one study to be published in each year of the biennium).

(ii) Two annual reports on the economy of the United States (in English only).

(iii) Two annual reports on the economy of Canada (in English only).

(iv) Two annual reports on the economy of Puerto Rico.

(c) Information materials and services

CEPAL News (24 issues), published monthly by the ECLAC office in Washington (in English only).

(d) Intermediary activities

(i) Dissemination of ECLAC documents through the ECLAC office in Washington.

(ii) Collection, analysis and transmission of information from the ECLAC office in Washington to ECLAC headquarters, subregional headquarters and offices.

The ECLAC office in Washington will be responsible for executing the activities referred to under (b) (ii) to (iv), (c) and (d).

Subject area 1.3: National trade policies and the rules governing international trade

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to examine trends in the system of multilateral trade rules, national trade policies and the economic development process.

(b) Publications

(i) Two studies, one in each year of the biennium, reviewing the main developments in respect of the World Trade Organization and the trade policies of the large industrialized countries.

(ii) Two studies on changes in the law, policies and institutional aspects relating to international trade conducted by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, and its impact on economic integration.

(iii) A comparative study on experiences with export incentives in countries of the region and a comparison with the case of Brazil.

(c) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to those countries of the region which request them, in the areas of trade policy, multilateral trade rules and the links between both of these factors and policies for changing production patterns.

The ECLAC office in Brasilia will be responsible for executing the activity referred to under (b) (iii).

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 1.4: Specific issues relating to changes in the structure of international competition

Publications

(i) A study on changes in the pattern of international competition in markets of interest to the region.

- (ii) A study on new markets for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.
- (iii) A study on the developing economies in Asia and the Pacific and their links with the economies of the region.
- (iv) A study on transition economies, with special emphasis on changes in their linkages with the global economy and the effects on the economies of the region.
- (v) A study of the impact of global competition on trade policy formulation in Brazil.

The ECLAC office in Brasilia will be responsible for executing the activity referred to under (v).

Subject area 1.5: Distributive aspects of Latin American and Caribbean linkages with the global economy

(a) Organization of meetings of experts and provision of the relevant support services

Meeting of experts to examine the impact of liberalization and globalization, particularly on more vulnerable social groups, and to formulate appropriate policies.

(b) Publications

A study on the consequences for production and employment of liberalization and globalization, focusing on the effects on a variety of vulnerable social groups, including women, in selected countries of the region.

Subject area 1.6: Patterns of trade specialization

Publications

(i) Two studies on the characteristics of the services sector in selected Latin American and Caribbean countries.

(ii) Two studies on the growth and structure of the region's international trade, in terms of similar groups, products and key players.

Subject area 1.7: International transport and competitiveness

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Two subregional meetings of experts to examine aspects relating to shipping in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(b) Periodic publications

FAL Bulletin, a two-monthly publication on the facilitation of trade and transport in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(c) Other publications

- (i) Two yearbooks on maritime transport in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- (ii) A study on the costs of maritime transport in the region, identifying and examining, in particular, factors that help reduce those costs.
- (iii) A study focusing on the formulation of port and maritime transport policy.

(d) Technical material

Preparation of a statistical bulletin on transport and trade volumes in the countries of the region.

(e) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region which request them, in connection with issues relating to international shipping and multimodal transport.

(f) Intermediate activities

Support to regional and subregional intergovernmental bodies in the area of international maritime and multimodal transport.

The execution of operational activities and the activity referred to under (d) will be subject to the availability of funds.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out mainly through the exchange of information and technical consultations with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Latin American Economic System (SELA), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Organization of American States (OAS).

Depending on the nature and subject area of the activities involved, periodic consultations will also be held with other international, regional and subregional bodies.

Periodic consultations on the topic of globalization and the changing international environment will be held with the staff in charge of activities in those areas at United Nations Headquarters in New York, UNCTAD and SELA, as well as with the Group of Latin American and Caribbean countries (GRULAC) in New York, Geneva and Brussels.

For the studies connected with trade policies and export promotion, regular meetings will be organized with the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), the Latin American Bank for Exports

(BLADEX), the Andean Development Corporation (ADC), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

For the comparative studies on Latin America and the Asian economies, periodic consultations will be held with the appropriate United Nations regional commission, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

In the area of international transport and competitiveness, close cooperation will be maintained with LAIA, Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Caribbean Shipping Association, the Central American Commission of Maritime Transport (COCATRAM), the Board of the Cartagena Agreement (JUNAC), Mercosur, the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), SELA, the Conference of South American Ministers of Transport, Communications and Public Works, the Meeting of National Customs Directors of Latin America, Spain and Portugal and with the World Bank and IDB.

3. Users and anticipated use of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be the government authorities and officials of the countries of the region, especially those concerned with the formulations, execution and management of strategies and policies in the area of foreign trade and international trade negotiations, as well as private-sector bodies such as producers' and exporters' associations, chambers of commerce, and other development entities concerned with the subject areas in question. Some of the outputs will also be of use to government authorities and officials concerned with international transport.

Other users of these outputs will include regional and subregional bodies, academic institutions, research centres and other agencies involved in economic cooperation.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, the supply of information materials and services, technical cooperation activities, periodic meetings and contacts, and participation in intergovernmental and expert meetings.

SUBPROGRAMME 2: INTEGRATION, OPEN REGIONALISM AND REGIONAL COOPERATION

Presentation

The multiplicity of commitments, both bilateral and multilateral, entered into by numerous Latin American countries at the subregional, regional or hemispheric level is presenting the region with the challenge of reconciling economic globalization with regional integration agreements.

The regional integration process has made headway on two fronts: limited agreements, aimed primarily at liberalizing markets for goods, services and the factors of production; and multifaceted integration agreements, under the terms of which customs unions have already been established, with the further goals of creating common markets and economic unions, coordinating and harmonizing policies and eventually formulating joint policy.

At the same time, progress in negotiations to create a hemisphere-wide free trade area by the year 2005 will considerably change the priority issues in the areas of regional integration and cooperation. There is consensus among the countries of the region that the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) can coexist with bilateral and subregional agreements insofar as the rights and obligations in question are not covered by FTAA, or exceed its provisions. Customs unions and integration agreements involving a greater degree of economic and political commitment will therefore remain in force.

The purpose of this subprogramme is the provision and follow-up of technical support to Governments in the area of economic integration and cooperation among the countries of the region. Its main objective is to contribute to the analysis of the conceptual and practical problems the countries of the region will face in implementing the integration agreements that they have already undertaken or will undertake in future.

To achieve this basic objective, in addition to studies on legal and institutional aspects of regional integration, the subprogramme will include an evaluation of hemispheric agreements, such as FTAA, in the context of Latin American integration, mainly in areas such as agreements to liberalize trade and investment; harmonization of environmental protection policies; intellectual property rights; and government policies on competition and procurement. These impact studies will include industrial and social dimensions, which will require close cooperation with the divisions concerned with these issues.

The programme of work for the biennium 2000-2001 consists of five subject areas, primary responsibility for which will rest with the International Trade, Finance and Transport Division. The first three include activities relating to the evolution of and prospects for the regional integration process, with particular emphasis on the economic, legal and institutional aspects essential for the convergence of the various agreements in the future to be possible; the impact of hemispheric integration on Latin American and Caribbean integration, and the process of internationalization of Latin American enterprises, particularly smaller enterprises. Activities in support of the hemispheric integration process will also continue.

The two remaining subject areas are related to the development of suitable transport infrastructure for the integration process, including the implementation of activities regarding infrastructure and regional transport services, and urban transport.

1. Activities

Subject area 2.1: Convergence of the integration process: economic, social, legal and institutional aspects

(a) Recurrent publications

A chapter on the state of regional and subregional integration in Latin America and the Caribbean, included in the annual publication “Panorama de la inserción internacional de América Latina y el Caribe” (two editions during the biennium). This chapter addresses : (i) developments in trade and intraregional investment; (ii) the nature of that trade; (iii) internationalization of Latin American and Caribbean enterprises; (iv) convergence of the regional legal framework; and (v) the convergence of social policies.

(b) Other publications

(i) Two studies on developments in the integration process within the framework of subregional agreements in South America.

(ii) A study on the consequences for trade of the formation of Mercosur, in the context of the negotiating process for the creation of the Free Trade Area of the Americas.

(c) Operational activities

Advisory services

(i) Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries in the region that request them, in connection with developments in and prospects for the regional integration process.

(ii) Provision of technical cooperation services to government agencies in Brazil that request them in connection with developments in, comparative analysis of and prospects for the regional integration process.

The activity mentioned under (b) (ii) will be carried out in collaboration with the ECLAC offices in Brasilia, Buenos Aires and Montevideo. The ECLAC office in Brasilia will be responsible for the execution of the activity mentioned under (c) (ii).

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 2.2: The impact of hemispheric integration on Latin American and Caribbean integration

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to study links between hemispheric integration and Latin American and Caribbean integration.

(b) Publications

(i) A study on hemispheric agreements on liberalization of trade in goods and services and their impact on Latin American and Caribbean integration.

(ii) A study on harmonization of policies, legislation and institutions at the hemispheric level and its impact on Latin American and Caribbean integration.

(iii) A report on the implementation in the United States of America of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

(iv) A report on the implementation in Canada of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

(v) an annual report on barriers to exports from Latin America and the Caribbean imposed by the United States of America.

(c) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to countries in the region that request them in connection with issues relating to the impact of hemispheric integration on Latin American and Caribbean integration.

(d) Intermediate activities

Support for the hemispheric integration process and coordination of ECLAC activities in this regard. At the Summit of the Americas, held in Miami, United States of America, in December 1994, the Heads of State and Government agreed, *inter alia*, to establish the Free Trade Area of the Americas by the year 2005. On that occasion, the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and ECLAC were asked to support Governments in their efforts to attain that objective. OAS, IDB and ECLAC are working jointly through a tripartite committee to fulfil that mandate and will certainly continue to do so throughout the biennium covered by the present programme of work.

The ECLAC office in Washington, D.C., will be responsible for the execution of the activities referred to under (b) (iii) to (v) and (d).

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 2.3: Intraregional investment: internationalization of Latin American enterprises

Publications

A study on the generation of trade by smaller enterprises in Latin American and Caribbean countries within the framework of regional and subregional integration plans.

Subject area 2.4: Regional transport infrastructure and services

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) Meeting of experts to identify and examine aspects related to the conditions necessary for maintaining a competitive balance between road and railway transport.

(ii) Meeting of experts to study the economic and social consequences of establishing concession systems for the operation of services and management of infrastructure in the transport sector.

(b) Publications

(i) A study on interaction, complementarity and distribution of traffic among various means of transport, in the context of the current redistribution of public- and private-sector roles.

(ii) A study to evaluate the socioeconomic impact of the granting of concessions in transport-sector activities.

(iii) A study on current and future developments in information technology in the transport sector.

(c) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to countries in the region that request them, on issues relating to infrastructure and land transport, and transport support services.

(d) Intermediate activities

Support for regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations, in relation to infrastructure and regional land transport and transport and trade support services.

The execution of operational activities and of the activity referred to under (a) (ii) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 2.5: Urban and intercity transport

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to study links between the development of urban transport and land-use planning, particularly in respect to medium- and long-term sustainability.

(b) Publications

A study on the effects of various transport development options on the use of resources and the living conditions of the population.

(c) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to countries in the region that request them, in connection with issues relating to urban and intercity transport.

(d) Intermediate activities

Support for regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations, in relation to urban and intercity transport.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out in close liaison with the Latin American Economic System (SELA), IDB and OAS, the secretariats of the region's various integration bodies, and governmental and private bodies having responsibilities in the area of integration. There are currently cooperation agreements with the secretariats of the traditional integration mechanisms; efforts will be made to establish organic links with the bodies administrating the new agreements.

For the execution of activities connected with infrastructure, regional transport services and urban and intercity transport, close cooperation will be maintained with the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), the Latin American Railways Association (ALAF), and the Conference of South American Ministers of Transport, Communications and Public Works.

3. Users and anticipated use of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be government authorities and officials of the countries of the region, particularly those concerned with regional integration and cooperation, as well as, in the case of some of the outputs, those concerned with regional transport.

Other main users of the outputs will be regional and subregional integration and cooperation bodies, academic institutions, research centres and various private-sector organizations such as producers' associations, chambers of commerce and labour, professional and technical bodies interested in the issues in question.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, the provision of technical cooperation, periodic consultations and other contacts, and participation in intergovernmental and expert meetings.

SUBPROGRAMME 3: INDUSTRIAL, TECHNOLOGICAL AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Introduction

The 1990s have seen economic changes in the region unprecedented since the crisis of the 1930s. In that time, most of the countries moved from a development strategy oriented towards domestic markets and characterized by considerable public-sector intervention, to a strategy of promoting export development and international integration, with deregulated markets and a predominance of free-market prices, in which the private sector plays the leading role in development. It is reasonable to hope that, by the beginning of the new millennium, the economic stabilization and restructuring process will have been completed, on the basis of this first phase of reforms centred upon a profound strategic and macroeconomic reorientation.

Nonetheless, despite the successes achieved so far, particularly in respect of controlling inflation and strong export growth, the end of the 1990s will see a relatively low average growth rate, as well as income distribution which is at least as unequal as at the beginning of the decade.

To accelerate growth and reap the benefits of the long and costly process of structural adjustment, a new phase of policy reforms in the region will be needed, mainly in the micro- and mesoeconomic spheres, aimed at completing the modernization of production at the factory, sector and agent levels, to permit substantial improvements in competitiveness.

One of the main objectives of the subprogramme is to support countries in designing policies for that purpose, to put them on the road to faster economic growth such as that which has characterized the successful recently-industrialized countries. To that end, particular attention will be given to comparative analysis of the experience of emerging economies, especially those of South-East Asia. Also, since by the beginning of the new millennium most of the countries of the region will be involved in a diversity of integration agreements of varying scope, emphasis will be placed on the design of competitiveness policies in the framework of a strategy of open regionalism.

To narrow the productivity gap between the region and the developed countries, competitiveness must be improved, not only through better integration and good macroeconomic policy, but also through systematic measures in three areas: microeconomic policies which improve efficiency within companies, facilitating the identification, adoption and adaptation of international best practices and technologies; mesoeconomic policies which improve the efficiency of the environment in which companies operate, that is, physical, scientific, technological and extension service infrastructure, training systems and the capital market, thereby facilitating the swiftest possible dissemination of technical and organizational progress; and policies aimed at promoting key agents, i.e., transnational corporations and national conglomerates, on the one hand, and domestic small and medium-sized enterprises, on the other.

