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PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
WORK PROGRAMME OF THE CDCC  
FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1988 TO MARCH 1989



**UNITED NATIONS**

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The CDCC work programme for the period 1988 to 1989 appears in document LC/CAR/G.258 and represents activities approved for the second half of the biennium 1987-89. The following constitutes a progress report of work initiated for the period December 1988 - March 1989.

Subprogramme 5.2

Programme element:

5.1 Evaluation of economic performance of Caribbean countries:

To date the following activities have been undertaken:

(a) A summary paper providing a preliminary review of economic developments in the CDCC countries in 1988 has been prepared;

(b) A paper on co-operation between CARICOM and non-CARICOM countries has been prepared as an input to a Caribbean submission to the South Commission on integration and co-operation;

(c) A mission to Belize to prepare the external sector portion of the Belize five-year plan (1990-1994) has been completed; and

(d) A paper outlining developments in the global economy and resulting impacts upon CDCC countries for the period 1983-1988 is currently being prepared.

5.2 Food and agriculture

In the agro-industrial sector a project proposal is being prepared as a follow-up to the Brazil Training Workshop for presentation to the Second Annual Conference of the Caribbean Institute of Food, Science and Technology to be held in Dominica in April. The proposal seeks to establish a pilot project to enable the trainees to operationalize the skills learned in Brazil and also to upgrade the Produce Chemists Laboratories (PCLs) in the Windwards to be able to utilize the banana by-products.

A programme has been outlined for a one-week training programme in agricultural extension to be conducted jointly by the University of the Virgin Islands and the Ministry of Agriculture in Saint Lucia. The workshop is to take place in May.

### 5.3 Economic and social planning in the Caribbean

A mission was undertaken to Guyana and Suriname to discuss the deepening of assistance from ECLAC/ILPES in project data entry for the establishment of a project data bank. Assistance was rendered to Suriname to formulate project needs in this area and a project document has been prepared and submitted for funding.

#### Data Bank - agricultural statistics

A revision of the time series of the agricultural statistics document has been undertaken and the preparation of a successor volume to be published in the first half of the year.

REDATAM - A paper is being prepared on REDATAM for presentation at the Commonwealth Statisticians Conference in Canada later in the year.

REDATAM is the name of the software package designed by CELADE (the Latin American Demographic Centre) that analyzes population census data in a geographically hierarchical manner. It is of special use to planners wishing to access population data for small areas.

Documentation is being prepared for an ad hoc meeting of major users of statistics in the Caribbean, to examine the possible re-organization of statistical offices to utilize more fully new computer and information technologies.

#### 1990 Round of population and housing censuses

ECLAC/CDCC secretariat has been working in collaboration with the CARICOM secretariat to establish the support systems for the conduct of the 1990 round of population and housing censuses. To this extent, the office participated in an exploratory consultative mission to the United States and Canada in December 1988. The office also collaborated in the design of the project document for the census.

A study tour constituting TCDC in this sector is being undertaken by officials of Trinidad and Tobago to Chile to observe operations of the project data bank in the Chilean National Planning Agency, ODEPLAN and ILPES.

#### 5.4 Science and technology

Continuing its programme of science popularization, the secretariat is in the process of finalizing plans for two national consultations, on St. Kitts and Nevis and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, respectively.

A meeting of science and technology organizations is also being discussed with other agencies with a view to co-ordinate and collaborate activities to better meet the needs of individual member countries.

#### 5.5 Social development in the Caribbean - Women in development

With respect to the programme Women in Development, the following activities have been carried out:

(a) Advisory services and inputs to a national conference on Women in Development have been provided to the Government of Aruba. with specific reference to Violence Against Women.

(b) Collaboration on programme activities related to Occupational Health and Women has been initiated with PAHO and is ongoing;

(c) Preparations for the planned survey of Export Processing Zones (EPZs) include: subregional consultations at the level of governments and international/regional organizations, drafting of survey questionnaire, and identification of resource persons. In addition;

(d) Work on the publication of an annotated bibliography on women is advancing into its final stages;

(e) Progress on the project for the Establishment of a Database on Selected Areas of Women's Participation in Social and Economic Change includes the initiation of a survey on women traders in Trinidad and Tobago, Curacao and St. Maarten and completion of the document "Export-oriented Industrialization and Women";

(f) The Report on the Advisory Group Meeting on Women Traders in the Caribbean (LC/CAR/G.262) has been published; and

(g) A document on "Aspects of Law relating to the Status of Women in the Caribbean with Particular Reference to Selected CDCC Countries" has been prepared.

