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Ninth meeting of the Executive Committee of the  
Statistical Conference of the Americas of the  
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Santiago, 20-22 April 2010

**2010-2011 PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE WORKING GROUPS OF THE  
STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC**

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## WORKING GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS

**Coordinating country:** Mexico (National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI))

### I. MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela  
National Institute of Statistics (INE)  
Ministry of People's Power for the Environment, Central Bank

Brazil  
Brazilian Geographical and Statistical Institute (IBGE)

Chile  
National Institute of Statistics (INE)

Colombia  
National Administrative Department of Statistics  
Ministry of the Environment, Housing and Territorial Development

Costa Rica  
National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC)  
Ministry of the Environment, Energy and Telecommunications (MINAET)  
Central Bank

Cuba  
National Statistical Office (ONE)  
Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment (CITMA)

Dominican Republic  
National Statistical Office (ONE)  
State Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARENA)  
Central Bank

Mexico  
National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)  
Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT)

Panama  
National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC)  
Environmental Analysis unit (ANAM)

**Technical Secretariat:** Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

**Advisory organization:** United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

## **II. PROGRAMME 2010-2011**

### **A. GENERAL GOAL**

This working group seeks to promote the gathering of relevant statistics on natural resources and the environment and their integration into the systems of national statistics of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

### **B. SPECIFIC GOALS**

1. Identify and promote activities of regional and subregional cooperation for building the capacity of member countries to produce high-quality national and subnational (or local) official environmental statistics.
2. Ensure that experiences and good practices regarding the development of national and subnational (or local) environmental statistics systems are documented and exchanged.
3. Develop a minimum set of common environmental statistics in the region that respond to countries' demands for information and international initiatives in this area, based on previous regional initiatives.
4. Develop a set of standard and harmonized indicators of environmental sustainability that ensure an adequate response to requests for national, regional and international information, based on previous regional initiatives.
5. Establish an order of priority of countries that require cooperation for creating or strengthening national capacities for the production of environmental statistics.
6. Promote the use of the System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA) as a benchmark for developing statistics and related indicators in the region.

### **C. MAIN ACTIVITIES**

#### **1. Activities related to specific goal 1**

- Identification of national focal points for the establishment of a regional and subregional cooperation network.
- Review of the diagnoses of general and specific national environmental statistics production.
- Identification of national statistical offices (NSOs) and ministries or secretariats for the environment with the capacity to offer horizontal cooperation.

- Identification of international organizations, in coordination with ECLAC, that can offer cooperation in building and strengthening national capacities for the production of environmental statistics.
- Establishment of an order of priority of the countries that require cooperation for the building or strengthening of national capacity-building for the production of environmental statistics.
- Preparation of a training programme with an indication of the persons responsible, topics and dates, based on the results of previous diagnoses.
- Choice of the country, on the basis of progress achieved, to coordinate the training programme on the harmonization of efforts for compliance, evaluation and calibration.
- Preparation of protocols for management of environmental information, based on experience gained in national contexts.

## **2. Activities related to specific goal 2**

- Creation, with the support of ECLAC, of an electronic forum to facilitate communication among the working group's national focal points and exchange information on successful and failed experiences for the development of environmental statistics systems, as well as manuals of good practices and reporting standards and similar products.
- Training activities and exchanges of knowledge through the forum.
- Use of meetings and other events to share experiences and good practices.

## **3. Activities related to specific goal 3**

- Preparation of a proposal on a core set of relevant environmental statistics for the region based on:
  - An evaluation of the recommendation of the United Nations Statistics Division on core environmental statistics related to Goal 7 of the Millennium Development Goals.
  - A review of ECLAC recommendations on the expansion of indicators for monitoring Goal 7 of the Millennium Development Goals and the resulting need for basic environmental statistics.
  - A review of the basic statistical needs that must be met to construct the indicators proposed in the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development (ILAC) of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean.
  - Common indicators in the region, not considered by the organizations mentioned above.
  - The study of the main results of the Conference on Climate Change and Official Statistics (Oslo, 2008) and insertion of elements applicable in a later phase of the programme.

- Development of a common format for metadata to facilitate comparison of the minimum set of environmental statistics and their eventual harmonization.

#### **4. Activities related to specific goal 4**

- Preparation of a proposal on a set of common and standardized indicators of environmental sustainability for the region based on:
  - Indicators proposed by ECLAC for following up on Goal 7 of the Millennium Development Goals.
  - Indicators proposed by ILAC.
  - Experience of the working group on environmental statistics and indicators of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean.
  - Common indicators currently used by countries in the region but not provided for in previous requests.
- Preparation of a common format for metadata in order to facilitate comparison and harmonization of the set of indicators tested and approved in the system.
- Validation of the methodological coherence, in terms of scope and conceptual coherence, of the indicators of the proposed system.
- Preparation of recommendations for harmonization of unresolved methodological aspects of the system.
- Proposal of a timetable for creating the system of indicators in stages, according to the current status of development and the complexity of the proposed indicators.

#### **5. Activities related to specific goal 5**

- Establishment of an alliance with the working group on environmental statistics and indicators of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Establishment of alliances with the environmental commissions of the subregions (the Andean Community (CAN), the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), and the South American Common Market (MERCOSUR).
- Creation of links with the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) to define points of common interest in the area of energy-related statistics.
- Compilation of a publication of statistics and environmental indicators for Latin America and the Caribbean with the co-sponsorship of other regional bodies and the United Nations.

## **6. Activities related to specific goal 6**

- Undertake action with the countries where progress has already been made in implementing the United Nations System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA) in order to pave the way for the gradual introduction of that system in the other countries as they develop their basic measuring processes, paying particular attention to water statistics.
- Identification of the countries of the region that have made progress in integrated environmental and economic accounting and are willing to participate.
- On the basis of a diagnosis of the production of basic statistics on the environment and natural resources in the countries of the region, draw up a scheme for using the SEEA as a benchmark for the development of related statistics in those countries that express the desire to do so.
- Preparation and organization of both general motivational and specialized courses on the SEEA, with particular focus on the production of water statistics and indicators.
- Identification and revision of the basic statistics recommended by the United Nations Statistics Division as being necessary to progress with the environmental accounts (on energy, forestry and water).
- Support progress in the adoption of the SEEA through direct technical assistance and set a regional position on the United Nations Statistics Division.
- Seek the collaboration of international organizations engaged in work in this area.

## **D. FINANCIAL NEEDS AND SOURCES OF FINANCING**

The activities of the working group on environmental statistics will be financed by its members and by donations from the countries and international organizations that are willing to back the initiative. The group will have to make constant efforts to find adequate financing to carry out its programme of work.

## **E. OUTPUT AND RESULTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC**

In accordance with the resolutions adopted during the teleconference held in December 2009, this working group decided to promote four specific activities that meet part of the group goals and that are feasible provided that the necessary resources are mobilized.

### **Activity A:**

A theoretical-methodological course on environmental statistics and integrated environmental-economic accounting for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Activity B:

A meeting of experts and seminar on water statistics and integrated water accounting.

Activity C:

A regional seminar on environmental statistics and climate change: the statistical challenges for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Activity D:

Creation by ECLAC of an electronic forum to facilitate the group's workings, communication among focal points and the exchange of information.

For the first three activities, general invitations will be issued to the national statistical offices, ministries of the environment and central banks of the region, according to the indications received from the organizers of these events.

The coordinator of this working group, with the support of the technical secretariat, will seek financing for these activities, which could be carried out during 2010-2011.



## WORKING GROUP ON INSTITUTION-BUILDING

**Coordinating country:** Colombia (National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE))

### I. MEMBERS OF THE GROUP AND FOCAL POINTS

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## **II. PROGRAMME 2010-2011**

At its eighth meeting, the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, was asked to continue the institution building work that was begun by the working group under Mexico's leadership in 2007-2009.

At the fifth meeting of the Conference, held in August 2009, it was decided to maintain this working group in order to prepare a code of good statistical practices for Latin America and the Caribbean and to promote the use of international standards together with organizational methods for their implementation.

### **A. GENERAL GOAL**

This working group seeks to build and apply a code of good practices and to identify, harmonize and promote the use of international statistical standards together with organizational methods for their implementation.