Although such modernization should take place throughout the production system, it should be borne in mind that, given the relative abundance of natural resources in the region, such processes are stronger in the context of a development strategy centred upon the expansion of natural resource-based activities and production complexes, either in the area of processing or in that of the supply of inputs, machinery, technology or services. Production complexes based on fisheries, forestry, mining, energy

resources, agro-industry and tourism, *inter alia*, are areas of particular interest for promoting and accelerating this modernization process.

The activities planned for the biennium 2000-2001, for the execution of which the Division of Production, Productivity and Management will be chiefly responsible, fall under five subject areas: activities relating to the analysis of production trends in the region, globally and by sector; the development of the environment in which companies operate, including physical and technological infrastructure and factor markets, with emphasis on equal access; the strengthening of the key agents in development, namely, transnational corporations and domestic conglomerates, on the one hand, and small and medium-sized companies, on the other; the analysis of industrialization strategies centred upon natural resource-based production complexes; and the design of competitiveness policies in the framework of a strategy of integration and open regionalism.

1. Activities

Subject area 3.1: Analysis of production trends in the region, globally and by sector

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) Meeting of experts to examine the industrial growth of the countries of the region and contrast it with that of other emerging economies, particularly those of South-East Asia.

(ii) Meeting of experts to study proposals for accelerating productivity growth in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(iii) Meeting of experts to analyse changes in the industrial structure and international competitiveness of the Brazilian economy.

(b) Publications

(i) Two analytical studies on changes in the production structure and international competitiveness of the countries of the region; one will deal with the industrial sector, and the other will cover the agricultural and agro-industrial sectors.

(ii) An analytical study on productivity and quality indicators for activities in the tertiary sector, focusing on trends in two specific areas to be chosen among the following: education, health, public administration, or services to enterprises.

(iii) A study on behaviour patterns among transnational corporations and domestic conglomerates, and their effects on competitiveness. Particular attention will be given to comparison with other regions, particularly South-East Asia.

(iv) A study on proposals to accelerate productivity growth in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(v) Two studies on new challenges for the Latin American business sector in the context of globalization, based on case studies in specific sectors and countries in the region, to be determined.

(vi) A study on Brazilian experience in industrial rationalization and international competitiveness.

(vii) A study on microeconomic responses to new conditions in the Argentine economy. Particular attention will be given to aspects such as the development of production capacity, technological innovation, training, and promoting cooperation and association among entrepreneurs through the establishment of networks.

(c) Technical material

(i) Yearly updating and development of the CAN (Competitive Analysis of Nations) and PADI (Industrial Performance Analysis Program) computer software.

(ii) Updating and development of the database on trends in the forestry and farming sector, and appropriate analysis.

(d) Operational activities

(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with industrial restructuring.

(ii) Group training

- Cooperation with government agencies and private bodies in the countries of the region, at their request, in organizing training workshops on the use of the CAN and PADI programs.

- Cooperation with government agencies and academic institutions in the countries of the region, at their request, in organizing postgraduate-level courses in subjects relating to industrial restructuring.

Work is planned to continue during the biennium on a project on Latin American industrial growth and its comparison with that of eastern Asia, and to begin on another project, to study changes in the structure and growth of industry in selected countries of the region.

The activities referred to under (a) (iii) and (b) (vi) will be carried out by the ECLAC office in Brasilia; the ECLAC office in Buenos Aires will be responsible for the activity described under (b) (vii).

The execution of operational activities and of the activities described under (a) (iii) and under (b) (vi) and (vii) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 3.2: Development of the environment in which companies operate: physical and technological infrastructure and factor markets

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) Meeting of experts to study changes in national technological innovation systems in the countries of the region and their impact on industrial competitiveness.

(ii) Meeting of experts to examine issues relating to the diffusion of technological innovations in the forestry and farming sector.

(b) Publications

(i) An analytical study on the impact of changes in national technological innovation systems on industrial structure and international competitiveness.

(ii) A study on credit, investment and conversion of financial assets into securities (securitization) in the forestry and farming sector, with a view to strengthening the efficiency of the land market. Particular attention will be given to policy proposals in this regard.

(iii) A study on means and policies to promote the diffusion of technological innovations in the forestry and farming sector.

(c) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries in the region that request them, in connection with systems and policies for technological innovation.

Projects are expected to be under way during the biennium on industrial financing, with emphasis on the business sector; the financing of agricultural production and investment; and changes in national systems of technological innovation in the forestry and farming sector.

The execution of operational activities and of the activity described under (b) (iii) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 3.3: Strengthening of the key agents in development: transnational corporations, domestic conglomerates and small and medium-sized enterprises

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) Meeting of experts to study changes in domestic conglomerates and in small and medium-sized enterprises in the countries of the region, and the impact of those changes on their industrial competitiveness.

(ii) Meeting of experts to examine issues relating to updating and improving legal and statistical information on foreign investment in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(b) Recurrent publications

La inversión extranjera en América Latina y el Caribe, an annual publication (one issue in each year of the biennium).

(c) Other publications

(i) Two studies on key agents in development. The first will examine the role of major domestic conglomerates in financing and technology transfer; the second current limitations on small and medium-sized industrial enterprises caused by difficulties they have in gaining access to financing and technology.

(ii) A study on the role of transnational corporations in technology transfer and in facilitating access to foreign markets in the countries of the region.

(iii) A study on models of investment and technology transfer in selected countries of the region.

(iv) An update study on the legal framework for foreign investment in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(v) A study on strategy changes in transnational corporations, in the field of trade and in respect of factor flows, with reference to the Brazilian economy.

(vi) A study on strategy changes in transnational corporations and their effects on the Mercosur economies.

(vii) A study on the effects of economic openness and of Mercosur integration on the business dynamics of small and medium-sized enterprises. Particular attention will be given to productivity, the degree of globalization and the adoption of the latest international technological and organizational practices.

(viii) A study on business strategies and measures which are applied in other countries, with particular emphasis on those of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and South-East Asia, with a view to finding possible reference points which could help adapt local industry to international best practices.

(d) Technical materials

Updating and publication of the statistical database on foreign investment in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(e) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

(i) Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries in the region that request them, in connection with the development of small and medium-sized companies.

(ii) Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries in the region that request them, concerning methods for collecting and processing statistical data and legal information on foreign direct investment.

(iii) Provision of technical cooperation services to government agencies in Argentina, at their request, concerning policies to promote the business development of small and medium-sized companies, investment, productivity and international linkages in the context of integration strategies.

A project on small and medium-sized companies and international competitiveness is scheduled to be carried out during the biennium.

The ECLAC office in Brasilia will be responsible for the execution of the activities described under (c) (v) and (vi), and the ECLAC office in Buenos Aires will be responsible for the execution of those described under (c) (vii) and (viii) and (e) (iii).

The execution of operational activities and of those described under (a) (ii) and (c) (vii) and (viii) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 3.4: Industrialization strategies centred upon the development of natural resource-based production complexes

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to examine policies to strengthen the development of natural resource-based production complexes in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(b) Publications

(i) A study on production complexes in various countries of the region, based on a natural resource yet to be selected.

(ii) Four comparative studies on newly-developing natural resource-based production complexes in areas of particular interest for Latin America and the Caribbean. In each case, depending on the availability of extrabudgetary resources, they will be contrasted with corresponding mature production complexes in developed countries.

(iii) A study on the elaboration of an industrialization strategy based on natural resources in Latin America and the Caribbean, with emphasis on the formulation of policy proposals.

(c) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with the design and implementation of industrialization strategies centred upon the development of natural resource-based production complexes.

The execution of operational activities and, in part, that described under (b) (ii), will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 3.5: Design of competitiveness policies in the framework of a strategy of integration and open regionalism

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) Meeting of experts to study industrial competitiveness policy proposals and mechanisms for their implementation.

(ii) Meeting of experts to examine the results of the study on the competitive options of the farming and agro-industry sectors in a context of international openness and trade agreements.

(b) Publications

(i) Two analytical studies on industrial competitiveness policies in the countries of the region, with particular emphasis on the formulation of policy proposals.

(ii) A study on the competitive and export options of the farming and agro-industry sectors in a context of international openness and trade agreements, with particular attention to the formulation of policy proposals.

(iii) A document containing a summary analysis of policy proposals concerning investment and the business development of transnational corporations and domestic conglomerates.

(c) Operational activities

(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to countries, in the region that request them, in connection with industrial competitiveness policies.

(ii) Group training

Cooperation with government agencies and academic institutions in the countries of the region, at their request, in organizing postgraduate-level courses in subjects relating to the design of industrial competitiveness policies.

A project to analyse changes, region-wide, in industrial competitiveness policies and formulate proposals is scheduled to be carried out during the biennium.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out in close cooperation with government, academic and private-sector bodies concerned with economic analysis of industry and agriculture in the countries of the region, and with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). Relations of mutual collaboration will also be maintained with various international and regional bodies such as the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Latin American Economic System (SELA). Periodic consultations with other international, regional and subregional bodies will also take place.

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be government authorities and officials, especially those concerned with the analysis, design and implementation of policies concerning the production, technological and entrepreneurial development of industry and agriculture, foreign investment and transnational corporations, and technological innovation systems.

The users of the outputs will also include various private-sector institutions such as businesses, labour and professional organizations, universities and other academic and research institutions, and centres for the development and diffusion of technology.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, the provision of information material and services, technical cooperation activities, periodic consultations and contacts, and participation in intergovernmental and expert meetings.

SUBPROGRAMME 4: MACROECONOMIC POLICY, INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Introduction

The Governments of the region have been implementing important institutional reforms and macroeconomic policies, introducing new ways of operating into their economies. This process is expected to continue into a second generation of reforms, which will be qualitatively different from the first. The ECLAC secretariat intends to continue collaborating with the Governments in their analysis, monitoring of results and expansion of their information systems, in order to improve public and private decision-making and the evaluation of results. In the macroeconomic sphere, fiscal, monetary and exchange rate policies and structural reforms will be monitored; the results will also be used in the preparation of the Economic Survey and the Preliminary Overview. Those two documents, based on comparable information, are the most up-to-date sources for macroeconomic assessment available in the region. On the basis of such assessment and subsequent analysis, conclusions can be drawn concerning successes, difficulties and challenges, and the trends and economic policy areas most relevant to particular situations can be identified.

In that context, as the year 2000 approaches, a number of major subject areas are taking shape in the region that will focus the concerns of those responsible for designing and formulating policy. Firstly, sustainable development will become established as the guiding concept of economic policy in a highly globalized world, so that it will not be possible to ignore the social and environmental dimensions of the development model applied in Latin America. Secondly, the economic integration process in the region will have moved from the level of simple commercial and financial exchanges on into macroeconomic policy and development areas which are the foundation of this subprogramme. Lastly, the region will continue to cope with the challenge of increasing the proportion of output devoted to investment by means of policies to strengthen domestic saving and channel those resources into the accumulation of capital.

The main objectives of the subprogramme are: (i) drawing up a systematic account of the application of economic policies and reforms and evaluating their impact on the performance of the region's economies and (ii) participating actively with Governments in the formulation of those policies and reforms.

The programme of work for the 2000-2001 biennium consists of four subject areas. The first two areas, for whose execution the Economic Development Division will be primarily responsible, cover activities relating to analysis of economic trends in Latin America and the Caribbean and of development strategies and economic and social policies in the region. The third, which will be executed by the Development Finance Unit, focuses on activities relating to saving, investment and finance. The fourth area covers activities entrusted to the Latin American Centre for Economic and Social Documentation (CLADES), relating to information management for development.

1. Activities

Subject area 4.1: Analysis of the situation the Latin American and Caribbean economies

a) Recurrent publications

- (i) Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1999-2000
- (ii) Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2000-2001

This publication is prepared annually and basically comprises two parts. One is devoted to a global overview of the recent evolution of Latin America and the Caribbean and analyses the changes that have taken place in the region in the context of the international economy, as well as economic policy, structural problems affecting the various types of economies, evolution of the level of activity, total supply and demand, performance in terms of investment, saving and consumption, inflation, employment and wages, and the external sector. Part Two contains reports on individual countries of the region, for each of which a systematic analysis of its economic evolution is presented. the publication is accompanied by a set of statistical tables, distributed in the form of diskettes, providing information on growth, employment, foreign trade, the balance of payments, external indebtedness, prices, wages, and monetary and fiscal accounts. To replace the Economic Panorama of Latin America, publication of which ceased in 1997, the detailed information on the previous year is supplemented with updated information on the first half of the current year for those countries for which such information is available; the chapter containing the general overview with this information is also published separately ("Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean: summary"), in order to provide timely and systematic information on economic trends in the region. Each April, a brief preliminary report is prepared on the economic evolution of the region during the previous year (primarily for submission to the Economic and Social Council), which serves as a preview of the Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean.

- (iii) Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean 2000
- (iv) Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean 2001

The Preliminary Overview, which is published at the end of each year, describes and assesses the region's economic performance during the year. It presents the latest detailed information on the comparative evolution of the macroeconomic variables of the region as a whole and of most of the countries in it. This publication is presented at an annual press conference held by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC in mid-December.

(b) Other publications

Two annual reports on the evolution of the Argentine economy, covering the periods 1999-2000 and 2000-2001.

(c) Technical material

(i) Updating and improvement of databases on economic performance in Latin America and the Caribbean; in particular, those containing the information needed for the preparation of the aforementioned recurrent publications.

(ii) A contribution to the text of the Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2000 and 2001 editions: Note on the Argentine economy.

(iii) Contributions to the Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2000 and 2001 editions, and the Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 editions: Notes on the Brazilian economy.

(iv) Contributions to the Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2000 and 2001 editions, and the Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 editions: Notes on the Uruguayan economy.

(v) Quarterly publication of Argentine macroeconomic indicators.

(vi) Half-yearly report on the Brazilian economy (four issues in the biennium).

(vii) Monthly publication of a statistical bulletin on trends in the Brazilian economy (issued in English, Portuguese and Spanish).

The ECLAC offices in Buenos Aires, Brasilia and Montevideo, as appropriate, will be responsible for executing the activities described under (b) and (c), except for (c) (i).

Subject area 4.2: Analysis of development strategies and economic and social policies in Latin America and the Caribbean

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) An expert meeting to analyse the conclusions of the document on economic policy in integration processes.

(ii) An expert meeting to examine the conclusions of the document on capital flows.

