UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL

LIMITED

E/CEPAL/L.129
26 January 1976

ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Santiago, Chile

DRAFT

MEDIUM-TERM PLAN, 1978-1981

of

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

76-1-022-75

CONTENTS

/INTRODUCTION TO

INTRODUCTION TO THE ECLA MEDIUM-TERM PLAN 1978-1981

The profound changes which have been taking place in Latin America in recent years have a direct effect on the kind of activity ECLA will have to carry out and call for a search for new mechanisms for ECLA to discharge its responsibilities. The economic and social development processes of the countries of the region have been uneven.

As a result we are facing a wide variety of development models and styles based on differing ideologies; and it hardly seems possible to imagine a common path towards economic and social progress.

The changes occurring in the Latin American scene are the result of an international situation which is also undergoing profound changes. The accelerated expansion of technological frontiers, the difficulties of the economic and financial institutions which have upheld the international and economic order over the last three decades, the severe problems countries are facing in population, environment, technology, the status of women, etc., affect the entire region. These elements have a strong impact on the organization of Latin American societies and the economic relations between the region and the rest of the world.

Other changes are also taking place, such as the developments in relations between Latin American countries, the advances and reverses in the regional and sub-regional integration schemes, the improvement of mechanisms for economic and financial co-operation, the solidarity of the developing countries of the region in discussions on their problems in international fora, and the new forms of co-operation which are being hammered out.

These are all very dynamic factors undergoing extremely rapid change, which cannot be regulated by fixed rules or contained within a very narrow horizon.

Furthermore, governments have expressed their desire that ECLA should act as a regional co-ordination centre for the economic and social activities and the programmes of the whole United Nations system, and should promote the decentralization of the activities currently carried out by United Nations Headquarters or the specialized agencies.

/In view

In view of the above considerations, ECLA's functions can be defined on three different levels:

(a) At the world level ECLA should act as a member of an international institution which has been given the objective of developing ideas which may be of use to countries of the region in its relations with the rest of the international community. The most important aspects are related to the universality of present problems. These are in general so serious that their effects are multifarious, and so broad that they cannot be tackled in a limited or partial manner. They call for a global approach which accentuates responsibilities and requires an interdisciplinary effort.

Another characteristic at this level is the ever-increasing interdependence among countries and problems, as a result of economic development itself, and the growth of trade to include more countries and products, as well as new factors of a political nature.

Because of the appearance of the severe problems mentioned above, and the impact of new technology on the developing countries, the world ecological balance, habitat problems, the status of women, the population explosion and the rational use of energy resources, a thorough review of the work of this institution is needed.

Finally, the turbulence of the world today and the search for a new international economic order also call for great changes in the treatment of the questions which must be tackled.

(b) It is the responsibility of ECLA at the regional level to pay attention to the growing disparity in the situations of countries of the region, because of their different potential and the particular nature of their economic, political and social systems.

Taking these disparities into account, ECLA should provide all possible assistance to the relatively less developed countries, so as to improve their socio-economic position, while at the same time serving all, in the efforts to strengthen countinually intra-regional relations, by playing an active role in initiating dialogue and negotiations between developing and developed countries.

/(c) At

(c) At the national level ECLA will contribute to a better understanding of the situation and to the search for practical solutions to the imbalances affecting the developing countries.

As an integral part of an international organization, ECLA is mindful of world events and is in an excellent position to make contributions which are the result of its own analysis and to act as a catalyst in the exchange of experience among countries.

In these circumstances, ECLA has adopted a number of criteria to define its priorities and allocate resources in the medium-term. For this purpose it took into account the features of various groups of activities:

(a) Those which should be maintained at their actual level to fulfill planned programmes. Any future expansion should be the result of redeployment of resources or extra-budgetary financing.

(b) Those which should be expanded by reason of specific authority of the governments of the region or the perception of their real interest for the countries of the region, as in the case of technology, integration and some aspects of economic and social development.

(c) Those which should be incorporated on the authority of the General Assembly, ECOSOC or for their importance within the United Nations, such as the situation of transnational enterprises, Habitat, the environment, and women.

Other complementary criteria followed in the medium-term plan are oriented towards the following objectives:

(a) To strengthen links with the central nuclei of the United Nations system. We believe that this policy carried out by ECLA results not only in a suitable combination of efforts but also in greater efficiency of the entire organization. This is true of the establishment of a Joint Division with UNIDO, the approval on our part of a Joint Division with the Centre for Transnational Enterprises at Headquarters and the possibility of reaching similar agreements with UNEP to deal with environmental problems in the region. Co-ordinated action with Headquarters is also being carried out on questions linked with women and Habitat.

/(b) To

(b) To concentrate activities as much as possible in compact nuclei with well-chosen programmes and a modicum of resources to achieve tangible results.

(c) To provide programmes which have extra-budgetary financing with the minimum staff to ensure the desired orientation.

(d) To establish a firm integration with the activities of ILPES and CELADE. This has been one of the most effective efforts to increase the efficiency of ECLA's action in the region in two fields of great importance, planning and population.

(e) To strengthen relations with UNDP to adopt a joint approach at the regional level based on a system of permanent consultation.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

Location: Santiago

Objective 1: Agricultural development policies, programmes and plans

(i) To assist countries in their efforts to formulate and implement their agricultural development plans, programmes and policies on a permanent and systematic basis, in terms not only of rational and consistent decisions on the part of the public agencies concerned, but also of the implementation and execution of action designed to promote and accelerate development in the agricultural sector within the context of overall development.

The medium-term objective is to assist the governments of member countries in constantly improving their agricultural programming and planning techniques, the compilation of data, and the quality and coverage of the quantitative information used in the formulation of agricultural plans and the associated policies.

(ii) Problem addressed

It is generally agreed that agriculture is a key sector for the region's economic and social development. Nevertheless, the attention given to this sector in most countries is insufficient in relation to the urgent need for agriculture to fulfil its basic functions and the complex nature of the problems to be solved. Agricultural planning in many cases has been confined to the mere reconciliation of supply and demand projections, which have served only as reference items with regard to production goals. This reconciliation exercise has not been accompanied by the adoption of appropriate policies and measures for the implementation of the goals set, nor does it make adequate allowance for the incidence of internal and external conjunctural factors which frequently invalidate the postulates on which the exercises are based. In these circumstances, agricultural planning has no decisive influence on the orientation and activity of the institutions which make up the public agricultural administration, nor does it influence the producers'

/decisions, and

decisions, and moreover it is quite unrelated to each country's performance at the regional or area level.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 309 (XIV): Development planning.

FAO resolution 1/72 (Twelfth Regional Conference).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The results obtained by the countries in the implementation of their agricultural planning systems will be investigated and analysed, with particular attention to the main factors that have prevented the attainment of the goals and objectives postulated in the national agricultural development plans. This investigation will form part of a document which will make it possible to visualize more clearly the characteristics of the public agricultural administration, the functional management of the institutions, their operational machinery, the principal rules and guidelines followed by them and the positive experiences or fundamental difficulties they have encountered. (December 1977.)

Furthermore, steps will be taken to intensify the technical co-operation which the Joint ECLA/FAO Agriculture Division offers to the national agricultural planning systems, through the provision of conceptual and methodological support to the experts in those agricultural development projects which are being executed by the United Nations system in the region. In addition, and on a similar basis, technical advisory assistance will continue to be given to the integration secretariats in their multinational agricultural programming efforts. (Continuing.)

(v) Expected impact

In the Joint Division the governments will have a channel to provide them with up-to-date information and details of the experience accumulated by both ECLA and FAO in the field of agricultural development planning. The evaluative and critical analysis deriving from the comparison of two or more systems of planning, programming or design and implementation of policies clearly provides an instrumental advantage in confronting new situations that may arise in the countries where the Joint Division is collaborating in this field. The most significant

/impact will

impact will derive from the evaluative and methodological conclusions which can be offered, either directly to the governments or indirectly through the projects being executed by the United Nations system in the various countries, through successive analyses in terms of time and space of the various experiences available.

Objective 2: Agricultural production potential

(i) To assist the countries in improving the utilization of their agricultural production potential, in line with the priorities of their own successive strategies for increasing and diversifying production and improving the food and agricultural raw materials supply systems.

The medium-term objective is to collaborate with the governments so that within a reasonable period they may acquire a fuller knowledge of the potential production resources available, and to determine alternative actions and mechanisms that will permit a fuller utilization of their production potential within the short and the medium term, with emphasis on the production of foodstuffs.

(ii) Problem addressed

It is traditionally affirmed that there is plenty of potentially productive land in Latin America. This overall view should, however, be examined more carefully. There is still insufficient information about land and water resources. Partial and more detailed studies and evaluations of the resources of several countries lead to less optimistic views. Some serious limitations have been revealed, in connexion especially with the poor natural fertility of the soil, the shortage of water for irrigation and the size of some areas of steep slopes in the Andes Mountains. There is a lack of technology and research regarding the proper use of land in the tropical and sub-tropical parts of the region. The supposedly large reserves of land in the region are in areas with difficult access. Generally speaking, the land more easily prepared for agriculture and livestock raising is already in use; therefore, a realistic evaluation would be advisable of the possibilities which any expansion of agricultural land can hold out for agricultural development in the region.

/As regards

As regards technological knowledge, even though there are large gaps and much research still remains to be done, the countries possess a valuable fund of information whose widespread dissemination and use by the producers could significantly increase production. Information on technological inputs is as yet incomplete, particularly with respect to the medium-term possibilities for the production of fertilizers and pesticides. There does not appear to be any major problem in the region as regards the possibility of soon making good its shortages of seeds and breeding animals, medicines for veterinary use and mechanical equipment.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 313 (XIV): Problems of the primary sector.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding impact

This will be basically aimed at determining the size and limitations of the region's agricultural production potential by means of a systematic and continuing review of:

(a) The various land surveys and evaluations carried out in the countries, with a view to gradually adjusting the somewhat too general and estimative evaluations available at present.

(b) The actual use of agricultural land and the changes in land use, on the basis of national statistics or photo-interpretation and other modern systems of measurement of land use.

(c) The processes of extending the land under cultivation in countries where there is still scope for this, and the results of systems of land settlement or colonization.

(d) The progress made in research, which opens new prospects of utilization of tropical or equatorial areas by means of appropriate technological systems.

Periodical reports will be prepared.

(v) Expected impact

(a) At the country or sub-regional level

- A more precise knowledge of the national agricultural growth possibilities, according to the resources available.

/- The creation

- The creation of a greater awareness of the physical limitations affecting agricultural development in certain countries.
- The establishment of production strategies in keeping with the real situation and with the available resources.
- Objetive measurement of the efforts needed in each country's agriculture in order to overcome the obstacles or make better use of the potentialities of the available resources.

(b) At the Latin American Level

- To define in concrete terms the oft-repeated image of Latin America as a region which appears to have no problems as regards resources for its agricultural development and which should increase its contribution to feeding the growing world population.
- To bring out differences between countries and endeavour to channel the external resources required to overcome the bottlenecks restricting the expansion of agriculture in the region.

Objective 3: Food and nutrition

(i) To help the governments of the member countries to improve the quality and composition of their peoples' diet, particularly among the most vulnerable population groups.

The medium-term objective is (a) to promote in the countries of the region a knowledge and understanding of the food and nutrition problem, its causes, evolution and biological and organic consequences and its negative impact on production activities and economic and social development; and (b) to help to find national short- and medium-term solutions and define the action into which they should be translated.

(ii) Problem addressed

Latin America is not a homogeneous group of countries in food consumption or the nutritional level of diets. The average calorie intake in 11 countries of the region is below the acceptable minimum. However, the size of the food deficit in the region is larger than appears from the examination of national consumption averages alone.

/It is

It is estimated that about 60 per cent of the Latin American population - about 180 million persons - suffer from deficient feeding; and the poorest 20 per cent of them - about 60 million persons - are suffering the consequences of severe under-nutrition. The food deficit among the poorest strata is estimated to be about 350 calories per day per person.

Study of the food and nutritional problem in the region has shown that the present situation is created by economic, social, cultural, environmental and health factors which are closely interdependent. The problem is of multisectoral origin and should therefore be dealt with by multisectoral measures incorporated, as far as possible, in the socio-economic development plans of the countries.

(iii) Legislative authority

FAO resolution 23/72 (XII Regional Conference).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

Collaboration will be extended to governments in the preparation of up-to-date diagnoses of the food and nutrition situation and the formulation of specific policies in that area linked with agricultural, agro-industrial and marketing activities. Governments will be advised on adapting such policies to the new circumstances and on carrying them out through specific activities in chosen fields. Technical assistance will be provided to national planning bodies for the creation of suitable machinery and procedures to follow up, control, appraise and adjust food and nutrition policies.

Technical studies and documents of use to the countries will be prepared and published periodically, on general or specific food and nutrition problems, with examples of policies applied in Latin America.

(v) Expected impact

The evaluative and methodological conclusions submitted to governments will help them in the periodical review of their short- and medium-term special food programme which give priority to the most vulnerable population groups, by establishing the bases on which to improve them. They will also contribute to the adoption in each country of measures to locate and quantify the degree of malnutrition among the different socio-economic groups as a preliminary to preparing specific programmes to improve the nutritional situation of the most underprivileged.

/A permanent

A permanent stimulus will be given to the elaboration and dissemination of methodologies which take into account and facilitate the incorporation of food and nutrition objectives in planning methods. Future nutritional levels must be specific goals in such methodologies, and not the residual result of planned economic growth.

Objective 4: Co-operation in the agricultural sector

(i) To help the governments of member countries and existing integration bodies to broaden and strengthen co-operation efforts in the agricultural sector.

The medium-term objective is to collaborate with integration bodies to strengthen their capacity to identify and formulate programmes, projects or activities designed to increase agricultural co-operation among member countries of the different integration plans.

(ii) Problem addressed

Because of the size and importance of the agricultural sector in the economies of the Latin American countries, it is urgent to acquire a better understanding of the role that the sector can play in promoting and consolidating economic integration processes, either as an item for negotiation with third countries, as a subject for multinational programming of productive activities, as a tool to improve food habits, as a dynamic element to promote and attain national production goals, or as a means to develop an appropriate Latin American agricultural technology.

At the same time, however, it should be noted that agriculture is a sector which involves complex activities and may be the object of multinational undertakings and understanding, and that short-term results cannot be expected in it, which the adaptation of agriculture to integration processes calls for special measures - in addition to the general provisions - which require great care and dedication. The agricultural sector needs time to assimilate the responsibilities and enjoy the benefits of integration.

/The reorientation

The reorientation of production, gradual specialization and enjoyment of relative advantages, transformation of rural structures, creation of technology, production of technical inputs needed by the agricultural productive process, creation of agro-industries, improvement of distribution systems, and many other aspects linked to agricultural development, will be able to take shape largely when there is collective determination accompanied by concerted policies and decisions which facilitate the co-ordination of agricultural plans and policies.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 356 (XVI): Economic Integration.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The ECLA/FAO Agriculture Division has been offering collaboration and technical assistance to the secretariats of the regional and subregional integration bodies. It will strengthen this technical assistance in the future and attend to new requests for collaboration in the preparation of subregional or regional agricultural development strategies and in the identification of the joint or concerted machinery, measures and activities into which the agricultural provisions contained in the various treaties and agreements for economic integration should be transformed.

For this purpose it is intended to prepare periodic reports dealing with progress in subregional and regional agricultural integration processes, which will study the results being achieved, the problems which have arisen and have not yet been solved, and new prospects for co-operation in agriculture.

(v) Expected impact

The governments of the countries which belong to the different integration schemes will be given the most accurate and up-to-date picture possible, together with a critical and objective appraisal, of the development and outlook of the economic integration processes, with specific reference to the agricultural sector. This study will be unusual in that it will also attempt to present selected approaches to various aspects relating to regional and international trade in specific agricultural products, and even appraisals of relevant policies.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

Location: Mexico

Objective 1: Programme of agricultural economic development

(i) To collaborate with the governments of the Central American member countries of the Common Market in establishing agricultural development policies and in the evaluation and preparation of their medium-term plans and annual operational plans in agriculture.

This would also make it possible to contribute to the improvement of the systems for regional planning, the training of personnel in charge of agricultural programming, and the evaluation of progress.

(ii) Problem addressed

Agriculture in Central America constitutes the main economic activity, not only because of the employment it generates, but also because of its contribution to the value of exports. The planning of agriculture, as well as its programming and the preparation of specific projects, represents therefore a highly important basis for the economic development of the countries.

(iii) Legislative authority

This programme is based on ECLA resolutions 290 (XIII), 307 (XIV) and 375 (XV); and on resolution 137 (CCE) of the Committee for Central American Economic Co-operation.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The co-operation provided to countries in the field of national agricultural planning will continue in accordance with the requests received. Technical assistance to SIECA in regional agricultural planning will also continue. This is a permanent activity.

(v) Expected impact

These activities will make it possible for the planning offices of the Central American countries to improve their technological and methodological capacity for the preparation of agricultural plans and programmes designed to tackle the problem of agricultural development in a more systematic way.

/Objective 2:

Objective 2: Co-ordination of agricultural policies

(i) It is intended to collaborate with the countries in establishing agricultural policies in keeping with the aims of the integration programme, while taking into account the priorities arising from their own development, the complementarity of agricultural supply in Central America, and the needs of economic and social development.

The main objective of this activity is to collaborate in the shaping of a medium-term co-ordinated programme permitting optimum use of the human and natural resources of Central America and a steady improvement in the sector's income.

(ii) Problem addressed

Because of their ecological characteristics, agricultural conditions in Central American countries are very similar. Within the context of eminently national development, pernicious competitition has been generated among the countries due to the fact that their exports are directed to practically the same markets. A regional agricultural development policy would enable crop priorities to be laid down for specific areas that possess more favourable conditions for certain products. It is not only the ecological factors that are important in this connexion, but also the human factors and the financial capacity.

Recent world experience regarding primary products has shown that the adoption of a common position, when dealing with the different markets acquiring the products typical of a region, improves selling terms and allows for a better regulation of supply. Central America has traditionally depended on the sale of a handful of commodities, which makes the unification of development and production policies for such goods a matter of growing importance.

(iii) Legislative authority

This programme is based on ECLA resolutions 290 (XIII), 307 (XIV), and 375 (XV).

/(iv) Strategy

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The Office will collaborate with governments and with SIECA in the revision and analysis of national agricultural development policies, with the aim of suggesting criteria and methods permitting the co-ordination, complementarity, or unification of policy measures for agricultural development.