### **B. SPECIFIC GOALS**

- Prepare and promote the implementation of the proposed regional Code of Good Practices for the production of high-quality statistics in keeping with the basic principles of official United Nations statistics, by taking the European Statistics Code of Practice as reference.
- Promote the use of international standards in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

### **C. MAIN ACTIVITIES**

#### **1. Code of good statistical practices for Latin America and the Caribbean**

- (a) Prepare and circulate a new version of the questionnaire and update the diagnosis of the application of the principles in the institutional framework
  - Carry out an initial pilot project in the four member countries of the working group and three additional countries that have already completed the self-assessment questionnaire for national statistical offices about their institutional environment. This phase consists in answering a complementary set of questions on institutional strengths and weaknesses as well as on eventual initiatives for improvement covering the six principles of the institutional framework component (principles 1 to 6).

- Raise awareness through workshops on codes of good practice in the Caribbean countries.
  - Evaluate the results of the previous pilot survey and prepare a new version of the self-assessment questionnaire for national statistical offices about their institutional environment.
  - Request the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean that have not yet completed the survey to complete the application of the group of principles related to the institutional framework of the European Statistics Code of Practice.
  - Diagnose the situation using the results of the application of the instruments by region and country and publicize the findings through international meetings.
- (b) Design an initial proposal for the Code of Good Statistical Practices for Latin America and the Caribbean
- Adapt the questionnaire of the European Statistics Code of Practice and submit it to the four member countries of the working group in order to evaluate the applicability of the group of principles related to statistical processes and statistical production (principles 7 to 15).
  - Prepare a proposal for a code of good statistical practices for the region with a strategic plan for implementation and monitoring.
  - Prepare a proposal for the construction of a repertory of good statistical practices for Latin America and the Caribbean.

## **2. Promotion of the use of international statistical standards**

- (a) Compile an inventory of international standards
- Form a technical team of experts representing the member countries of the working group.
  - Evaluate the status of the project being carried out by Mexico to build an inventory of international standards and coordinate activities with the ongoing project of the United Nations Statistics Division for preparing an inventory of international norms and guidelines on social statistics.
  - Evaluate Colombia's experience in the development of methodologies of the statistical operations and their possible applicability to other countries of the region.
  - Draw up a proposal and a strategy for building an inventory of international standards.
- (b) Define and apply a programme to promote the use of international standards in selected areas
- Identify proposals of the working groups concerning the promotion of the use of standards in their specific areas.

- Evaluate the applicability of the results of the project on integration and harmonization of instruments for social statistics (INAES) in the international standards promotion programme.
- Evaluate the successful experiences of the countries in the definition, adoption and application of methodological standards and statistical procedures in their household surveys, the consumer price index, national accounts and statistical directories.
- Evaluate the applicability of the Accelerated Data Program (a system of meta information), as a standard exercise in statistical operations documentation.
- Define a programme of work to promote the use of standards in certain aspects of statistics.

## **D. FINANCIAL NEEDS AND SOURCES OF FINANCING**

### **1. Financial needs**

(a) Good practices

- Completion of the questionnaires by the countries. ECLAC will continue to conduct the surveys and create a database with the results.
- Resources to hold international meetings to raise awareness of the findings of this instrument in the various countries. It is hoped that a meeting will be held every three months.
- Financing for workshops with experts from several countries to draft the Code of Good Statistical Practices for Latin America and the Caribbean, taking into account the general proposed programme of work.

(b) International statistical standards

- Resources for the creation of an inventory of international statistical standards for the region.
- Financing for carrying out activities to promote the use of international statistical standards for the region based on a thematic framework for the countries.

### **2. Sources of financing**

Colombia, as coordinating country for this working group through DANE, is seeking resources from international organizations for each of the needs mentioned above.

**E. OUTPUTS AND RESULTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE  
STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC**

- Diagnosis of the situation based on the results of the application of the instruments by region and by country.
- Proposed Code of Good Statistical Practices for Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Document proposing the strategic plan for implementing and monitoring Code of Good Statistical Practices for Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Inventory of international statistical standards organized thematically.
- A repertory of standards based on the inventories made of standards in selected areas.

## **WORKING GROUP ON GENDER STATISTICS**

**Coordinating country:** Mexico (INEGI)

### **I. MEMBERS OF THE GROUP**

Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela  
Chile  
Colombia  
Costa Rica  
Cuba  
Dominican Republic  
Ecuador  
El Salvador  
Guatemala  
Honduras  
Panama  
Plurinational State of Bolivia

**Technical Secretariat:** Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

### **II. PROGRAMME 2010-2011**

#### **A. GENERAL GOAL**

Promote the development, processing and dissemination of gender statistics and indicators, as well as their strategic use for the definition, monitoring and evaluation of public policy in all the countries of the region.

#### **B. SPECIFIC GOALS**

1. Develop the statistical capacities of the national statistical offices and national information systems, through the production and dissemination of high-quality gender statistics.
2. Strengthen the relationship between producers and users of gender statistics, especially among national statistical offices and mechanisms for the advancement of women and United Nations agencies that promote that relationship.
3. Promote international cooperation for the development and dissemination of gender statistics.

## **C. MAIN ACTIVITIES**

Since the formation of the working group, activities have been aimed at strengthening statistical and methodological capacities in three basic areas:

### **1. Time use and unpaid work**

- Complete the preliminary version of the guidelines to harmonize time-use surveys in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Complete the preliminary version of the proposed classification of time-use activities.
- Prepare a pilot proposal for testing the instruments designed so far and promote a survey on time use in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Satellite account of unpaid work.

- Define the methodology for estimating the value of unpaid work and the household satellite account and launch an estimation exercise that takes into account the information from time-use surveys conducted in Argentina, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay.
- Draft the preliminary version of the Manual for the Satellite Account of Unpaid Domestic Work.
- Begin to diagnose the availability of official information for calculating indicators that identify the contribution of the work of women, paid and unpaid, in Colombia, Cuba, Haiti, Honduras and Paraguay. Those studies will include a gender-based conceptual and methodological review of censuses and of household, employment and time-use surveys.

### **2. Violence against women**

Perform a diagnosis of the availability of statistical information for measuring violence against women at the national level throughout the region that includes an analysis of surveys and administrative records and makes it possible to:

- Analyse the quality of information available in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and evaluate the existing capacity in each of them for compiling indicators of violence recommended by the United Nations Statistical Commission in February 2009, in addition to the indicator of violence adopted by the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean concerning the death of women over 15 at the hands of their present or former intimate partner.
- Hold a regional workshop to strengthen the conceptual, methodological and technical capacities of national statistical offices for preparing a survey to measure violence against women, based on the

proposal of the group of experts and designed within a framework of the multiregional project for furthering the eradication of violence against women through the establishment of local community networks, aimed at promoting the compilation of information for estimating indicators approved by the United Nations Statistical Commission at its fortieth session in February 2009.

- Follow up on the results of the project on strengthening the capacities for eradicating violence against women through the creation of local knowledge transfer networks (2008-2010).
- Complete the analysis of the situation of violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean, which includes:
  - Revision of existing national and international legislation;
  - Preparation of recommendations on effective policies for the eradication, prevention and punishment of violence against women.
- Statistical information on social security and protection systems.
  - Begin the study of social security systems and women's inclusion in them.
  - Revise the conceptual and methodological frameworks for gathering information on social security that is relevant from the gender perspective.

### **3. Strengthening of the relationship between producers and users of the information**

- Organize international meetings on gender statistics. Annual event at INEGI at its headquarters in Aguascalientes (Mexico).
- Organize the international meeting on time use, an annual event in Mexico City.
- Provide technical assistance to improve the institutional capacity of statistics production agencies to integrate gender statistics into national statistics programmes.
- Promote international cooperation for the development and dissemination of gender statistics.
  - Activities related to the Millennium Development Goals.
  - Monitoring of the statistical activities of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean.
  - Updating of statistics and gender indicators of CEPALSTAT, of the gender statistics and indicators system of the United Nations and of those that correspond to ECLAC.
  - Dissemination of gender statistics and indicators. Promotion of the elaboration of periodic publications on the status of women in the region.

## **D. FINANCIAL NEEDS AND SOURCES OF FINANCING**

Resources are needed for holding international workshops and meetings, as well as for implementing regional-level pilot tests on time use and violence.



