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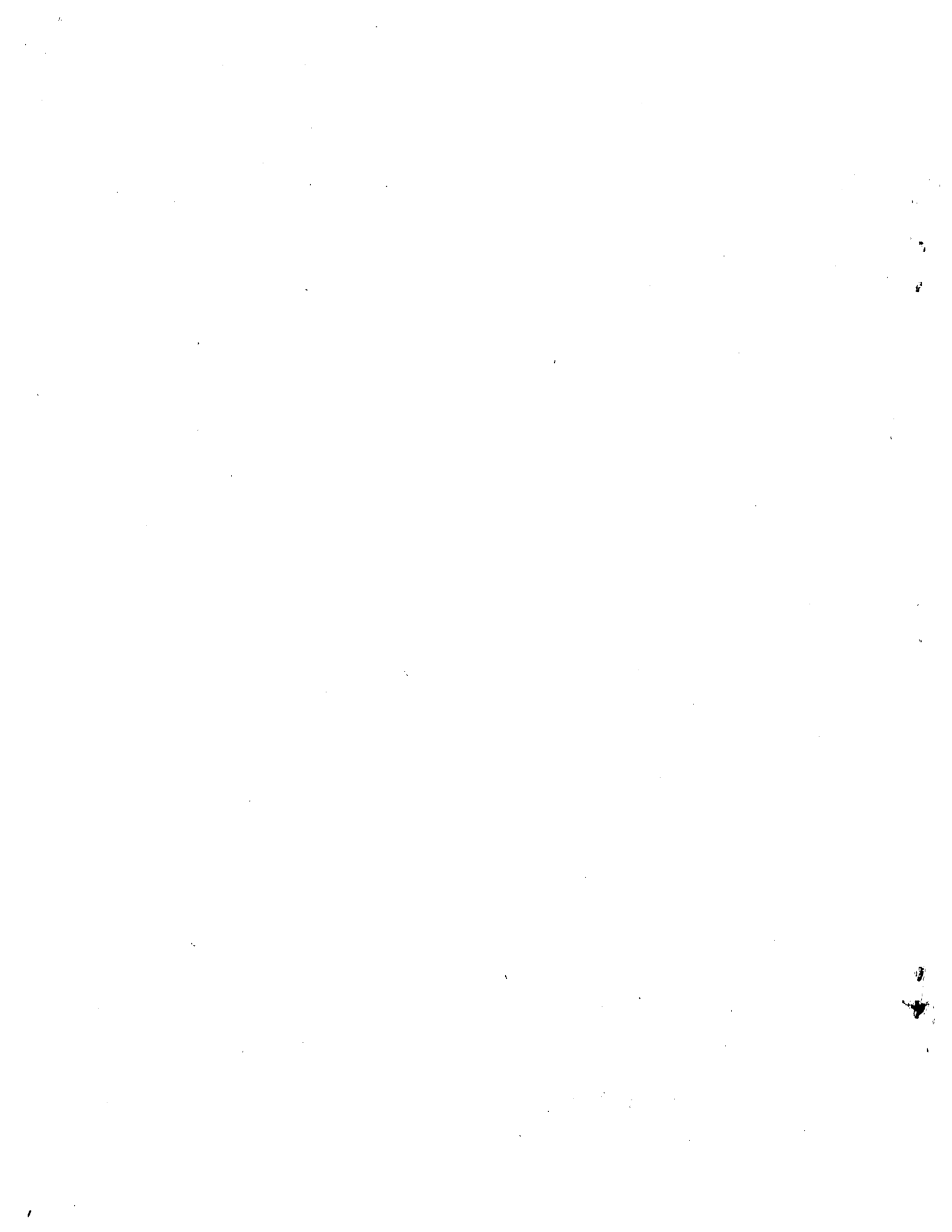


CO-ORDINATION IN PLANNING



UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA Office for the Caribbean



CO-ORDINATION IN PLANNING

It will be recalled that the Fifth Session of CDCC approved the creation of six ad hoc planning working groups to cover Agriculture, Energy, Manpower, Physical and Regional Planning, Training, and Transport.

A small ad hoc group of Planners met in Barbados from 19-20 July 1980, to define the terms of reference of each of the working groups more precisely, to ensure relevance to their activities and to reduce the possibility of overlap with the on-going programmes of other agencies and institutions. Based on these mandates, meetings of the working groups on Physical and Regional Planning and Manpower Planning were held. A Training Course for Planners was also convened.^{1/}

Physical and Regional Planning

The Ad Hoc Working Group of Physical and Regional Planners met in Grenada from 16-17 September 1981. They selected for implementation a project on strengthening of the capability of countries to prepare environmental impact analyses. The project envisages the support of a number of United Nations bodies and has a twenty-four month duration.