On the basis of national analyses, the preparation of a common Central American approach will be attempted. For this purpose, meetings with the government officials in charge of the countries' agricultural policies will be held, as well as meetings with the officials of regional and international agencies for technical and financial assistance.

(v) Expected impact

It is expected that the contribution made to the countries, to SIECA, and to the Central American Common Market will be of vital importance, since agriculture constitutes the backbone of the region. The co-ordination of agricultural policies and the complementation of promotion and sales activities for the countries' agricultural products will therefore have important repercussions on the economy of the countries and of the region as a whole.

Objective 3: Programme of agricultural development in Mexico

(i) To collaborate with the Mexican Government in the analysis, appraisal, and instrumentation of agricultural policies which make the greatest contribution to the agricultural development of the country.

(ii) Problem addressed

Until 1965, Mexican economic progress was associated with the steady expansion of agriculture, since the sector grew at an annual average rate of 7.5 per cent in the two five-year periods previous to that year. However, the annual rate began to fall, and in the period 1965-1969 it reached only 5.8 per cent, while the rate for the first years of the 70s has fallen even further.

A study of this situation involves complementary work in priority areas of agricultural policy in which problems affecting policy can be approached in greater depth.

/(iii) Legislative

(iii) Legislative authority

This programme is based on ECLA resolutions 290 (XIII), 307 (XIV) and 375 (XV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

Collaboration will continue with the Mexican Government agencies that took part in the preparation of the study on agricultural policy in Mexico and with organizations that play an important role in the definition and instrumentation of agricultural policy.

(v) Expected impact

It is expected that this research will help to enable the groups and organizations responsible for policy decisions in Mexico to establish priority areas for agricultural development and to work out policies and measures to put them into effect.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

Location: Port of Spain

Objective: Agricultural development

(i) To carry out research on tropical agriculture, including genetic research, in specific branches of agricultural production, and to disseminate the positive results achieved among the member countries of the Caribbean.

(ii) Problem addressed

Agricultural problems in the majority of the Caribbean countries are caused by limitations connected with the structure of land tenure, the lack or scarcity of suitable technology and the presence of transnational corporations which are owners of large tracts of land and do not consider the needs and objectives of national agriculture.

Despite the significant collaboration provided by the international community and regional and subregional bodies, food production for domestic consumption has tended to remain stagnant in the majority of the member countries of the Committee. This has forced the countries to import increasing quantities of food and has contributed to the deterioration of their balance-of-payments deficits. The importance of overcoming the problems in the agrarian sector is clear, because of its links with employment, the supply of inputs to industry, the exploitation of resources, the standard of living of the rural population, migration from the country to the city, and also the development of tourism. Thus to achieve harmonious development of the Caribbean, greater efforts should be made in this sector.

(iii) Legislative authority

Resolution 358 (XVI) of the Economic Commission for Latin America which recommends the formation of a Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee and resolution 2 (I) of that Committee on possible fields of co-operation.

/(iv) Strategy and

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

National efforts to formulate and implement rational policies on agricultural development should be studied, together with the co-operation activities already being carried out in the framework of CARICOM, so as to identify new fields of co-operation in agricultural production. In this way it will be possible to develop plans similar to those which, for example, are already being carried out through bilateral or multilateral projects in maize and soybean production in Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, San Cristobal, and also in Belize and Jamaica. It might also be possible to define the prerequisites and suitable conditions to promote and organize: (a) subregional industrialization and production of crops; (b) producer-exporter associations, so as to disseminate their experiences and promote mutual co-operation in various aspects of the marketing of agricultural products, including the possibility of exporting as a group to third countries.

It will also be important to carry out studies aimed at achieving greater and better use of appropriate fertilizers and take measures to combat soil erosion, while paying due attention to environmental problems with unfavourable long term effects on the agrarian sector. Furthermore the development of agribusiness and the establishment of suitable institutional structures should make possible the better exploitation of food production potential. Finally, it is also considered fundamental to encourage the active participation of the rural population in the development process.

(v) Expected impact

To make available to the countries of the region studies in agricultural development which will enable them to tackle the possibility of increasing food production and as a result improving employment opportunities and the standard of living of the rural population, and thus checking the exodus from the countryside to the city.

Required growth in total man-months

Programme	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget request	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries				
Professionals	121	147	171	171
All others	96	120	144	144

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Economic development

Location: Santiago

Objective: Latin American development: long-term appraisal and outlook

(i) To appraise Latin American development in the light of implementation of the International Development Strategy from the regional point of view, by means of a study which will assess the economic and social development process from 1950 up to the present day and analyse the potential, limitations and propsects of Latin American development.

(ii) Problem addressed

In the last thirty years Latin America has doubled its population and quintupled its economic strength and also its urban population.

The aim is to analyse this process in order to throw light upon the nature and scope of the economic and social transformation which have occurred and the essential factors which determined them in an effort to explore the outlook for future developments.

(iii) Legislative authority

Resolution 347 (XVI), Second Regional Appraisal of the International Development Strategy.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

As concerns the conceptual and pragmatic side, this project will be carried out by dealing with the following aspects:

(a) Assessment of the economic and social process during the post-war period or as of 1950, to define the reference period more exactly;

(b) The potential, limitations and prospects of the economic development of the countries of the region; and

(c) The study of the development options or scenarios which are considered most reasonable and justified at the national, regional, and international levels.

/(v) Expected

(v) Expected impact

In the execution of this project of a clearly multi-disciplinary nature, the basic elements will be collected for a discussion of the possible options for Latin American development, at the level of national plans and at the regional and international level.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Economic development

Location: Santiago

Objective 1: Economic Survey

(i) To describe and analyse on an annual basis the principal features of economic trends in Latin American countries and in the region as a whole.

(ii) Problem addressed

The size and features of overall economic growth and the manner in which available goods and services are distributed constitute the principal determinants of the evolution of the standard of living of the population. If this is to be improved rapidly the factors which affect the rate and modalities of economic development and the distribution of its fruits must be known. In order to obtain such information there is need for the periodic, systematic and comparative review of Latin American economic trends, of external circumstances which favour or obstruct them, and the economic policies which exercise a positive or negative influence on them.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolutions 2 (I) and 7 (IV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The annual Economic Survey will try to identify and provide a systematic analysis of the features, causes and prospects of economic development in Latin America and the countries of the region. For this purpose use will be made, as far as possible, of common schemes of analysis through which the progress of national economies can be evaluated in comparative terms. The Survey will also aim at placing the study of development in the region in the context of world economic trends and, in particular, those of the industrialized countries.

(v) Expected impact

The Economic Survey has an immediate impact since for a quarter of a century it has provided more complete, systematic and timely

/information on

information on annual trends in Latin American economies and the economy of the region as a whole. As a result, the Survey is highly regarded in government, academic and information circles. By keeping the information and analysis of the situation of Latin American economies up to date, the Survey offers, in addition, an indispensable basis for identifying the more important economic problems of the region, for analysing their future impact, and for establishing national or regional policies aimed at overcoming them.

Objective 2: Styles of development

(i) The aim of the studies on styles of development is to examine the substantial characteristics of outstanding growth modalities in Latin America. A further aim is to present and discuss the various options for improving their general incidence, and in particular the social incidence of the prevailing styles in an integrated framework.

(ii) Problem addressed

In the analysis of the Latin American economies stress has been placed on a series of positive and negative aspects. Obviously, the latter are the major cause for concern. Among them the most important are vulnerability as regards the exterior, the unequal distribution of the fruits of technological progress, and a series of real and financial imbalances, as well as the inflationary processes.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolutions 310 (XIV) and 320 and 328 (XV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

Studies completed and in progress attempt to approach the subject at two main levels. On the one hand, a global regional approach is taken, covering the main aspects of the structure and operation of its economies. On the other, use is made of numerical models which reflect and correspond to the special features of some selected countries.

(v) Expected impact

A topical issue in Latin American circles being growth modalities for the countries and the need to minimize negative aspects and achieve objectives, such as those laid down in the International Development

/Strategy, it

Strategy, it is assumed that the studies to be carried out will help in clarifying and defining the terms of the discussion.

Objective 3: Income distribution

(i) Research on income distribution stems in reality from and is complementary to research on development styles. In fact, the highly unequal distribution of income is a primary factor in the dissatisfaction and resulting criticism of the growth modality which has been typical of the region. As a result, in-depth studies should be undertaken in the field to provide concrete knowledge of this feature, and policies and instruments for dealing with it ought to be examined.

(ii) Problem addressed

Since its first studies in this field ECLA has been stressing the highly inequitable structure of income distribution in Latin America. But it is not sufficient to confirm this state of affairs, it is necessary to identify clearly the determinants of this situation, their interrelationships, and importance.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 328 (XV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The analyses carried out so far and some which are still in progress take a more familiar approach to the problem, in other words from the point of view of factor, sectoral, personal and regional distribution. In line with a tendency which has been gaining ground in the different United Nations agencies the proposal of giving special attention in future to the question of "abject poverty" has been accepted. This means identifying those who compose that segment of the population, showing the causes of their condition, and examining suitable objectives and instruments for dealing with their specific situation.

(v) Expected impact

It is expected that the research projects underway or to be carried out will help in improving understanding of this problem, and will facilitate the search for economic policy measures and instruments for dealing with it.

/Objective 4

Objective 4: Financial intermediation

(i) The limited flow of domestic financial issues emerges as a serious obstacle to the implementation of conjunctural, anti-inflationary and long-term policies. Virtually all Latin American countries are in the process of reorganizing their respective financial sectors in an attempt to breach the watertight compartiments of the financial structure in order to facilitate more direct possible flows between units showing a surplus and those with deficits. The aim is to examine these obstacles on a regional basis so as to facilitate the reorganization referred to.

(ii) Problem addressed

The analysis is directed to the old problem of the wasteful use of financial resources. The amounts set aside for investment are smaller than requirements, although there are large surpluses which either remain unnecessarily unproductive or are misused.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECAL resolution 290 (XIII).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The project will make a critical examination of conditions in the financial sectors in Latin America and of the changes being introduced. Publications and participation in seminars will serve as means of gaining information on the practical results of such changes.

(v) Expected impact

Since this is a field which is sufficiently covered by other international agencies, it is expected to bolster the impact which they have on the monetary and financial policy patterns in the region.

Objective 5: Public enterprises

(i) The first stage of the project, started in 1975, will be completed during 1977. This is directed towards obtaining information on the public sector in four Latin American countries (Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador and Uruguay), and evaluating their significance as regards their impact on the economic system; for this purpose, the pertinent research (case studies) is being undertaken.

/The second

The second stage of the project will be carried out between 1977 and 1979. For a group of countries in the region (which will include some of those identified in the previous paragraph) the relative possibilities and advantages offered by public enterprises in transforming some variables of fundamental importance in the promotion of economic development will be examined. Cases in point are technological knowledge and the availibility of capital goods. In these two cases the examination and evaluation of actions taken, or those that could be taken by public enterprises, at both national and international levels will be of interest.

(ii) Problem addressed

In Latin America there is a rather widespread tendency for governments to play an increasingly important role in the economic and social development process of their countries; many of them have used public enterprises as an active factor in this process. Nevertheless, in the different countries, the causes and reasons for the involvement of these enterprises are different, and the rate of growth, as well as the behaviour pattern of the public sector, also varies in these countries.

In the region there are different socio-economic systems which hold their own ideas of social and economic development policy. It is, therefore, interesting to analyse the role of public enterprises as an instrument of development and planning in the different political and social frameworks and see what forms of organization are most suitable for this role.

The two subjects - or stages - selected within this wide field of research seem to have a certain priority among the many aspects which could be covered.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 290 (XIII).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

As a result of the research carried out in the stages referred to, two ECLA documents are to be prepared; the first to be published in mid-1977 and the second in mid-1979. It is felt that they will have

/the normal

the normal circulation and dissemination of the documents of this institution.

Moreover, it is possible that one or two seminars will be held with the participation of government representatives, experts in this field, and executive officials or middle-level management of public enterprises for analysing the documents submitted and for an exchange of ideas and experiences on the aspects dealt with in them.

(v) Expected impact

The most important impact is likely to be in relation to the conclusions which could stem from the implementation of the project. The Economic Development Division will handle the dissemination of these conclusions and the promotion of conditions which favour the emergences and intensification of other research activities on public enterprises in other international or national centres of the region.

Objective 6: Transnational enterprises in Latin America

(i) To establish a regional unit on Transnational Enterprises to carry out the work programme on problems arising out of the operations of transnational corporations at the regional level, in co-operation with the United Nations Information and Research Centre on Transnational Corporations.

(ii) Problem addressed

The increasing problems raised by the rapidly growing influence of transnational corporations over economic development and international economic relations, coupled with the lack of information concerning specific dimensions and the exact nature of these problems have caused considerable concern among member countries of ECLA, in particular among the developing member countries. The ECLA secretariat was requested by member countries, at several Commission sessions, to step up its activities in the field of transnational corporations in order to assist governments in finding solutions to the pressing problems in this area.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 349 (XVI), of 12 May 1975. Transnational enterprises.

/ECOSOC: resolution

ECOSOC resolution 1961 (LIX) of 29 July 1975.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

- Research: intensification and amplification of research in ongoing projects in the field of natural resources and manufacturing. Initiation of research in new projects in relatively unexplored areas such as tourism, banking, commerce, insurance and transportation.
- Information of technical co-operation: an inventory of the existing information network on transnational corporations. The holding of seminars, discussions, hearings with officials of member governments, research institutes and executives of transnational enterprises regarding the conceptualization of the research, information and technical co-operation functions of the unit.

(v) Expected impact

Through research studies undertaken, through the provision of better information on transnational corporations and through technical co-operation activities, it is expected to strengthen the bargaining power of member governments of regional developing countries in their negotiations with transnational corporations in order to maximize the impact of activities of transnational corporations on the economic development of the region.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Economic development

Location: Mexico

Objective 1: Economic development of Central America and Mexico

(i) To carry out regular appraisals in order to determine the achievements, prospects and limiting factors of development, with the aim of providing basic economic policy guidelines which take into account relevant circumstances and factors operating at both the national and international levels.

(ii) Problem addressed

The work of interpreting and assessing the development process of the countries in the area - especially of the smaller ones - should be extended and intensified. This is necessary in view of the new and more complex problems arising at the national and international levels as a result of the changes taking place in the relationships between industrialized and underdeveloped countries. In the economic sphere, tension has increased not only because of the international economic crisis, but also because of price increases and the shortage of raw materials and basic goods, which have aggravated the balance-of-payments problems of the countries in the area. All this will require the application of more refined instruments and action in the field of economic policy to deal with and minimize adverse repercussions on the well-being of the majority of the population. Furthermore, in Central American countries the crisis in the process of integration has had a negative effect on their socio-economic evolution, which makes it necessary to look for new plans and activities to strengthen and consolidate regional co-operation.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 290 (XIII).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The progress of the economies of the region will be studied and analysed with special emphasis on the examination and assessment of

/the current

the current difficulties experienced by the countries, as well as on the design and application of specific policies as regards production, employment, finance, prices and incomes, and the balance of payments.

Particular attention will be paid to the main causes hindering the achievement of the aims and objectives of national development plans.

(v) Expected impact

Annual economic studies and biennial appraisals will make available elements of analysis, diagnosis, and guidance for use in dealing with the main events occurring in these countries and will integrate with the documentation on the fulfilment of the International Development Strategy. It is expected that these documents will contribute to the application of appropriate measures for solving the region's problems.

Objective 2: Planning and economic policy

(i) To help the governments of the Central American countries to:

(a) Draw up policies intended to accelerate their socio-economic development;

(b) Strengthen their planning instruments and mechanisms, and

(c) Strengthen the connexions and the coherence between short-term policies and medium-term objectives.

(ii) Problem addressed

In recent years, studies of economic development, apart from being limited in number, have limited themselves to a general analysis of certain macroeconomic variables and have not systematically tackled the examination and assessment of short-term policies in relation to longer-term objectives. At the same time, concrete experience in developing countries has shown that inadequate connexions between medium-term planning and specific action in the area of short-term policies is one of the main factors accounting for the shortcomings in the planning process. For this reason it will be necessary to examine and intensify aspects of the formulation, execution, control and evaluation of economic policy in the area.

/(iii) Legislative

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 310 (XIV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

Technical assistance to the countries in planning and drawing up economic policies will continue, but with new methodology and scientific improvements tending to offer a solution to the technical problems of co-ordination between long-term and short-term development programmes.

(v) Expected impact

Improvement in the planning systems and mechanisms in the area, the training of national teams of experts, and closer co-operation with a view to improving and extending the statistical base and the qualitative imformation available. The preparation or application of methodology and indicators for the analysis and assessment of short-term policies is also expected.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Economic development

Location: Buenos Aires

Objective 1: Information, analysis and programming methods and techniques for short-term economic developments.

(i) This project is aimed at (1) the improvement and broadening of the available statistical base on productive sectors and national and financial accounts; (2) the preparation or implementation of methodologies and indicators for the analysis and appraisal of short-term policies; (3) the development of tools and methods for projections and the construction of short-term models.

(ii) Problem addressed

The aim is firstly to improve the quality of statistics and construct indicators capable of guiding short-term economic policies. It is therefore also of fundamental importance that they should be available in time to map out policy. Secondly, the aim is to prepare short-term economic policy models with which to manage the economic situation more effectively. As can be seen, this is a permanent task since the questions and sectors to be covered are very varied; the analysis would become continually more thorough and detailed.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 310 (XIV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

To carry out this study it will be necessary to acquire a better knowledge of information sources, carry out support programmes to extend and improve information, and seek new research methods or adjust existing ones, in close collaboration with officials of the national government. To implement this strategy, short-term econometric models will be tested, among other tools.

(v) Expected impact

There will be improvements in the quality and timeliness of statistics, the construction of indicators and the formulation and application of policies to the Argentinian situation. The methodological improvements achieved will be of use to other Latin American countries.

/Objective 2:

Objective 2: Development styles

(i) The aim is to analyse the "long term" in all its aspects. The concept of "styles of development" does not merely imply the discovery or identification of qualitatively different economic and social forms, but also the description of them in such a way that it is possible to go on to the other stages of scientific method: explanation, prediction, decision, through deductive, hypothetical-deductive, and empirical reasoning, and also experimental reasoning (through the possibility of clearly defining historical "similar cases", and numerical experimentation through models).

The concept of style with its unified approach will be used as a reference framework to analyse, and make recommendations on, some problems of Latin American interest: for example, styles of technology and consumption, their influence on environmental contamination, the scarcity of resources, marginalism and unemployment, world trade, etc.