**E. OUTPUTS AND RESULTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE  
STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC**

- Preliminary version of guidelines for preparing time-use surveys.
- Preliminary version of the classification of activities for time-use surveys.
- Proposal for a model survey on time use.
- Preliminary version of the Manual of the Satellite Account of Unpaid Domestic Work.
- Regional diagnosis of the availability of statistical information for measuring violence against women.
- Study of the status of violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

## WORKING GROUP ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES

**Coordinating country:** Dominican Republic (National Statistical Office).

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## II. PROGRAMME 2010-2011

### A. GENERAL GOAL

Contribute to the development of statistical and methodological capacities.

### B. SPECIFIC GOALS

Ensure that all countries have, depending on their conditions, relevant statistics on the use, availability and impact of information and communications technologies (ICT) on the economy and society as well as a minimum set of standard indicators for the region.

1. Support the definition of quantifiable indicators and targets for the plan of action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC 2010).
2. Contribute to the discussion and dissemination of the methodological indicators of ICT access and use by individuals, households, businesses, government and key sectors, such as education and health, proposed by the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technologies for Development.<sup>1</sup>
3. Updating of the compendium of practices on the inclusion of ICT questions in household and surveys and encourage the development of compendiums of similar practices for surveys on ICT access and use by businesses, the public sector and the education and health sectors.
4. Promote the strengthening of the regional database of the Observatory for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (OSILAC) by encouraging countries to send in the results of the relevant measurements.
5. In achieving those goals, the group proposes the following:
  - Increase the number of countries of Latin America and the Caribbean that incorporate the measurement of ICT in their household and business surveys;
  - Take into account the agreement to systematize and disseminate statistics and indicators with a gender-based approach;<sup>2</sup>
  - Contribute substantially through closer ties with the non-Spanish-speaking countries of the Caribbean in the activities of the group in order to promote their integration.

<sup>1</sup> See [online] <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/partnership/material/2009-19-ICT-S.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> See the report of the fourth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC [online] <http://www.eclac.cl/deype/publicaciones/xml/1/30051/LCL2795i.pdf>.

## C. MAIN ACTIVITIES

This working group has been contributing to the development and dissemination of statistics and indicators for information and communications technologies and their comparability at the regional level through the exchange of national experiences and harmonization of methodologies.

In addition, the group will continue to carry out activities to achieve the proposed goals and produce discussion documents to be circulated among the countries in order to provide concrete follow-up to the work. In order to maintain communications and interaction in the group, video conferences and teleconferences will need to be held on a regular basis. The continued support of the Observatory for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (OSILAC) will be fundamental.

Based on the suggestions contained in the most recent report of activities adopted at the fifth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas in August 2009, the group proposes to begin with a meeting of the group of experts on specific thematic units, to be held during the first half of 2010 to develop a strategy for the following activities:

### **1. Inclusion or updating of an ICT module in household and business surveys and discussion of indicators on ICT use by government and the education and health sectors**

This will require the following:

- Identification of sources of financing to provide funds for the inclusion of a ICT module in the surveys on households, businesses, government and the education and health sectors, taking into account the economic conditions in certain countries.
- Identification of the countries in which household and business surveys still do not include ICT modules, encourage them in the practice and invite them to workshops in order to share with those that have already had the experience. Also, activities to encourage and prepare the national statistical offices to participate in discussions with key actors regarding the development of indicators on government and the education and health sectors in their respective countries.
- Follow up of the criteria agreed upon for establishing similar periods of reference and harmonizing the design and execution of the surveys on households, businesses, government and the education and health sectors, so as to promote comparability among countries.
- Organization of training courses with the group of experts, after a survey of the countries, to meet their demand regarding the gathering of ICT information in surveys.

## **2. Enhancing the OSILAC regional database**

This will require the following:

- Identification and close monitoring of the countries that have not provided corresponding measurements using strategic tools in order to obtain the effective results defined by the group.
- Calls for the countries to include an ICT module in their surveys, at least biannually, in order to supply the OSILAC regional database and to consolidate the progress already achieved and guarantee that the database is updated particularly regarding indicators of ICT use, where there is still room for improvement.
- Preparation of periodical bulletins that include comparative studies on the evolution of the variables over time in each country for distribution among the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to ensure full advantage is taken of the regional database of ICT statistics.
- Review of the quantifiable eLAC goals and indicators so as to draw up a regional plan of action, which is a priority activity for this working group.
- Evaluation in the meetings of experts of the data compiled in the OSILAC database and the development, on the basis of that data, of a proposed set of indicators that can be systematically measured and validated at the regional level.

Table 1  
**PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE ICT WORKING GROUP 2010-2011 BUDGET**

		Activity					
Date	Activity	Days	Experts	Per diem/day (dollars)	Total per diem (dollars)	Travel/person (dollars)	Total (dollars)
Second week of February 2010	An e-mail survey (in Spanish and English) to determine the needs of countries for gathering information on ICT						
Third or fourth week of March 2010	An expert meeting during the OSILAC workshop to define (i) a strategy for carrying out the activities of the 2010-2011 programme; (ii) revision of goals and quantifiable indicators of the plan of action of the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLac 2010); and (iii) promotion of awareness and updating of an ICT module for the business surveys based on the existing questionnaire	4	4	270	4 320	1 500	6 000
<b>Total</b>							<b>6 000</b>
Date	Activity	Details	Experts	Days	Cost/day/person (dollars)	Total cost/person (dollars)	Total (dollars)
Second week of July 2010	A course on the proper gathering of the information requested in the ICT modules	Accommodation, breakfast and dinner	10		200	800	8 000
		Transportation	10	4		100	1 000
		Lunch	30		15	60	1 200
		Air fare	10			1 500	15 000
		Interpretation					4 000
		Translation of documents					1 200
<b>Total</b>							<b>30 400</b>

Table 1 (concluded)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Experts</b>	<b>Days</b>	<b>Cost/day/ Person (dollars)</b>	<b>Total cost/person (dollars)</b>	<b>Total (dollars)</b>
Third week of March 2011	An e-mail survey (in Spanish and English) to update the compendium of practices regarding the questions used in household surveys for compiling ICT statistics						
First week of June 2011	(i) A workshop to discuss and review indicators and questions on ICT access and use in government and the education and health sectors (ii) A meeting of the working group to evaluate implementation of the 2010-2011 plan for preparation of the final report by December 2011	Accommodation, breakfast and dinner Transportation Lunch Air fare Interpretation	10 10 30 10	4	200 100 15 1 500	8 000 1 000 1 200 15 000	4 000
Translation of documents							1 200
<b>Total (in dollars)</b>							<b>30 400</b>

#### **D. FINANCIAL NEEDS AND SOURCES OF FINANCING**

Meetings and workshops will make it possible to monitor progress towards achieving the goals proposed for the countries of the region. Obtaining financing to carry out these activities is therefore essential.

The financial support of multilateral and bilateral cooperation and financing agencies, as well as the technical support of the Observatory of the Information Society for Latin America and the Caribbean (OSILAC) of ECLAC and other organizations interested in developing technological progress of the countries, will be required.

#### **E. OUTPUTS AND RESULTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC**

At the sixth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, which will be held at the end of 2011, the working group will present the outputs and results of the activities proposed in this programme of work with a view to achieving the goals for 2010-2011.

The group intends to promote gender-based statistical production, as well as to establish closer ties with non-Spanish-speaking countries to further their integration in the process by providing interpretation services at meetings and workshops and by arranging for the group's documents to be translated into English.

##### **1. Outputs and results:**

- A document containing the revised quantifiable indicators and goals of the Plan of Action of the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC).
- An updated ICT module to be incorporated into business surveys, together with the information needed to calculate basic indicators.
- An updated module on ICT access and use in government and in the education and health sectors.
- The updated 2011 version of the compendium of practices on the inclusion of questions on ICT in household and business surveys.



**WORKING GROUP ON NATIONAL ACCOUNTS**

**Coordinating country:** Peru (National Institute of Statistics and Informatics (INEI))

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## **II. PROGRAMME 2010-2011**

### **A. GENERAL GOAL**

The goal of this working group is to contribute to the implementation of the System of National Accounts 2008 (SNA 2008) in the region and to promote greater integration between the production of basic economic statistics and national accounts.