(b) Publications

(i) A study on economic policy in integration processes. In order to increase complementarity between regional sustainable development strategies and the economic globalization process, this study will seek to identify economic policies and mechanisms to consolidate both regional integration and linkages on a more global scale (World Trade Organization standards, the proposed Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), free trade agreements with the European Union, and others).

(ii) A study on factors which determine the levels and volatility of capital flows towards the Latin American and Caribbean countries; examination of the different types of flows and agents and their effects upon the design of macroeconomic and regulatory policies.

(iii) A study on links between the environment and the pattern of linkages with the global economy derived from the current policy of outward-oriented development. Special attention will be given to analysis of the export mix as a result of this policy, particularly regarding trade liberalization, exchange rates, foreign direct investment, and fiscal and monetary policy (interest rates), and to the consequent pressure on natural resources and the environment.

(iv) A study on integration and exclusion in the labour market; analysis of the simultaneous and contradictory trends towards integration and homogenization (such as increased employment among women and the formation of production chains offering new opportunities to small and medium-sized companies), and exclusion and differentiation (such as increasingly precarious forms of employment and growing income gaps).

(v) A study on an aspect of the Latin American and Caribbean economic situation which will be a priority issue in the early twenty-first century.

(vi) A comparative study on experiences in economic regulation.

(vii) A study on economic fluctuations in a context of regional integration.

(viii) A study on trends and cycles during periods of economic reform.

(ix) A study on the role of foreign investment in production structures. Special attention will be given to the functioning of enterprises in an open economy and to strategies for foreign trade linkage, particularly export specialization and the deepening of the regional integration process.

(c) Operational activities

Advisory services

(i) Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, in connection with the identification of policies to promote investment and productivity, deal with problems of financial flows, increase equity through social policies, and establish suitable institutions for facilitating these aims.

(ii) It is expected that in the course of the biennium two lines of work will continue to be developed in critical areas of economic policy: the first, on improved implementation of fiscal policies (revenues, expenditure, tax administration and institutional aspects); the second, on decentralization of public finances. Both lines of work are consistent with support for a second phase of economic reforms).

(iii) Provision of technical cooperation services to government agencies in Brazil, that request them, in connection with the identification and analysis of experiences in other countries of the region, in the macroeconomic field and in respect of institutional changes, compared with those of Brazil.

(d) Intermediate activities

Substantive contribution to the preparation of documents to be submitted to the Commission at its twenty-eighth session.

The ECLAC office in Brasilia will be responsible for the execution of the activity referred to under (b) (vi), and the ECLAC office in Buenos Aires will be responsible for the execution of the activities referred to under (b) (vii) to (ix).

The execution of operational activities and of the activity referred to under (b) (ix) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 4.3: Saving, investment and financing

(a) Publications

- (i) A study on the macroeconomic and financial effects of reforms of pension systems.
- (ii) A study on policies to attract foreign capital and their real financial effects on recipient economies.
- (iii) A study on effectiveness and equity criteria in health financing system reforms.
- (iv) A study on policies for access to financing of social housing.
- (v) A study on mechanisms to generate public and private saving in Brazil, compared with those of other countries.

(b) Technical material

Updating and expansion of statistical and documentary databases on flows of foreign capital, reforms of pension systems and financing of housing.

(c) Operational activities

(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries in the region that request them, in connection with policies to improve linkages with international financial markets, analysis of the macroeconomic and financial effects of pension systems reforms, and issues relating to the financing of health and housing.

(ii) Group training

Group training, in workshops or seminars, on pension system reforms and the financing of health and housing, for countries of the region and international organizations that request it.

(d) Intermediate activities

Analysis of relevant information concerning health financing systems reforms.

The ECLAC office in Brasilia will be responsible for the execution of the activity referred to under (a) (v).

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 4.4: Information management for development(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to consider strategies for strengthening information management and information and communications technology in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(b) Publications

(i) A study on organizational information networks.

(ii) A study on total quality in information management and information and communications technology.

(iii) Two issues in the “Información y Desarrollo” series, covering subjects relating to information management and information technology in government and academic spheres.

(iv) A publication on strategies for strengthening information management and information and communications technology, covering the subjects discussed at the expert meeting.

(c) Technical material

A document in electronic format designed to support training activities in information management and information and communications technology.

(d) Operational activities(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries in the region that request them, in connection with strategic information management and information and communications technology.

(ii) Group training

- Two seminars on information management.

- Two intensive training seminars or workshops on subjects relating to the modernization of information technology in public management.

- In-service training for government officials or other officials of interested organizations that request it, in the use of methodologies relating to information management and information and communications technology. Ten such training programmes, of 70 teaching hours each, are planned for the biennium.

(e) Intermediate activities

(i) Selection and incorporation in the Documentary Information System (SIDOC) of the Latin American Centre for Economic and Social Documentation (CLADES) of substantive documents in the area of information management and information technology, and preparation in digitized form of document summaries or complete texts and, in some cases, their translated versions (ongoing activity).

(ii) Preparation and distribution by e-mail to Latin American and Caribbean institutions of monthly bulletins on information management, as part of a continuous process of training, dissemination, and incorporation of individuals and organizations in a network for the exchange of experience in this area.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out in consultation with various programmes and units of the United Nations system, as well as with other international, regional and subregional bodies, depending on the subject areas involved.

For the execution of activities relating to analysis of the economies and economic policies of the Latin American and Caribbean countries, especially the preparation of the Economic Survey and the Preliminary Overview, regular contacts will be maintained with government institutions of the countries of the region. These publications will serve, in turn, as inputs for the work of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, especially for the World Economic Survey.

Activities in the area of saving, investment and finance will mainly be carried out in liaison with the entities which contribute to the financing of extrabudgetary activities, and with the relevant international bodies.

Lastly, activities in the area of information management for development will be carried out in collaboration with government, private and academic bodies, particularly universities in the countries of the region. Regular contacts and collaboration will also be maintained with international organizations involved in similar activities, such as the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Latin American Association of Industrial Design (ALADI), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be ministries of economic affairs and finance, economic and social planning offices, universities and other academic institutions, libraries, research workers and academics concerned with economic and social development issues, international economic and financial bodies, and other interested parties.

The Preliminary Overview and the preview of the Economic Survey are publications that we used intensively both in and outside the region. Among the main users are government authorities and officials, international bodies, banks and other private sector bodies, economic research institutes and centres and, in general, institutions, executives and research workers who need timely access to information and indicators, and analysis thereof, in order to keep abreast of economic trends in the countries of the region.

The Economic Survey is also of use to universities and academic institutions, which routinely include it in the bibliographies of their study programmes.

These studies will be given very broad distribution through an updated mailing list of institutions and individuals. The national and international communications media are important recipients of these publications, since they help to expand their dissemination and impact. They will also be on sale to the general public.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, technical cooperation activities, periodic consultations and contacts, and participation in intergovernmental and expert meetings.

SUBPROGRAMME 5: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EQUITY

Presentation

The main challenges facing the current development model as the next millennium approaches—once efforts have been made to re-establish economic equilibria, curb inflation and restore output growth—will be to pay special attention to the social needs generated by economic growth and to ensure that the people of Latin America and the Caribbean enjoy improved working conditions and levels of well-being as a result of development.

The advent of globalization has made it increasingly clear that spurious competitiveness, achieved through the use of an abundant but ill-trained and therefore poorly paid labour force, is gradually having a harmful effect on countries. Furthermore, the relatively scant investment in improving the human capital of the work force is one of the main factors responsible for social marginalization. ECLAC studies show that in Latin America and the Caribbean people with less than 10 years of schooling have little chance of obtaining paid employment in the formal sector.

Thus, social policies designed to increase human capital—in essence, health and education—perform a vital role in ensuring that people have the assets required to gain access to a suitable position in the labour force, a decent wage and a reasonable level of well-being; such policies are also essential in terms of a country's development.

Against that backdrop, a first objective of the subprogramme will be to guide and support countries of the region that have embarked on social policy reform, particularly through diagnostic tools for assessing situations, appropriate policy design and programme and project evaluation. Better management of social programmes is crucial if their objectives are to be reached, the quality of services improved and a contribution made to social integration, thus promoting civic participation.

With respect to the social consequences of growth, particular attention needs to be paid to the growing inequality of income distribution and the difficulty the development model is having in generating an adequate number of jobs for the economically active population, especially the segment with better qualifications. Hence, the second objective will be to monitor such situations adequately and to evaluate policies and programmes aimed at modifying these aspects of the model.

The third objective of the subprogramme will be to study the social, economic, institutional and cultural effects associated with the cultivation, trafficking and consumption of drugs and to propose integrated cross-sectoral strategies to combat the problem.

The programme of work for the biennium 2000-2001, which the Social Development Division will be responsible for implementing, comprises four subject areas that encompass activities relating to the formulation, management and evaluation of social policies, programmes and projects; diagnostic studies of the social situation of the population as a whole and of vulnerable groups, with emphasis on poverty and equity; the impact of economic reforms on the social sector and on socioeconomic stratification in Latin America; and analysis of the effects associated with the cultivation, trafficking and consumption of drugs and strategies to combat them.

1. Activities

Subject area 5.1: Formulation, management and evaluation of social policies, programmes and projects

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Second Regional Conference in Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development (if the Second Conference is held in 1999, the Third Conference will also be held during the biennium).

(b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to examine issues relating to the reform, design, management and evaluation of social policies.

(c) Publications

(i) Two studies on the rational use of financial and human resources in social policy reform processes. These studies will be published in the Políticas sociales series.

(ii) Two studies on the growth in civic participation in the design, implementation and evaluation of social policies.

(iii) Two studies devoted to an evaluation of programmes designed to ease young people's entry into the labour market. These studies will be published in the Políticas sociales series.

(iv) A comparative study on progress in the region in the area of social policy reform.

(d) Operational activities

(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with the evaluation of social policies, programmes and projects.

(ii) Group training

- Organization of two regional courses on the evaluation of social policies, programmes and projects, for a selected group of government experts and university lecturers working in the social project sphere.

- Organization of national training courses on methods for the formulation and evaluation of social programmes and projects, for government experts (it is anticipated that four courses will be held during the biennium).

- Organization of courses or intensive training workshops, in countries of the region that request them, on the application of new technologies to the design, monitoring and evaluation of social programmes and projects.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 5.2: Diagnostic assessment of the social situation of the population as a whole and of vulnerable groups, with emphasis on poverty and equity

(a) Recurrent publications

- (i) Social Panorama of Latin America. 2000 Edition
- (ii) Social Panorama of Latin America. 2001 Edition

This publication is prepared annually as a joint project of the Social Development Division and the Statistics and Economic Projections Division. Adopting both a short- and medium-term perspective, the report addresses such key issues as employment, income distribution, poverty and social expenditure; it also includes measurements of inequality between socioeconomic strata, by gender and urban or rural area of residence, both in terms of living conditions and opportunities for social mobility. The analysis of the social agenda looks at issues at the centre of public and political debate in a number of countries of Latin America, in order to highlight the key themes and how they are perceived. Each edition of the Social Panorama of Latin America also deals in greater depth with a selected central topic.

During the biennium, efforts will be made to increase the number of countries covered, to provide updated information using the most recent available figures and to address the most significant aspects of social development, especially those relating to social policies (education, health, social security and housing) and trends in social stratification. Increased efforts will be made to expand the range of basic information sources.

With regard to sources of statistical information, the processing of household surveys will be updated and given greater continuity, and efforts will be made to incorporate other types of information available in the region, mainly through the reorganization of administrative records.

(b) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with methods for collecting and analysing statistical information for the preparation or updating of social diagnostic studies.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 5.3: The impact of economic reforms on the social sector and on socioeconomic stratification in Latin America

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) Meeting of experts to examine the effects of economic reform on the main areas of social concern and distributive equity.

(ii) Meeting of experts to examine social indicators and the methods used for quantitative social analysis.

(b) Publications

Two comparative studies on social stratification and policies aimed at improving well-being and reducing inequality. One of the studies will focus on the countries which have made the most progress in economic and social reform, in an effort to show how the introduction of changes in the way the economy operates has altered the traditional patterns of social stratification.

Subject area 5.4: Study of the effects associated with the cultivation, trafficking and consumption of drugs, and integrated strategies for combating them

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to identify and study the social, economic and institutional contexts and effects of drug cultivation, trafficking and consumption.

(b) Publications

Three studies on the social, economic and institutional effects associated with the cultivation, trafficking and consumption of drugs. Special attention will be paid to characterizing effects such as violence, family breakdown, erosion of governability and macroeconomic consequences. Various programmes in this area being implemented by countries of the region will be evaluated with a view to putting forward comprehensive proposals for intersectoral strategies to combat these effects.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will mainly be carried out in close collaboration with government institutions responsible for social matters and with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). Collaboration with the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) will also be strengthened.

Depending on the subject area and nature of the activities involved, special relations will also be maintained with other international, regional and subregional organizations. In particular, activities with regard to studying the effects of the cultivation, trafficking and consumption of drugs and strategies to

combat them will be carried out within the framework of the Global Programme of Action on International Cooperation against Illicit Production, Supply, Demand, Trafficking and Distribution of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and in close collaboration with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), and with government bodies with responsibilities in this area.

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be government authorities and officials of the countries of the region, especially those concerned with the formulation, execution and management of policies, programmes and projects in the social area.

Other main users of the outputs will include regional and subregional bodies, universities and other academic institutions, research centres and other non-governmental bodies and organizations concerned with the subject areas in question.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, technical cooperation activities, regular meetings and contacts and participation in intergovernmental meetings of experts.

SUBPROGRAMME 6: MAINSTREAMING THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE INTO THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Presentation

Although the situation of women in Latin America and the Caribbean has changed considerably in areas such as employment, education and health, obstacles to their full integration in development and their participation in all phases of the decision-making process still persist.

The problems and challenges encountered in attempting to improve the situation of women in the region have been among the major concerns of member States and the ECLAC secretariat for a number of years.

It is now widely recognized that the gender perspective should be incorporated in all spheres of activity—political, economic and social—to ensure gender equity and avoid perpetuating inequalities; it is therefore essential to adopt an integrated strategy for gender equality.

In this regard, one of the primary objectives of the subprogramme is to promote the establishment of institutional mechanisms and provide support for their application in the countries of the region, with a view to guaranteeing the full participation of women in major areas of development. To this end, the secretariat proposes to maintain and reinforce the active role it plays in support of the activities of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Presiding Officers of that body, and in providing information and substantive training, methodological and logistical support to government offices responsible for women's affairs in order to build up their institutional capacity, their human resource training capacity and their ability to fulfil their increasing role of intersectoral coordination.