(ii) Problem addressed

There is an obvious need for a "leap forward" in unified planning theory and methods, in other words, to adopt a unified approach based on long-term problems and the real initial situation and arrive at recommendations for concrete action at the level of project choice or government action.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolutions 310 (XIV) and 320 and 328 (XV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

(a) Methods which are currently at an experimental stage will be developed and used for studies of the instruments, viability and consequences of long- and medium-term plans. These methods are: numerical models; socio-political support and viability indicators; adjustment of tactics to strategies and of strategies to major long-term objectives; indicators and strategies of structural change; the general theoretical framework for the calculation of "social costs"; (b) using these methods, an analysis will be made of the basic hypotheses of alternative long-term economic development.

/(v) Expected

(v) Expected impact

It is hoped that a valuable contribution will be made to the analysis of the long term, both on the conceptual side - alternative development styles - and the methodological side. In particular, there will be an appraisal of the viability and consequences of alternative long term policies, and methods to link the long term with the medium and short term.

Objective 3: Study of the performance of the Argentinian industrial sector through the analysis of economic groups such as public companies, foreign corporations and large enterprises

(i) The aim is to study the recent industrial development process, and the course of the country's economic policy, with particular reference to the analysis of the following type of entity: public industrial enterprises, foreign corporations and large domestic companies.

(ii) Problem addressed

In recent years increasing importance has been attached to the explicit inclusion in economic analysis, particularly that of the industrial sector, of the behaviour of the economic groups whose homogeneity arises from the form of ownership of capital, as an alternative or complement to the traditional studies by branch of activity or type of product. This concern is mainly based on the recent presence of transnational corporations, characterized by their relatively greater size, oligopolistic operations, the use of manpower-saving technology, supranational management and the transfer of consumption patterns brought about by their presence, and also because of the reaction of local State and private interests to their presence.

The emergence of a new body of economic legislation, the adaptation of traditional economic policy instruments, the creation of public industrial enterprises and the process of consolidation (often unsuccessful) of local industrial groups are some of the typical recent reactions.

/(iii) Strategy

(iii) Strategy and corresponding output

Some original research studies nearing completion, attempt to characterize the presence and fundamental aspects of the economic behaviour of foreign companies, public enterprises and corporations operating in Argentina in the postwar period. This research has been carried out within this Office.

The aim is to combine these studies in an analytical framework on the general lines described above, and round them off with some basic research carried out in the 1970s, whose data is not yet available (the 1973 Economic Census and the Survey of Corporations 1973/1974).

(iv) Expected impact

This project is expected to contribute to a better understanding of the nature of problems of industrial development and of the insertion of Latin American countries into international markets for manufactures, technology and finance; and also to a discussion of possible economic policy alternatives to manage the economy of the country more efficiently on the basis of alternative development styles.

Objective 4: Regional development

(i) The study will analyse territorial development strategies in relation to the economic growth of the most backward regions of Argentina and their impact on the structure of employment and income distribution. In this connexion, sets of policies defining alternative regional development styles will be included.

(ii) Problem addressed

At the present stage, the Argentinian regional system is characterized by high levels of territorial concentration of production, population and benefits of economic developments.

While this situation is based on the implicit national development styles adopted and their consequences for the social structure of the country as a whole, their effects have not been totally independent of territorial considerations. The relative immobility of vast sectors of the population leads to less and worse possibilities of insertion in the productive system and finally to an unfavourable share in the distribution of national wealth.

/It is

It is therefore necessary to find machinery to stimulate the most backward regions facing critical situations which may be labelled "pockets of poverty". It is therefore of great importance to study the effects on the whole regional social structure of the best-known policies for economic stimulation.

Finally, since the level of effectiveness of specific policies depends to a large extent on their being simulataneous and complementary, the study of them should be made in the context of a territorial development strategy.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 290 (XIII).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

On the basis of the results of a study which is being carried out on the workings of the Argentinian regional system, a model will be constructed to provide a conceptual framework for the qualitative analysis of the consequences of the adoption of alternative regional development styles. The tasks to be carried out fall into two groups:

(a) Features and consequences of the division of labour at the national level. Bases of and changes in the terms of trade between the different regions. Typology of regional situations. Configuration of their social structure. Forms of insertion of the social sectors into the productive system. Effects on income distribution and living conditions.

(b) Definition of alternative regional development styles. Complementarity consequences and requirements of the specific policies they comprise. Their relationship and concordance with national development styles.

(v) Expected impact

It is expected that from the study of the Argentinian situation the researchers and governments will obtain a view which may be generalized of regional problems. In particular, the aim is to: (a) reach a more exact definition of "the regional problem"; (b) carry out a critical appraisal and sketch the causes of the failure or limitations of some regional development policies which have been pursued; (c) to incorporate explicitly the territorial dimension into the analysis of national development styles.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Economic development

Location: Washington Office

The Washington Office will continue to supply information and provide support to the central programme of ECLA's Santiago headquarters by contributing statistical material and information which can be more readily obtained in Washington.

In addition, the Washington Office will continue to supply information for the preparation of the annual Economic Survey and for the appraisal of the International Development Strategy.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Economic development

Location: Bogotá Office

The Bogotá Office collaborates in the annual Economic Survey by providing information and contributing analytical studies of the evolution of the economies of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela. It also co-operates with ECLA's Santiago headquarters in tasks connected with the appraisal of the International Development Strategy by carrying out studies and appraisals for the three countries in question.

Required growth in total man-months

Programme	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget request	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
General Economic Development a/				
Professionals	884	987	1 060	1 060
All others	480	576	648	648

a/ Includes programme 490 Transnationals.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Environment

Location: Santiago

Objective

(i) To help to identify environmental problems, especially those related to the utilization of the resources of the countries of the region, and to suggest to governments solutions which are compatible with economic development and also take account of possible international repercussions.

(ii) Problem addressed

Both underdevelopment and economic growth contribute to the deterioration of the environment in Latin America, while the institutional machinery does not appear to be in any position to intervene in order to avoid this, and still less to establish an ecologically more efficient habitat.

Water pollution, substandard housing, marginal life styles and violence, inadequacy of public services, atmospheric pollution and other forms of contamination in the big centres all go to make up a generalized deterioration in the quality of urban life.

In the countryside, the major ecosystems which are menaced by various factors, the destruction of vegetation and soils, the degradation of water resources and the persistence of unfavcurable living conditions present a picture which is even more serious in the medium-term than in the towns.

Although there are common features between the various Latin American societies, heterogeneity is the rule in the ecological forms and features of both urban and rural life, so that institutional measures for the protection of the environment call for a big local interpretation effort for which both the available information and qualified personnel are insufficient.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 323 (XV):

/"3. Urges

"3. Urges the secretariat, in its activities connected with the environment, to attach special importance to co-operation with the governments of the region, at their request, in the appraisal of the environmental situation; to the analysis of the nature of the environment problems in Latin America and their relationship with development; to the study of the possible effects on the region of the measures taken by the industrialized countries to protect their own environment, and to assistance in the training of personnel specialized in administrative organization at the national level, as well as to the encouragement, in consultation with the Latin American governments concerned, of technical and financial multilateral and bilateral co-operation;"

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

- To improve knowledge of the environmental situation in Latin America by disseminating the "Inventory of the principal environmental problems in Latin America" prepared in 1974-1975 and implementing the recommendations on information systems made in that document.
- To clarify the relationship between the environment and development through research and surveys leading to the preparation of a monograph for circulation in the region.
- To study the viability of eco-development policies for Latin America on the basis of the study of selected cases.
- To contribute to the understanding of the crisis of the big metropolises by analysing aspects of environmental deterioration in representative cities of the region.
- To develop methodologies for environmental diagnosis which will be tested experimentally in two or three countries.
- To contribute to the implementation in the region of the recommendations emerging from HABITAT: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements.

/(v) Expected

(v) Expected impact

- Greater awareness among planning authorities of the problems of the local environment and its relationship with development, and of the need for environmental protection policies which incorporate and promote the various separate measures being applied at the present time.
- Expansion of the range of methodological instruments available for tackling specific problems of urban environmental decay and for the implementation of ecological practices in rural areas.
- Promotion of interest in the problems of human settlements and the search for integral solutions adapted to actual development possibilities.
- Training of personnel and institutions for action in the field of the environment.

Required growth in total man-months

Programme	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget request	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
Environment				
Professionals	74	78	100	124
All others	48	48	72	72

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Human settlements

Location: Rio de Janeiro

Objective 1: Joint programme of studies on the social problems of human settlements in Latin America

(i) The Programme is aimed at transforming the spontaneous creation of the human environment into a deliberate and systematic effort. The programme objective is to assemble and rationalize information on Latin American human settlements so as to characterize existing patterns and the propsective evolution of present settlements within separate categories and to establish the basis for research on policy, management and technology for the said categories.

(ii) Problem addressed

Existing information does not allow for comparative analysis of the present conditions of human settlements nor does it facilitate forecasting.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 323 (XV): Human Environment.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

1. Survey of Latin American human settlements, to which end a series of indicators should be developed.
2. Development of a set of projections aiming at the construction of alternative human settlements.

(v) Expected impact

By developing both the instruments and the conceptual understanding necessary to identify and set the terms of reference for specific research projects on policy, management and technology concerning human settlements, the programme will initiate a system of correlated studies to be carried out by ECLA.

Objective 2: Programme on human settlements technology

(i) The programme is conceived to be the regional phase of the UNEP global programme for the design and construction of environmentally sound communities, with emphasis on ecologically adjusted technology for

/low income

low income groups. The programme objective is the development and dissemination of human settlement technologies within the region.

(ii) Problem addressed

The human settlement technologies currently being used in Latin America, having for the most part been developed outside the region, seldom comply with the region's ecological, economic or cultural requirements.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 323 (XV): Human Environment.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

1. Identify a regional network of leading institutions able to supply relevant information and eventually carry out research and development projects.
2. Promote selected research and development projects, including fund raising from United Nations and other international as well as national sources.
3. Supervise, evaluate and disseminate the results of the projects.

The programme is conceived as a permanent activity.

(v) Expected impact

It is believed that the results of this programme would make an important contribution to the development of eco-technologies in the following areas: mass transport, water recycling, garbage and sewage treatment, "eco-design" in construction, and energy conservation.

Required growth in total man-months

Programme	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget request	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
Human Settlements				
Professionals	-	6	52	52
All others	-	-	24	24

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Industrial development 1/

Location: Santiago

Objective 1: Future industrial development and the New International Economic Order

(i) To provide the countries of the region, the various regional economic groups, and the agencies linked with industrial development in Latin America with information and studies on various alternative possibilities of and areas open to industrial development in Latin America. This activity will take place within the framework of the principles for the establishment of a New International Economic Order and the declarations of the Latin American Conference on Industrialization held in Mexico and the Second General Conference of UNIDO on Industrial Development and Co-operation.

(ii) Problem addressed

Although industrialization efforts in Latin America as a whole have played a decisive role in the economic development of the region and the participation of the sector in the formation of the regional product is increasing, it can be seen that there is a substantial gap between the region and the developed world and one exists even between the countries of the region itself. In view of this, it is felt that Latin American countries must redouble their domestic efforts aimed at making maximum use of their own resources and growth potential, and should strengthen their economic integration systems and seek means of putting into practice new regional co-operation schemes with other developing areas and with the developed world.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolutions 289 (XIII), 290 (XIII) and 357 (XVI).

1/ Activities to be carried out by the ECLA/UNIDO Joint Industrial Development Division.

/(iv) Strategy

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

At the first stage, an interpretative analysis of the historical process of Latin American industrialization will be undertaken, identifying the principal factors which determined the current features of the industrial sector in the region and in the countries with the most typical patterns. This review will be directed towards establishing how the different factors which made up the changing scene in which the industrialization process took place, determined the industrial development typology of each country.

Secondly, the perspective part of the study will concentrate, on one hand, on the analysis of the possible evolution of the factors and the layout of the main alternative scenes which they could shape in the future and, on the other, on the study of the extent of the influence of the different patterns of industrial development in the different types of countries of the region.

Special attention will be given to the means through which the Latin American industrial process could influence the setting up of various mechanisms for complying with the resolutions on the New International Economic Order and the Declarations of the Latin American Conference on Industrialization held in Mexico and the Second General Conference of UNIDO in Lima.

(v) Expected impact

The Latin American governments, either separately or in their various regional groups would have at their disposal a broad view of future prospects offered by industrial development in Latin America and the alternative scenes in which this process could take place. In this way they could have the necessary elements and data for directing policy formulation both at national level and in the field of regional co-operation.

Objective 2: Review and appraisal of the industrial development process in the Second Development Decade

(i) To follow the course of the industrial development process and evaluate compliance with the targets established for the United Nations Second Development Decade within the framework of the International Development Strategy.

/(ii) Problem

(ii) Problem addressed

The targets emerging from the principles of the International Development Strategy and the Declaration and Plan of Action for the Establishment of a New International Economic Order make it necessary to follow-up and evaluate progress in the achievement of the objectives on a permanent and systematic basis in keeping with the recommendations of General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV).

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 310 (XIV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

This analysis will be based on systematic information and updated indicators which reflect progress in the sector. This will make it possible to examine and interpret the relationships between the industrialization process and economic and social development. This appraisal of the industrialization process will be approached in such a way as to identify the different elements which permit the identification of the style of development and the type of industrialization achieved.

(v) Expected impact

It is expected that this periodic appraisal will provide the countries of the region with data and evaluations of the results of the policies and instruments aimed at accelerating industrial development in line with the objectives established for the Second Development Decade.

Objective 3: Regional co-operation with a view to the establishment of a new industrial order

(i) To assist the governments in their efforts to intensify industrial co-operation between countries of the region and between them and other countries, to promote the formulation of and amplification of objectives and targets contained in the Plan of Action approved by the Latin American Conference on Industrialization held in Mexico and the Declaration and Plan of Action on Industrial Development and Co-operation adopted at the Second General Conference of UNIDO in Lima.

/(ii) Problem

(ii) Problem addressed

The percentage participation of Latin America in world industrial production has remained constant at around 3.4 per cent in recent years. In view of the aspirations and proposals of the countries of the region to raise the level of their participation substantially to at least 13 per cent by the year 2000, the study of ways of attaining this target in the context of the possibilities existing in each one of the industrial branches is necessary.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 357 (XVI).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

Several studies will be carried out by specific industrial branches with a view to identifying their potential and problems in order to be able to propose measures for the development of these branches and seek concrete formulas for co-operation between countries.

With this same purpose in mind other studies on similar features will be carried out for implementing the objectives mentioned, in line with resolutions adopted by the Committee of High-Level Government Experts or requests by SELA (Latin American Economic System).

Advisory services will also be provided in relation to the subjects and the studies mentioned.

(v) Expected impact

These activities are expected to provide the data and technical and economic bases to enable the countries of the region to intensify their co-operation in the industrial field between them and with other countries, and for use by the governments and competent regional agencies in their participation in the system of permanent consultation established by the Lima Conference at the global, sectoral and regional levels.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Industrial development

Location: Mexico

Objective 1: Industrial complementarity in Central America

(i) To assist the Central American governments in the formulation of policies to accelerate their industrial development, with special emphasis on the demarkation of areas of specialization and complementarity.

To identify and specify the possibilities of forming links between industries of the subregion and those of other Latin American countries.

(ii) Problem addressed

(a) Although mechanisms and measures for increasing the share of underdeveloped countries in the world trade in manufactures have been put forward at international forums, the share of the Central American countries has so far been very small. This is mainly due to the scant diversification of their industries and to the lack of adequate industrial competitiveness;

(b) The process of economic integration began in the sixties - although it has contributed to the transformation of the economies of the region, as may be seen in the considerable progress made in their level of industrialization - has also emphasized, in the light of recent problems, the inadequacy of their co-ordinating machinery and a lack of complementarity in the development of the manufacturing sector;

(c) Furthermore, because of the characteristics that the process of integration has taken on in practice (a preponderance of fiscal and tariff measures over programming), industrial growth appears to be losing its impetus, while at the same time it is suffering from problems of inadequate levels of productive efficiency, and

(d) To continue the process of industrialization, it will be necessary to look for new possibilities of growth in the sector, particularly in its more advanced phases, where the limited size of the markets may create serious obstacles for the exploitation of manufacturing possibilities involving the natural resources available in the region.

/(iii) Legislative

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 315 (XV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

(a) This will be aimed at achieving a greater and more adequate development of industrial activity and the substantial incorporation of manufactures into Central American exports by means of stimuli to, and promotion of, the creation of new industries and the specialization and expansion of existing ones, on the basis of reciprocity and equity in distribution among the countries of the sub-region;

(b) Support will be given to co-ordinated action through common policies and measures aimed at reaching agreements on industrial complementarity and commercial exchanges with other countries, particularly with neighbouring countries like Mexico, Venezuela, and the Caribbean zone; and

(c) Research will be undertaken into several branches of industry so as to provide the countries with information on their present situation and their development potential, and to help to define and formulate the most appropriate complementarity agreements.

(v) Expected impact

(a) An indication of the possibilities and alternatives for the integral development of specific branches of industry through planned specialization and links with other countries and integration schemes, and

(b) Formulation of a basis for sectoral strategies adjusted to realities and in keeping with available resources and with the limitations of a technical and financial nature which condition the industrial development of the region.

Objective 2: Appraisal of strategies, policies, and plans for the industrial development of the countries

(i) To examine the process of industrialization in the countries under the jurisdiction of this Office with reference to the terms of the International Development Strategy and the New International Economic Order, the Lima Declaration on Industrialization, and the Plan of Action of the Latin American Industrialization Conference (Mexico).

/To analyse

To analyse the industrial development plans and programmes of the countries in the sub-region with a view to formulating recommendations for their better co-ordination and mutual support.

To evaluate the policies and measures carried out at the level of the various branches of industry in order to select the most specific and effective.

To assist in the formulation of industrial development strategies for the countries in the sub-region and to formulate policies and support measures which fulfil the purpose of achieving industrial co-operation between the countries.