The goals of this regional plan are to coordinate activities related to the development of the technical capacity of human resources and to the updating and expansion of the diagnostic study carried out in 2007 on the statistical needs of the countries of the region and the progress made in the national accounts, in order to improve coverage and incorporate the new methodological recommendations of SNA 2008.

This means making greater efforts to strengthen the system of basic economic statistics in a sustainable manner, given that this is one of the obstacles facing the region in the preparation of national accounts and for incorporating the recommendations of SNA 2008.

Mechanisms are needed to coordinate the programmes of work of the subregional and country institutions in order to design a horizontal cooperation programme that takes advantage of synergies and the experience of regional and subregional experts and the member countries of the working group. Appropriate strategies for implementing national accounts according to the progress already made in this regard and the level of development of basic statistics are also required.

## **B. SPECIFIC GOALS**

The proposed 2010-2011 work programme for this working group sets out four specific goals.

### **1. International coordination**

The aim is to reach agreement on the work carried out by international organizations to further the implementation of the SNA through the expansion and updating of diagnostic studies and inventories to stimulate the preparation of strategic plans for monitoring implementation of the SNA in the countries of the region.

Coordination among the various actors (countries and international organizations) will make it possible to channel international financing according to those plans and in accordance with pre-established priorities.

### **2. Development of methodologies and standards for basic statistics and national accounts**

The aim is to promote awareness of the methodologies and best practices used in national accounts estimates in the region by disseminating recommendations, manuals, international classifications, norms and international standards that are useful for implementing the SNA in the region.

### **3. Regional harmonization**

The harmonization of methodologies, classifications, cycles and coverage used in relation to national accounts and basic statistics will be promoted in the region through workshops, seminars and forums.

### **4. Human resources development**

The development of human resources is a strategic goal and aims to ensure the quality of basic information and national accounts. It involves the expansion of specific technical skills and competencies through courses, workshops and seminars for the staff of national statistical offices institutes and central banks, among other entities, and the identification of national, regional and international synergies applicable to the training activities for management and technical personnel in areas related to the production of basic statistics and national accounting.

## **C. MAIN ACTIVITIES**

### **1. International coordination**

- Approval of the questionnaire that ECLAC will send to the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on the progress made in implementing the SNA in the region and on other pertinent matters related to the availability of basic statistics and to the practices applied in the preparation and dissemination of national accounts.

- On the basis of the results of the aforementioned questionnaire, which ECLAC will provide, the chair of the group will update and expand regional diagnostic studies on:
  - The current status and plans to develop basic statistics, their quality and use in national accounts and the need to improve or expand basic statistics and indicators.
  - The progress made, the plans to further and the risk factors involved in the implementation of the SNA.
  - The availability of human resources, priority needs regarding the training of technical and managerial staff, training, and the availability of staff who are qualified and have experience in the various areas of national accounting.
- With the support of ECLAC, the coordinating country of the working group will organize a seminar on national accounts in Latin America and the Caribbean to be held in October 2010, tentatively in Santiago. The main items on the agenda will be the treatment of financial intermediation services indirectly measured (FISIM), the informal sector and goods for processing.
- The coordinating country of the group will prepare and coordinate a regional programme of horizontal cooperation in the area of national accounts, which will include internships and technical assistance. Using the documentation on the horizontal cooperation activities carried out in the region as a starting point, this programme will mainly aim to create a mechanism that facilitates the flow among countries of information on the availability of and specific needs for horizontal cooperation. In addition, the parties have agreed to seek financial resources to promote implementation of this type of programme.
- The coordinating country of the group will centre the mapping of the region's activities of the region on the mapping carried out of the following subregions: the Caribbean (by ECLAC), the Andean Community (by DANE of Colombia), Central America (by INEGI of Mexico) and MERCOSUR (by IBGE of Brazil) (to be confirmed).

## **2. Development of methodologies and standards**

- The coordinating country of the group will establish a virtual library containing international, regional, subregional and national documents on recommendations, methodological guidelines, publications by experts on topics related to national accounts and economic statistics. INEGI will support this activity and keep the group informed of the status of the project to compile international recommendations and manuals on official statistics.
- Discussion forums and networks of experts on specific technical issues of interest to the region will be set up.
- A compendium of standards and best practices in economic statistics and national accounts will be made available to the countries.

### **3. Regional harmonization**

- The coordinating country of this working group will coordinate drafting of a report on recent experiences in the harmonization of basic statistics at the subregional level (MERCOSUR, the Andean Community, the Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA), taking into account the harmonization of statistics on the manufacturing industry and services.
- ECLAC will coordinate an information platform (Wiki) to support the technical teams working on FISIM, the informal sector and goods for processing, and will continue with the exchange of experiences on topics of interest to the region.

### **4. Human resources development**

- The coordinating country of this working group will prepare an information document on the courses related to national accounts and economic statistics programmed by various subregional, regional and international organizations.
- INEGI will carry out the corresponding procedures with the World Bank to ensure the holding of the KANGARE training course, which is scheduled for the second quarter of 2010 will be held in the city of Aguascalientes, Mexico.
- ECLAC will coordinate the organization and holding of the course on quarterly national accounts with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). This course is scheduled to take place from 8 to 19 March 2010 in Brasilia.
- The coordinating country of the group will coordinate the organization of the proposed advanced course on national accounts. Activities will include:
  - Definition of the venues for the three meetings scheduled (tentatively Santiago, Bogota and Lima).
  - Determination of the profile of the national experts who participate in the design of the various course modules.
  - Sending of official communications to obtain backing from relevant national institutions.
  - Presentation of the project and negotiation with IDB for the financing required.
- The coordinating country will organize, with support from ECLAC, the workshops and meetings of the advanced course on national accounts that will be held in Santiago, Bogotá and Lima.

## **D. FINANCIAL NEEDS AND SOURCES OF FINANCING**

Since the adoption of the SCN in 1993, ECLAC has worked with and supported the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to further their understanding and implementation of the system and striven to improve significantly its quality, coverage and timeliness.

In 2008, ECLAC began a series of contacts with the countries, international agencies and subregional organizations to involve them as active stakeholders in this process. The regional plan should basically be a mechanism for coordinating the activities undertaken or promoted by the various agencies, countries and donors with a view to strengthening national technical capacities to generate basic economic statistics.

Coordination should seek not only to eliminate the eventual duplication of efforts, but also to examine the possibility of redefining certain activities planned by the agencies and countries. In addition, the regional plan should be conceived, designed and implemented with the greatest possible flexibility in order to benefit from economies of scale. Another fundamental characteristic of this proposal is that it must attempt to involve all stakeholders, without excluding a priori any agency or organization that wishes to and can contribute to achieving the goals pursued.

The agencies that have been contacted and that are involved in this process are engaged in different tasks: some support the countries of the region in preparing national accounts or basic statistics, others only finance those activities, while others both finance them and carry them out. In terms of scope, some agencies operate at the worldwide level (such as the World Bank and IMF), while others have a regional influence (such as IDB and the Andean Development Corporation) and others carry out their mandates at a subregional level (such as CARICOM, SIECA, MERCOSUR and the Andean Community).

The aim therefore is to agree on the creation and functioning of a committee to handle the regional plan, which could be formed by the representatives of the various organizations involved and by at least two member countries of this working group. This structure should guarantee the participation of all the countries of the region in this project given that, in most of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, the central banks are the entities responsible for compiling national accounts.

ECLAC would also be part of the committee and would act as its technical secretariat.

This regional plan committee would be responsible for coordinating current and future activities and would cooperate with agencies and countries in searching for and negotiating additional resources to those already allocated by the institutions involved in the process and that are obtained specifically for achieving the goals set out in the regional plan. The regional plan committee, through its secretariat, will be entrusted with preparing and keeping an updated inventory and record of all activities carried out (or scheduled) by the agencies and the countries involved in relation to national accounts and economic statistics.

The regional plan committee will be an open committee, and its members will initially consist of representatives of the organizations that decide to participate actively in it from the outset of the programme. Subsequently, membership could be extended to other interested parties that agree to promote and enhance its work.