## 5.6 Natural resources, tourism and environment

### Regional sewage disposal and coastal conservation studies

Preparations continued for the ECLAC/PAHO/CDB/CARICOM-sponsored conference on "Organization and Financing of Sewerage Sector Development in the Caribbean". Meetings were held with PAHO officials from Washington, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago. Agreement was reached on the date and venue (Holiday Inn, 13-15 June) as well as on the agenda and required background information. Co-operation of CIDA into mobilizing the donor community to attend the conference was secured.

The project proposal for Tobago was officially approved by IDB and put up for tender.

### Incorporation of social and environmental management issues in Caribbean Tourism

An agreement between ECLAC and the Caribbean Conservation Association (CCA) was signed and CCA will prepare an action plan on the linkages of tourism with the development of cultural and natural attractions. Preparation of the action plan is scheduled to be completed during May 1989.

Agreement in principle was reached between ECLAC and the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus (UWI/St. Augustine), for ISER to carry out at least five case studies on (i) effects of tourism on socio-cultural change, (ii) perceptions of tourism by the local population and (iii) aspects of employment practices in the tourism industry. It is anticipated that ECLAC will enter into a formal agreement with ISER in early April.

Due to delays in project execution a revised work programme was proposed. The revised project duration extends now until the end of 1990.

### UNEP/ROLAC Co-operation

The following activities should be noted:

(a) J. Lizarraga and A. Rodriguez of UNEP/ROLAC, Mexico, visited Trinidad and Tobago and ECLAC to discuss follow-up activities on the UNEP/ECLAC technical assistance programme with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago.

(b) Agreement has been obtained for UNEP-ECLAC co-operation on activities related to hazardous wastes.

(c) Participated in the UNEP Meetings of High-level Governmental Experts on Regional Co-operation in Environmental

Health Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Sixth Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (Brasilia 27-31 March).

#### Hazardous waste

Follow-up activities related to CDCC resolution 23(XI) "Policies on Harmful Wastes in the Environment" were initiated and co-operation from UNEP-ROLAC has been secured. Following discussions with UNEP-ROLAC and PAHO, it was decided to expand the scope of the report on damage caused by international trade in polluting and toxic substances to include also aspects related to the management and disposal of regionally generated harmful wastes.

#### CIDA/Caribbean Environmental Programming Strategy

At the request of CIDA, ECLAC participated in a review of the CIDA-prepared "Caribbean Environmental Programming Strategy Report" (Barbados, 21-22 March).

#### Other activities

Other activities included:

(a) Participation in the preparation of Trinidad and Tobago's National Environmental Week, scheduled to be held during 5-9 June;

(b) Participation in a consultation on the Northern Range of Trinidad and Tobago;

(c) Comments, with inputs from the Documentation Centre, on a regional bibliography on publications on natural hazards which was prepared by the Institute of Marine Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago.

(d) Provision of information to the Trinidad and Tobago Ministry of Environment on: debt-for-nature swapping and listing of international treaties on environmental subjects of which Caribbean countries are signatories; and

(e) Discussions with the CCA elements of a planned CCA/IUCN meeting "Economics and the Environment" scheduled to be held later this year.

#### 5.7 Information and documentation for economic and social development

Publication of the CARISPLAN Abstracts and Current Awareness Bulletins.

Information is available on science and technology potential of the CDCC countries in DBASE 3 and has to be uploaded to the HP3000 computer for accessing. The following training sessions have also been undertaken:

- (a) Indexing/Abstracting Workshop for CARTIS
- (b) CDS/ISIS Workshop, Suriname
- (c) CDS/ISIS Workshop for CARTIS
- (d) Indexing/CDS/ISIS, T&T
- (e) OECS Workshop - Indexing/Abstracting at ECLAC

#### PIDU

An evaluation of the last regional project - Modernization and Strategy of Industrial Property Systems - was undertaken by ECLAC and the donor agency WIPO/IDRC.

A survey mission to St. Kitts and Nevis, Dominica and Antigua and Barbuda was undertaken to complete the survey of user needs and promote the follow-up user seminar to take place later on in the year.

#### 5.8 International trade and finance

Two documents were completed in preparation for the Consultative Meeting on Countertrade as follows:

- (a) Countertrade policies and practices with special reference to selected Caribbean countries; and
- (b) Co-operation among state trading organizations in the English-speaking Caribbean.

The meeting which was jointly sponsored by CARICOM was held 14-15 March 1989 in Georgetown, Guyana and examined various forms of countertrade and their applicability and viability to the external trade of the Caribbean. It reviewed country experiences and considered the possibility of a regional facility for countertrade. The meeting also looked at co-operation among state trading organizations, especially in the areas of joint procurement and purchasing, marketing in overseas markets, export development, trade information, shipping and air transportation.

The findings and conclusions agreed upon will be incorporated into a final report and sent to all CDCC countries.