(ii) Problem addressed

(a) Resolutions and plans of action, both at the international and regional levels, as well as national measures, all require periodic appraisal of the industrialization process. The industrial development of the Central American countries depends to a large extent on imports and, in general, on the evolution of the external sector. The regional policy on industrialization has failed to change this state of affairs, and its lack of operativeness has furthermore brought about a concentration and polarization of industrial production in some countries, particularly in urban areas. The weak position of the public sector as a promoter of industrial development, foreign control over important enterprises and over the exploitation of some natural resources, the crisis in the supply of key products and of certain inputs, inflationary pressures, and other contingent and structural problems, call for a periodic appraisal of the outcome of the strategies and policies applied in the region and in each country;

(b) The low rate of industrial progress and defective productive structures have inhibited the setting up of strong economic links among the countries of the region. The formation of common policies on industrial matters - as well as the improvement of their own common market - will make it possible, on the one hand, to increase the mobility of goods and of capital in the region, and on the other, will make it easier to adopt joint measures for industrial co-operation with third parties.

/(iii) Legislative

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 310 (XIV): International Development Strategy; resolution 148 (X/CCE): The need for the rapid reactivation of Central American integration.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

(a) To steer the countries towards a new phase in their industrialization, based on the expansion of their internal and regional markets, on the export of manufactures, and on a selective displacement of their foreign purchases;

(b) To offer regional and national organizations suggestions for harmonizing and co-ordinating policies on the basis of industrial complementarity, in accordance with the availability of resources and the production factors in each country, bearing in mind economies of scale and specialization;

(c) To provide information of common interest to the countries for channeling action in certain branches of industry on in specific projects, in order to widen the bases for co-operation in the production of manufactures, and

(d) To promote more rapid industrial development by means of a better distribution of the benefits of economic progress, an employment policy that guarantees a gradual decrease in overt or covert under-employment, and an improvement in institutional machinery so that changes can be introduced in the productive structure and external dependence in respect of intermediate and capital goods can be reduced.

(v) Expected impact

(a) Improvement in the formulation of the industrialization strategies, plans, and policies of the countries;

(b) Achievement of a higher rate of growth of the industrial product and employment through the design of machinery and measures to overcome the present obstacles;

(c) Increased co-operation and industrial complementarity among the countries, particularly in specific projects, through the creation of multinational enterprises able to operate at large-scale productive levels, thereby making the most of the available human, material, and financial resources of each country, and

/(d) Solutions

(d) Solutions for areas of conflict and the promotion of industrial complementarity in order to speed up the process of integration of the sub-regional market, taking into account the requirements of countries with a lower relative level of development.

Objective 3: Policies for the development of industrial technology

(i) To support programmes of technological development by helping to define a global technological and scientific policy and to select priority fields of action.

To evaluate the different systems used in the region for the acquisition of technology, and to examine the possibilities of strengthening national and regional technological and scientific capacity by fostering and promoting research and development in certain priority activities.

To promote co-operation in this field among the countries in the sub-region and between the latter and other developed or developing countries and regions.

(ii) Problem addressed

(a) The transfer of technology is an integral part of the process of the industrialization of the developing countries. In recent years, in spite of the fact that some countries are already beginning to establish regulations for the transfer of technology and for the development of their own techniques for transfer to other countries, industrialization is still heavily dependent upon external technology and upon transnational enterprises. Factor payments represent an ever-increasing burden on the balance of payments, and the technological options in many cases bear no relationship with the human and material resources available in each country;

/(b) It

(b) It is worth studying the Mexican experience, and that of developing countries in other regions, regarding the incorporation of technologies which make the most of internal resources and the adaptation of technologies to local conditions, so as to formulate technological policies appropriate to the countries of the region;

(c) The evaluation of the experience necessary for the formulation of policies and specific measures depends on the co-operation offered by transnational enterprises (which are the only organizations that carry out the transfer of technology) in providing the relevant information. Regional action in this field, co-ordinated with the efforts being made by different organizations, will be particularly important in order to obtain such information;

(d) The Mexican Office of ECLA will be responsible for supporting this regional effort by providing experts in different aspects of development and the transfer of technology in the industrial sector.

(iii) Legislative authority

General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI); ECLA resolutions 310 (XIV) and 322 (XV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

(a) To support the formulation and instrumentation of a regional plan of action for the application of technology in the industrial development of Latin America, in co-operation with other regional and international organizations;

(b) To suggest the measures and action required to strengthen the scientific and technological capacity of the countries and to improve their technical infrastructures;

(c) To study the possibilities and mechanisms for linking technological supply and demand;

(d) To identify the most suitable procedures for external technical co-operation with the region in order to adopt appropriate technologies;

/(e) To

(e) To exchange experiences concerning mechanisms and measures with developing countries so as to be able to choose the most appropriate technological option. The starting point for this initiative would be the appraisal of the Mexican experience.

(v) Expected impact

(a) To clarify the connexions between technological policy and other policies for the industrial development of the countries (fiscal, investment, trade policies, etc.), as well as the relationships between the selection, adaptation and creation of technology according to the availability of resources;

(b) To improve the policies concerning the adoption and transfer of regional technology, through mechanisms able to stimulate technical co-operation among developing countries, and

(c) To adopt a common regional framework in respect of the transfer of technology which will enable the bargaining power of the countries to be increased and will permit the uniform application of policies in this matter.

Objective 4: Technical assistance in the industrialization process for governments and regional integration agencies

(i) To help governments and regional economic integration agencies of the sub-region to improve their capacity to formulate and evaluate industrialization strategies, plans, and programmes, within the context of the new international economic order.

To co-operate with governments and regional agencies in the identification of the technical assistance needed to consolidate medium- and short-term national planning activities.

To support the creation of regional machinery and joint measures to improve the countries' bargaining power in dealings with third countries or regions in matters connected with industrial developments.

To collaborate in the training of national technical and administrative cadres to complement or replace external technical assistance in the preparation of programmes and projects.

/(ii) Problem

(ii) Problem addressed

(a) Technical co-operation enables the countries of the region as a whole to acquire knowledge and experience and to profit from research carried out in other countries with different stages of economic and social development;

(b) The objectives of the technical assistance provided to the countries have frequently been thwarted by a series of factors largely due to deficient planning. Priority requirements are not always clearly stated, nor are the international experts given the appropriate frames of reference. In some cases, projects are not suitably staffed - qualitatively or quantitatively speaking - to make the co-operation of international experts more effective and to allow for their gradual withdrawal. There is no appropriate co-ordination between international and bilateral agencies responsible for providing technical assistance, and furthermore there are sometimes differences in criteria among these agencies;

(c) Special consideration must be given to the part to be played by industrial decentralization and the promotion of small-scale industry and crafts in the future process of industrialization, since these give employment to a large labour force. It is estimated that 40 per cent of the industrial product is generated by this activity. Small-scale industries have been gradually absorbed by medium- and large-scale industry. Fortunately, in several countries attempts have been made to tackle this situation in a rational way, by means of the formulation of certain criteria and policies relevant to small-scale industry and crafts. The need is generally felt for the transformation of home industries into small industrial plants by means of technical and financial assistance.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolutions 307 (XIV) and 354 (XVI).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

(a) To complement national external assistance by providing information and experience on the formulation of programmes, projects, and economic policy measures which promote industrialization;

/(b) To

(b) To point out the priority areas for action in the region, so as to achieve the rational exploitation of human, material, and financial resources;

(c) To determine the forms and areas of action for fresh progress in regional and industrial integration;

(d) Within the concept of balanced development, to formulate special mechanisms and measures aimed at contributing to the consolidation of the economic development objectives of those countries with a lower relative level of development;

(e) To co-ordinate the programme of technical co-operation with priority plans and programmes, stressing the needs of countries with a lower relative level of development.

(v) Expected impact

(a) To disseminate among the countries of the region the other countries' own experiences in industrial planning and the instrumentation of specific plans of action;

(b) To harmonize and co-ordinate policies and measures for industrial promotion and financing at the national and regional levels;

(c) To give increased support to those countries with a lower relative level of development, by means of the identification of obstacles to industrial development, the formulation of projects, and the design of mechanisms and measures to achieve balanced development within the region;

(d) To improve the planning system by strengthening the institutional machinery and training technical and administrative teams.

Unit: ECIA

Programme: Industrial development

Location: Port of Spain

Objective

(i) To carry out studies to stimulate the manufacturing sector so as to allow a more rational use of the internal resources of the countries of the region, encourage reciprocal trade and correct the external disequilibrium through import substitution and higher exports to countries outside the subregion.

(ii) Problem addressed

The governments participating in the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM), have embarked on the preparations of a long-term regional perspective plan for industry.

The policies adopted by the countries provide for the elimination of barriers to trade, the harmonization of fiscal and monetary policies, affecting industry, and the eventual free movement of capital and labour.

On the operational side, there is a great need to encourage local entrepreneurship, devise methods for advising entrepreneurs on financing and budgeting, selection of equipment and management, particularly in the smaller countries.

On the policy side new relations need to be devised for the multinational enterprises that are evident in most economic sectors, and thus bring in wider considerations, including sovereignity over natural resources.

(iii) Legislative authority

Resolution 358 (XVI) of the Economic Commission for Latin America which recommends the formation of a Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee and resolution 2 (I) of that Committee on possible fields of co-operation.

/(iv) Strategy

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The differing degrees of industrialization of the member countries will have to be studied so as to identify the areas of reciprocal complementarity and co-operation. This research should lead to concrete results, such as the planning and design of industrial plants, technical and economic feasibility studies, the definition of the most suitable modalities for the exchange of technology, training programmes for technical staff, etc.

(v) Expected impact

The results obtained will serve as a basis for the formulation of future plans of action of wider scope which will include, for example, the possibility of co-ordinating the industrial policies of member States or of groups of countries with similar levels of development, always taking into account the need to promote the industrialization of the relatively less developed countries.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Industrial development

Location: Bogotá Office

The Bogotá Office analyses the industrial development trends of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela with the aim of identifying areas where methods and policies could be harmonized in order to promote mutually integrated industrial development, thus collaborating with the studies carried out in Santiago.

Required growth in total man-months

Programme	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget request	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
Industrial Development				
Professionals	217	200	224	224
All others	264	264	264	264

Unit: ECLA

Programme: International trade and development

Location: Santiago

Objective 1: Analysis of the international situation

(i) To observe the main trends of the international economy and the evolution of the international economic system.

To analyse the implications of those trends for the Latin American countries and draw conclusions on what action can be taken.

(ii) Problem addressed

In the current international circumstances it is essential to provide Latin American countries with technical perspectives concerning the most suitable positions to adopt in international forums.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA Resolution 347 (XVI): Second appraisal of the IDS.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The current world economic situation will be analysed both from a long-term and short-term point of view. For the former, it is necessary to determine the nature of the structural transformations which occur, many of the effects of which can only be appreciated by dealing with periods of 10 or 20 years. In the case of the short and medium term, the course of events and their probable effects on the balance of payments of the Latin American countries must be taken into account. In both cases it is intended to make an analysis of the main policy options which are open to the countries of the region, with the aim of identifying useful criteria for action. This task requires the preparation of short- and long-term projects as auxiliary elements for the analysis.

(v) Expected impact

By means of this analysis of international economic relations and in the light of current international circumstances, it is hoped to be able to offer the governments of the region all the necessary

/elements and

elements and experience for their participation in international forums. The countries of the region will in this way be in a better negotiating position with regard to the industrialized countries.

Objective 2: Primary products

(i) To prepare regular reports on trends in the main markets for primary products.

To carry out studies and analysis of particular aspects of the marketing of primary products.

To hold technical meetings to discuss problems and possible solutions in connexion with aspects of regional co-operation policy and ways in which Latin America can participate in world co-operation in the field of trade in primary products.

(ii) Problem addressed

In spite of the changes which have taken place in the productive structure and the foreign trade of several countries in the region, the export of primary products still constitutes, in the great majority of countries, the most important factor determining the total amount of their export income. The considerable fluctuations undergone in previous years by both the prices and quantities of several export products have recently given way to a steep depressive tendency on the markets, characterized by a constriction in demand and a persistent fall in prices; this situation has brought about the revival of old problems of international trade in primary products, which had temporarily become less intense in view of the relative boom of recent years. This latter circumstance also partly accounts for the fact that the commitments adopted by the international community concerning international trade in primary products as part of the International Development Strategy did not receive their due attention from governments, so that the decline in the international economic situation found the developing countries, as far as their levels of income from exports are concerned, in a situation similar to, or even more unfavourable than, the one prevailing before the approval of the IDS.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 352 (XVI): Organization of producers' associations.

/(iv) Strategy

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

Negotiations to be carried out in the coming months - among others, in UNCTAD IV, in the Conference of Paris, and in the IMF concerning compensatory financing - may, if successful, define the main lines of agreement between developing and developed countries. Putting these guidelines into practice will require more specific and more detailed negotiations some of a general nature dealing with series of measures and products, and others with specific products. ECLA is planning to carry out research into some pragmatic aspects with the aim of assisting the process of negotiation and the taking of decisions, by examining the possible implications of some of the more important alternatives available for action.

(v) Expected impact

The studies carried out by ECLA in this field will provide the governments of the region with appropriate elements for more active and positive participation in international bodies where discussions are held and decisions taken in connexion with international trade in primary products.

Such elements will enable the governments to orient their pricing policies for primary products and to define instruments and mechanisms designed to give greater stability to the markets for their products by creating and financing regulatory stocks of products.

Obejctive 3: Monetary and financial system

(i) To appraise the effects of the foreseeable international financial situation, including possible reforms in the international monetary system, and to consider the most suitable policies and mechanisms for dealing with the shortcomings of the monetary system as regards adjustments and the creation of liquidity.

(ii) Problem addressed

In very general terms, the problems facing the developing countries as regards the monetary system and the international financial situation are similar in nature. The different regions, however, have their own individual features which condition the nature of the most appropriate policies and ways of collaboration. In the case of Latin

/America the

America the degree of development achieved by the region, the contacts with the international financial markets, the efforts towards regional integration which are taking place and the machinery for regional and sub-regional co-operation already in existence are elements which contribute very substantially to defining more realistic and technically appropriate policies.

The countries of Latin America take part in the forums negotiating on these matters and adopt policies, but the support they receive in the form of studies and advisory services is basically restricted to what they can obtain from time to time from their Executive Directors in the International Monetary Fund. It seems important and even essential to make careful preparations for Latin America's participation in the negotiations taking place outside the region, particularly in the Interim Committee of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund, with additional assistance through the studies and advisory services required to help the countries to adopt clear policies and positions.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 348 (XVI): Immediate balance-of-payments problems and possible solutions to them.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

It is intended to continue with the work already begun, involving an analysis of the systems of regional and of world-wide co-operation (the latter from the point of view of Latin America). The system of financial flows, both official and private, is undergoing important changes and it will be necessary to define the probable consequences of these. It is also desirable to define new possible methods and instruments aimed at strengthening short- and long-term financial resources for the Latin American countries, which, while sharing similar characteristics with other developing countries, also possess features which distinguish them from other areas of the world. Particular attention will be given in this field to a study of instruments to

/protect the

protect the balance of payments, of regional systems of payments intended to promote zonal trade, and of systems of financial co-operation linked to medium- and long-term capital flows.

(v) Expected impact

The countries of the region will receive the necessary elements which will enable them to shed light on the degree to which these difficulties influence the normal development of their economies, and to choose policy alternatives aimed at minimizing the costs - or maximizing the benefits - of these influences.

Objective 4: Trade in manufactures, systems of preferences, and access to markets in developed countries

(i) Analysis of the result of the general preference schemes introduced by the developed countries so that the countries of Latin America can take better advantage of them and see what steps can be taken in order to improve them.

Evaluation of policies relating to the export of manufactures in order to reach conclusions that would help governments to revise their policies.

(ii) Problem addressed

With the entry of Canada and the United States into the Generalized System of Preferences, the System has become operative in almost every developed country.

This has occurred at a time when the current world economic situation makes it even more important to maintain a satisfactory rate of increase in the exports of the developing countries. The prospects for demand for manufactured products by the main countries granting general preferences will undoubtedly be rather unfavourable if the economic recession gets worse, and this could weaken the effectiveness of the system. It therefore seems urgent not only to substantially improve the GSP schemes, but also to take several complementary measures designed to promote the exports of manufactured and semi-manufactured products by countries favoured by the schemes.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolutions 347 (XVI) and 359 (XVI).

/(iv) Strategy

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

An analysis will be made of the preference systems of the main developed regions of the world and possible improvements that could be made to them in order to make them more effective from the point of view of benefitting the Latin American countries. In addition, following the lines already laid down, the study of the instruments used by the countries in the region to promote the exports of manufactures will be continued, and it will be considered: how to improve their efficiency in terms of increasing their positive effects as well as in terms of reducing their cost. One of the main focal points of the analysis of export promotion policies will be the export of manufactures at the regional level, whether within the formal processes of integration or not.

(v) Expected impact

The governments of the region will have at their disposal studies which they will be able to use for negotiating a new system of preferences which might be more favourable for Latin America, and they will also have available sets of criteria for defining promotion policies for the export of their manufactures, which will improve their position as exporters to the industrial countries.

Objective 5: Economic integration and co-operation among developing countries

(i) To make a thorough analysis of the problems of integration and to suggest measures which, taking into account the successes and failures of different integration and co-operation schemes will, by means of a fresh and new approach, offer alternative ways of accelerating the process.

(ii) Problem addressed

At the present time less value seems to be attached to integration schemes, and it could be claimed that there is even something of an anti-integration feeling in several countries. ECLA was a forerunner in the field of integration and still considers it fundamental for the achievement of development in Latin America. Although in general terms the presence of anti-integration feeling is worth mentioning, the fact

/cannot be

cannot be overlooked that integration is also being carried on outside the conventional framework of integration schemes. This is so, for example, in the case of the widespread bilateral agreements between countries such as those between Uruguay and Brazil and between Uruguay and Argentina, agreements concerning frontier infrastructure, etc. These examples are repeated in several other countries. It would be worthwhile examining the way in which such an initiative can be capitalized in favour of real full-scale integration. It may be that a slightly different approach to the problem of integration would lead to the conclusion that what is happening here is more important than is generally realized.

The fact that ECLA has played a large part in sowing the seeds of integration but now, more than 20 years later, the different processes have not produced the desired fruits, justifies a profound analysis, free from prejudice and free from commitments with the past, permitting a total reappraisal of the different processes with the aim of contributing fresh ideas which will give new life to the process of Latin American integration.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolutions 356 (XVI) and 354 (XVI).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The main emphasis will be placed on regional co-operation, both within the concept of formal integration as well as through new types of co-operation parallel to the formal processes. Experiences in matters of integration of the region will come under scrutiny, as will the obstacles which have hindered more rapid progress, the possibilities of securing the convergence of the different integration processes which are under way in the region, and methods of accelerating, deepening, and generalizing regional economic co-operation by combining trade and industrial measures.