## **E. OUTPUTS AND RESULTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC**

### **1. International coordination**

- Updated diagnosis of at least 80% of the countries of the region, regarding:
  - Basic statistics and indicators
  - Progress in implementing the SNA
  - Human resources
- Seminar on national accounts of Latin America and the Caribbean to be held in October 2010.
- Regional horizontal cooperation programme.
- Mapping of the activities of national accounts in the region.

### **2. Development of methodologies and standards**

- Operational virtual library.
- Operational discussion forums and networks of experts.

### **3. Regional harmonization**

- Report on experiences of harmonization of basic statistics at the regional level.
- Computer-based platform to support technical teams regarding issues of regional interest.

### **4. Human resources development**

- Information bulletins on the courses on national accounts and economic statistics.
- Basic-level KANGARE course.
- Intermediate-level course on quarterly national accounts.
- Teaching module for an advanced course on national accounts (depending on financing).

## **WORKING GROUP ON CENSUSES**

**Coordinating country:** Paraguay (Department of Statistics, Surveys and Censuses (DGEEC))

### **I. MEMBERS OF THE GROUP**

Argentina  
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela  
Brazil  
Chile  
Cuba  
Dominican Republic  
Ecuador  
Mexico  
Paraguay  
Plurinational State of Bolivia  
Uruguay

**Technical secretariat:** Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC

### **II. PROGRAMME 2010-2011**

#### **A. GENERAL GOALS**

Promotion and development of initiatives to support countries in the planning and completion of the 2010 round of population and housing censuses.

#### **B. SPECIFIC GOALS**

Promotion and development of activities aimed at training (workshops on topics related to health and other emerging issues, including improvement of the gathering of data on education, economic activity and gender issues), at the exchange of experiences on census management and operation, and at harmonization (of the conceptual design and contents, and the technology used to capture and process census data and analyse and disseminate information).

Progress in actually carrying out the activities proposed by the group, given the wide range of subjects that census activity covers.



## C. MAIN ACTIVITIES

Table 2

Item	Activities	Organizers and Participants	Year			
			2010	2011		
			First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
1	Technical assistance	The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)/CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC				
2	Regional workshop on the editing, correction and processing of data Venue: Paraguay	UNFPA/The respective countries				
3	Workshop on censuses and living conditions	CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC/The respective countries				
4	Proposal for harmonization of nomenclatures, Venue: IBGE, Brazil Date: April 2010	MERCOSUR/The respective countries				
5	Proposed methodology for managing census quality	CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC				
6	Observation of the 2010 round of censuses (Brazil, Mexico, Paraguay and Uruguay, among others)	The respective countries		Mexico and Paraguay	Brazil	Uruguay
7	Regional pilot survey of Afro-descendants Date: August 2010	CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC/The respective countries				
8	Exchange of experiences on cartography Venue: INEGI, Mexico Date: October 2010					

Table 2 (concluded)

Item	Activities	Organizers and Participants	Year							
			2010				2011			
			First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
9	Workshop on standardization of a minimum set of questions on disability Venue: Paraguay Date: November 2010	The respective countries								
10	Workshop on evaluation of the results of the regional pilot census Date: December 2010	CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC/The respective countries								
11	Compilation, translation and dissemination of the document setting out the recommendations on emerging issues for the 2010 censuses (including new topics covered in 2009 and 2010)	CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC								
12	Three methodological and conceptual documents on carrying out population and housing censuses	CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC								
13	Workshops or meetings of experts on methodological or conceptual aspects of censuses	The respective countries								
14	Exchange of experiences on training Venue to be decided	The respective countries								
15	Workshop on international migration	The respective countries								
16	Exchange of experiences on dissemination Venue: Colombia	The respective countries								

The creation of four subgroups to cover four types of activities is proposed. The subgroups and their coordinating country are as follows: methodology (Paraguay), technology (Brazil), cartography (Mexico) and dissemination (Colombia).

- Technical assistance. The possibility of receiving technical assistance is anticipated for the duration of the activities, namely from the beginning of 2010 to the end of 2011. Countries will be asked to provide details on their primary technical assistance needs.
- Regional workshop on compilation, correction and processing of data: Venue: Paraguay. Given the importance of purging databases through data editing, correction and cleaning processes, this workshop is scheduled for the first quarter of 2010.
- Workshop on censuses and living conditions. Venue and date to be decided. This workshop will be the second to be held during first semester of 2010 and will deal with the subject of censuses and living conditions.
- Proposal for harmonization of nomenclatures. Proposed venue: IBGE (Brazil). Date: April 2010. Classification is a fundamental aspect of harmonization, and efforts will be made to achieve subregional harmonization in the area of nomenclatures. It is proposed to conduct this in Brazil in the second quarter of 2010.
- Proposal of a methodology for census quality management. The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) will be asked to provide an expert to draft a proposal for a methodology on quality management during the various stages of the census process.
- Observation of censuses during the 2010 round (Brazil, Mexico, Panama and Uruguay). This activity consists primarily of encouraging the countries that will hold their censuses in 2011 and 2012 to observe the censuses of the 2010 round. A minimum of two participants per country from at least five visiting countries are expected to make a three-day visit.
- Formation of groups of visiting countries according to interests and geographical proximity. For example representatives of Central American and the Caribbean countries could visit Mexico and Panama, representatives of South American countries could visit Brazil and Uruguay.
- Regional pilot survey of Afro-descendants: Venue: in each country with common norms. Date: August 2010. In order to test the operational value of the proposals made within the framework of the recommendations of the international seminars of CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC, a pilot survey is proposed. This will be organized according to the countries' interests.
- Evaluation of experiences in cartography in the 2010 round. Proposed venue: INEGI (Mexico). Date: October 2010. This activity was proposed given that countries, especially those due to carry out censuses after 2010, consider it to be of particular interest.<sup>3</sup> The activity would last three days full days and involve at least 15 participants (one per country). The participants would be from countries that at the time of the activity have not yet held a census.

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<sup>3</sup> CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC, *Informe final de resultados, Encuesta sobre estado de avance de los censos de 2010 de identificación de las necesidades nacionales*, Santiago, Chile, 2008.

- Workshop on the standardization of a minimum set of questions on disability. Venue: Paraguay. Date: November 2010. This workshop seeks to advance towards the standardization of the measurement of disabilities in censuses.
- Workshop to evaluate the results of the regional pilot survey. Date: December 2010. As the last activity of the year, a workshop will be held to assess the results of the regional pilot survey on Afro-descendants. The goal is to publicize the experience of each country in measuring this population group.
- Compilation, translation and dissemination of a document of recommendations on emerging issues for the 2010 censuses (include new topics treated in 2009 and 2010). In order to systematically compile the experiences of the region's countries that will be conducting their censuses in the 2010 round, a report will be prepared in Spanish and English on all the activities carried out. This report will list the difficulties encountered, as well as criticisms and positive points and will put forward suggestions and recommendations for future census rounds.
- Three methodological and conceptual documents to support population and housing censuses. As in the case of the proposed methodology on census quality management, three reports containing methodological and conceptual information to support the next population and housing censuses will be published.
- Workshops or meetings of experts on methodological or conceptual aspects of censuses. In accordance with the conclusions of the first year of the working group workshops or meetings with experts on specific topics will be held to further methodological and conceptual analyses.
- Exchange of experiences on training. Venue to be decided. This activity will be defined during 2011 and will cover the same topics as the exchanges mentioned above.
- Workshop on international migration. Venue and date to be decided. Considering that migration is one of the emerging topics nowadays, a workshop will be held on international migration in order to analyse current trends and measuring methods, among other subjects.
- Exchange of experiences on dissemination. Venue: Colombia. This activity will be defined in 2011 using the same approaches as the exchanges mentioned above.

#### **D. FINANCIAL NEEDS AND SOURCES OF FINANCING**

The regional office of UNFPA has offered part of the financing needed for the execution of the proposed activities, as well as financial support for coordinating the group's activities. At the same time, other sources of financing, such as the World Bank and IDB, will be explored.

**E. OUTPUTS AND RESULTS TO BE PRESENTED TO THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE  
STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC**

All the activities set out in section C are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2011. A final report with documentation covering all the tasks completed during the period will therefore be presented at the sixth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.