A second objective of the subprogramme is to increase knowledge and assist countries in analysing priority issues to be addressed with a view to the integration of women and incorporation of the gender perspective in all major activities. The issues in question are those identified in the Platform of Action approved in Beijing and in the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, and are also related to strengthening the position of Latin America and the Caribbean in international discussions which countries of the region will be holding under the auspices of the United Nations. The secretariat proposes to pursue the studies and research that are underway and undertake new studies in this field in the course of the biennium.

The last objective is to channel efforts of the divisions and other units of ECLAC to ensure that the gender perspective is incorporated into all their programmes and projects, in keeping with the instructions of the Economic and Social Council. To this end, activities initiated during the previous biennium should be pursued and intensified, which implies that the divisions and units of ECLAC should systematically work together on the design and implementation of specific instruments and methodologies. This activity is in response to the request that regional commissions should act as a catalyst for the exchange of experience and best practices with respect to the incorporation of the gender perspective and, in this regard, ECLAC should continue to follow up on the different subprogrammes, while increasing inter-agency coordination, especially within the United Nations system.

The Women and Development Unit will be responsible for implementing the activities of this subprogramme, which form a single subject area.

1. Activities

(a) Organization and technical servicing of intergovernmental meetings

(i) Eighth Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, including the preparation of reports on the secretariat's activities and substantive documentation to be submitted to the Conference.

(ii) Four meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, including the preparation of reports on the secretariat's activities and substantive documentation.

(b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meetings of experts to consider priority issues arising from the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001. Four meetings are scheduled to be held during the biennium to address such issues as: (i) policies for the elimination of poverty and their gender-differentiated impact; (ii) bringing national legislations in the region into line with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; (iii) theoretical and methodological approaches to gender and development; and (iv) emerging or priority issues for the region for the period 2001-2006.

(c) Substantive servicing of inter-agency meetings

Two inter-agency meetings with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, including the preparation of substantive support documents and relevant reports.

(d) Recurrent publications

Four issues of the series Mujer y desarrollo, which will focus on such topics as the impact of new production trends on the employment of women in the region; strengthening government institutions and bodies with responsibility for policies and programmes for women; policies for overcoming poverty and their gender-differentiated impact, and a review of theoretical and methodological approaches to gender and development.

(e) Other publications

(i) A study on equal opportunities for men and women in Latin America and the Caribbean, with emphasis on the analysis of the main trends and changes expected in the period 1997-2000. Special attention will be paid to the follow-up to national policies and plans for women through the study of country reports, to assessment of the implementation of the eight strategic guidelines envisaged in the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean and to analysing the progress achieved in implementing of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World

Conference on Women, through country reports to the Committee on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

(ii) Four studies on issues relating to the incorporation of the gender perspective in the development of countries of the region, for example, national legislation and regulations designed to enhance women's participation in the economy and harmonization of such measures at the regional level in the context of regional integration; a study from the gender perspective of environmental issues and sustainable practices, to be decided upon; gender-differentiated international migration patterns, rural-urban drift or inter- and intra-urban movements, including temporary or environmentally-caused movements and the gender-differentiated impact of modernization of social security systems.

(f) Technical material

(i) Preparation of three studies on specific issues which have contributed to the incorporation of the gender perspective in the work of the ECLAC system. Aspects to be covered include the consequences of changing production patterns for the employment of women; gender-based analysis of the links between new modes of operation of the economies of the region and equity; and the impact of liberalization and globalization of the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean on the role of women in production.

(ii) Preparation of a study on the experience of countries of the region in institution-building, with emphasis on the links and coordination between non-governmental organizations, academic centres and the competent government bodies (embassies, women's bureaux and sectoral ministries), for monitoring the implementation of national policies and plans and international agreements relating to improvement of the status of women.

(iii) Updating of the Directory of national offices with responsibility for policies and programmes for women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(g) Information materials and services

An information leaflet and brief notes to be prepared by the Information Services Unit for dissemination of information prior to the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(h) Operational activities

(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with the drafting of government policy which incorporates the gender perspective, and for strengthening government agencies and entities responsible for policies and programmes for women.

(ii) Group training

Support, at the request of countries of the region, for training activities undertaken by government agencies, non-governmental organizations, universities and academic centres, relating to the incorporation of the gender perspective in development and in government policy.

(i) Intermediate activities

(i) Support to other ECLAC divisions and units in incorporating the gender perspective in their substantive activities.

(ii) Preparation of a guide on approaches to the incorporation of gender analysis in projects within the ECLAC system.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

The activities under this subprogramme will be carried out in close collaboration with the government agencies and entities with responsibility for policies and programmes for women in countries of the region, and academic centres and non-governmental organizations involved in related activities.

The collaboration with various organizations of the United Nations system will continue, in particular with the Division for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW).

Close cooperation will also be maintained with the focal point for gender issues at United Nations Headquarters in New York and, within the region, with United Nations specialized agencies, mainly for the purpose of coordinating activities relating to women.

3. Users and intended purpose of outputs

The main users of the outputs these activities will be government authorities and public officials of the countries of the region with responsibility for drafting and executing policies, programmes and projects relating to the integration of women into political, economic and social spheres. These outputs will be particularly useful in supporting the activities of various non-governmental organizations, academic centres and institutes for research and advancement that play a role in this area.

Users will be reached through the distribution of publications, participation in intergovernmental meetings and meetings of experts, and the provision of technical cooperation and training services.

SUBPROGRAMME 7: POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Presentation

In a context of increasingly universal technical and cultural change, the link between population trends and the socio-economic dynamic of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean poses complex challenges in terms of knowledge and the need for appropriate policy measures.

One of the major obstacles to achievement of social equity is the growing number of high risk groups within the population —women, the elderly, children, young people and indigenous peoples— all of which are extremely vulnerable to the problems associated with poverty and social neglect. Moreover, as fertility rates and the number of unwanted children tend to be higher and life expectancy notably shorter among the poorer strata of the population, considerable pressure is brought to bear on resources to compensate for lack of social services —in the areas of health, reproductive health and family planning, and education— in order to break the vicious circle of perpetuation of poverty.

The main objectives of the subprogramme are directed towards promoting the intensive use of population-related inputs in government actions aimed at enhancing social, spatial and environmental equity, through regional activities in conjunction with Governments, measures designed to make the management of central and local programmes and services more effective, and the provision of technical cooperation services and in the demographic training field.

The first objective is to provide support to countries of the region in their implementation and follow-up of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development. This plan gives expression to the Governments' interest in carrying out regional activities in the areas of training, information exchange, research and the integration of the population dynamic in public policies designed to promote development.

The second objective of the subprogramme is to improve the capacity of countries to incorporate population variables in social policies, programmes and projects, in particular those that target priority groups. This requires monitoring of population trends and projections and carrying out analyses by population sub-group and specific social sector.

The third objective is to collaborate with the public administration units of regional and local authorities to promote the use of demographic information in conjunction with regional multisectoral data and territorial referents.

The work programme for the 2000-2001 biennium, which will be carried out by the Population Division (CELADE), encompasses four subject areas: cooperation and regional training in the field of population and development; demographic analysis and population projections; use of information on population and development of related technologies; and integration of socio-demographic factors into development policies, programmes and projects.

1. Activities

Subject area 7.1: Cooperation and regional training in the field of population and development

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental meetings

(i) Substantive servicing of the ECLAC Sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development, including the preparation of technical documents for the biennial follow-up to the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development.

(ii) Participation in, and preparatory work for, working groups of the Ad hoc Committee on Population and Development in matters relating to the follow-up to the Regional Plan of Action and the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development.

(b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert group meeting to consider progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development and of the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development.

(c) Recurrent publications

Notas de Población for the dissemination of research and studies on population issues in Latin America (four issues during the biennium).

(d) Operational activities

Group training

(i) Intensive, regional, two- to four-month courses on demographic analysis or other relevant aspects of population and development, each for approximately 15 professionals (two courses are envisaged for the biennium).

(ii) Cooperation, upon request, with government entities, universities, non-governmental organizations and regional and subregional bodies in support of training activities in demographic analysis and methodologies for the preparation of population estimates and projections; effective integration of socio-demographic factors in development policies, programmes and projects; use of software applications for data recovery for small areas by microcomputer and Geographic Information Systems (WIN-REDATAM/GIS) and establishment of population databases; and on issues relating to the Latin American and Caribbean Plan of Action on Population and Development.

(e) Intermediate activities

Preparation of teaching materials on the subjects referred to under (c) above, for use in the training activities of the subprogramme, and activities in support of government programmes, universities and non-governmental organizations.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 7.2: Demographic analysis and population projections

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert group meeting to consider the results of the round of censuses to be held in the year 2000 and their use in the formulation of social policies and development programmes.

(b) Recurrent publications

Four issues of Demographic Bulletin.

(c) Other publications

(i) Two reports on population estimates and projections, in coordination with institutions of countries of the region to be determined.

(ii) Two reports on the application of demographic analysis to facilitate programming activities in social sectors (social security, education or health).

(d) Technical material

(i) Maintaining an up-to-date database on demographic trends, population projections by sex and age, and demographic indicators.

(ii) Maintaining an up-to-date data bank for the Investigation of International Migration in Latin America (IMILA) programme.

(e) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, upon request, to countries of the region in connection with data collection, in particular population censuses, demographic analysis, preparation of population estimates and projections and the use of methodologies for incorporating demographic information in sectoral policies and programmes. These services may also be provided at ECLAC headquarters.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 7.3 : Population information

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert group meeting to consider and promote the use and dissemination of data from the round of censuses to be held in the year 2000 to support decentralized administration.

(b) Recurrent publications

REDA TAM informa (two issues during the biennium).

(c) Other publications

Two studies on computer software applications in the field of population, for the purposes of publication administration at the local level.

(d) Technical material

(i) Development and updating of computer programmes to facilitate the use of population data, with special attention to making better use of data from the censuses to be held in the year 2001 through the combined use of the microcomputer retrieval system for data for small areas and Geographic Information Systems (WIN-REDA TAM/GIS).

(ii) Development of software for demographic analysis and preparation of population projections adapted to new operating systems.

(iii) Annual release on optical disks (CD-ROM) of updated population bibliography database known as the Latin American Population Documentation System.

(e) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, upon request, to countries and national or regional bodies and institutions for the design and use of WIN-REDA TAM/GIS software applications and the establishment of population databases, in particular using information obtained from the censuses scheduled for the year 2000. These services may also be provided at ECLAC headquarters.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 7.4: Incorporating socio-demographic variables in development policies, programmes and projects

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert group meeting for socio-demographic analysis of vulnerable sectors of society in the region.

(b) Publications

(i) A study of population distribution patterns with reference to economic and social changes in countries of the region. Special attention will be paid to requirements for environmental sustainability.

(ii) A study on international mobility of human resources and the patterns of population exchange thus generated in countries of the region to be determined

(iii) Two socio-demographic studies on vulnerable groups in countries of the region to be selected. The first will focus on senior citizens without social coverage and the second on young people exposed to reproductive health risks.

(iv) A study on socio-demographic inputs for management of sectoral policies in Latin American and Caribbean countries to be determined.

(c) Technical material

(i) Updating of the database on population distribution and urbanization in Latin America and the Caribbean (DEPUALC).

(ii) Design and development of a WIN-REDATAM/GIS software application for the socio-demographic study of internal migration.

(d) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, upon request, to countries of the region in connection with the incorporation of population variables in development policies, programmes and projects, and issues relating to population policies and programmes, territorial mobility of the population, urbanization and vulnerable groups. These services may also be provided at ECLAC headquarters.

The execution of these operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out in close collaboration with United Nations programmes and bodies, mainly the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Population Division of the United Nations, the Statistics Division of the United Nations and the United Nations Population Information Network (POPIN), with such specialized agencies as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and with other organizations, such as the Inter-American Development Bank and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be the authorities and government officials of the countries of the region, particularly those working on population-related questions in ministries of health, education and housing, and national statistical offices. Other users will include public and private agencies and bodies responsible for the design, execution and administration of programmes, policies and projects dealing with population-related issues and national, regional and local bureaux concerned with economic and social development.

The outputs of this subprogramme will also be disseminated in universities, academic and research centres and other institutions concerned with subjects covered by this subprogramme.

Users will be reached through the distribution of publications and reports, technical cooperation activities, the organization of courses, workshops and meetings, and in-service training of national officials.

SUBPROGRAMME 8: ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Presentation

Recognition of the close interdependence between the environment and development has generated growing concern for the environmental dimension of development and made this a priority issue on international and regional agendas.

Among the main aspects of environmental and natural resource management to be addressed at the start of the new millennium will be the growing demand for resources, especially water, energy, minerals, land and biodiversity, the dominant role played by the private sector in the development of such resources and the management of service concessions based on use, the growing problems caused by pollution and land-use and the need to comply with multilateral agreements on the environment—signed and ratified under Agenda 21—and international agreements on specific issues, which will have an impact on sectoral economic activities.

In this context, the general objective of the subprogramme is to give support to Governments of the region in the design and application of strategies for improving environmental management capacity in line with their economic growth and social equity goals and, in particular, in the analysis of formulas for governance in order to harmonize realistic social, economic and environmental goals.

Since natural resources and energy will continue to play a strategic role in economic growth and industrialization in the region, it will be necessary to boost the capacity of countries to analyse and formulate policies, establish legal regulations and regulatory frameworks, and apply measures that promote sustainable development and strengthen institutional mechanisms for protecting the environment at the regional, national and local levels. Efforts should also be made to improve the capacity for development, management and conservation of natural resources and energy and related services.

Similarly, support must be provided to countries of the region in their implementation of Agenda 21 and, more specifically, international agreements on environmental issues, such as the use and conservation of biological diversity; sustainable use of land, coastal and marine ecosystems; management of the natural resources of river basins to improve freshwater quality and supply; protection of the atmosphere; measures to deal with climate change; and management of hazardous materials and wastes. The implementation of certain multilateral agreements on the environment, such as those relating to hazardous wastes, forests, biodiversity and the protection of marine resources against pollution by land-based activities, will have a significant impact on economic activities in some sectors; the scope of this impact cannot yet be fully predicted, hence the need to study the problem in greater depth.