More attention will be given to co-operation between Latin American countries and those of other regions of the world.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: International trade and development

Location: Mexico

Objective 1: Central American economic integration

(i) To strengthen the process of Central American economic integration by means of planning towards a greater degree of interdependence among the economies of the region.

To identify specific activities in the sphere of foreign policy which the Centtal American countries could take up jointly.

To analyse the external factors which condition the evolution of the Central American economies, with particular reference to the market situation of their principal exports, the supply of imported energy resources, and to trade, monetary, and financial negotiations.

(ii) Problem addressed

The process of Central American integration has made positive contributions to the economic development of the region as a whole and to that of the five member countries, and has helped to overcome the main obstacles to development of the region. However, in recent years certain problems have cropped up which have had a disturbing effect on integration and have become more acute as a result of external crises. The countries are aware of the need to reactivate the integration movement, and are convinced that integration is the most suitable option to promote rapid development and to improve the region's participation in the world economy. At the same time, they have pointed out that the problems of integration can only be solved by a reorganization of the process to make it more dynamic, so that an economy of a genuine regional character may be established which would greatly reduce the differences in relative development among the countries.

(iii) Legislative authority

Resolution 148 (X/CCE) of the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee.

/(iv) Strategy

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

With the accumulated experience of ECLA's studies of this problem and the incorporation of new methodological criteria, specific studies will be carried out to bring up to date and to increase knowledge of the economic and social aspects of the Central American economies and their international relations.

(v) Expected impact

This will mainly consist of the formulation of plans concerning the prospects for integrated development, and the provision of technical assistance to integration organizations and to different countries to assist them in achieving aims which tend to strengthen the ties of regional co-operation.

Objective 2: Strengthening of economic co-operation among developing countries

(i) To establish guidelines and mechanisms for economic co-operation between the Central American Common Market and other countries or groups of countries in Latin America, bearing in mind the general intention of Latin American governments to create a regional common market.

The promotion of economic links among the Caribbean countries.

(ii) Problem addressed

In the 1960s various integration schemes were devised among Latin American countries, and, generally speaking, these have made a positive contribution towards a widening of the productive basis of their economies, the establishment of trade and financial flows, and the formulation of a common external policy. There are, however, a few countries which do not belong to any integration system but now wish to consider the desirability of joining such a system: Haiti is a case in point, and Panama and the Dominican Republic are also considering integration.

For some years, the internal instruments and institutions of the Central American Common Market have been undergoing a serious crisis which has prevented any steady progress in economic integration. However, the changes in the international scene and the trends that are becoming apparent have revealed the need to look for a means of defending the

/trade and

trade and financial interests of the region, thereby further increasing the need for closer co-operation. Central America has already made some progress in the formulation of a common external policy with a view to ensuring the supply of such strategic inputs as Venezuelan petroleum. As a result, the need has been recognized for conducting research to support the negotiations on economic co-operation between the Central American Common Market and Venezuela, whose Government has expressed its intention of improving its trade and financial relations with the relatively less-developed Latin American countries in view of its current special financial circumstances.

There are also possibilities of commercial and technical co-operation between the Central American Common Market and Mexico, considering the stage of development of Mexico's productive structure and the need for Central America to be able to secure technological assistance on reasonable terms.

With regard to the intention of the Latin American governments to form a Common Market, it is necessary to investigate the possibilities for the convergence of the existing integration schemes. By means of co-operation between CARICOM and the Central American Common Market, it would be possible to bring about the incorporation of Panama, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Cuba in a regional system of economic complementarity. Attention should also be given to the possibility of convergence between the Central American Common Market and the Andean Group.

Finally, it must not be forgotten that the impulse for interregional co-operation stems largely from the present international situation and its repercussions on Central American economies. This circumstance should be analysed and appraised periodically to provide background material for the basic research.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 315 (XV); resolutions 120 and 135 (CCE) of the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee; resolution 26 (SC.1) of the Central American Trade Sub-Committee; and a specific request from the Government of Haiti.

/(iv) Strategy

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

(a) To collaborate with the Central American governments in identifying areas where specific economic, financial and technological co-operation could be established with other Latin American countries, in the light of the economic and social changes in the world economic system.

(b) To collaborate with the Central American governments in the identification of new forms of co-operation between Venezuela and the Central American Common Market.

(c) To identify the possibilities of economic complementarity between Mexico and the Central American Common Market and to suggest the timing and suitable areas for the implementation of specific problems, with special emphasis on the industrial, transport, and technological sectors.

(d) To suggest guidelines for the gradual convergence of CARICOM, the Central American Common Market, and other Central American countries.

(e) To evaluate the possibilities for the economic integration of Haiti with other countries or integration schemes.

(f) To examine the potential of the different forms of systematic co-operation among developing countries in the Caribbean, and the obstacles to such co-operation.

(g) To analyse the effect of external factors on the evolution of the Central American economies, with special attention to trends on the markets for primary products, the supply of energy resources, and the reorganization of the international monetary system and financial flows.

The programme will be carried out in consultation with SIECA, and in the case of the question of convergence with CARICOM due account will be taken of the studies of the CARICOM secretariat and of the activities of the ECLA Office for the Caribbean (Port of Spain). Research into the possibilities of integrating Haiti into the schemes will be carried out in collaboration with Haiti's Planning Office.

/(v) Expected

(v) Expected impact

(a) The creation of an increased awareness of the economic advantages associated with a strengthening of the ties of co-operation among developing countries, and particularly with the formation of a common front for negotiation with developed countries, and

(b) The formulation of development plans and strategies which entail a more efficient exploitation of the economic potential of the region.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: International trade and development

Location: Port of Spain

Objective

(i) To investigate suitable forms of diversification and expansion of trade relations with other countries of the area, thus further strengthening trade, and consider mechanisms to limit or eliminate the negative effects of transnational enterprises.

(ii) Problem addressed

One of the most outstanding features of the majority of Caribbean countries is their high dependence on foreign trade.

In addition, a very large part of their exports consists of raw materials, whose production and marketing are still controlled by large transnational corporations.

(iii) Legislative authority

Resolution 358 (XVI) of the Economic Commission for Latin America which recommends the formation of a Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee and resolution 2 (I) of that Committee on possible fields of co-operation.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

These studies should include an analysis of the foreign trade of all the member States in order to identify the nature of and obstacles to mutual trade, as well as the products in which it might be possible to increase it. Within this framework it would be necessary to carry out studies on tariffs and customs procedures which affect foreign trade in general as well as other related aspects.

(v) Expected impact

These studies will help to throw some light on the obstacles in regional and extra-regional trade relations, and the way in which they hinder the process of co-operation.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: International trade and development

Location: Washington Office

The Washington Office will continue to provide support and supply information to ECLA's Santiago headquarters. This information includes not only documents published by national, regional and international agencies located in Washington, but also numerous interpretative analyses made by the Office in the form of specialized research and analytical reports.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: International trade and development

Location: Bogotá Office

The Bogotá Office collaborates in this programme by making studies of the evolution of participation by Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela in the integration scheme of the Cartagena Agreement. It also makes analyses of the economic and social situation in the Colombia-Venezuela and Colombia-Ecuador frontier areas.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: International trade and development

Location: Montevideo

Objective 1: The integration process in LAFTA

(i) To assist the countries in their efforts to promote and implement the LAFTA integration process.

The objective would be to formulate criteria for adapting policies to foreseeable advances in the regional integration process, identifying the main obstacles encountered, and the most viable and suitable actions and instruments for overcoming them, taking account of the general situation of the region, the particular situation of the different contracting parties, the world economic situation, and foreseeable trends in this respect.

(ii) Problem addressed

There is already sufficient experience in the field of activities in which we are engaged to examine some fundamental aspects which need clarification in order to draw valid conclusions. This analysis will be useful in determining the guidelines which the LAFTA integration process has followed so far, the results achieved, and advisable modifications for the future of integration. Since the preparatory stage in the negotiations of the Montevideo Treaty ECLA has been actively participating in the analysis of integration problems. It is for this reason that the Montevideo Treaty itself contained the expressed request for permanent assistance, which took the form of a Protocol annexed to the Treaty. Since then, ECLA's representative in Montevideo has been providing advisory services on a permanent basis to the organs of the Association, and participates in the meetings of the Standing Executive Committee. Through this regular assistance information is kept up to date, and the representative is in a position to carry out whatever assignments are necessary and provides operational inputs needed by the ECLA secretariat for its basic tasks, particularly in the field of trade policy, economic co-operation, integration, and statistical information.

/(iii) Legislative

(iii) Legislative authority

Article 44 of the Montevideo Treaty and the Protocol annexed to the Treaty on ECLA collaboration (and that of CIES) lay down and govern ECLA's participation in the permanent activities of LAFTA.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

A series of aspects relating to the role of integration within the framework of the development policy of LAFTA countries will be analysed.

The principal effects to be expected from the chosen integration schemes will be studied, and an attempt made to evaluate the extent to which they could help in easing the socio-economic problems of the member countries. They would therefore cover subjects such as trade liberalization policies, their practical implications, and measures of various kinds for providing the system with reasonably stable and equitable bases for its operation and expansion.

(v) Expected impact

The study will contribute in providing more extensive and detailed information of integration possibilities in the region, and in defining the specific role that it could play in the context of the general development policy of the countries. It would involve the collection of updated information to provide practical backing for a series of proposals suitable for overcoming the old persistent problems, and the preparation of the bases of specific action programmes for the consolidation and rapid advance of the concerted action policy of the Contracting Parties, both in the specific field of trade and in other various activities which subserve the rapid progress desired.

Objective 2: Strategies and modalities

(i) To assist the organs of LAFTA in the search for operational strategies and modalities for channelling their efforts to continue the integration process, offering alternative possibilities for strengthening and increasing economic co-operation between the countries of the zone.

/(ii) Problem

(ii) Problem addressed

The integration process which experienced some important advances at various periods during the 1960s, particularly as regards the liberalization of trade, has shown a general tendency towards stagnation in recent years. Since no change is likely in the years ahead, and it is possible that unfavourable conditions in foreign markets may worsen, it is felt that the time has come to re-evaluate regional co-operation and the role of zonal trade as a means of offsetting in part the sharpening downturn in external growth implied by the outlook referred to above.

(iii) Legislative authority

Article 44 of the Montevideo Treaty, the Protcol annexed. ECLA resolution 331 (XV) and others of a similar nature.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

This would involve the analysis of the different forms which have won support, undertakings and agreements between the contracting parties, whether multilateral or bilateral, with a view to intensifying economic co-operation. In addition, the various alternatives and degrees of integration which could emerge will be examined in the light of a high-gear or low-gear approach to the process, and the specific possibilities offered in this connexion by different economic activities. Consideration would also be given to the foreseeable effects of the adoption of group or country-to-country integration systems, with a view to the development of their economies on a basis of agreed targets and policies, or a limited number of activities, within a flexible operational framework.

(v) Expected impact

The governments of the countries could have at their disposal the data for taking decisions at the appropriate time on the removal of obstacles which hold up the adoption of specific undertakings for strengthening integration, and deciding, accordingly, on the basis of:

/more precise

more precise guidelines, the adjustment to be made in the system's existing machinery. Through the study of new formulas for the programme of trade liberalization, of complementarity agreements in the industrial sector and the bases of a co-operation policy for harmonious development and integrated growth, a new integration approach could be outlined, in accordance with the actual needs of the Contracting Parties and, therefore, in accordance with the policy objectives which constitute the cornerstone of the Association.

Required growth in total man-months

Programme	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget request	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
International Trade and Development				
Professionals	517	530	584	584
All others	408	456	504	504

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Natural resources

Location: Santiago

Objective 1: Water resources

(i) To assist the Governments in the formulation of their strategies for the use and protection of water resources, including the improvement of necessary information, planning, and the management of these resources.

(ii) Problem addressed

There are areas in many countries where development is held in check because of the scarcity or quality of the water available in relation to the needs, and other areas which may face a similar situation in the not too distant future. At the same time, there are areas which are prone to serious damage from flooding. Planning processes are unsatisfactory and efficiency in management leaves much room for improvement. Frequently a lack of information and of trained staff prevents progress in both fields.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 204 (IX) "Reaffirm the need to continue the studies on the integrated, rational and co-ordinated utilization of water resources in the Latin American countries".

ECLA resolution 302 (XIV) "Recommends that the secretariat should continue its work in connexion with natural resources and energy, within the context of national development programmes and the International Development Strategy ...".

ECLA resolution 337 (XV) "Calls upon the secretariat to include in future appraisals of the application of the IDS a chapter on the utilization by the Latin American countries of their natural resources ...".

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

- To distribute in technical circles the conclusions and recommendations of the project Water, Development and Environment in Latin America which is to be completed in 1976 (1977).

/- To

- To collect and distribute technical and economic information on the development of water resources (periodically).
- To continue co-operating with the Centre for Natural Resources, Energy, and Transport of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in the preparation of the United Nations Conference on Water (Mar del Plata, March 1977) and other similar tasks likely to be proposed by senior organs.
- To implement the action entrusted to ECLA in accordance with the conclusions and recommendations of the above mentioned Conference - studies, reports, symposia, seminars, etc. - (1977 to 1980).
- To carry out studies with a view to improving information systems at national and international level for planning and formulating policies on the use of water resources (1978). The organization of a symposium and submission of a report (1979).
- To distribute the results of the studies and of the symposium and to collaborate with the countries at their request in their implementation, acting jointly with the corresponding government offices and with the independent enterprises or agencies concerned (1977 to 1981).

(v) Expected impact

Improved information on water resources and their characteristics in the region, as well as on the problems arising from their development.

The strengthening of water resources planning offices and of links between them and the general planning offices so that the use of water resources is given its rightful role in economic and social development programmes.

Reconciliation of water resources planning methods with the protection of the environment, of which water is an important element.

The improvement of the corresponding legal infrastructure.

Improvement in the technical know-how of staff responsible for the planning and management of water.

/Objective 2:

Objective 2: Energy

(i) To assist the governments both in the formulation of their energy strategies, in line with the availability of natural resources and the protection of the environment, and in the improvement of information and sectoral planning.

(ii) Problem addressed

The rapid readjustments in oil prices affected the trade balance and the balance of payments of twenty countries which are net importers of this product in the ECLA region. At the same time, it provided both a timely warning of the urgent need to seek and develop new sources of energy, as well as to promote much greater efficiency in the use of energy, and the opportunity of implementing specific international actions of solidarity and co-operation. In comparison with the wealth and variety of energy resources in Latin America very little is known about them.

The reexamination of energy policies is imperative for the majority of the countries, and calls for the simultaneous analysis of economic, social, political and technological aspects. But, very few countries have the basic information, the methodologies, the qualified staff and the institutions for making use of the better planning and policy-making methods available in the field of energy.

(iii) Legislative authority

Resolutions 204 (IX), 302 (XIV) and 337 (XV). See the paragraphs quoted in Objective 1. (iii). In addition, statements made at the Seventh Extraordinary Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Commission (New York, January 1974) - E/CN.12/AC.66/5 - included the following: "2. It was recognized that the experience of the ECLA secretariat in the field of energy resources could be particularly useful. Accordingly, the desire was expressed that the secretariat should intensify its efforts in this field ..." "3. The Office of the Executive Secretary was invited to co-operate closely with the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) with a view to their assisting each other in the discharge of their respective tasks".

/(iv) Strategy

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

To collect information and undertake the systematic analysis of developments in the energy sector in Latin American countries as regards information on primary resources, their development, production, consumption, trade, etc., and to prepare reports for the Economic Survey of Latin America (annual) and the regional appraisal of the International Development Strategy (1977, 1979 and 1981).

To establish a multidisciplinary technical team (on the basis of extra-budgetary funds) and to participate in their work in order to:

- assist the countries at their request in implementing studies aimed at supporting their energy policies, and in the planning of the sector;
- to promote joint action by the countries in multinational activities;
- to train staff and clarify problems of regional interest, holding for this purpose two technical seminars per year.

Duration of the project: 1977 and 1978.

Participation in and contribution to the Latin American Conferences on Rural Electrification - CLER - (1977, 1979 and 1981).

The implementation of studies designed to improve information systems for the planning and formulation of energy policies. The organization of a symposium and the preparation of a report (1978).

The publication of the results of the studies and of the symposium, and collaboration with the countries at their request in their implementation. (1979, 1980, 1981.)

Study of demand projections for electricity. Analysis of methodologies used and practical applications in two or three cases Report (1980).

Study on research models and international developments in the field of energy towards the end of the 1970s, and their implications for Latin America (1981).

/(v) Expected

(v) Expected impact

Wider research coverage and wider knowledge of the countries of the region as regards:

- primary energy resources available; including non-traditional resources;
- the opportunities offered by their use to give an impulse to development;
- the problems to be overcome to make their use a reality;
- the more efficient use of energy;
- the availability of technical, economic and social information required for planning and formulating energy policies.

The establishment or strengthening of integrated planning centres in the energy sector in the countries to serve in each case as a close co-ordinating link between the work of the general planning offices and that of the subsectoral energy enterprises (oil, natural gas, coal, electricity, etc.).

Improved technical know-how for energy planners who form the supporting staff of the officials responsible for formulating energy policies and the methodologies used.

Identification and preparation of projects in the energy sector, or those linked with it, which are of multinational interest, including, for example, enterprises for the manufacture of electrical, oil, etc., equipment.

The establishment of policies which provide an integrated approach to energy, as well as one of collaboration and solidarity among countries, as a further aspect of regional integration.

The adoption of measures for protecting the environment in respect of the exploitation of energy resources, their processing, and use.

Objective 3: Mining

(i) To assist the Governments in the formulation of strategies for the development of their mineral resources, the processing of their production locally and its marketing.

/(ii) Problem

(ii) Problem addressed

Information available on mineral resources in Latin America is limited in relation to the evidence of their potential value, in spite of the fact that mining activity in some countries accounts for a major part of the total of their exports.

It is assumed that several governments will revise their policies on the use of their mineral wealth, in connexion with: (a) the medium- and long-term prospects offered by prices; (b) the legal trends being established in the world in connexion with the conservation and exploitation of non-renewable resources; (c) the possibility of establishing chemical and metallurgical industries in their territories, which because of environmental factors are not attractive to the highly industrialized countries.