An overview will be provided of all the regional workshops held, together with the results of the methodological proposal, the methodological and conceptual documents, the reports on the exchanges exchange of experiences among countries and the document of recommendations regarding emerging issues.

## **KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER NETWORK**

**Coordinating country:** Mexico (INEGI)

### **I. MEMBERS OF THE GROUP**

All the member countries of the Statistical Conference of the Americas are members and can benefit from the Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN). In addition, the KTN has a virtual group made up of the corresponding focus points of the member countries of ECLAC to promote the exchange of information, documents and good statistical practices in the region.

During 2009-2011, the coordination and work of the council will be overseen by the Chair of the Executive Committee of the Conference (Dominican Republic), Brazil, Colombia and Spain, with Mexico acting as Technical secretariat.

### **II. PROGRAMME 2010-2011**

#### **A. GENERAL GOAL**

Encourage the coordination of training activities for all the working groups of the Conference through the KTN, which is considered to be a regional public good with the mission of strengthening the capacity of the countries to produce, analyse and disseminate official statistics by promoting the transfer of the best knowledge possible.

The KTN is the coordination mechanism for the activities of the existing national programmes. It functions by creating information and communication channels that make it possible to optimize the use of available resources.

#### **B. SPECIFIC GOALS**

1. Give priority to activities aimed at developing a platform for online education that favours the exchange of information, documentation and good practices in the region.
2. Compensate for the lack of experts in census information handling by holding three intensive regional courses on demographic analysis for development.
3. Improve coordination of training activities in the region.

### **C. MAIN ACTIVITIES**

The main activities are set out in table 3.

### **D. FINANCIAL NEEDS AND SOURCES OF FINANCING**

Part of the work of the KTN is to determine the knowledge transfer needs of the working groups and member countries of the Statistical Conference of the Americas and identify possible sources of financing. Many courses receive financing and resources from different national statistical offices. This is the case of activities coordinated by the National Statistics Institute (INE) of Spain which offers full financing, at a cost of approximately US\$ 700,000, for a maximum of 30 participants to attend the courses included in the KTN programme that are held in Madrid. It is hoped that in 2010 the World Bank will provide financing for the activities of the basic coordination unit of the KTN.

**E. OUTPUTS AND RESULTS TO BE PRESENTED TO THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC**

Table 3  
**ACTIVITIES OF THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER NETWORK 2010-2011 OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC**

<b>Organizer</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Goals</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Instructors</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Target countries</b>	<b>Language</b>	<b>Available financing</b>
National Statistics and Census Institute (INDEC) of Argentina	1 March-16 April 2010 (Registration 4 January-10 February)	Basic distance learning course in demography	Provide technical and professional staff of national statistical offices with the basic tools needed to analyse basic demographic variables and population projections	6 weeks		Distance learning	National statistical offices in the region. Up to approximately 30 participants	Spanish	
National Statistical Office (ONE) of the Dominican Republic	26 April 2010	Diploma in basic statistical analysis	Provide adequate tools for the understanding, study, elaboration and interpretation of statistics	34 days (138 hours)	National <sup>a</sup> and international <sup>b</sup>	Training centre of the National Statistics School	Dominican Republic and five other interested countries	Spanish	Only registration
National Statistics Institute (INE) of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	March to September	Training in statistics for national statistical offices. 1st stage: Workshop 1: Characteristics and strengthening the Venezuelan national statistics system Workshop 2: Planning, generation and management of statistical information. Workshop 3: Management and use of administrative records	Strengthen the capacity to produce and manage statistics in the Venezuelan statistics system	72 hours each training session (216 hours in total)	National or international	Caracas, Venezuela	Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	Spanish	No financing available



Table 3 (continued)

Organizer	Date	Activity	Goals	Duration	Instructors	Venue	Target countries	Language	Available financing
ONE of the Dominican Republic	26 January 2010	Diploma in advanced demographic studies	Strengthen the capacity for in-depth analysis, correction and adjustment of demographic data	30 days (120 hours)	National <sup>c</sup> and international <sup>d</sup>	Training centre of the National Statistics School	Dominican Republic and five other interested countries	Spanish	Only registration
ONE of the Dominican Republic	26 April 2010	Diploma in basic statistical analysis	Provide adequate tools for the understanding, study, elaboration and interpretation of statistics	34 days (138 hours)	National <sup>e</sup> and international <sup>f</sup>	Training centre of the National Statistics School	Dominican Republic and five other interested countries	Spanish	Only registration
National Statistics and Information Institute (INEI) of Peru	First semester of 2010	Preparation and dissemination of socio-economic reports	Training on the management of basic statistics tools applied to the analysis and interpretation of social and economic indicators	5 days (40 hours)	National <sup>g</sup>	National Statistics and Information School	Andean Community countries and Spanish-speaking countries	Spanish	No financing available
INEI of Peru	First semester of 2010	Methodology of a change in base year of macroeconomic indicators	Learn about and manage tools and basic concepts for obtaining microeconomic variables for industrial activity and for preparing supply and use tables and integrated economic accounts	5 days	National <sup>h</sup>	National Statistics and Information School	Andean Community countries and Spanish-speaking countries	Spanish	No financing available
National Statistics Institute (INE) of Spain with the Fiscal Studies Institute (IEF) and the Distance Education Centre for Economic and Technological Development (CEDET)	First semester of 2010	Online course on business surveys	Pass on the experience of INE in the analysis of the basic fundaments of business surveys and their practical application, especially in the area of industrial and service sector surveys	9 weeks	Statisticians from INE of Spain	Distance learning course	Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	Spanish	Registration for 30 participants

Table 3 (continued)

Organizer	Date	Activity	Goals	Duration	Instructors	Venue	Target countries	Language	Available financing
National Statistics Institute (INE) of Spain with the International and Ibero-American Foundation of Public Administration and Policies (FILAPP) and CEDDET	21 to 25 September 2009	Seminar on business surveys	Comprehensive training of specialists with prior experience of surveys of businesses and establishments	5 days	Statisticians from INE of Spain and CEDDET	Madrid	Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	Spanish	Registration, air fare, accommodation and per diem for 15 participants
ONE of the Dominican Republic	4 October 2010	Diploma in basic demographic analysis	Increase understanding of the demographic factors that influence and determine population growth and structure	40 days (160 hours)	National <sup>1</sup> and international <sup>1</sup>	Training centre of the National Statistics School	Dominican Republic and five other interested countries	Spanish	Only registration
Latin American Integration Association (LAIA)	6 and 7 October	Twelfth technical meeting of governmental agencies responsible for providing statistical information on foreign trade of LAIA (XII RECOMEX)	Coordinate activities, exchanges of information, experience and knowledge among the member countries' national organizations that are responsible for the provision of statistical information on trade	2 days	National and international	Headquarters of the Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade of Brazil, Brasilia	Argentina, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Plurinational State of Bolivia	Spanish and Portuguese	Yes, for one participant from each member country (total of 13 participants)
National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) of Colombia	October or November 2010	Quality of statistics	Raise awareness of tools and evaluation systems to ensure quality in the production and dissemination of statistical data	15 days	Mr. Javier Alberto Gutiérrez, Academic Director	DANE (Colombia)	Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	Spanish with possible interpretation into English	No financing available
National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) of Mexico	27 and 28 January 2010	Second international seminar on gender and poverty		2 days	National and international	Mexico City	Member countries of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC		To be defined

Table 3 (continued)

Organizer	Date	Activity	Goals	Duration	Instructors	Venue	Target countries	Language	Available financing
INEGI of Mexico	24 March 2010	Seminar on measuring productivity		1 day	National and international	Mexico City	Member countries of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC		To be defined
INEGI of Mexico	May 2010	International seminar on measuring social progress in Latin America and the Caribbean	Increase knowledge on how to generate an analysis, revise and discuss the needs for information on this topic and on the best international practices	2 days	National and international	Mexico City	Member countries of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	Spanish and English	To be defined
INEGI of Mexico	July 2010	Seminar on measuring the informal economy			National and international	Mexico City	Member countries of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC		To be defined
INEGI of Mexico	October 2010	Seminar on cartography for decision-making			National and international	Mexico City	Member countries of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC		To be defined
INE of Spain with IEF and CEDDET	Second semester of 2010	Online course on national accounting	Transfer knowledge on national accounts	9 weeks	Statisticians from INE of Spain and the Bank of Spain	Distance learning course	Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	Spanish	Registration for 30 participants
INE of Spain with IEF and CEDDET	2010	Online course on household surveys	Transmit experience on the technical principles governing the preparation and implementation of household surveys for social and labour statistics	9 weeks	Expert statisticians from INE, Spain	Distance learning course	Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	Spanish	Registration for 30 participants