The Working Group indicated that in implementing the project, emphasis would need to be placed on institutional linkages and co-ordination between national focal points dealing with environmental issues and physical and regional planners.

It was agreed by the Working Group that the project should be submitted to the CDCC Ministers for approval.

A seminar on Physical and Regional Planning was also held in Cuba, hosted by the Institute for the Direction of the Economy (ISDE) from 19-28 January, to which all CDCC countries were invited to attend. Summaries of lectures are available from the CDCC Secretariat on request.

^{1/} For more detailed information see the appropriate reports on the meetings and the training course in documents E/CEPAL/CDCC/79, E/CEPAL/CDCC/80, and E/CEPAL/CDCC/81.

Manpower Planning

7. The Manpower Planning Working Group met in Grenada from 14-15 September, 1981. A consultant was employed, with assistance provided by the International Labour Organization (ILO), to prepare a monograph entitled "The Basic Situation in Manpower Planning in the CDCC Countries" which served as the basis for the discussions of the Group.

8. After discussion and evaluation of the basic working document, the Ad Hoc Working Group proposed that the future Work Programme^{2/} in the area of data collection and studies should be submitted to the Ministerial Meeting of CDCC for its approval, as follows:

- (i) Preparation by each member of the group of an inventory of all manpower related data, including the characteristics of the collecting institutions and an evaluation of the data;
- (ii) Consultation with appropriate international bodies to implement similar projects for the LDCs at the latter's request.

These projects contemplate harmonization of data and co-ordination of data-producing institutions as well as with international institutions and the sharing of information on methodology.

- (iii) The Working Group also indicated that studies should be conducted by the appropriate institutions in a number of subject areas including adult education and training, employment creation in peasant agriculture and the urban informal sector, manpower training policies and programmes and migration as it affects the labour force.

Training

9. (a) Survey of Training Needs in the Eastern Caribbean

The Survey, mandated at the Fifth Session of CDCC, was carried out in

^{2/} See document E/CEPAL/CDCC/80, pp. 5 and 6.

seven East Caribbean Common Market (ECCM) States from March to April 1981. Among other things the Survey Report concludes that there was no coherent programme to upgrade the skills of local planning personnel in any systematic manner in the ECCM countries. It was therefore proposed that the creation of such a programme should be a first priority and that CEPAL should convene a workshop to assist the ECCM countries in this regard. Among a number of other proposals, the report mentioned the need for a seminar-type course to involve senior administrators and political decision-makers jointly.

(b) Training Course for Public Officials

A Training Course for Public Officials to introduce them to the principles and purposes of planning was conducted in Grenada from 19-27 September 1981. The Course provided a useful pilot project on training in planning at the general level and could provide guidelines for the courses in the training programme for Eastern Caribbean Planners.

Energy^{3/}

10. It has not yet been possible to convene a meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Energy Planning. Arising from consultations with various organizations involved with energy in the sub-region, it is proposed to discuss at its meeting:

- (i) The situation regarding the development of energy institutions in the region;
- (ii) developments regarding energy assessments and the extent to which progress has been made in the formulation of energy balances in the region.

11. The Working Group will then be asked to decide what further specific activities it wishes to pursue in the future.

^{3/} See also Work Programme Item N - Energy and Natural Resources - in document E/CEPAL/CDCC/77.

Transport Planning

12. Preparations have been completed for the Ad Hoc Working Group in Transport Planning to meet before the end of 1981. The basic document for the meeting, entitled "An agenda for Transportation Planning in the Caribbean", has been finalized, the central theme of the programme being the necessity to work for "an integrated transport plan where intra- and inter-modal inconsistencies are eliminated and where allocative and distributive effects are socially efficient".

Agricultural Planning

13. Activities of the Ad Hoc Working Group in Agricultural Planning are somewhat retarded due to the absence of a substantive officer operating in that sector in the CDCC Secretariat. It is hoped that the vacant post will be filled soon, and that it will be possible to convene the Working Group during the early part of 1982.

Summary of Recommendations and Activities 1981-1982 in the Area of Co-ordination in Planning

14. The Committee may wish to acknowledge the assistance and co-operation of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Pan American Centre for Human Ecology and Health (PAHO/ECO) in the work of the ad hoc groups on Manpower Planning and on Physical and Regional Planning respectively.

- (i) Physical and Regional Planning - The project on development and strengthening of the capability of countries to prepare environmental impact analyses [E/CEPAL/CDCC/79 para 4(a)] is submitted for approval of the Committee.
- (ii) Manpower Planning - The Work Programme of the Group in the area of data collection and manpower related studies (E/CEPAL/CDCC/80 paras 19 and 20) is submitted for approval of the Committee.
- (iii) Work Activities:-
 - Formulation of a programme to upgrade the skills of planning personnel in the Eastern Caribbean;

- Convening the Meeting of Planning Officials;
- Convening various meetings of the ad hoc planning working groups.