For large areas of this sector of the economy very little basic information and statistics are available. There is no regional organization to promote the exchange of information and experience among countries, except in respect of iron (ILAFA). The countries with little mining experience could benefit greatly from those with a long tradition in this activity, in aspects related to technology, economics, law, institutions, etc.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolutions 302 (XIV) and 337 (XV). See the paragraphs quoted in Objective 1, (iii).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

To collect information and analyse trends in the mining sector in Latin America, in the international context, as regards information on existing mineral resources, their development, production, consumption, trade, etc., highlighting those of greater importance to the economy of the countries of the region. To prepare reports for the Economic Survey of Latin America (annual) and the regional appraisal of the International Development Strategy (1977, 1979 and 1981).

To collaborate with the Centre for Natural Resources, Energy and Transport of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in studies and research originating in senior organs on mineral resources and their use.

/To prepare

To prepare a study designed to promote mutual co-operation between the State mining enterprises of the region and to convene a meeting to determine the action to be taken and procedure to be followed. It is expected that this would constitute the first of a series of meetings to deal with specific subjects related to aspects of technology, management, law, occupational safety, etc., (1978).

To carry out studies aimed at improving information systems for the planning of mining activity and the formulation of pertinent strategies. The organization of a symposium and preparation of a report (1978).

To publish the results of these studies and of the symposium and to collaborate with countries at their request in their implementation (1979, 1980, 1981).

To study trends in Latin America's share in world stocks and supply of a selected group of minerals, as well as prospects in each case for the medium- and long-term, 1985-2000 (1979).

(v) Expected impact

Wider research coverage and wider knowledge of the countries of the region as regards:

- the availability and characteristics of the mineral resources;
- the opportunities they offer for giving an impulse to development, not only as the source of traditional exports, but also as the basis for greater industrialization;
- the problems which stand in the way of their use;
- the availability of technical, economic and social information for planning and formulating mining and industrial development strategies.

Improvement of technical know-how within the mining industry.

Improvement of the legal and administrative infrastructure of the mining sector.

Identification and formulation of mining and metallurgical research and development projects of multinational interest.

/The establishment

The establishment of integrated mining strategies and greater collaboration and solidarity among Latin American countries, as a further element of regional integration.

The adoption of measures for the protection of the environment with reference to the exploitation of minerals and their processing.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Natural resources

Location: Mexico

Objective: Evaluation and optimum exploitation of natural resources

(i) To collaborate with governments and other agencies in the preparation of policies, programmes, and plans of action for the rational and integral development of natural resources - particularly water and energy - and in their systematic instrumentation and co-ordination with action in other fields, with the aim of making an effective contribution to the process of global development, but without detriment to the quality of the environment.

To instruct and train local personnel and to improve and extend the methods and techniques used in this field, in order to ensure continuity and efficiency in the exploitation of these valuable resources with suitable local staff.

(ii) Problem addressed

The region possesses climatic, orographic, and geological conditions which indicate a high availability of both water and energy resources. Preliminary research into water resources has shown that on the whole the region has ample availability of river flow, although there are some river basins with imminent water deficit problems. As regards energy resources, there are only preliminary appraisals of hydroelectric potential.

There are heavy demands, with dynamic rates of growth, on the services of these resources, and large sectors of the population which do not yet have access to them.

Water consumption for domestic, industrial, and agricultural purposes is constantly increasing, and unless suitable and opportune planning is carried out, these uses could come into conflict with each other, or with uses which employ water but do not actually consume it, such as hydroelectricity, river navigation, and sewage dilution.

/Because of

Because of their greater efficiency, commercial energy sources (petroleum products and hydroelectricity) have displaced the non-commercial fuels (wood and bagasse), a situation which has negatively affected the balance of payments and has increased foreign dependency by increasing the imports of petroleum.

Finally, the considerable quantities of consumer goods (food and fuel) which are imported could be reduced in the immediate future through better exploitation of the resources under consideration here, by means of irrigation, hydroelectric, and geothermic projects and, in the longer term, by the exploitation of such coal deposits and oilfields as exist in the region.

For the above reasons, it is of the utmost urgency to have policies and programmes which will ensure full use of national water and energy resources, while paying due attention to the preservation of the environment, with the aim of achieving social and economic development more in keeping with the availability of these resources.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolutions 302 (XIV): Natural resources; 323 (XV): ECLA's activities in connexion with the environment; 337 (XV): Natural resources. CCE resolutions 126: Electrification; 156 (X): Regional development of energy resources; 157 (X): Integral development of water resources.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

Technical assistance will continue to be provided to governments and regional agencies (SIECA and BCIE) in connexion with global programmes and policies related to the planning and exploitation of natural resources (water and energy). An impulse will be given to activities that will make it possible to have a permanent inventory of the above-mentioned resources to be used as the basis for their progressive exploitation according to needs and possibilities.

Assistance will be given in the preparation of demand projections for each of the services deriving from the use of these resources, both as a result of the normal growth of national needs or as a result of special situations caused by the grouping of markets in the area or by the grouping of these with other markets outside the region.

/Research into

Research into agricultural demand (for both the internal and export markets), as well as irrigation projects which may eventually help to fulfil this demand, will be kept up to date.

Periodical surveys of multiple and integral uses of the water resources of river basins, with special emphasis on priority areas, will also be carried out.

An active part will be played in the preparation and subsequent updating of a regional energy plan which will include evaluation of resources (hydroelectric, geothermic, petroleum, wood, coal and bagasse), the determination of demands (industrial, commercial, domestic, and transport), and the preparation of a supply programme which will establish priorities for each of the available resources.

As an integral part of the programme, studies on regional electricity networks will be expanded so as to ensure the fullest coverage of energy demands from local sources (hydroelectric and geothermic), with a consequent reduction in hydrocarbon imports.

Finally, ECLA will collaborate with SIECA in a study of the legal, institutional, economic and financial aspects directly related to the exploitation of natural resources.

In all the above-mentioned studies, a prominent place will be given to aspects related to the preservation of the environment.

(v) Expected impact

(a) In the countries

Improved knowledge of the potential of water and energy resources. Progressive improvement in the methods and techniques used in the evaluation of resources. Establishment of policies and programmes for the exploitation of these resources which are more in keeping with local conditions and the economic and financial possibilities of the countries.

(b) In the region

Strengthening of an integrationist approach to the joint exploitation of the natural resources of the region. Promotion of multinational programmes that take the fullest advantage of both the availabilities and the needs of natural resources in the region. Maximization of the benefits derived from a regional approach to the exploitation of natural resources: economies of scale, possible interrelations with neighbouring regions, etc.

Required growth in total man-months

Programme	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget request	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
Natural Resources a/				
Professionals	125	148	172	196
All others	144	144	168	168

a/ Includes programme 650 Energy.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Population

Location: Santiago

Objective 1: To lay the bases for the preparation of diagnoses, perspectives, policy schemes and programmes of action in the field of population, providing general guidelines and promoting the development and application of scientific knowledge and methods in basic demographic research and interdisciplinary population studies.

(i) To maintain a flow of information on the population of the countries of the region, to carry out research on the factors determining demographic trends, and to contribute to the clarification of the interrelations between population dynamics and economic and social development, to the incorporation of population variables in planning, and to the formulation of population policies through direct technical assistance to national programmes, training programmes, and the communication and dissemination of studies, methods and data on population matters.

(ii) Problem addressed

The characteristics and tendencies of population growth and distribution play an important role in the development of the countries. Problems connected with employment, the utilization of natural resources, formation and investment of capital, quality of the environment, regional development and patterns of consumption and level of living influence and are influenced by the demographic behaviour of the population. Both in specialized meetings (Second Latin American Meeting on Population) and in the regular meetings of the Commission (15th and 16th sessions), the countries of the region have clearly demonstrated their interest in incorporating demographic variables in their development efforts. In order to be able to do this, it is essential to continue expanding the currently available base of knowledge regarding the population situation and the changes which are occurring in it, as well as to determine the prospects for its future evolution. Moreover, in

/proportion as

proportion as the countries of the region specifically tackle new fields of action (the environment, natural resources, critical poverty), new demands arise for data and studies on specific aspects of population.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 357 (XVI): ECLA action: Institutional aspects.

"A-1. In the field of population

"Decides ... to recommend that the Executive Secretary prepare a detailed plan of work of the activities to be carried out by ECLA within the framework of the regional population programme for the bienium 1978-1979."

ECLA resolution 345 (AC.68): Latin American Demographic Centre.

"Decides:

"1. To provide that CELADE, an autonomous organization under the auspices of ECLA, be incorporated in the latter's system as a permanent institution with its own identity;

"12. To request the Executive Secretary of ECLA to enter into consultations with the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to including in the Organization's regular budget a certain number of CELADE's key directional and administrative posts in order to secure the continuity of its work."

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

- To prepare and periodically update a regional programme of population activities for ECLA.
- To work out specific projects for the activities indicated in the regional programme, ensuring that the necessary measures are taken for their implementation and execution.
- To prepare an annual study on the population situation and outlook in Latin America and the measures and programmes of action of the countries in the population field.
- To prepare studies and technical reports for the secretariat for submission at the sessions of the Commission, specialized conferences, meetings of consultative and co-ordination groups, ad-hoc committees and other meetings on population matters.

/- To

- To co-ordinate ECLA's activities in population matters with other interregional and regional programmes of the Population Division of the United Nations, the specialized agencies, and other regional and sub-regional country bodies.

(v) Expected impact

The programme is expected to help the countries to know and understand the implications of demographic situations and processes for development and the well-being of the people and to develop capacity to handle the population component satisfactorily in measures to deal with economic, social and environmental problems

NOTE: The following are objectives of the ECLA Regional Population Programme whose execution is the responsibility of CELADE (Latin American Demographic Centre).

Objective 2: Population statistics and a system for the dissemination and utilization of basic demographic data

(i) To improve the continuity of the task of preparing, executing and publishing the periodic population censuses and other secondary sources of demographic data; to develop and promote the use of analytical methods in the countries in order to improve the quality of their population statistics and adapt them to the needs of economic and social planning; and to develop and perfect a service for the storage, retrieval and processing of data and information on population matters.

Objective 3: Studies on population dynamics and interrelations

(i) To keep up to date details of the demographic situation in the region and the prospects for its probable future evolution; to clarify and quantify the interrelation between population and development; and to formulate the criteria and analytical instruments needed to introduce the population variable into economic and social planning.

Objective 4: Population policies

(i) To examine the viability and evaluate the probable benefits of various population measures and policies, integrated in the general development strategies and policies, aimed at influencing or modifying

/the rate

the rate of growth and spatial distribution in the light of particular economic and social situations of the countries of the region; to investigate the inputs and means needed for the execution of these measures and policies and to develop an appropriate methodology for evaluating their effects on the population and the coherence of the objectives pursued.

Objective 5: Education, dissemination and communication

(i) - To stimulate, maintain and improve the teaching of demography as a scientific discipline; to incorporate population studies in educational and training programmes of other social disciplines; to take care of special training needs arising in specific areas such as the electronic processing of population data, courses for planners, courses on statistics, on services and on the evaluation of family planning programmes, etc.

- To make available to teachers, students and the public in general literature aimed at disseminating knowledge of population subjects.

- To communicate the studies, manuals and other technical reports prepared under the Latin American Regional Population Programme to national and international bodies and, in general, to disseminate these documents among social and scientific research centres having an interest in the matter.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Population

Location: Port of Spain

Objective

(i) To carry out studies in the field of population with special reference to those bearing on the present levels and trends of population variables.

(ii) Problem addressed

Although in comparison with the rest of Latin America population growth rates are low in the majority of the Caribbean countries, many of them have high population density, internal migration with an excessive tendency to urbanization and emigration of skilled personnel to countries outside the area.

(iii) Legislative authority

Resolution 358 (XVI) of the Economic Commission for Latin America which recommends the formation of a Caribbean Co-operation and Development Committee and resolution 2 (I) of that Committee on possible fields of co-operation.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

Bearing in mind that ECLA has a regional population programme, it is thought that the programme should include activities to serve the particular needs and conditions of State members of the Committee. Emphasis is laid in particular on the migration of skilled personnel and the brain-drain, labour force growth and mobility, inadequate levels of employment and unequal income distribution, factors determining the participation of women in the labour force, etc.

(v) Expected impact

Through the study of these questions ECLA will be able to provide co-operation to governments which so request in the creation and running of regional institutions connected with population aspects of planning.

Required growth in total man-months

Programme	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget request	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
Population				
Professionals	-	-	96	96
All others	-	-	72	72

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Science and technology

Location: Santiago

Objective 1

(i) To promote and implement regional projects on the basis of the Regional Plan of Action in the field of Science and Technology formulated by the Latin American ACAST (Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development) Group.

(ii) Problem addressed

It is clear that the dissemination of technological progress has reached all sectors and in particular the industrial sector.

In addition the role of foreign investment in technological progress has increased, assuming primary importance in the diversification of the productive system, particularly in the more growth-prone industrial activities and their support services.

Concern for the intensity, quality and conditions of the transfer of technological progress and the evidently unsatisfactory state of affairs in the national or regional creation and adaptation of science and technology make it clear that current changes in this sector do not meet Latin American aspirations.

It is for this reason that ECLA will co-operate in the implementation of the Regional Plan of Action.

This Plan has three basic targets:

(a) that by 1980 the developing countries spend 1 per cent of their gross national product on scientific and technological research, experimental development, and support services;

(b) that the industrial countries set aside 0.05 per cent of their GNP for international co-operation in science and technology;

(c) that the developed countries dedicate 5 per cent of their expenditure on research and experimental development of a non-military nature to problems of interest to the countries of the region.

/(iii) Legislative

(iii) Legislative authority

Resolution 357 (XVI) Science and technology

"Give general guidelines for the analysis and the application of science and technology to the development of Latin America and in particular carry out the functions indicated in resolution Nº 1 adopted at the Meeting on Science, Technology, and Development in Latin America held in Mexico City from 2-6 December 1974."

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

- To carry out studies on sectors and possibilities of using indigenous technology;
- alternatives and mechanisms for linking the supply of/and demand for technology;
- the channelling of developed countries' assistance towards developing countries;
- analysis of the characteristics of and limitations to the implementation of regional science and technology plans and programmes.

(v) Expected impact

An overall view of the problems of science and technology will be presented to the countries of the region in terms of the development process indicating specific actions, the machinery and instruments needed in national and regional plans for achieving the harmonious development of science and technology in the context of an integrated approach to development.

Objective 2

(i) To promote and implement projects for the transfer of technology between Latin American countries.

(ii) Problem addressed

The initiatives of the Latin American countries have not been limited to the implementation of machinery and institutional structures for promoting and disseminating scientific knowledge.

In recent years follow-up actions have been taken with a view to a more selective incorporation of technological progress. This tendency reflects the conviction, particularly strong in the relatively more

/developed countries

developed countries, that the efforts in favour of a scientific and technological infrastructure could bear fruit sooner if they receive the required backing through a series of measures to increase, in the medium-term, local demand for specialized knowledge.

The convergence of actions in the region to overcome the more marked instances of technological insufficiency would be required.

(iii) Legislative authority

Resolution 357 (XVI) Science and technology

"Give general guidelines for the analysis and application of science and technology to the development of Latin America, and in particular carry out the functions indicated in resolution Nº 1 adopted at the Meeting on Science, Technology and Development in Latin America held in Mexico City form 2-6 December 1974."

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

- To prepare a study to identify and promote relations in the field of co-operation between national and regional science and technology bodies, with special emphasis on indicative programmes, terms of negotiation and transfer, information science and standardization;

- to promote, organize and co-ordinate, when so requested, regional and sub-regional projects (three or more countries) for the development of technology in specific branches or sectors of production;

- to study and give an impulse to Latin American regional and sub-regional units of production using technology which is either adapted or created in the area or negotiated under package agreements with suppliers from developed countries.

(v) Expected impact

- That technological progress in the industrialized countries will benefit the developing countries and that these will have at their disposal more suitable technologies for their development;

- that scientific and technological co-operation machinery, an important factor in economic and social development, will be set up.

(vi) Primary responsibility: Santiago.

/Objective 3

Objective 3

(i) The systematic inclusion of the problems of scientific development and technological change in the analysis of economic and social development styles, strategies, and policies.

To keep under permanent review scientific and technological aspects in regional or sectoral analyses and action proposals.

(ii) Problem addressed

The decisions which Latin American countries take in the field of technology, expressly or implicitly, and the forms which the process of technological change takes in practice affects significantly the pattern of economic and social change in the countries of the region. They exercise a strong impact on such major problems as the degree of structural dualism in the economy, employment, income distribution, exports and the general fluctuation of the balance of payments, the possibilities of sub-regional and regional integration, the use and destination of the region's natural resources, and the conservation or reestablishment of a suitable ecological balance.

(iii) Legislative authority

The agreements reached at all international meetings held on this subject, and the responsibilities of ECLA itself as United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America, in the field of economic and social development.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The inclusion in studies to be carried out by the various Divisions and under the various ECLA programmes of all problems and variables which arise, in each case, in connexion with the process of technological change.

The development of special research projects directed towards the study of technological problems by ECLA Divisions, both individually and jointly, and in collaboration with other international agencies, for example, ILPES, UNCTAD, FAO, UNESCO, IDB, the Board of the Cartagena Agreement, the United Nations Secretariat, UNIDO, the European Economic Commission, OECD, etc.

/(v) Expected

(v) Expected impact

- The achievement of greater coherency between global, sectoral or regional economic and social development policies and objectives and the process of technological change in Latin America;

- the fuller use of the experience and resources of the advanced countries in order to obtain more harmonious development in the region.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Science and technology

Location: Buenos Aires

Objective 1: Technology

(i) To make a thorough study of the innovation and adaptation efforts made by public and private, national and foreign firms.

To determine the impact of the conditions of micro-economic technological development on macro-economic variables such as exports, income distribution and employment, industrial concentration, etc.

To study the legal and institutional structure which acts as a framework for domestic technology, carry out comparative studies among countries and study the effectiveness of legislation in force.

To study the action of the public sector in the field, particularly in connexion with prevailing strategies, methods used to evaluate research and development projects and systems of running statistics on State expenditure.

(ii) Problem addressed

The analysis of technology is becoming increasingly important in the study of Latin American economic development problems. Many efforts are currently being made to throw light on the subject. Such efforts are linked to the various aspects of technological change, and practical results have been achieved in the region which are very useful with regard to the purchase of technology from developed countries. There are other recently explored fields and the IDB/ECLA Joint Research Programme on Science and Technology in Latin America, supported by UNDP and based in the ECLA office in Buenos Aires has been covering one of them: the adaptation and domestic generation of knowledge.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolutions 310 (XIV) and 322 (XV).