Furthermore, high urbanization rates in most countries of Latin America and the Caribbean are causing major environmental problems with respect to urban management and the spread of human settlements. In this regard, it will be necessary to strengthen the capacity of local governments to mobilize the resources of the society with a view to expanding and modernizing urban infrastructure, addressing the shortage of housing units and establishing standards for use of land and ecological resources.

The programme of work for the biennium 2000-2001, for the execution of which the Environment and Development Division will be chiefly responsible, comprises seven subject areas: support to countries in the implementation of Agenda 21 and the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development; mining and energy resources; multiple and sustainable use of water resources; technical support in negotiating and implementing international and regional legal instruments relating to the environment and natural resources; the design of management strategies for sustainable development; economics and the environment; and human settlements and land use.

1. Activities

Subject area 8.1: Support in the implementation of Agenda 21 and the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to consider aspects of ecotourism in the context of international agreements on biodiversity and the forest subsector.

(b) Publications

(i) A study on the role of tourism in environmental protection in the context of the implementation of Agenda 21.

(ii) A study on the adoption of measures set forth in the Global Programme of Action for Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities.

(iii) A study on the role of science and technology in sustainable development policies.

(iv) A study on the legislation, regulations and institutional capacities of the countries of the region for the implementation of Agenda 21.

(v) A study on the progress achieved in applying the agreements contained in chapter 18 of Agenda 21.

(c) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, for the implementation of Agenda 21 and multilateral agreements relating to the environment.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funding.

Subject area 8.2: Mining and energy resources

(a) Substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Preparation of technical documents on the outlook for mining in the region for the Conference of Ministers of Mining of the Americas.

(b) Publications

(i) A study on investment flows and the competitiveness of mining operations in countries of the region in the context of globalized markets.

(ii) A study on standardization of the mining legislation in force in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

(iii) A study on the regulation of the energy market in selected countries of the region.

(iv) A study on energy integration in Latin America and the Caribbean in subregional areas to be determined.

(c) Intermediate activities

Support to the first Interparliamentary Conference on Mining and Energy in Latin America (CIME), the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), the European Union cooperation programme on the rational use of energy in Latin America (ALURE) and business organizations in the mining and energy sectors.

(d) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries and business organizations that request them, in connection with policy, legislation and market regulation in the mining and energy sectors.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funding.

Subject area 8.3: Multiple and sustainable use of water resources

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to study options for the integration of legal, economic and institutional principles into policies on multiple water use management.

(b) Publications

(i) A study on common law water rights and the water rights of indigenous communities in selected countries of the region.

(ii) A study on progress achieved in adopting policies relating to the multiple use of water at the river-basin level in cases to be determined.

(iii) A study on the development of systems for regulating natural monopolies in water-related public utility companies in countries of the region.

(iv) A comparative status and progress report on the administrative structure of water management systems in the countries of the region.

(c) Information material and service

(i) Newsletter of the Network for Cooperation in Integrated Water Resources Management for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (four issues during the biennium).

(ii) Newsletter on waterways and lakes shared between countries (four issues during the biennium).

(d) Operational activities(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with legislation, the organization of management entities for the multiple use of water and the regulation of water-related public utility companies.

(ii) Group training

Cooperation with government bodies, universities, and region and subregional organizations upon request to assist with training in the management of multiple uses of water, rights to water use and regulation of water-related public utility companies.

The execution of operational activities is subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 8.4: Technical support in negotiating and implementing international and regional legal instruments relating to the environment and natural resources

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) Expert meeting to consider sustainable fishing in the framework of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and related instruments.

(ii) Expert meeting to consider forms of cooperation in the implementation of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity with respect to access to genetic resources.

(b) Publications

(i) A regional study on sustainable fish stocks and conservation of ecosystems in follow-up to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.

(ii) A study on policies for promoting marine scientific research in the light of the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the guidelines for the International Year of the Ocean in selected countries of the region.

(iii) A review of the progress achieved at the level of the International Sea-Bed Authority with respect to environmental considerations in the formulation of provisions on prospecting, exploration and development of the Area, biotechnology of the seabed and the situation of land-locked producing countries.

(iv) A comparative study of legislation relating to the protection of intellectual property in the field of biotechnology in the context of the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity relating to access to and transfer of technology and access to genetic resources.

(v) A study to evaluate the mechanisms for the regional control of unlawful trafficking in hazardous material and wastes established under the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal.

(c) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with the implementation of international instruments on the environment and natural resources and with the strengthening of bargaining power in relevant forums.

The execution of operational activities and of the activity referred to under (a) (ii) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 8.5: Design of management strategies for sustainable development

(a) Publications

(i) A comparative study on the application of management procedures for promoting sustainable development at the level of territories delimited on the basis of political and administrative or geographical criteria, in countries of the region to be determined.

(ii) A study on institutional capacity at the central and local levels for the application of environmental standards in selected countries of the region.

(iii) A study on economic and social priorities and obstacles with respect to the regional implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climatic Change and its related instruments, with special emphasis on the situation of developing island States.

(b) Operational activities

(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with local management concerning initiatives to promote sustainable development in territories delimited on the basis of political and administrative or geographical criteria.

(ii) Group training

Cooperation with government entities, universities and regional and subregional organizations, upon request, in support of training activities for the management of sustainable development at the local level.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 8.6: Economics and the environment

(a) Publications

(i) A comparative study on progress achieved in the development of natural resources and the establishment of natural heritage accounts in selected countries of the region.

(ii) A study on trends relating to the application of economic instruments for environmental management.

(iii) A study on the environmental clauses in subregional, regional or hemispheric integration agreements in force or under negotiation. Special attention will be given to enhancing the complementarity of such clauses with multilateral environmental and trade agreements and to the increasing linkages to globalized markets.

(iv) A study on the environmental impact generated in selected countries of the region by the changes in production structure resulting from the new patterns of linkage to the global economy.

(b) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in connection with the negotiation and coordination of environmental policies in the framework of integration agreements, and with technical aspects of market access and the commitments made within the World Trade Organization.

(c) Intermediate activities

Technical support to regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations in connection with the incorporation of environmental issues in negotiations on integration agreements.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funding.

Subject area 8.7: Human settlements and land use planning(a) Substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Preparation of technical documents for the biennial Regional Meeting of High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector of Latin America and the Caribbean.

(b) Publications

(i) A study on the implementation of the Habitat Agenda (Habitat II) and chapter 7 of Agenda 21 in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

(ii) A comparative study on the methodology used in the region for formulating land use plans at the municipal and local levels.

(iii) A study on land use and urban rehabilitation plans in selected countries of the region.

(c) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request them, in areas relating to management of the services provided for human settlements and land use planning.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

The activities of this subprogramme will be carried out in close collaboration with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, such as the Office of Legal Affairs and Law of the Sea and Ocean Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the regional offices of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), and with the competent bodies of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), as well as with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Organization for American States (OAS). In addition, it is expected that cooperation will be established with the World Tourism Organization.

Depending on the subject areas, links with relevant bilateral cooperation systems, non-governmental organizations and universities and specialized institutes will be established and maintained. Where necessary, efforts will be made to organize joint activities with national bodies and international organizations concerned with the issues in question.

Water-related activities will be carried out in consultation with the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Subcommittee on Water Resources, of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) of the United Nations, with specialized agencies such as FAO, UNESCO, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the World Bank and with other international organizations such as OAS and IDB.

For activities relating to energy and mining, cooperation will be maintained with OLADE and the Latin American Mining Organization (OLAMI), respectively.

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be the authorities and government officials of countries of the region, especially those concerned with environmental management and sustainable development and the programming, coordination and management of the use of natural resources and energy, and also—in the case of some outputs—those concerned with human settlements, in particular the ministries of housing and urban planning, and local governments.

The outputs referred to will also be used by regional and subregional bodies, universities, academic and applied research centres and other non-governmental bodies and organizations, especially those of a technical/professional, labour or business nature concerned with the subjects in question.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, the provision of material and information, technical cooperation activities, periodic consultations and contacts and participation in intergovernmental and expert meetings.

SUBPROGRAMME 9: STRATEGIC ADMINISTRATION AND STATE REFORM

Presentation

There is growing political recognition in Latin America and the Caribbean of the convergence and complementarity of the functions of the market and of the State. Consolidating democracy and building more just societies require new types of action by the State which are compatible with the functioning of the market economy. These new types of action must not constrain or impair the dynamics of the market or of private enterprise, but must however make up for their omissions and moderate their excesses. Interventions such as those of the past are unthinkable; henceforth, they must be selective, transparent and effective, their duration and cost must be known, they must be the subject of consensus, and they must be evaluated periodically and publicized with objectivity. Observance of these principles, and the genuine needs of development in each country, will give rise to highly justified interventions which will reduce structural discrepancies, expand markets, and promote business activities which might otherwise not be viable. Regulation is taking on such importance that it may become one of the most efficient means for the State to fulfil its essential responsibilities.

Efforts to achieve equity will make it increasingly vital to identify territorial units within countries, both for the production of up-to-date diagnostic analyses and for the formulation of government strategies and programmes. This gives rise to new responsibilities and functions for the State. Improvement of its structures, modernization of its working methods, greater professionalism among public officials and the need for a strategic view constitute the frame of reference for the activities of this subprogramme.

The activities programmed for 2000-2001 include the tasks entrusted to the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning. These tasks consist of the execution of activities—mainly in the fields of training, applied research and advisory services—five subject areas, public-sector programming; development and local management; regional policies and planning; investment projects and programming; and cooperation among planning bodies of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The activities relating to public-sector programming focus on three main areas. The first, more global in nature, covers the interaction of economic reforms and strategic public management, with emphasis on the development of new institutional capacities to match the public functions arising out of the new pattern of economic intervention and, depending on viability, adjustments to political projects. The second relates to the formulation of budgetary policy and how it can best be implemented in the context of integrated financial management systems, and the development of evaluation methodologies and procedures. The third concentrates on analysis of the organizational innovation and institutional development which accompany processes of privatization, deregulation of economic activity and establishment of regulatory frameworks for sectors which are not naturally competitive.

Development and local management activities will focus on the design of methodologies to facilitate understanding of local economic development and the creation of appropriate instruments for local management. Particular attention will be given to aspects such as building information systems with geographical references to support decentralized decision-making; designing systems for municipal

budgeting; formulation of programmes for investment in productive and social areas; and analysis of specific mechanisms for strengthening local development corporations at the municipal level.

In the sphere of regional policies and planning, priority will be given to analysis of their management, and comparative studies will be carried out on processes of regional development and decentralization which have taken place in the countries of the region.

Finally, in the area of investments projects and programming, activities will focus on a methodological and operational survey of tasks relating to the identification, preparation, evaluation, follow-up and monitoring of local investment projects, and on examination of national public investment systems and their suitability in the new context created by economic reforms and the process of State modernization.

1. Activities

Subject area 9.1: Public-sector programming

(a) Publications

- (i) A study on progress made in economic reform processes in the countries of the region.
- (ii) A study on methods for evaluating the impact on long-term growth of public policies implemented in the countries of the region.
- (iii) A study on the institutional framework of macroeconomic regulation policies.
- (iv) A study on strategic design in basic infrastructure services.

(b) Information material and services

- (i) Brochures on the International Course on Economic Reforms and Strategic Public Management (one issue in each year of the biennium).
- (ii) Brochure on the International Seminar-Course on Public Management (one issue in the biennium).

c) Operational activities

(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, on matters connected with public sector programming.

(ii) Group training

- International Course on Economic Reforms and Strategic Public Management for approximately 35 middle-level and senior government officials in the economic area and participants from universities in the countries of the region (one course in each year of the biennium).

- International Seminar-Course on Public Management, for approximately 25 middle-level and senior government officials from the countries of the region.

(d) Intermediate activities

Promotion, administration and coordination of the courses, selection of participants, design of curricula, organization and preparation of teaching materials, and design of workshops and seminars.

The execution of these activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 9.2: Development and local management(a) Technical meetings

(i) A technical meeting to analyse local economic development experiences in the countries of the region, with particular emphasis on business development.

(ii) A technical meeting to analyse progress in the creation of information systems with geographical references for decentralized decision-making in the countries of the region.

(b) Publications

(i) Four methodological studies on development and local management, focusing on production growth, the generation of employment, and social projects.

(ii) A methodological study on information systems with geographical references at the local level, including the design of a software application.

(c) Materials and information services

(i) Brochures on the International Course on Development and Local Management (one issue in each year of the biennium).

(ii) Brochures on the International Course on Preparation and Evaluation of Public Safety Projects (one issue in each year of the biennium).

(d) Operational activities(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, on matters connected with economic development and local management.

(ii) Group training

- International Course on Development and Local Management (one in each year of the biennium). Consideration is being given to provision of similar courses in countries that request it.

- International Course on Preparation and Evaluation of Public Safety Projects (one in each year of the biennium). Consideration is being given to provision of similar courses in countries that request it.

(e) Intermediate activities

Promotion, administration and coordination of the courses, selection of participants, design of curricula, organization and preparation of teaching materials, and design of workshops and seminars.

The execution of these activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 9.3: Regional policies and planning(a) Technical meetings

(i) A technical meeting to examine the management of public territorial policies in Latin America and compare them with corresponding experience in Europe.

(ii) A technical meeting to analyse new approaches to regional development.

(b) Publications

(i) A study on indicators of environmental and territorial problems for the early detection of solutions.

(ii) A study on methods of analysis for evaluating economic and power structures in subnational territories.

(iii) A study on decentralization processes in the countries of the region.

(c) Information material and services

Brochures on international courses on regional policies and planning (one issue in each year of the biennium).

(d) Operational activities(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, on matters connected with the management of public territorial policies.

(ii) Group training

Two international courses on regional policies and planning, each lasting five weeks, for approximately 25 participants per course (one in each year of the biennium).

(e) Intermediate activities

(i) Promotion, administration and coordination of the courses, selection of participants, design of curricula, organization and preparation of teaching materials, and design of workshops and seminars.

(ii) Drafting and implementation of agreements for supporting universities and subnational entities, on issues relating to regional policies and planning.

(iii) Maintenance and updating of the Integrated Laboratory on the Design of Regional Strategies (LIDER) network of researchers into regional policies and planning.

The execution of these activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 9.4: Investment projects and programming(a) Technical meetings

A technical meeting to examine the functioning of national public investment systems in Latin America and the Caribbean, in the context of recent economic reforms.

(b) Publications

(i) Four manuals on the preparation and evaluation of investment projects at the local level, with particular emphasis on the complementarity of public and private investment.

(ii) A study on new modalities of management and supervision of investment projects at the local level.