Table 3 (continued)

Organizer	Date	Activity	Goals	Duration	Instructors	Venue	Target countries	Language	Available financing
INE of Spain with FILAPP	2010	Seminar on classification and registers	Train statisticians in classification and records of businesses and establishments	5 days	Expert statisticians from INE of Spain	Madrid	Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	Spanish	Registration, airfare, accommodation and per diem for 20 participants
INE of Spain with FILAPP	2010	Seminar on electronic dissemination of data	Present possibilities for the dissemination of statistical information in electronic formats and a review of international practices	5 days	Expert statisticians from INE of Spain	Madrid	Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	Spanish	Registration, airfare, accommodation and per diem for 20 participants
INE of Spain with FILAPP	2010	Seminar on service sector indicators	Exchange experiences on strategies for research into the services sector in keeping with European Union directives	5 days	Expert statisticians from INE of Spain	Madrid	Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	Spanish	Registration, airfare, accommodation and per diem for 20 participants
INE of Spain with FILAPP	2010	Seminar on data gathering	Present the main aspects of data in surveys	5 days	Expert statisticians from INE of Spain	Madrid	Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	Spanish	Registration, airfare, accommodation and per diem for 20 participants
INE of Spain with IEF and CEIDDET	2011	Online course on business surveys	Pass on experiences in the analysis of the fundamentals of surveys on businesses and establishments and their practical application in surveys on the industrial and services sectors	9 weeks	Expert statisticians from INE of Spain	Distance learning course	ECLAC member countries	Spanish	Registration for 30 participants
INE of Spain with FILAPP	2011	Seminar on science and technology indicators	Present the main science and technology statistics used in Spain, Europe and the OECD countries, as well as surveys on R&D, innovation, biotechnology, human resources and the use of ICT and e-commerce in companies	5 days	Expert statisticians from INE of Spain	Madrid	Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	Spanish	Registration for 20 participants plus air transportation, accommodation and per diem for each

Table 3 (concluded)

Organizer	Date	Activity	Goals	Duration	Instructors	Venue	Target countries	Language	Available financing
INE of Spain with FIJIAPP	2011	Seminar on environmental statistics and sustainable development	Show the methodological and practical aspects of the preparation of environmental statistics and accounts and indicators of sustainable development	5 days	Expert statisticians from INE of Spain	Madrid	Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	Spanish	Registration for 20 participants plus air transportation, accommodation and per diems for each
INE of Spain with FIJIAPP	2011	Seminar on consumer prices indices	Present the characteristics of the CPI prepared by INE of Spain, its theoretical and practical aspects and topics such as the selection of items and establishments, the general method used for calculating the CPI and treatment of basic basket items	5 days	Expert statisticians from INE of Spain	Madrid	Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	Spanish	Registration for 20 participants plus air transportation, accommodation and per diems for each

<sup>a</sup> Jose Luis Actis, Boanerges Domínguez, Máximo Novo, Amado Reves, José Achecar, Alberto Estrella and Dionicio Hernández.

<sup>b</sup> Daniel Blay (University of Barcelona, Spain).

<sup>c</sup> César Caamaño, Rosa Cañete and Francisco Cáceres.

<sup>d</sup> Enrique Peláez, Leandro González (National University of Cordoba, Argentina); Jorge Rodríguez (CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC, Chile) and Bruno Ribotta (Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Chile).

<sup>e</sup> José Luis Actis, Boanerges Domínguez, Máximo Novo, Amado Reves and José Achecar, Alberto Estrella and Dionicio Hernández.

<sup>f</sup> Daniel Blay Daniel Blay (University of Barcelona, Spain).

<sup>g</sup> Theory by an expert with professional undergraduate training and specialization in the subject at the postgraduate level. Practical work by experts from INEI with experience in statistical reporting.

<sup>h</sup> Expert statisticians from INEI of Peru for the theoretical part and experts from the National Accounts Department of INEI.

<sup>i</sup> Francisco Cáceres and Jafmarv Feliz.

<sup>j</sup> Enrique Peláez (National University of Cordoba, Argentina), Paulo Campanario (CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC, Chile) and Jorge Rodríguez (CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC, Chile).

## **WORKING GROUP ON THE MONITORING OF PROGRESS TOWARDS THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

**Coordinating country:** Argentina

### **I. MEMBERS OF THE GROUP AND FOCAL POINTS**

The members of the working group are: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Panama and Peru.

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**Technical secretariat:** Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

## **II. PROGRAMME 2010-2011**

This working group seeks to:

- Analyse discrepancies between the data produced by the countries and those used by international bodies in monitoring progress towards the goals.
- Draw up a list of measures to facilitate inter-agency coordination and the harmonization of national statistics in the countries and between them and those produced by international bodies.
- Support and promote the active participation of national statistical offices in the preparation and dissemination of national reports on the Millennium Development Goals in each country.
- Broaden and improve sources of statistical data and the methodological bases used in the preparation of indicators for monitoring progress towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

### **A. GENERAL AND SPECIFIC GOALS**

The goals of the working group approved at the fifth meeting of the Conference for 2009-2011 are to:

1. Improve coordination between ECLAC and the coordinating country of this working group to support the work of the national office of statistics in implementing the work programme for the new biennium.
2. Contribute to the strengthening of the national coordination mechanisms for gathering statistics on the Millennium Development Goals and reporting of those goals in the national reports. This will be carried out with the cooperation of the statistical organization, the entity responsible for the preparation of the national report and the pertinent ministries.
3. Analyse and propose indicators that allow the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to evaluate progress towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals at the subnational level in accordance with the priorities and conditions established in each country.
4. Promote the development and implementation of the regional agenda for statistical conciliation of the Millennium Development Goals to facilitate inter-institutional coordination and harmonization of statistics in the countries and between them and international organizations.
5. Identify and channel financial resources that contribute to the building and improvement of the statistics capacities of the countries in the production of indicators of progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and to promote their use in reports and by other users.
6. Promote and facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experiences concerning the production and use of statistics on Millennium Development Goals among the various countries of the region, based on the inter-institutional network of producers and users of indicators of Millennium Development Goals in the region.

7. Urge international organizations to improve Millennium Development Goal indicators, avoiding their imputation unless the necessary coverage is attainable, and after consultations with the interested countries, publicise the methodologies used to calculate indicators of concrete national data that can provide reliable support to decision-makers.