/(iv) Strategy

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The IDB/ECLA Joint Programme has organized its research primarily on the basis of agreements with public institutions in the countries covered by the Programme. The subject to be tackled in each case is mapped out according to the objectives of the Programme and the interests of those institutions. An effort is made to ensure that the institutions are not only engaged in research into technology, but also linked as directly as possible to decision centres. It is thus hoped that the results of the research will to the greatest possible extent provide a basis for criteria for a policy on technology.

Furthermore, as was pointed out above, this Programme is viewed as an initial stage in a more prolonged study which will adopt new approaches to, and consider new features of, technology.

It is therefore felt that as of the middle of 1978 the Programme should be continued by adhering to the basic line already adopted, but with emphasis on a wider range of subjects than the study of branches of manufacturing industries. There remains the broad field of the social infrastructure - health services, urban infrastructure, etc. - which deserves special attention in the prevailing situation in many Latin American countries.

Furthermore, this research, based on a more thorough knowledge of the domestic technological situation, should lead towards technological policy instruments which, in addition to being more directly effective, should fit more harmoniously into economic and social development policies at the global and sectoral levels.

(v) Expected impact

The expected result of the ongoing research is directly or indirectly to begin immediately to perfect technological policy. For example, a better knowledge of the technological lag of Latin American industrial sector; the features of the innovations and adaptations created at the level of productive units; the determinants of the success or failure of research and development efforts; the differences between industries with regard to the effect of domestic

/innovation on

innovation on employment and income distribution; the potential for a genuine technological trade within Latin America; the different responses of industrial sectors to legislation which regulates or fosters the domestic creation of knowledge; the potential, trend and productivity of public expenditure in this field, etc.; all of which are necessary factors to improve the management of the technology variable in development policy.

Required growth in total man-months

Programme	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget request	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
Science and Technology a/				
Professionals	-	78	148	172
All others	-	48	96	120

a/ Includes programme 420 Transfer of Technology.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Social development

Location: Santiago

Objective 1: Styles of development

(i) To enhance, through interdisciplinary research, understanding of styles of development in Latin America and their future prospects. To disseminate findings of this research in forms accessible to governments and public opinion in Latin America and to incorporate them into the overall development analyses of ECLA. To promote and co-ordinate related policy-oriented research in other institutions and to provide corresponding advisory services. To advise governments on social policy questions and on the integration of social policy within development policy and planning.

The medium-term objective is to analyse the range of national development styles and the social, political and economic factors that bear on their evolution, in particular the interaction between the State and social classes, and to utilize the above conceptual framework and research findings so as to develop policy alternatives and planning methodologies that will be viable within foreseeable styles of development and that will contribute to improvement of the distribution of income and the effectiveness of social services, elimination of extreme poverty, and broadening of participation on terms of equality in the different dimensions of development and social life.

(ii) Problem addressed

The Chaguaramas Appraisal, adopted by the sixteenth session of ECLA as resolution 347 (XVI), states in paragraphs 10 and 11:

"The prevailing style of development involving structural heterogeneity has permitted significant improvements in some aspects of living conditions, particularly as regards access to education and other social services, which are also importante factors in the new situation; at the same time, however, the unequal distribution of income has been accentuated, levels of consumption of such basic items as food

/and housing

and housing have not improved noticeably, and the capacity of the economies to offer productive, well-paid employment is as inadequate as before. Inflation and other repercussions of the international situation are sharpening tensions which are inevitable in a style of development whose benefits are so unequally distributed.

"In spite of the professed aims and of the greater material capacity to eliminate poverty which should be implicit in the favourable economic growth rates of several countries, it is therefore not surprising that the rate of progress toward the attainment of social development goals is extremely slow. It is now more important than ever that the governments of Latin America should not, out of excessive optimism regarding the spontaneous results of accelerated economic growth or out of pessimism regarding the possibility of looking into the future and influencing the processes of social change in such a complex and changing situation, lose sight of the fact that, in order to achieve equitable and integrated development, greater efforts are needed together with a thorough realistic knowledge and appreciation of what is happening."

This appraisal reflects the findings of ECLA social development studies up to 1975, as summarized in the 1976-1979 medium-term plan, confirms a high degree of concern among Governments over the gap between social objectives and realities within prevailing styles of development, and indicates the needs and demands for a searching examination of these styles.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 328 (XV): Activities relating to the regional appraisal of the International Development Strategy.

ECLA resolution 355 (XVI): Programme of work and order of priorities, 1975-1977.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

Considerable progress has been made in establishing guidelines for a unified approach to development analysis and planning, in setting up a conceptual framework for the description of different styles of development in the Latin American context, and in applying this

/framework to

framework to specific policy areas. The present intention is to advance farther into the relations between styles and viable policy alternatives, the determinants of styles in specific national societies, and the objective possibilities of alternative styles of development projected toward future decades, under different hypotheses concerning the evolution of the international economic and political order. The ECLA Review, the ECLA Staff Papers series, and future review and appraisal reports on the International Development Strategy will be utilized to disseminate research findings. A regional meeting may be organized in 1977 to discuss the implications of this work, if external financing is forthcoming.

The work will require continuing co-ordination with research being carried out in other units of ECLA (in particular work on numerical experimentation with development models), in UNRISD, and in Latin American planning bodies and academic research institutions.

(v) Expected impact

The Quito and Chaguaramas Regional Appraisals of the International Development Strategy, approved at the fifteenth session of ECLA in 1973 and the sixteenth session in 1975, demonstrate that governments of the region are aware of crises both in development trends and in development policies, and are demanding new ideas. The future impact of the ideas that ECLA is able to produce in regard to styles of development will depend on the quality of the ideas, the effectiveness of their dissemination, and the evolution of the national, regional and international crises that may affect receptivity positively or negatively in ways that cannot now be assessed.

Objective 2: Social change in Latin America

(i) To enhance, through interdisciplinary research, understanding of social structural changes, trends in levels and distribution of human welfare, and interrelations between these questions and economic and political changes.

The medium-term objective is to improve the conceptual framework and data base for understanding of changes in social structure and social differentiation, through research into distribution of

/occupations, incomes

occupations, incomes, education, housing, and social services; the role of the family; and the position of women and their participation in development.

(ii) Problem addressed

The problem is inseparable from that indicated under "Styles of development". In spite of a broad consensus concerning distributional and welfare shortcomings and the presistence of extreme poverty on a scale not warranted by national per capita income levels, the basic information needed for pinpointing of problems and for remedial action remains unsatisfactory, and the interpretation of such information within the broader framework of development leaves even more to be desired. Meanwhile, the social phenomena are changing rapidly and data and interpretations both lag behind these changes. Social policies continue to be shaped by bureaucratic routine and by heterogeneous pressures on the governments. A system of periodic interpretative social reporting, covering the whole range of social change but combined with in-depth studies of more specific topics, such as employment, income distribution, occupations and the role of women in the economy and society, can help to overcome these inadequacies.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 328 (XV): Activities relating to the regional appraisal of the IDS.

ECLA resolution 355 (XVI): Programme of work and order of priorities, 1975-1977.

World plan of action, World Conference of the International Women's Year (Mexico City, 19 June to 2 July 1975).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The pursuit of this objective will continue to be governed by the need to present periodic comprehensive surveys of social trends in Latin America in a context of heterogeneity in the trends and continuing inadequacy of basic information. In its next stages, the project will pursue studies of changes in social and occupational stratification, family organization, and the position of women and will relate these changes to actual and potential government policies in specific areas:

/income distribution

income distribution, employment, education, housing, social services, and equalisation of rights and opportunities of different population groups, specially referred to women's situation in specific social contexts and styles of development.

Since the preparation of the 1976-1979 plan the two major objectives of the social development programme have been integrated more closely with each other and some research activities formerly treated as separate projects have been consolidated under "social change". This derives in part from improvement of the conceptual framework and in part from shifting to other programmes of full responsibility for some projects in which responsibilities were previously shared and mandated and division of labour were complex. Thus, full responsibility for population activities has been centred in CELADE and responsibility for work on the spatial structure of development in ILPES. The social development programme will naturally continue to draw on research in both these fields in the aspects most relevant to its central concerns. The focus of work on income distribution and employment, previously treated as a separate project, has been somewhat narrowed to the links of these questions to styles of development, social stratification, and social policy, so as to make full use of the findings of the ECLA-World Bank income distribution project and of the studies of PREALC, while avoiding duplication. An ECLA/UNDP/UNESCO three-year research project on "Development and Education in Latin America and the Caribbean", deriving from previous educational studies of the social development programme, is expected to provide inputs to both the "social change" and "styles of development" projects.

Periodic chapters on social change in Latin America will be drafted for inclusion in future IDS regional review and appraisal reports, in the ECLA Economic Survey of Latin America, and probably in future United Nations Reports on the World Social Situation. Texts for these purposes will be prepared in 1976, 1978, and 1980. The aim will be to prepare texts that can serve with some modifications for the different periodic reports and also the dissemination of the programme's

/research findings

research findings. Research findings will be presented in more detail in the ECLA Staff Papers series and in reports prepared for regional meetings, such as the regional meeting on women and development envisaged for the latter part of 1976.

(v) Expected impact

The more general expected impact is an improvement in the capacity of governments and informed public opinion to make more realistic and timely appraisals of social changes within countries in a broader regional context and to learn from each other's experiences. The more specific impacts should lie in enhancement of governmental capacity to formulate and apply policies in areas such as income distribution, education, employment, the elimination of critical poverty, and the participation of women that respond to real problems and potentialities rather than abstract principles.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Social development

Location: Mexico

Objective 1: Social development and social policy in Central America

(i) To identify more accurately the factors which have influenced the recent social development of Central American countries, with particular attention to the impact of regional co-operation.

To recommend policies and guidelines of an integral nature designed to accelerate socio-economic development in the area and to encourage the participation of different sectors of the population.

To strengthen the mechanism for social planning in an integrated conceptual and operative framework.

(ii) Problem addressed

In international and regional forums, particularly in the "Quito Appraisal", in the Chaguaramas Appraisal (sixteenth session), and in several meetings of organizations for Central American integration, shortcomings have been pointed out in the social evolution of the region, and the need to apply policy measures within a coherent frame of reference has been emphasized. Particular attention has been given to the rural-agricultural sector, where employment problems, poor living conditions, and a shortage of public services make the situation especially serious.

On the other hand, the experience gained by the countries in the field of regional co-operation has increased the range of possibilities and measures which could be put into practice - individually or jointly - with the aim of overcoming deficiencies in the social system. These should not remain isolated efforts. Economic, social, and institutional arrangements all influence each other; what is needed, therefore, is to deal with them from the point of view of a unified whole. This task is particularly difficult in Central America because of the relative lack of experience and of resources, which contrasts with the marked severity of the problems

/(iii) Legislative

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 310 (XV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

ECLA's Mexico Office has taken on important responsibilities for the evolution and strengthening of co-operation in Central America. In more specific terms, as far as the social situation is concerned, the Mexico Office is particularly concerned with research - and with the corresponding technical assistance - into the employment market, social participation, and the urban-rural gap. In the light of this background, active help can be provided to the governments of the area and to regional organizations in defining socio-economic problems more clearly and in putting into effect policies which are geared to the characteristics and to the magnitude of these problems

(v) Expected impact

The impact would make itself particularly felt in the elaboration of indicators, methodologies and theoretical frameworks in keeping with an integrated concept of development.

Objective 2: Social development in Cuba

(i) To improve the knowledge of alternative models of development in Latin America, with emphasis on the nature of problems arising in conditions of rapid social change.

To pay special attention to the education and health subsectors, within the framework of the policies and of the profound changes put into effect by the Cuban Government.

(ii) Problem addressed

Cuba represents a unique case of development techniques in Latin America. Since 1959 the country has put into practice action and initiatives aimed at modifying the traditional bases of its economy with a view to strengthening the nation's capacity for the production of goods and services, and increasing the levels of participation and consumption. In this transformation of the social relations of production and coexistence, education and health have played an importat part. Education has furnished a new set of values which correspond to the

/short- and

short- and long-term requirements of the productive system, while health is responsible for improving standards of welfare and for a more efficient use of human resources.

The study will teherefore bring the following three aspects into focus: Cuban development techniques in the context of Latin America; social policies as instruments in general transformation strategy; and specific education and health policies.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 310 (XIV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

(See (ii) above.)

(v) Expected impact

Considering the fact that in the last decade the links between the Cuban Government and ECLA covered only limited fields, studies of the type referred to here will provide experiences which are likely to be of benefit in several areas. One of these would be a comparative analysis of methods and actions in the social sector, which would contrast the Cuban model for development with models prevailing in other Latin American countries. Such an analysis would shed light on the scope, benefits and costs of alternative development schemes, thereby enriching the spectrum of feasible possibilities in the region.

Objective 3: Social aspects of metropolitanization in Mexico

(i) To identify the social dimensions of problems arising from metropolitan expansion in Mexico (Valle de México, Guadalajara, Monterrey), on the basis of studies being carried out under the UNDP/Mexican Government project and on research.

To relate the analysis of Mexico's case to other experiences in Latin America, particularly to the situation in the Central American countries, which are already suffering from disorderly urban expansion.

(ii) Problem addressed

In recent years, ECLA and other organizations have tried to characterize urban expansion phenomena from different points of view: agro-rural decline, internal migration, industrial progress, and the tendencies towards the concentration of incomes, products, and power.

/The "unbalanced"

The "unbalanced" economies of excessive urban agglomeration and the inherent risk to the country's long-term development are also beginning to be stressed. Although considerable progress has been made in determining motives and consequences, some important aspects of urban expansion - for example, its effects on the family unit, on craft activities, on the consumption of cultural goods, on the distribution of leisure time, etc. - have still not been given preferential attention.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 309 (XIV) Development planning.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The proposed study will, on the one hand, attempt to bring together hypotheses and data on the evolution and the structural components of urban expansion in Mexico which have appeared in different surveys, and on the other, identify new elements of the problem, particularly social factors.

(v) Expected impact

Concern is beginning to be felt in Mexico for urban and regional development, and there is a growing awareness that a correction of the defects in this kind of development will increase productive capacity and allow official policies more scope. In recent years, several federal and State organizations have been formed or consolidated with the aim of establishing directives which may solve or diminish the pressing problems of exaggerated urban expansion. ECLA, with its experience gained in other national contexts and by taking into account the work which other organizations are doing in this field, could assist the relevant authorities in the definition of these problems and in the putting into practice of corrective measures. This initiative would also help to secure closer co-operation between ECLA and the Mexican Government.

Unit: ECLA (in the first stage, UNESCO/ECLA/UNDP)

Programme: Social development

Location: Buenos Aires

Objective 1: Development and education in Latin America

(i) To contribute to the formulation of bases for education policies in the countries of the region, by exploring various hypotheses of alternative development policies which include education and other social dimensions.

(ii) Problem addressed

The project will attempt to study the problems which arise from the lack of adjustment between the expansion of education and the course of economic and social development in the countries of the region, such as, for example, high rates of educational growth without their having any effect on levels of income, income distribution and employment.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 355 (XVI).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The methods used by the project will be:

(a) use of national statistics;

(b) analysis of specialized studies;

(c) analysis of educational policies followed by the governments of the countries of the region.

These methods will be used by various specialists in education, to prepare studies which will be collected in a final report on the educational situation in Latin America.

(v) Expected impact

(a) To provide information for possible changes in international co-operation in the field of social and educational development and point out priorities and means of action;

(b) To lay the bases for social planning which will integrate action on education with action on other social sectors;

/(c) To

(c) To provide academic centres and planning offices in countries of the region with research and analytical criteria on the situation of social and educational development in their countries, so that they may carry out studies financed by national resources, and possibly with the support of international bodies.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Social development

Location: Rio de Janeiro

URBAN AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (BRAZIL)

Objective 1

(i) Analysis of the national finance system for urban infrastructure investments.

(ii) Problem addressed

Despite large accumulated deficits in infrastructure and services, it seems that local governments are not able to fully utilize resources made available by the Central Government.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 309 (XIV): Development planning.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

1. Development of research methodology.
2. Field studies of nine selected medium-sized urban areas to identify "bottlenecks" and to assess investment project generation capacity of local administrations.
3. Studies of relevant information on metropolitan areas and central government executive agencies.
4. Comparison of present local governments' absorptive capacity with central government financial capability for urban infrastructure financial resources.

(v) Expected impact

Output information should be used by the National Urban Policy Council as an indicative basis for financial assistance policies and programmes as well as for improving management capacity of local governments.

Objective 2

(i) Development of a simulation model to study regional inequalities within the country.

/(ii) Problem

(ii) Problem addressed

Apparently, regional inequalities in Brazil have continued to increase in spite of the rapid economic growth the country has experienced in recent years. Nevertheless, the Central Planning Agency (IPEA) is encountering difficulties in the quantitative appraisal of such inequalities.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 309 (XIV): Development planning.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

1. Define the operational objectives, basic methodology and general characteristics of the model.
2. Establish the feasibility of the model's development.
3. Develop and test the proposed model in three six-month stages, each stage increasing the detail and redirecting the focus based on preliminary conclusions of the preceding stage.

The first stage is now in progress. The second and third stages should be completed during 1977.

(v) Expected impact

The Central Planning Agency (IPEA) will use the model as a permanent, although flexible and continuously evolving, system for assessing regional development policies and improving the efficiency of existing resource transfer mechanisms.

Objective 3

(i) Planning and management of public services.

(ii) Problem addressed

The low quality and lack of efficiency of public services, particularly those relating to lower income groups, count among the most serious urban deficiencies, as recognized by the central local authorities and reflected in the Second National Development Plan.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 309 (XIV): Development planning.

/(iv) Strategy

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

1. The National Urban Development Council (CNPU) will indicate service systems to which priority should be given in the study.
2. Priority systems should be approached on the basis of field surveys to be undertaken in selected urban areas.
3. Reports on each system should be submitted to CNPU after completion.

(v) Expected impact

The expected outputs should be of value to CNPU when the latter begins developing programmes aimed at improving the quality of public service management in the urban areas; a direct consequence of said improvement should be to raise the efficiency with which public funds are allocated by local governments in Brazil.