(c) Information material and services

(i) Brochures on international and national courses on identification, preparation and evaluation of investment projects at the local level.

(ii) Brochure on the International Course on Distance Learning (one issue in each year of the biennium).

(d) Operational activities(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the region that request them, on matters connected with national public investment systems and integrated management of investment projects.

(ii) Group training

Two international courses on the identification, preparation and evaluation of investment projects at the local level (one in each year of the biennium). In addition, two similar national courses are planned, for countries that request them.

Based on the pilot distance-learning activity, it is hoped to consolidate this model by means of an annual regional course, oriented towards investment projects at the local level.

(e) Intermediate activities

Promotion, administration and coordination of the courses, selection of participants, design of curricula, organization and preparation of teaching materials, and design of workshops and seminars.

The execution of these activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 9.5: Cooperation among planning bodies in Latin America and the Caribbean

(a) Intergovernmental meetings

Organization and substantive and technical servicing of meetings of national planning bodies: twenty-first and twenty-second meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning.

(b) Publications

Four issues of the Boletín del Instituto (two in each year of the biennium).

The execution of these activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

The activities of this subprogramme will be carried out in close collaboration with the national planning bodies of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as with universities and research centres, private-sector bodies and non-governmental organizations concerned with public policy planning and coordination.

Depending on the subject area and the nature of the activities concerned, specific relations will also be maintained with various other bodies, including the International Institute for Public Administration (IIP) of the Government of France, the General Secretariat for Planning and the Budget of the Government of Spain, the Inter-American Public Budget Association (ASIP), universities in the region, development corporations and associations of local authorities.

3. Users and anticipated users of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be government authorities and officials of the countries of the region, especially those concerned with the planning and coordination of economic and social policies at the national, regional, state and local levels, as well as those carrying out planning, programming and management activities in other public bodies and enterprises.

The outputs in question will also be used by various institutions of civil society, such as political groups and parties, business, labour and professional organizations, and universities and other academic and research institutions.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, provision of information material and services, technical cooperation activities, periodic consultations and contacts, and participation in intergovernmental and expert meetings.

SUBPROGRAMME 10: STATISTICS AND ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS

Presentation

The economic, social and institutional reforms carried out by Governments in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the gradual fashioning of new models of development, have led to a huge demand for information and prospective studies, in both the public and private sectors.

This subprogramme, which is the responsibility of the Statistics and Economic Projections Division, envisages the execution during the biennium 2000-2001 of a range of activities whose basic objectives are fourfold. The first of these objectives is to strengthen the capability of ECLAC and the Governments of the region to produce the statistics and projections required for the formulation and monitoring of new policies within the framework of the institutional reforms that are under way. The Governments are concentrating on the national sphere and ECLAC on comparable regional information.

The second objective is to continue promoting the introduction in the region of new technologies, especially with a view to disseminating large volumes of information to the public and private sectors. Efforts are also being made to exploit new methods to provide users with access to the information contained in ECLAC databases and to quantitative analyses prepared using that information.

The third objective of this subprogramme is to design, adapt and incorporate, in close collaboration with national organizations, systems of economic, social and environmental statistics which are able to satisfy the new demands for information observed in the region. The revised edition of the System of National Accounts (SNA) and statistics on employment, income distribution, poverty, vulnerable groups and the environment are of great value for this purpose.

The fourth objective is to increase the region's ability to identify the most significant economic and social trends and challenges taking shape against the backdrop of new development processes, in order to make it easier to understand and monitor them. The main projections about the world economy made at the global level will also be summarized, with emphasis on the most relevant aspects for the region.

The activities undertaken to achieve these objectives will centre on five subject areas: statistical data banks and the dissemination of regional statistics and indicators; national accounts and economic development; technical cooperation with member States and regional statistical bodies; evaluation and prospective analysis of the development process in the countries of the region; and statistics and quantitative analysis of social trends in Latin America and the Caribbean.

With regard to the regional statistical information framework, existing databases will be maintained, updated and expanded, and special attention given to demands deriving from the economic and social transformation which the region is undergoing. Access will be made easier for users, in the light of the numerous new actors, both public and private, are becoming involved in development. The systems used to gather, process and disseminate information will be improved in order to take advantage of rapid technological progress in this area.

In the area of economic information, the aim is to promote the development of statistical systems that can capture the main features of growth models taking hold in the region. The new version of SNA provides for the systematic incorporation of information on the functioning of the world economy and the economies of the regions. The statistical divisions of the regional commissions serve as the focal points for activities aimed at introducing SNA. The same is true with regard to the new classifications of expenditures and products and activities adopted by the United Nations. For its part, the Statistics and Economic Projections Division, in close collaboration with statistical institutes in the region, will work on the transfer of new technologies and methodologies that are being adopted worldwide. Technical cooperation activities will be coordinated with international organizations, while cooperation between countries of the region and other areas of the developing world will be encouraged.

The medium- and long-term prospects for economic and social development will be examined, in order to identify the areas that pose the greatest challenges. Accordingly, studies on globalization and production patterns will be undertaken to examine issues relating to the integration of the countries of the region into the world economy, and their links with different growth models. It will also be necessary to pay particular attention to those aspects of the world economy that have the potential to influence the region's economic and social development, such as the changes seen in the area of financial intermediation. This examination of the main socio-economic trends prevailing in and outside the region will seek to make policy design and evaluation easier and will address structural issues and the social impact of economic growth. Summaries will be prepared of the key projections made at the global level, so as to facilitate their use in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Economic, demographic and political changes and institutional reforms are all leading to a profound transformation in the social and environmental arenas. With this in mind methodologies for creating data banks on topics such as employment conditions, income distribution, poverty, the situation of vulnerable groups and environmental variables will be adapted and developed. The subprogramme is also expected to be actively involved in the introduction of new statistical tools and the development of methodologies for the use, analysis and dissemination of information on social indicators.

In this last area, owing to the scarcity of resources, ECLAC will essentially organize technology transfer activities requested by directors of national statistical institutes, basing its actions on the work of statistical offices in the region and the international organizations which have made the most progress in this field.

1. Activities

Subject area 10.1: Statistical data banks on Latin America and the Caribbean, and dissemination of regional statistics and indicators

(a) Recurrent publications

(i) Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean (two issues during the biennium, and equivalent or complementary electronic versions).

(ii) Statistical summary and estimates for the Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean (two issues during the biennium).

(iii) "Principal short-term indicators" (eight quarterly issues during the biennium).

(b) Technical material

Maintenance, updating and expansion of existing databases and creation of databases on new topics. Design, development and maintenance of systems for accessing such databases that provide for easier, more flexible use of the information they contain. Upgrading of mechanisms for connecting to the internal computer networks of ECLAC and the economic and social information system of the United Nations. Establishment of regional networks with national statistical offices and central banks in order to expedite data collection and exchange.

(c) Intermediate activities

(i) Preparation of statistical information for the Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean.

(ii) Statistical support for interdivisional activities and ECLAC projects.

Subject area 10.2: National accounts and economic development

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to evaluate the introduction of the new System of National Accounts and the new questionnaire on the United Nations System of National Accounts, and to design regional cooperation programmes on the subject.

(b) Recurrent publications

Cuadernos estadísticos de la CEPAL. Two issues during the biennium (one on external-sector statistics and the other on regional national-accounts series).

(c) Other publications

(i) Two reports on the implementation in the countries of the new United Nations System of National Accounts.

(ii) Two studies, one on sectoral output indices and the other on domestic price indices.

(iii) A report on external-sector statistics.

(iv) A report on statistics concerning the international trade in services.

(d) Intermediate activities

(i) Transmission to the countries of the region of the achievements of the main international technical groups working in the area of economic statistics under the direction of the United Nations Statistical Commission that concern their policies on the generation and dissemination of information.

Special emphasis will be placed on areas where the economic transformation under way is giving rise to demands which are not being met.

(ii) Participation in the preparation of technical manuals on the new System of National Accounts and collaboration with the countries in selecting the most useful material for their purposes. Collaboration in the preparation and distribution of the Spanish version of "SNA news and notes".

Subject area 10.3: Technical cooperation with member States and regional statistical bodies

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Meeting of Directors of Statistics of the Americas, in the year 2000. This activity includes the preparation of technical cooperation programmes in a variety of areas and of relevant documents.

(b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to consider the regional system for short-term economic data and expansion of the subject areas covered.

(c) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to member States and statistical bodies that request them, in connection with the organization of statistics, economic statistics and national accounts, techniques for the electronic dissemination of statistical data, and the design of projection models and methodologies for use in the formulation and implementation of development policies and strategies.

(d) Intermediate activities

Coordination of a joint programme of work with the countries. The statistical offices of the countries of the region have set up a regional cooperation programme in the area of environmental statistics. ECLAC, in conjunction with the Government of Mexico, co-sponsors and administers activities in this area, which basically consist in the transmission of successful experiences and new methodologies from developed countries or countries in the region to other countries that need them. It is planned to undertake studies and organize workshops in this area during the biennium.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 10.4: Evaluation and prospective analysis of the development process in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to examine methodological and substantive aspects of prospective studies and economic projections.

(b) Publications

(i) Two studies offering a medium- and long-term assessment of the main trends in terms of production and social progress in selected countries of Latin America.

(ii) Two studies on the structural effects of globalization and macroeconomic and institutional reforms in areas such as capital accumulation, the fiscal budget, external financial trade and equilibria and relative prices.

(iii) Two studies on medium- and long-term global and sectoral macroeconomic projections.

(iv) Two summaries of the main prospective studies of the world economy in priority areas for the region, focusing on aspects of globalization relating to production patterns and financial intermediation.

(v) Four publications on structural aspects of the current situation of the Latin American countries and on the outlook for the world economy and that of Latin America. These publications will have wide circulation.

Subject area 10.5: Statistics and quantitative analysis of social trends in Latin America and the Caribbean

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) Meetings of experts on statistics and social indicators to examine technical and methodological aspects of conducting household surveys and the incorporation of such surveys in a social information system, the use of information collected from a variety of sources for the analysis of poverty and social equity, and the formulation of social policies (four meetings are expected to be held in the biennium).

(ii) Meetings of experts to examine methods and procedures that enable countries to incorporate the calculation of internationally comparable indicators in the environmental area (two meetings are expected to be held in the biennium).

(b) Recurrent publications

Preparation of the annual editions of the Social Panorama of Latin America, in conjunction with the Statistics and Economic Projections Division and the Social Development Division.

(c) Other publications

Four reports on income distribution, poverty, employment and other social indicators.

(d) Technical material

Maintenance and updating of existing databases and creation of databases on new topics in the social sector.

(e) Operational activities(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to member States and regional bodies upon request, in the following areas:

- Household surveys; statistics and social indicators; and quantification, description and analysis of situations of poverty.

- Organization of workshops and seminars on the implementation of recommendations made by the Statistical Commission of the United Nations in such areas as the generation of information on social variables, methodologies for the analysis of situations of poverty and specialized statistical techniques, including computational aspects.

(ii) Group training

Training in the estimation and use of social indicators relating to income distribution, poverty and employment for various social groups.

(f) Intermediate activities

Statistical support for the execution of ECLAC studies and projects.

The execution of operational activities and in part the activities referred to under (a) (i) and (ii) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities under this subprogramme will be carried out in coordination and close cooperation with the Statistics Division of the United Nations, the regional commissions of the United Nations and the secretariats of regional integration agencies. Cooperation and liaison will also be maintained with the statistical offices of member States. Activities relating to economic statistics, national accounts and economic development indicators will be coordinated with those carried out by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Bank, the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and the Statistical Office of the European Union (EUROSTAT).

Technical cooperation and training activities in the field of statistics will be carried out in close collaboration with the Statistics Division of the United Nations (especially the National Accounts Section), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the IDB/World Bank/ECLAC programme for the improvement of surveys on living conditions in Latin America and the Caribbean, regional offices of United

Nations specialized agencies and the European Training Centre for Economic Statisticians of Developing Countries (CESD-Madrid). Some of these activities will be carried out in collaboration with UNCTAD, the Centre for Latin American Monetary Studies (CEMLA), and the Organization of American States (OAS).

Activities in the field of economic projections will be conducted in close collaboration with the Development Policy Analysis Division of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the United Nations and the Project Link Research Centre. Regular contact will also be maintained with other centres specialized and bodies of the United Nations system and with government institutions of the countries of the region.

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be government agencies of member States, particularly national statistical offices, central banks and ministries concerned with economic affairs. Other users will be business associations, labour organizations and technical and professional institutions connected with production sectors, universities, research centres, regional and subregional integration bodies, and other public and private entities which require comparable information on the countries of the region, including experts working with UNDP and other United Nations bodies responsible for drafting reports and implementing technical cooperation projects.

The principal users of the economic projections will be public and private agents responsible for designing policies that take into account the outlook for the countries of the region.

It is anticipated that users will have direct access via computer to on-line data banks, and to studies or abstracts thereof prepared under this subprogramme. Users will also be reached through consultations and periodic contacts, and participation in intergovernmental and expert meetings.

SUBPROGRAMME 11: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA

Presentation

During the current decade, the countries of the subregion have been driving through structural economic reforms, modernization programmes and agreements on trade and integration, in order to adapt their economies and societies to a changing international environment characterized by openness and the globalization of production, trade and financial flows.

By the start of the new millennium, the economic and social reforms already under way will have been consolidated, and the processes of modernization, deregulation, openness and complementarity in trade and production will have taken root in the subregion.

Of particular note is the new model of public policy which is gradually taking shape as a result of fiscal reforms, overhaul of the financial system, privatizations and greater efficiency in social policy implementation.

In the social sphere, the countries of the subregion, which are mostly poor, will continue to face an enormous backlog of social problems in the next millennium. Consequently, one of the priorities in the social and economic spheres will be to tackle the exclusion of vast sectors of the population.

Globalization opens up prospects for progress in sectors noted for high rates of growth and job creation; however, large numbers of people are untouched by this development. Exclusion tends to hit traditionally vulnerable groups hardest, as they find their access to the benefits of modernity even more restricted. The groups in question include women, ethnic minorities, the disabled, the elderly and young people, all of whom will require special attention.

Since the start of the 1990s, major reforms have been undertaken in the field of foreign trade and integration, all the countries have embarked on trade liberalization, and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and a number of other trade agreements have come into force.

In the agricultural sector —and in the rural community in general— the reforms have not always had satisfactory effects. Economic liberalization coupled with the pressure to boost the competitiveness of production had a positive impact for many producers who introduced technological innovations. Others, including some farmers who produce for the local market, suffered a decline in their situation and in their living standards. For them, development, employment and technical assistance policies continue to be vital.