## 5.10 Population

### Integration of population in planning - Population units establishment

Assistance is being provided to the Governments of Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Dominica and Grenada in the establishment of Population Units in the Planning Ministries. The main function of this unit is to co-ordinate activities related to the implementation of their national population policy and the integration of population in development planning.

In this regard, assistance has also been provided to the governments in the preparation of a project proposal to UNFPA for financial assistance in the recruitment of a national population co-ordinator to head the population unit.

### Population policy implementation

Assistance is being provided to the governments of Saint Lucia, Grenada and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in the establishment of National Population Councils responsible for directing activities related to the implementation of the national population policy.

### Integrated research studies on population and development

Work on a research project concerned with the interrelations between fertility, mortality, migration and development is underway in collaboration with the University of the West Indies, the University of Indiana and other regional and international organisations. The project will conduct a survey evaluation of the state of knowledge of population-development relationships, the identification of gaps in this knowledge and the provision of policy-oriented recommendations.

### Establishment of socio-demographic data bank and population information system

A subregional socio-demographic data bank is currently being established. A number of research studies are underway to prepare additional data inputs as well as evaluate data. In addition, census, vital statistics and other population related information presently available are being fed into the data bank.

### Intercensal and post-censal estimates for population for Caribbean countries

Intercensal estimates of population for six countries - Belize, Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Lucia, Barbados, Grenada and St. Kitts and Nevis were prepared using the computer programme developed under the project. Review and analysis of estimates were

started. Data collection and evaluation for the remaining countries continued.

#### Digest of socio-demographic statistics in Caribbean countries

The original set of tables prepared for section A of the digest have been reviewed. Additional tables are now being prepared based on recommendations made at the 1985 ECLAC Training Programme on Vital Statistics. Data for the required tables are being collected and evaluated.

The collection and evaluation of social statistics is continuing.

#### Training workshop on vital statistics

A meeting of members of the Steering Committee on Vital Statistics and Registration was held, as a follow-up to the ECLAC/PAHO Workshop on Registration of Births and Vital Statistics in the English-speaking Caribbean countries in Barbados on 19 January 1989, to revise the project document entitled "Further development of vital registration and vital statistics systems in the English-speaking Caribbean". The proposed date for the second meeting is 10 June 1989 in Tobago.

#### In-depth census analysis

The first drafts of monographs for three countries - Grenada, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the British Virgin Islands - being prepared under a UNFPA-funded project in co-operation with CARICOM and ISER have been completed and submitted to the Programme Co-ordinator. Revisions are currently underway.

In order to facilitate the revision, missions are being undertaken to the participating countries in order to carry out more in-depth evaluation and analysis of census data and vital statistics. Publication is expected within the next few months.

#### Population projections

Work on population projections (1980-2015) for nine Caribbean countries continues. Data is being evaluated and assumptions revised in light of new data. The analyses for three countries have already been completed and preparation of the final document for publication continues.

#### Research study on mortality in the Caribbean

Work continues on a study of mortality patterns in the Caribbean with the aim of improving knowledge of factors that have contributed to mortality change and providing recommendations for their health programmes.

Information, education and communication (IEC) activity

A training seminar entitled "Information Dissemination and Awareness Creation for Population Policy Formulation and Implementation Programmes" was held at ECLAC, Port of Spain from 5-6 December 1988. It was a preliminary workshop confined to the Trinidad and Tobago environment with the aim that it would form the basis of a larger regional/international workshop on the same topic. The seminar involved:

(a) Development of background paper;

(b) Co-ordination of presenters (two resource persons were contracted; an IEC consultant from the Planning Institute of Jamaica and the other a journalist from Saint Vincent); and

(c) Selection of participants which included key personnel strategically located in the government information division, family planning, print media, library services, health education and education. Follow-up activities include the preparation of project proposals for funding to carry out activities recommended at seminar.

UNFPA/ECLAC project HAI/88/P04 - Assistance to CONAPO

Approval was granted by the UNFPA on 1 March 1989 to the project HAI/88/P04 "Support to the National Population Council (CONAPO)" of Haiti.

The project has a duration of four years (1989-1992). Allocations have been approved for the first two years. The project is being executed with the technical backstopping of the ECLAC Port of Spain Office. A mission was conducted on 7-10 March to revise the workplan and budget. A number of activities concerning training and research have been initiated.

LATIN AMERICAN/CARIBBEAN RELATIONS

Activities undertaken in collaboration with the Institute of Latin American Integration (INTAL)

The Caribbean component of a document "Trade in Primary Commodities in Latin America and the Caribbean" has been prepared for INTAL based on surveys of private sector traders and state-trading enterprises, and interviews with relevant national and regional trade officials in Barbados, Belize, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago.

Research for a study of the structure and direction of

merchandise exports for Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago for the period 1980-1987 is currently underway. The study which is part of a larger document being prepared for Latin America will pay special attention to non-traditional exports.