## B. MAIN ACTIVITIES

Table 4

Activities	Date	Output
<b>A. General activities</b>		
<b>1. Formulation of the group's programme of work for 2009-2011</b> (a) Drafting of activities and timetable for 2009-2011 (b) Consultations with the secretariat (ECLAC), the members of the group and donors	July 2009 to September 2009	The working group's programme of work for 2010-2011
<b>2. Meeting of the working group organized by the National Statistics and Census Institute (INDEC) of Argentina</b> (a) Balance of the activities carried out during the biennium (b) Adjustment of guidelines and definition of new goals (c) Agreement on the contents of the activities report for the biennium	April-May 2011	
<b>B. Activities relating to goal 2</b>		
<b>Training workshops:</b> Several meetings are held each year in the region to improve statistics in specific areas. These are ideal opportunities for moving towards statistical conciliation in the specific subjects covered by the Millennium Development Goals. In order to optimize the use of available resources and take advantage of the fact that these meetings bring together both producers and users of statistics in thematic areas, efforts will be made to arrange extraordinary sessions in these meetings to discuss the various aspects of the indicators used in the pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals. Only three of these meetings are listed below, but there are plans to arrange activities on Millennium Development Goal indicators in other meetings on poverty, hunger, employment, education and the environment.		
<b>1. Improvement of mortality measurements</b> This seminar is organized by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) for representatives of the ministries of health of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean	April 2010	<b>Document 1:</b> Diagnostic study of discrepancies and their origin and methodological problems inherent to the measurement of the health indicators set out in the Millennium Development Goals (Organized by: ECLAC) <b>Document 2:</b> Proposal of complementary Millennium Development Goal indicators of health <sup>a</sup> (Organized by: ECLAC) Other materials for the workshop (Organized by: ECLAC)
<b>2. Regional workshop on measurement of the information society in Latin America and the Caribbean</b> This meeting is organized by the ECLAC Division of Production, Productivity and Management with the participation of the national statistical offices of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.	August 2010	<b>Document 3:</b> Diagnostic study of discrepancies and their origin and methodological problems inherent in measurement of ICT indicators set out in the Millennium Development Goals (Organized by: ECLAC) <b>Document 4:</b> Proposal of complementary Millennium Development Goal indicators of ICT equity <sup>a</sup> (Organized by: ECLAC) Other material for the workshop (Organized by: ECLAC)
<b>3. International meeting on gender statistics</b> This meeting is held annually in Aguascalientes, Mexico, and is organized jointly by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), national Women's Institute of Mexico (INMUJERES), INEGI and the Division of Gender Affairs of ECLAC	October 2010	<b>Products required:</b> <b>Document 5:</b> Diagnostic study of the discrepancies and their origin and methodological problems inherent in measurement of gender indicators set out in the Millennium Development Goals (Organized by: ECLAC) <b>Document 6:</b> Proposal of complementary indicators of gender equality <sup>a</sup> (Organized by: ECLAC) Others materials for the workshop (Organized by: ECLAC)



Table 4 (concluded)

<b>C. Activities relating to goals 4 and 6</b>	
<p><b>1. Annual seminar on Millennium Development Goals (convened by several entities)</b>  <b>Organized by: ECLAC</b></p> <p>This seminar builds on previous annual meetings held in different countries in the region and is aimed at high-level representatives of national statistical offices and national entities responsible for preparation of the national Millennium Development Goal report. It will offer a place for discussion and exchange of ideas cross-cutting issues related to the Millennium Development Goals.</p>	November 2009
<p><b>2. Annual seminar on Millennium Development Goals (convened by several entities)</b>  <b>Organized by: ECLAC</b></p> <p>This seminar builds on previous annual meetings held in different countries in the region and is aimed at high-level representatives of national statistical offices and national entities responsible for preparation of the national Millennium Development Goal report. It will offer a place for discussion and exchange of ideas cross-cutting issues related to the Millennium Development Goals.</p>	November 2010 <b>Document 7:</b> Regionalization of the complementary indicators for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals (Organized by: ECLAC) <b>Document 8:</b> Report of good practices of international and regional agencies in measures to reconcile statistics and support technical teams in the production of statistics of Millennium Development Goals indicators (Organized by: ECLAC) Other materials for the seminar (Organized by: ECLAC)
<p><b>3. Annual seminar on Millennium Development Goals (convened by several entities)</b>  <b>Organized by: ECLAC</b></p> <p>This seminar builds on previous annual meetings held in different countries in the region and is aimed at high-level representatives of national statistical offices and national entities responsible for preparation of the national Millennium Development Goal report. It will offer a place for discussion and exchange of ideas cross-cutting issues related to the Millennium Development Goals.</p>	November 2011
<b>D. Activities related to goal 5</b>	
<p>(a) Remote coordination by the country leader of the formulation of search strategies for funding and the drafting of projects to finance activities related to the statistical activities of this working group</p> <p>(b) Identify possible sources of resources and donors</p> <p>(c) Manage projects with donors</p>	July to December 2009
<b>E. Activities related to goal 7</b>	
<p>1. Ask international and regional organizations for information about the measures that have been adopted in order to improve the coverage and transparency of the information on the Millennium Development Goal indicators and the methods of imputation used</p> <p>Formally request that information from international and regional organizations;</p> <p>Present that information to the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC for discussion</p>	March- November 2010

<sup>a</sup> The proposal for complementary indicators will include a revision of the national Millennium Development Goal reports in order to determine which are the indicators that are effectively being reported by countries in the region in accordance with their situation and the local context.

### **C. FINANCIAL NEEDS AND SOURCES OF FINANCING**

Financing is required for thematic workshops and for preparing discussion documents that will be presented in several activities, as indicated in the table above. The financial support of the IDB Regional Program of Public Goods will be requested for the execution of these activities.

### **D. OUTPUTS AND RESULTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC**

In addition to the specific outputs listed above and which are the basis for discussion for the thematic workshops and regional seminars, documents will be produced specifically for presentation at the sixth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC in August 2011.

- Report on the working group's biannual activities (ECLAC-INDEC)
  - Review of guidelines and definition of new goals
  - Design of activities and timetable
  - Drafting of the final report
  - Submission of the activity report to the sixth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC
  
- Report on identification of obstacles for the estimation de indicators at the subnational level  
Organized by: INDEC of Argentina

**WORKING GROUP ON HARMONIZATION OF STATISTICS ON  
INCOME POVERTY AND PUBLIC TRANSFERS**

**Coordinating country:** Uruguay

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## **II. PROGRAMME 2010-2011**

### **A. BACKGROUND**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) is carrying out a project to update regional poverty measurement methodology. This initiative, financed by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), is aimed at improving the identification and characterization of poverty in the countries of the region. So far, project activities have focused on the development of methods based on the work of the Statistics and Economic Projections Division of ECLAC. This work has resulted in the preparation of a general matrix of the methodology for measuring poverty that includes the following elements:

- Basic food basket
- Basic basket of non-food products
- Treatment of incomes

A substantial portion of the results has been achieved through various exchanges with experts from the region, both through workshops and in various national and international forums. Future activities should build on the progress and agreements already achieved in this project.

### **B. GENERAL AND SPECIFIC GOALS**

1. Obtain a set of basic agreements on the harmonization of criteria and definitions. An updated map of the status of national experiences in this regard will be required to achieve this first goal.
2. Promote the dissemination of the basic agreements reached and the harmonized criteria and definitions.
3. Promote horizontal cooperation and training activities.
4. Encourage broad discussion of topics not covered by the aforementioned project.

### **C. MAIN ACTIVITIES**

- Consult the countries of the group to obtain a broad overview of the methodology they use for calculating percentages of poverty, the criteria adopted and their training needs in this area. The questionnaire will be sent out before the end of the year and a reply requested by 28 February 2010. It remains to be decided whether the consultations will extend to the entire region or only to the members of the group.

- Study the results and disseminate them in a report, stressing similarities and differences for discussion. If the deadlines are met, this report will be sent out by 30 April 2010 with a request for comments before the end of May.
- Hold a meeting of the group no later than August or September 2010, for which financing must be obtained. The following will be discussed:
  - The methodology that must be accepted to harmonize statistics in the entire region.
  - The needs of each country as regards the adoption of the methodology.
  - The appropriate strategies for providing training to the countries that need it.
  - How many meetings would be necessary to complete the task.
  - Who will be responsible for the design and drafting of the outputs and results to be presented at the sixth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC in 2011.
  - The timetable for the activities to be undertaken after the meeting.
- Prepare a detailed report on the methodology and criteria to be used for harmonizing the figures on poverty and submit it for discussion by the group. This report should be completed and discussed by the end of 2010.
- Design a training plan in light of the needs in each country and in coordination with the knowledge transfer network, for implementation as of March 2011.
- Design a horizontal cooperation plan that promotes human resources training and the preparation of harmonized statistics through internships and exchanges of experiences, for implementation as of March 2011.

#### **D. FINANCIAL NEEDS AND SOURCES OF FINANCING**

It will be necessary to finance at least two meetings of the group and possibly a workshop, if this is agreed upon at the meeting held between August and September 2010. Financing must be obtained to carry out the training plan and the proposed horizontal cooperation among countries. The costs involved have yet to be estimated.

#### **E. OUTPUTS AND RESULTS TO BE PRESENTED TO THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC**

- A document setting out the consensus reached on the criteria to be applied in the preparation of poverty figures by the member countries of this group that enables them to perform calculations in keeping with the proposed methodology, regardless of whether each country uses its own internal criteria when making its own estimates.
- The training plan and its implementation in 2011, according the financing obtained.
- The horizontal cooperation activities carried out in 2011, according to the financing obtained.