The 10 countries served by the subregional headquarters find themselves, at the close of the twenty-first century, at different stages of industrial and technological development; they also differ in terms of their degree of linkage with the global economy and their production profiles in terms of their degree of specialization.

In Mexico's case, trade integration with the United States and Canada offers opportunities and raises specific problems. The challenge posed as the twenty-first century approaches consists in developing

a competitive industrial structure, with advanced technology and ample penetration of international markets. The risk resides in marginalizing groups of firms and sectors of the population which are not in a position to participate in the drive for modernization.

Located at the other extreme is Haiti, whose linkages with the global economy are based on commodity exports and on taking advantage of the opportunities the global marketplace provides for use of low-skilled labour. The challenge in this case consists in developing an entrepreneurial class capable of engaging in higher value added productive activities and in establishing a more solid institutional infrastructure.

Cuba faces a huge challenge in gradually moving towards a market economy and private ownership of the means of production without forfeiting its achievements in the social sector; Cuba should be able to meet this challenge thanks to its human resource and technological base.

With respect to Central America and the Dominican Republic, installed industrial capacity differs from one country to the next in terms of international competitiveness and technological development. The likelihood of the creation of a free trade area in the Americas makes it essential for these countries to raise their international competitiveness and boost the technological capacity of their production facilities.

Reform of the electricity and oil industries in the countries of the subregion is currently at the initial stage. In the first years of the next century, the reform process is expected to be consolidated, with freer markets, better regulation and greater participation by the private sector in generation and distribution activities.

The basic objectives of this subprogramme, which is the responsibility of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for Mexico and Central America, are to analyse economic, social and production trends in the countries of the subregion, in order to provide Governments and private agents with useful instruments for decision-making and policy formulation. In addition, the subregional headquarters has set itself the task of assisting authorities in the formulation of sectoral policies and economic programmes, particularly in the fields of industry, energy, trade and agriculture, and also of helping stimulate the debate on policies for growth and social development.

The programme of work for the biennium 2000-2001 comprises six subject areas. In the area of public policies, investment and economic growth, the subprogramme will continue to examine trends in economic performance in the 10 countries, with special emphasis on the implementation of structural reform policies. Other topics examined will include the design and application of public policies, and investment flows, especially foreign flows linked to trade and integration agreements.

Activities in the area of labour markets, gender and equity will focus on marginalization, housing, basic services and women's participation in rural development. Work will continue on formulating basic social indicators.

In the area of international trade and integration, the interrelationship between trade in goods and that in services will be studied and analyses of sectoral competitiveness conducted. Trends in Central American integration will continue to be examined and attention will be paid to the effects of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) on the Central American countries.

In the area of agricultural and modernization policies, the priority will be on the transformation of rural institutions, the link between agricultural policies and trade, and the relationship between production activities and sustainability.

In the area of industrial competitiveness and technical progress, studies will be undertaken of industrial competitiveness policies and entrepreneurial development in less developed countries or areas. Analysis of the economic situation facing the manufacturing sector will continue.

Lastly, in the subject area of energy integration, the reform of the oil and electricity industries in Mexico and Central America will be studied.

1. Activities

Subject area 11.1: Public policies, investment and economic growth

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) Meeting of experts to examine the changes in public policies in the countries of the subregion.

(ii) Meeting of experts to examine trends in, and the determining factors of, foreign investment flows in the subregion.

(iii) Meeting of experts to examine the challenges posed by trends in the spatial development of the subregion and the problems which arise in the area of intraregional cooperation.

(b) Publications

(i) Reports on economic trends in the countries of the subregion in the period 1999-2000 (10 documents).

(ii) Reports on economic trends in the countries of the subregion in the period 2000-2001 (10 documents).

(iii) A study on the experience of selected countries in the subregion in streamlining public management and in the design and implementation of public policies.

(iv) A study on inflows of foreign direct investment and portfolio investment in the subregion, and their contribution to economic growth.

(v) A study on qualitative changes and prospects for economic growth and employment, based on a comparison of the factors determining investment at the beginning and end of the decade.

(c) Technical material

(i) Contribution to the Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2000 and 2001 editions: Notes on the economies of the countries of the subregion.

(ii) Update and expansion of the database of economic and social statistics, and preparation of current economic and development indicators.

(d) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to the countries of the subregion that request it, in connection with the design and evaluation of public policies and development programmes, policies to promote foreign investment and economic policies relating to spatial development at the national and intraregional levels.

(e) Intermediate activities

Substantive support for intergovernmental meetings held in the subregion.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 11.2: Labour markets, gender and equity

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to examine issues relating to the marginalization and social integration of vulnerable groups.

(b) Publications

(i) A study on marginalization and social integration, with emphasis on the identification and analysis of aspects of relevance to the formulation of an anti-poverty strategy, in countries of the subregion to be determined.

(ii) A study on the situation in respect of housing and basic services, in countries of the subregion to be determined.

(iii) A study on women's participation in rural development and activities required to strengthen their capabilities in that area, in countries of the subregion to be determined.

(iv) A study on the social impact caused by the relocation of economic activities as a result of globalization and the measures necessary to overcome new problems arising in the social sphere, in areas and countries to be determined.

(c) Technical material

Preparation of basic social indicators for countries served by the subregional headquarters.

(d) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries of the subregion that request them, in connection with social development and equity.

The execution of operational activities and of the activities referred to under (b) (iii) and (iv) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 11.3: International trade and integration(a) Organization and substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Meeting of the Central American Economic Cooperation Committee (CCE), to examine the interrelationship between Central American integration and other integration processes in the hemisphere.

(b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) Meeting of experts to examine the relationship between trade in goods and that in services, and to identify ways of expanding the international trade linkages of the countries and the subregion as a whole.

(ii) Meeting of experts to examine the determinants of competitiveness in specific sectors and among countries, and to identify in the subregion spheres in which advantage can be taken of the opportunities offered by globalization and any possible negative effects can be counteracted.

(c) Publications

(i) Two reports, one per year, on trends in national trade policies and the integration of the Central American subregion. The first report will focus on the interrelationship between investment and trade; the second will be devoted to regional cooperation, especially with respect to trade facilitation and the adoption of regional norms and standards.

(ii) A study on the intersectoral relationship between trade in goods and that in services, with emphasis on their contribution to improving international trade linkages, in countries to be determined.

(iii) A case study analysing the determinants of competitiveness in specific sectors and among countries, in order to identify spheres in which advantage can be taken of the opportunities offered by globalization and any possible negative effects can be counteracted.

(d) Technical material

Update and expansion of the statistical database and documents on trade, economic integration and cooperation between the countries of the subregion.

(e) Operational activities(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request it, in connection with international trade, economic integration and regional cooperation.

(ii) Group training

A course on linkages with the global economy, integration and economic cooperation, to be organized jointly with regional and national institutions.

(f) Intermediate activities

Technical support for intergovernmental meetings on international trade, economic integration and regional cooperation held in the region.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

The activities referred to under (e) (i) and (f) will be executed in coordination with the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean.

Subject area 11.4: Agricultural and modernization policies(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) Meeting of experts to examine issues relating to agricultural policies and trade within the regulatory framework established by the World Trade Organization.

(b) Publications

(i) A study on the rural institutional framework and equity, in countries and areas within countries to be determined.

(ii) A study on agricultural policies and trade within the regulatory framework established by the World Trade Organization between developed countries and countries of the subregion yet to be determined.

(iii) A study on the system of land tenure and the peasantry, in countries of the subregion to be determined.

(iv) A study on productive activities, use of natural resources and sustainability in selected countries of the subregion.

(c) Technical material

(i) Collection, update, ordering and dissemination of information on the agricultural sector in the countries of the subregion.

(ii) Processing of information and preparation of analyses and documents for the study referred to under subject area 11.2, subparagraph (b) (iii) on women's participation in rural development and the activities required to strengthen their capabilities in that area.

(d) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the subregion that request it, in connection with rural development and agricultural policies.

The execution of operational activities and of the activities referred to under (b)(iv) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 11.5: Industrial competitiveness and technical progress(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meeting of experts to examine the problems which the establishment of a free trade area in the hemisphere raises in respect of policies for industrial competitiveness.

(b) Publications

(i) A study on policies for industrial competitiveness in the countries of the subregion and their relationship to the negotiation or hemispheric trade integration.

(ii) A study on entrepreneurial development in countries or areas within countries marked by lower levels of entrepreneurship.

(iii) Two reports, one per year, on trends in the manufacturing sector in the countries of the subregion.

(c) Technical material

(i) Update of databases on the manufacturing industry in the countries of the subregion.

(ii) Update, refinement and dissemination of instruments for the analysis of industrial competitiveness.

(d) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services in connection with industrial competitiveness and entrepreneurial development.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 11.6: Energy integration(a) Substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Provision of substantive services to the Central American Regional Energy Forum (FREAC), the Central American Electrification Council (CEAC) and the Central American Committee for Cooperation on Hydrocarbons (CCHAC), especially at regular and special annual meetings called by the respective secretariats. Services include the carrying out of special studies requested by the secretariats for consideration at these meetings.

(b) Publications

(i) A study on the progress made on reform of the oil industry, including the environmental consequences for Central America and the Dominican Republic.

(ii) A study on reform of the electricity industry in Mexico, Central America and the Dominican Republic.

(iii) A report on the progress made with regard to the integration of electricity systems in Central America.

(iv) A study on the regulatory framework governing energy-related utilities in Mexico, Central America and the Dominican Republic.

(c) Technical material

Update of the energy database on Central America.

(d) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to countries that request it, in connection with energy integration and management.

(ii) Group training

Cooperation with governmental and intergovernmental bodies and regional and subregional organizations that request it, in order to promote training activities in the area of the economic management of the energy and oil sectors, and that of the regulation of energy-related utilities.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

The activities under this subprogramme will mainly be carried out in coordination with ECLAC headquarters, and other United Nations bodies and international, regional and subregional organizations such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Trade Organization, the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) and the Secretariat of the Central American Monetary Council (CONMONECA). Efforts will also be made to strengthen relations with private sector associations and non-governmental organizations.

Depending on the subject area and nature of the activities in question, consultations will also be held on an ad hoc basis. In the execution of activities relating to international trade and economic integration, in addition to coordination with UNCTAD, WTO, IDB, SIECA and CABEI, regular consultations will also be held with subregional and national private-sector entities, particularly the Federation of Central American and Panamanian Private Entities (FEDEPRICAP) and federations of chambers of commerce and industry in Central America and the Caribbean.

In the execution of activities relating to labour markets, gender and equity, close contact will be maintained with ILO and with labour ministries of the countries of the subregion.

In the execution of activities relating to industrial competitiveness and agricultural modernization, on-going contact will be maintained with the pertinent government bodies and with international, regional and subregional organizations, such as the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the Central American Agricultural Council, SIECA and the Central American Institute for Industrial Research and Technology (ICAITI). Efforts will also be made to promote ties with producers' associations, research centres and other non-governmental bodies, especially the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry Associations of Central America (FECAICA) and FEDEPRICAP.

In the area of energy integration, collaboration will be maintained with the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), the Central American Electrification Council, FREAC, CCHAC, CABEI and IDB.

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be government authorities and officials and public-sector entities concerned with economic and social matters and the formulation and execution of policies, programmes and projects in the areas indicated above and international, regional and subregional organizations involved in integration and cooperation. It is expected that the outputs may serve as guidelines for these users in the formulation of proposals in their respective areas of competence.

Other important users will be various of public- and private-sector institutions, such as business, labour and professional associations, and universities and other academic institutions involved in applied research and the development and diffusion of technology.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, the supply of information material and services, technical cooperation activities, regular consultations and contacts, and participation in intergovernmental meetings and symposia of experts.

SUBPROGRAMME 12: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

Presentation

By the year 2000 the countries of the Caribbean expect to have completed their economic stabilization and adjustment processes and to have consolidated the first generation of institutional reforms. The globalization process will have posed major challenges for the Caribbean economies, especially in terms of the formation of closer commercial and financial ties with new markets, regions and trading blocs and, within a broader context, in relation to the search for new modalities of international cooperation.

It is expected that the Caribbean countries will continue to be highly vulnerable to the impact of economic and political events at the international and regional levels which will influence various aspects of their social development, including employment, the status of women, health and education.

Against this backdrop, the overall objectives of this subprogramme are to carry out a multidisciplinary analysis of the fundamental factors influencing the development of the Caribbean countries and to provide assistance to Governments in the subregion in connection with the formulation of relevant policies and the adoption of decisions aimed at solving the main problems thus identified. The execution of this subprogramme is the responsibility of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, which also serves as the secretariat for the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC).

The work to be conducted under this subprogramme in 2000-2001 covers six subject areas and calls for the implementation of activities relating to the international linkages and economic development of the Caribbean; integration and regional cooperation; the application of science and technology to development; information management; human and social development; and sustainable development in the Caribbean.

The activities to be undertaken in the area of international linkages and development will address the problems which the countries of the subregion are likely to encounter as a consequence of economic events at the international and hemispheric levels, including the formation of economic blocs, progress towards the creation of a free trade area of the Americas (FTAA) and the evolving relationship between the States and territories of the Caribbean and the Association of Caribbean States (ACS). The countries of the subregion remain heavily exposed and highly vulnerable to external events; the changes occurring in the world economy will affect the subregion's production activities, trade, finance, economy and social development, and it is therefore important to continue analysing their effects, in conjunction with the related topic of the competitiveness of the Caribbean economies.

These economies' behaviour and tendencies will also continue to be studied in an effort to furnish relevant and timely information on their macroeconomic and sectoral performance. The work done in these areas will also constitute a suitable point of departure for research into how the countries' policy objectives and economic results relate to one another and, on this basis, for an effort to facilitate an understanding of other subjects as well.

Another question that needs to be explored is how the Caribbean countries' interest in founding subregional organizations can be harmonized with the trend towards the establishment of broader hemispheric associations. The activities planned in this field include the preparation of studies to support the steps towards greater integration being taken by the countries belonging to the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the further development and expansion of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the consolidation of ACS and a more active role for the non-independent Caribbean countries, as well as initiatives relating to the negotiations aimed at starting up the FTAA by the year 2005. An analysis of the issues entailed by the integration process and the nature of the relevant policy reforms may help to resolve the problems inherent in this process and to further the Caribbean's integration with the rest of the hemisphere and the world economy as a whole. By the same token, a review of events in other regions, including the negotiations being undertaken to expand the European Union and achieve monetary union, especially in terms of their implications for the Caribbean, will serve as a useful input for policy-makers focusing on such issues in the member countries.

The ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean also plans to continue contributing to the development of the subregion's scientific and technological capabilities and to a fuller understanding of the role that technology can play in promoting a sustainable form of development in the countries. The activities to be conducted in this area will be complemented by the work of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST).

Information management and use are key elements in the future development of the Caribbean economies. Support will continue to be provided in this field with a view to strengthening the countries' mechanisms and procedures for collecting and processing information on their development processes; an effort will also be made to promote the rationalization of the data collection activities of government agencies in order to maximize their coordination.

In executing the activities that have been planned in the field of population and development, the status of women and social development, a special area of concern will be the need for follow-up to the action programmes adopted at world conferences dealing with these topics. In the field of social development, particular attention will be devoted to the availability of basic data, information and analyses regarding the Caribbean societies' most pressing social problems. Studies will also be undertaken with a view to encouraging the countries of the subregion to place greater importance on social development and poverty reduction in the design and implementation of their policies and programmes.

With regard to the status of women, the activities being conducted in connection with the implementation of the Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women will be carried forward and steps will be taken to promote gender mainstreaming; more specifically, databases will be created that will be disaggregated by sex in order to facilitate social and economic planning and policy-making as a means of helping the subregion to achieve its established objectives in terms of gender equity.

Support will also continue to be provided to the Governments in acting upon the recommendations contained in the programme of action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development and in executing new technical assistance programmes in connection with the 2000-2001 census round and the analysis of its results. Steps will also be taken to upgrade the Governments' and non-governmental organizations' capabilities as regards the incorporation of

population-related issues in national social programmes, especially with respect to the eradication of poverty.

The activities relating to sustainable development will focus on an analysis of the problems faced in this area by small island developing States and the impact of development policies on land use and tenure. In the first of these subject areas, studies are to be prepared on the execution of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States; in the second, research will be undertaken on policies and decisions that influence land use, management and tenure and that, in the long run, could jeopardize policy-makers' ability to formulate sustainable development strategies.

1. Activities

Subject area 12.1: International linkages and economic development of the Caribbean

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

A meeting of experts to analyse economic management and planning issues in the subregion within the context of regional economic events, to include trade and financial aspects.

(b) Publications

(i) Reports on economic trends in the countries of the subregion (one per year covering events in 1999 and 2000, respectively).

(ii) A document on world trade and financial issues and their implications for the Caribbean countries.

(iii) A study on trade and investment ties between the Caribbean and the rest of the world.

Two reports on statistical indicators for the Caribbean countries (one per year).

(c) Technical materials

Input for the subsection on the Caribbean of the 2000 and 2001 editions of the Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean.

(d) Information materials and services

Publication of a quarterly bulletin on the external sector entitled "The external briefing notes".

(e) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to requesting member countries in areas relating to world economic trends and their regional and national policy implications, and to economic events in the Caribbean and their macroeconomic policy impacts.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 12.2: Integration and regional cooperation(a) Organization and substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

A session of CDCC, including the preparation of reports and the relevant substantive documentation, and a meeting of the CDCC Monitoring Committee.

(b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

A meeting of experts to analyse issues relating to cooperation for development of relevance to CDCC member countries.

(c) Publications

(i) A study evaluating the existing degree of policy convergence, especially with regard to trade and payments agreements entered into by the various integration groups.

(ii) A document on selected trade issues being addressed in the negotiations concerning the creation of the FTAA.

(iii) A study on trade among CDCC member countries and between them and the other countries of the western hemisphere.

(iv) A report on the foreign trade statistics of the Caribbean countries, to include an analysis of trade and investment flows between the Caribbean and Latin America.

(d) Information materials and services

(i) Publication of a quarterly bulletin entitled “Focus” covering CDCC activities (English only).

(ii) Publication of a quarterly bulletin entitled “The associate” dealing with issues of interest to non-independent Caribbean countries (English only).

(e) Operational activitiesAdvisory services

Provision of technical assistance in connection with events within the sphere of integration and regional cooperation to ACS, CARICOM, OECS and the FTAA working groups at the request of member countries.

(f) Intermediate activities

Preparation of studies on specific topics with a view to strengthening ties among the CDCC member countries.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 12.3: Application of science and technology to Caribbean development(a) Substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Two plenary sessions of CCST and four meetings of its Executive Committee.

(b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

A meeting of experts to analyse selected technological development issues as a means of contributing to the development of competitiveness and the formation of international linkages by the Caribbean subregion.

(c) Publications

(i) A study on the relationship between competitiveness and technological development in Caribbean countries.

(ii) An assessment of the application of science and technology to the development of the community of Caribbean countries, to include priority-setting.

(iii) A study on legal and regulatory systems for the protection of intellectual property and their implications for the application of science and technology to the development of the Caribbean countries.

(iv) A study on problems relating to technology transfer mechanisms in the Caribbean countries.

(v) A study evaluating energy pricing policies and policies to promote the use of renewable sources of energy in the Caribbean countries.

(d) Information materials and services

Publication of the quarterly “CCST newsletter” (English only).

(e) Operational activities(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical assistance in connection with the development of production and technology, with special emphasis on competitiveness, to public agencies and non-governmental organizations, upon request.

(ii) Group training

- Facilitation of training for scientists and technical personnel in project design and execution.

- Seminar on the preparation of materials for the diffusion of science and technology.

- Seminar for historians and scientists specializing in the social and natural sciences on the compilation and dissemination of information regarding the history of science and technology.

A project designed to enhance the use of technological innovations in the Caribbean countries is expected to be executed during the biennium.

The execution of operational activities and of the activity described in section (c), subparagraph (v) will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 12.4: Information management for development(a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

A meeting of experts to evaluate the Caribbean countries’ compliance with the Special Data Dissemination Standard and to examine various aspects of the dissemination of information on new information management technologies.

(b) Publications

(i) A report on methods of data compilation and dissemination, with special reference to statistical information, in the Caribbean countries.

(ii) A document on selected aspects of the relationship between information and governance.

(iii) A report on the Caribbean countries’ compliance with the Special Data Dissemination Standard.

(iv) A study evaluating how information and communications technologies influence the management of selected public institutions.

(v) A study on the application of the latest revision of the System of National Accounts in the Caribbean countries.

(c) Technical materials

(i) Updating of the database of trade statistics.

(ii) Preparation of bibliographic abstracts of major statistical publications.

(iii) Updating and maintenance of the bibliographic database of the Caribbean Information System for Economic and Social Planning (CARISPLAN) and facilitation of on-line access to users.

(d) Information materials and services

(i) Publication of a quarterly bulletin entitled "Current awareness bulletin".

(ii) Publication of a monthly bulletin entitled "Current contents".

(e) Operational activities

(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical assistance to requesting countries in the field of information management and in connection with the creation of statistical databases, including the design of data compilation systems and governmental information mechanisms.

(ii) Group training

Support for the organization of training courses on the use of new information technologies, upon request by users of the Caribbean Documentation Centre.

A project to develop and maintain a database containing the full text of selected documents concerning policies of the Caribbean countries and to provide on-line access to users is expected to be executed during the biennium.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 12.5: Human and social development in the Caribbean

(a) Substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

(i) A meeting at the ministerial level to analyse the integration of women into the Caribbean development process in preparation for the forthcoming Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(ii) An intergovernmental meeting to evaluate the progress made in implementing national plans of action for the elimination of poverty, to be held as part of the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development.

(b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) A meeting of experts to examine the problems affecting social development programmes in the countries of the subregion.

(ii) A meeting of experts to consider issues relating to the information and machinery required in order to create a subregional database on gender equity.

(iii) A meeting of experts to analyse questions relating to the application of the programme of action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development.

(c) Publications

(i) Annual publication of the Social Panorama of the Caribbean.

(ii) A document on the application of the programme of action adopted at the World Summit for Social Development and its follow-up in the Caribbean countries.

(iii) A study on aspects of social development relevant to the Caribbean.

(iv) A study on data quality in relation to information disaggregated by sex, the use of such information in gender planning and the results achieved in the Caribbean subregion.

(v) A study on the status of women in the countries of the subregion at the end of the decade.

(vi) A study on the steps taken by the Governments of the subregion to promote gender mainstreaming.

(vii) A study on the linkages existing among sustainable development, poverty and demographic factors.

(viii) A study on demographic trends, to include an overview of population and development indicators used by the Caribbean countries.

(ix) A document on the use of sociodemographic information in the design of policies and programmes, to include a compendium of social and demographic statistics on the Caribbean.

(d) Technical materials

(i) Updating and expansion of the database on social development.

(ii) Updating and expansion of the database on women and development in the Caribbean, to include information on gender equity.

(iii) Maintenance, updating and expansion of the subregion's sociodemographic database.

(e) Information materials and services

Publication of a quarterly bulletin entitled "Caribbean action on population and development".

(f) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical assistance to requesting member countries and national and subregional agencies and institutions in connection with the evaluation and analysis of census data, the design and implementation of population policies, gender mainstreaming, and the promotion of social development and social planning.

(g) Intermediate activities

Facilitating the formation of a network of researchers in countries of the subregion to follow up on research in progress and compile data on priority social issues, and the development of new social indicators.

Subregional projects in the areas of social development, gender mainstreaming, and population and development are expected to be executed during the biennium.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 12.6: Sustainable development in the Caribbean

(a) Substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

A meeting of government authorities to draw up a plan of subregional activities for the Caribbean following the assessment to be carried out in 1999 of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

(b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

A meeting of experts to examine the implications of development policies in terms of the sustainability of development.

(c) Publications

(i) A document concerning the plan of action to be drafted following the assessment to be carried out in 1999 of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

(ii) A document on appropriate mechanisms for incorporating sustainability indicators into the development planning process.

(iii) A study on the impact of world trade in terms of poverty and the environment in selected countries of the Caribbean.

(iv) A study on development planning policies and zoning regulations designed to protect local community access to coastal resources.

(v) A study on how policies for developing the tourism industry may influence land tenure.

(vi) A study on the impact of land use policies and decisions on environmental quality.

(vii) A study evaluating how the allocation of State-owned land can influence the integrity of river basins, water and soil quality in selected countries.

(d) Technical materials

(i) Maintenance and expansion of the database on projects and programmes relating to small island developing States.

(e) Information materials and services

(i) Publication of a biannual bulletin on land use and developing planning issues for distribution on-line and in print.

(ii) Publication of a quarterly bulletin containing progress reports on projects and programmes relating to small island developing States for distribution on-line and in print.

(f) Operational activities(i) Advisory services

Provision of technical assistance to requesting member countries, non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental agencies in connection with the design and implementation of sustainable development policies, particularly as regards the construction of

sustainability indicators, and the implementation of follow-up activities in relation to the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

(ii) Group training

Seminar for regional planners on legislation and policies concerning natural resource use and management.

Projects in the areas of environmental information management and the construction of sustainability indicators are expected to be executed during the biennium.

The execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

2. Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

The activities of this subprogramme will be conducted in close collaboration with ECLAC headquarters and ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico. Meetings will also be held on a regular basis in order to consult and coordinate with other agencies and programmes of the United Nations system and with intergovernmental, international non-governmental and Caribbean organizations active in the region.

The activities relating to international linkages and economic development and to integration and regional cooperation will be carried out in consultation with the secretariats of OECS and CARICOM, the Latin American Economic System (SELA), the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) and ACS, as well as with the Governments of the countries members of ACS and their central banks.

The tasks to be undertaken in connection with the application of science and technology to development will be conducted in close collaboration with the secretariats of CARICOM and OECS and with the Technology and Energy Office of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). Working relations will also be maintained with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Centre for Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) of the United Nations, other United Nations bodies and other international organizations, as appropriate. In addition, close contact will be maintained with national institutions active in this field.

The activities dealing with information management for development will be held in consultation and close collaboration with the OECS and CARICOM secretariats.

In the sphere of human and social development, the tasks to be conducted will be pursued in cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with issues relating to population, the status of women and development, particularly the secretariats of CARICOM and OECS, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), UNDP and the International Labour Organization (ILO).

The activities planned in the field of the environment and development will be executed in coordination and collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UNDP and other United Nations bodies, as well as with the CARICOM and OECS secretariats and CDB.

3. Users and anticipated uses of outputs

The main users of the outputs of this subprogramme will be government authorities and officials concerned with economic and social matters and with the formulation and execution of policies, programmes and projects in the areas indicated above, as well as international, regional and subregional organizations concerned with integration and cooperation. The outputs will be suitable for use in the formulation of proposals and as reference materials for users in their respective fields.

Other major users will include a variety of public- and private-sector organizations, such as business, labour and professional associations, universities and other academic institutions, applied research institutes and centres for the development and diffusion of technology.

Users will be reached through the distribution of documents and publications, the provision of information materials and services, technical cooperation activities, regular consultations and contacts, and participation in intergovernmental forums and meetings of experts.

Annex

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

1. Meetings1.1 Organization and substantive (or technical) servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Organization of meetings of the representatives of government institutions in the member countries to consider a specific topic relevant to the work of those bodies. In most cases, ECLAC will prepare a report or substantive document on the subject in question. In others, the Commission's participation will be confined to the execution of the specified activities.

1.2 Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Meetings of specialists from outside the United Nations system for the purpose of providing advisory assistance to the Executive Secretary of ECLAC in respect of a specific subject. The Commission usually prepares a report or substantive document on the topic in question to serve as a basis for the discussion.

2. Documents and publications2.1 Recurrent publications

Studies published by ECLAC at regular intervals specified in advance in the secretariat's publications programme, such as the Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean and the Social Panorama of Latin America.

2.2 Non-recurrent publications

Studies which are published by ECLAC in accordance with its publications programme but which do not appear on a regular basis.

2.3 Technical materials

Information contained in databases, computer programs and other media which may be used in the production of the final outputs of scheduled activities but which are not themselves classified as outputs.

3. Information materials and services

All those outputs whose purpose is to disseminate information on the activities of ECLAC. Examples include pamphlets, information notes and press releases, exhibition posters and other visual materials, filmed and videotaped documentaries, material for radio broadcasts, guided tours and special events.

4. Operational activities

4.1 Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services to member countries at their request.

4.2 Group training

Specialized training seminars and courses organized and held for the benefit of member countries.

5. Intermediate activities

Any activity whose results may be used in the production of final outputs.