Required growth in total man-months

Programme	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget request	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
Social Development				
Professionals	220	246	317	340
All others	120	120	144	168

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Statistics

Location: Santiago

Objective 1: Statistical information

(i) To provide a regional framework for statistical information on the economic and social situation in Latin America, based on the organization and maintenance of specialized data files, conceptual and methodological systematization, and the appraisal of national statistics.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 290 (XIII);

ECLA resolution 306 (XIV);

ECLA resolution 328 (XV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

(a) The organization and maintenance of permanent data files in the areas of national accounts, external trade, balance of payments, public sector, prices, production, population, social aspects, employment, as well as of data provided by household surveys and censuses and economic surveys.

(b) The systematization, analysis and preparation of statistical information for the annual Economic Survey and other secretariat projects sharing similar needs.

(c) The preparation of indicators for the periodic appraisal of regional development.

(d) Publication of the Statistical Yearbook for Latin America.

(e) Preparation and publication of statistics on specific subjects.

(v) Expected impact

The member countries of ECLA will have access to updated statistical information on the economic and social situation in Latin America.

/Objective 2:

Objective 2: Methodological and quantitative studies

(i) To provide quantitative frameworks for socio-economic subjects of special interest to the region, through the preparation of special studies on current methods and practices, analysis of the conceptual problems of measurement, the preparation of basic and aggragated statistical systems and the implementation of internationally comparable measurements.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 290 (XIII);

ECLA resolution 306 (XV);

ECLA resolution 317 (XV);

ECLA resolution 328 (XV);

ECLA resolution 353 (XVI).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

Studies on:

(a) The measurement and analysis of income distribution;

(b) Purchasing-power parities and real income in Latin American economies;

(c) External trade indexes and terms of trade;

(d) Private consumption expenditure patterns;

(e) External financing and foreign investment;

(f) Problems in the construction and use of input-output tables;

(g) The financing of the public sector;

(h) System of demographic and social statistics and social indicators;

(i) Statistical systems for the analysis of the situation of women, youth and children;

(j) Employment, unemployment and underemployment;

(k) Statistical information systems for development;

(l) Problems of measuring productivity;

(m) Measurement in segmented economies;

(n) Measurement of subsistence activities;

(o) Statistical system on science and technology and on the environment.

/(v) Expected

(v) Expected impact

The governments of the region will have at their disposal methodological and quantitative studies prepared for socio-economic subjects of special interest to the region.

Objective 3: Data bank

(i) The organization and operation of a centralized data bank for economic and social statistics.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 306 (XIV);

ECLA resolution 328 (XV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The introduction of suitable technology in the ECLA Computer Centre and the progressive transcription of the different specialized data files held by ECLA on the basis of data designed to preserve the structure of the basic data, to permit direct access, and facilitate interaction in the use of basic data. The setting up of the data bank will require the incorporation of data bases of other agencies and interaction with national data banks sharing a similar technology.

(v) Expected impact

The organization and operation of a centralized data bank will permit direct access to and facilitate interaction in the use of data bases.

Objective 4: Conference of statisticians and planners

(i) To contribute to the improvement of communications between statistical services and the main uses at national and regional level, through the organization of meetings of statisticians and planners from 1977 onwards.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 306 (XIV);

ECLA resolution 328 (XV).

/(iv) Strategy

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The organization of preparatory expert meetings; the organization of the first plenary meeting of the Regional Conference of Statisticians and Planners, to be held on a bienial basis as from 1977 onwards; the establishment of permanent working groups of the Conference to hold periodic meetings to discuss specific technical aspects.

(v) Expected impact

Improved communication between statistical services and the main uses at national and regional level.

Objective 5: National statistical programmes and international recommendations

(i) To contribute to the development of basic statistics, and in particular the establishment of national statistical programmes; to promote the harmonization of national statistics in the region, through the dissemination and promotion of international recommendations; to establish stronger links between national statistical programmes and projects in the ECLA work programme.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 290 (XIII);

ECLA resolution 306 (XIV);

ECLA resolution 328 (XV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

(a) To intensify and rationalize regional technical assistance in the countries in the field of demographic and social statistics, household surveys, censuses, sampling techniques, national accounts, basic economic statistics.

(b) To contribute to the establishment of national statistical programmes based on similar methodologies with features suited to the countries of the region.

(c) To disseminate and promote the application and adaptation of international recommendations in the region.

(d) To organize technical meetings and seminars to discuss with government officials and experts the problems of organization, methods, classifications, processing and harmonization of national statistical programmes.

/(v) Expected

(v) Expected impact

The countries interested will benefit from the development of basic statistics and in particular from the establishment of national statistical programmes.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Statistics

Component: Economic projections

Location: Santiago

Objective 1: Appraisal and prospects of medium- and long-term Latin American development in the context of the major United Nations resolutions on the transformation of the present economic and social structure

(i) To assist the countries of the region in connexion with the appraisal and prospects of long-term Latin American development, by supplying information and methodologies to enable them to assess the past and mapout future options. In this general framework, the objectives are: to appraise regularly the development process of the countries of the region; to study and review periodically and systematically the framework for the analysis and assessment of future development trends; to prepare mathematical models with a wide range of variables and parameters in order to compare national development styles.

(ii) Problem addressed

The United Nations is currently working to bring about transformations in the present international economic order. To this end it has adopted important resolutions such as the International Development Strategy and the New International Economic Order.

The nature and size of the change sought and the emphasis placed on international aspects have led to difficulties arising from the lack of information and suitable analytical methods. It has therefore been necessary to work out methods and collect information to correct this situation. ECLA to date has prepared the basic material for two regional appraisals of the IDS, and for the discussions which have arisen in connexion with the New International Economic Order. From the experience acquired it has been possible to ascertain which aspects should receive priority, and an ECLA project already being carried out should serve as a basis for this type of study.

/(iii) Legislative

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolutions 310 (XIV) and 328 (XV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The experience gained from the past regional appraisals of the IDS has shown that there should be a permanent unit responsible for such biennial reviews which should deal with their conceptual, methodological and technical aspects. Among the necessary tasks are: (a) to compile and analyse studies, projects, resolutions and conference discussions so as to maintain an up-to-date body of information and reference material to back up ECLA's decisions; (b) to help the secretariat in its relations with other parts of the appraisal machinery, namely, the political bodies of the United Nations, particularly the Commission and the Group of High-Level Governmental Experts, and the specialized bodies, particularly the Centre for Development Planning, Projections and Policies and the Development Planning Committee; (c) to help the secretariat to organize and co-ordinate the preparatory activities for its biennial report and the reports prepared by the Committee of High-Level Governmental Experts and ECLA.

(v) Expected impact

The reports of the periodic appraisals (the next will be concluded in March 1977), and other methodological studies, will provide the governments of member countries with broad and qualified information which will certainly be of great use in the adoption of their international and national policies. In addition, since the appraisal machinery provides for annual meetings of governmental experts, to hold discussions, draw conclusions on the course of the development process and prepare a report, it is hoped that this will be a speedy channel of communication between governments and the United Nations, for the exchange of experience and knowledge of mutual benefit.

Objective 2: Quantitative analysis of feasibility and coherence of development styles

(i) To co-operate with countries in the definition and analysis of alternative development styles. To study the relations between economic and non-economic questions. To help countries in the design and elaboration of models to improve the explanation and interpretation

/of development

of development viewed as a global process of interrelated social changes; to study the feasibility and compatibility of different objectives and strategies to promote human development. To place long-term political principles in the context of development styles.

In the medium-term the aim is to collaborate with governments by disseminating as widely as possible the methods to construct numerical experimentation models, which are an indispensable tool for the adoption of alternative policies and for planning.

(ii) Problem addressed

The growing concern to incorporate non-economic aspects in development studies has caused a need to revise the analytical schemes hitherto employed. There are now many efforts both within the United Nations and outside it to create a new instrument. The unified approach and development styles are two important tools prepared within the United Nations system for an integrated approach to the various aspects of development.

The definition of development styles is a very broad task which calls for the collaboration of specialists in different fields. One of the areas in which ECLA is working is the development of quantitative methods for the analysis of the consistency and feasibility of development styles. Numerical experimentation models have proved to be a valuable instrument to carry out such studies. The growing use throughout the world of these methods, pioneered by ECLA, shows that they should be developed so as to be able to extend the studies of development styles to which ECLA has attached priority.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 328 (XV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The lack of statistical data to elaborate large analytical or econometric models for an integrated analysis of economic, social and political questions has led researchers to adopt the techniques of numerical experimentation.

/At the

At the present stage the numerical experimentation model is based on a numerical system, calculated from year to year through coefficients, propensities, elasticities, rates, etc., on which direct information is available or which may be estimated through international comparisons, or through experts concensus. Thus it may easily be understood that the model is a tool which is being perfected over time, in terms of both the information processed and its own structure.

Methodological documents have been prepared and at the same time experiments have been carried out for some countries. The strategy should be to strengthen this research with a view to disseminating and applying these techniques in the countries of the region. The co-operation of governments is clearly needed, and will be encouraged through the elaboration of national models whose results will promote dialogue.

(v) Expected impact

The adoption of numerical experimentation techniques by national planning bodies will be a basic step towards the design and implementation of alternative development programmes, plans and policies. In this connexion it may be said that economic policy can only be formulated and implemented coherently if socio-economic and political aspects are integrated in the broadest possible framework.

Furthermore, the possibility of using an integrated model incorporating the fundamental aspects of a country's economic, social and political system allows a coherent link between the short- and long-term. It should be repeated that short-term measures are meaningless if they are not placed within a reference framework outlining the general course which a country wishes to follow to achieve a particular national image.

The greatest impact expected in this connexion will lie in the successful methodological formulation of such a model and its numerical application to national development strategies so that in the light of these results governments will be encouraged to employ such techniques. It will therefore be a task of co-operation; ECLA should in principle establish some kind of consultant service to speed up its dissemination.

/Objective 3:

Objective 3: Global and sectoral macroeconomic studies of the Latin American countries

(i) To assist member countries in the systematic study of global medium- and long-term economic prospects particularly in relation to developments in the external sector. To introduce analytical techniques which will allow countries to make use of world information and projections carried out in other regions of the world.

The medium-term objective will emphasize co-operation with governments of the region through dissemination and adaptation of projection methods. At the same time information on Latin America as a whole and on its subregions will be made available to countries and will help to guide forecasts.

(ii) Problem addressed

There are still few countries which periodically and systematically make medium- and long-term macroeconomic projections. This situation contrasts sharply with that of the developed countries where this type of activity is institutionalized and is an important pillar of economic policy.

The great influence of the external sector on Latin American countries is alone a justification for up-to-date projections of the determinants of that sector. It is not enough to have projections for each country. The great interrelationship which is the essence of foreign trade and financing calls for an overall review both of the region and the rest of the world. At present ECLA is making efforts to have the best possible links with the main groups which make world or regional projections so as to keep up-to-date the information it uses in external sector projections. However there are still considerable possibilities for progress and therefore this programme has great potential.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolutions 328, 329 and 330 (XV).

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

A study will be made of the most salient features of a number of models prepared by developed countries which may be adapted to countries of the region. A study will also be made of models existing for the Latin American countries, with the aim of incorporating that experience in the work which ECLA intends to carry out.

/In the

In the models of the developed countries, priority is given to the demand side. In our research specifically for the countries of the region, great emphasis will be laid on supply factors, although this does not mean that at certain stages of model construction demand factors of particular interest will not be included, since, as is well-known, certain Latin American economies have a somewhat dual nature because of the coexistence of modern production sectors in the image of the industrialized countries side-by-side with very backward sectors.

(v) Expected impact

With the publication of a series of "Econometric Models" for countries of the region, it is hoped that governments, through their planning offices, will analyse and discuss their results, and put forward criticisms and suggestions which will help to eliminate the rigidities which earlier versions of the models may contain.

It is hoped to show governments that models are not only useful but also indispensable for planning, whose basic requirements of coherence, interdependence and periodicity, can only be guaranteed within a framework of this kind.

Required growth in total man-months

Programme	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget request	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
Statistics				
Professionals	385	384	408	408
All others	648	624	624	624

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Transport and communications

Location: Santiago

Objective 1: Information systems for decision-making in the transport sector

(i) To improve the quality of information and techniques used in transport planning and policy formulation in member countries; to design a bibliographic documentation system for the transport sector.

(ii) Problem addressed

Despite the generation of quantities of data on the transport sector in each member country, these data are not processed rationally and transport planners do not have the timely and reliable information required for the decision-making process.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 356 (XVI): ECLA and international and regional co-operation.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

- Implementation of a workable mechanized information retrieval system in member countries.
- Perfection of a catalogue design for investment projects and its implementation in member countries.
- Design of data registers and a data bank for maritime transport information and their implementation in member countries.
- Design and implementation of a data register or data bank for storing information on land transport traffic in member countries.

(v) Expected impact

Expected to assist in institutionalizing a continuous process of data handling to provide reliable and up-to-date information for planning and decision-making in the transport sector.

/Objective 2:

Objective 2: Facilitation of international transport and trade

(i) To identify and assist in removing non-tariff barriers to transport and trade in the region; to promote the establishment of national and regional transport facilitation committees composed of representatives of government and private transport agencies, insurers, customs, and bankers; to promote the establishment of Latin American multimodal transport operators.

(ii) Problem addressed

The South American continent already has considerable railway and highway infrastructure which could be utilized for international trade within the region. Nevertheless, non-tariff barriers presently constitute an overwhelming obstacle to international land transport. Latin American maritime shipping lines face serious competition from foreign shipping lines and have not been able to increase significantly their small share in the carriers of the traffic which is generated by the region's foreign trade. Insurance companies and freight forwarders in the region face similar difficulties and there is strong concern that the introduction of new technology will reduce even further the region's participation in transport and related services.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 356 (XVI): ECLA and international and regional co-operation.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

- Publication of a bi-monthly bulletin "Facilitation of Commerce and Transport in Latin America".
- Simplification and alignment of key trade and transport documents.
- Assistance in the establishment of new international land transport services.

(v) Expected impact

Expected to obtain support for action which would lead to reductions of non-tariff barriers in the region and would improve the quality and decrease the cost of transport of regional trade, thus promoting regional integration.

/Objective 3:

Objective 3: Urban transport problems

(i) To assist member countries in evaluating intermediate solutions to mass transit problems in some of the medium-sized cities of the region where transit problems are still manageable and there is still an opportunity to introduce transit systems which can be used efficiently while the cities continue to grow.

(ii) Problem addressed

The major urban centres in Latin America are growing rapidly and considerably faster than the capacity of the urban transport infrastructure and services. Serious congestion is common, while public transport facilities are wholly inadequate to meet the needs of workers, students and the population in general. A number of alternative solutions to confront these problems have been adopted by different member countries, some much more expensive than others, and some more appropriate than others. Monitoring and reporting on the progress and results of these solutions for the benefit of other member countries can be an important contribution towards the exchange of experiences in this field.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 356 (XVI): ECLA and international and regional co-operation.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

A report evaluating the results of some of the innovative solutions to the mass transport problem that some of the region's middle-sized urban centres have introduced and examining the possibility of their adaptation to other centres with similar problems.

(v) Expected impact

Expected to assist member countries in rationalizing mass transit services in some of their medium-sized urban areas, and to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life in these centres.

Objective 4: Development of appropriate transport technologies for Latin America

(i) To examine the process by which some of the major export products of the region are transported from the point of production to

/the point

the point of consumption (distribution chains); to determine the way in which the final price of the product is formed and attempt to decrease the cost of transport and related services and thus increase the net income of the exporting countries.

(ii) Problem addressed

The gap between the price received by Latin American countries for many of their exports and the price paid by consumers in the importing countries is frequently extremely large. Part of this differential is due to the use of inappropriate technology in different links of the transport and distribution chain. An appropriate technology is one which minimizes the cost of the entire chain while maximizing the participation of Latin American enterprises which provide transport and related services, as in this way the net income to the exporting countries can be maximized. In addition, an inappropriate technology can cause severe social problems.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 356 (XVI): ECLA and international and regional co-operation.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

- Studies of "distribution chains" of the more important products of the region.
- Evaluation of new transport technologies and promotion of their use in member countries where appropriate.

(v) Expected impact

The fortunes of many member countries are closely tied to the foreign exchange which they receive from the export of primary products. If the cost of transport and related services is reduced, part of these savings could represent net increases in the foreign exchange earnings of these countries.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Transport and communications

Location: Port of Spain

Objective

(i) To carry out studies related to the maritime transport service provided by schooners or other kinds of coastal shipping among the smaller islands and between them and the rest of the Caribbean.

(ii) Problem addressed

Among the subregional integration groupings, the Caribbean subregion presents a very unusual problem: almost all the member States are separated to a greater or lesser extent by the sea. An efficient shipping service among them is therefore an indispensable requisite for the success of any integration attempt.

(iii) Legislative authority

Resolution 358 (XVI) of the Economic Commission for Latin America which recommends the formation of a Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee and resolution 2 (I) of that Committee on possible fields of co-operation.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The purpose of this study will be to implement a rational shipping plan on the basis of suitable and well-equipped coastal vessels to complement the West Indies Shipping Corporation (WISCO) and other shipping companies in ferrying operations.

Consideration will also have to be given to protection against unilateral decisions by the shipping conferences in respect of rights, transport and services; the formulation of a common shipping policy oriented towards the harmonization of shipping legislation; etc.

(v) Expected impact

The recommendations which will emerge from this study will be of importance for countries members of the Caribbean integration group to be able to take decisions aimed at improving their integration schemes.

Required growth in total man-months

Programme	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget request	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
Transport and Communications				
Professionals	120	122	122	146
All others	96	96	96	96

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Library services (CLADES, Latin American Centre for Economic and Social Documentation)

Location: Santiago

Objective: Development of documentation and information interchange in the economic, social and technological spheres

(i) The Economic Commission for Latin America created the Latin American Centre for Economic and Social Documentation (CLADES) to provide information system support for economic, social and technological development activities of the region, especially those related to United Nations programmes. The objective is that ECLA and other United Nations programmes, as well as those of the governments of the region, should have rationalized systems of acquisition, classification, processing, dissemination and retrieval of the basic information necessary for their respective activities, and of continuing information interchange necessary for technical co-operation. CLADES' work in this regard is basically of five types:

1. Advice to United Nations programmes, to other regional and sub-regional institutions and to governments regarding information system design and implementation strategies, with special emphasis on regional information interchange.
2. Research and development on acquisition, classification, processing, dissemination and retrieval techniques appropriate to assure both relevance of information output for Latin American needs and objectives and efficient information intercahnge with international systems.
3. Training and extension, based on CLADES' experimentation in the design and implementation of information systems.
4. Collaboration in drawing up and implementing regional standards for documentation.
5. Indexing of socio-economic materials produced in the region, including those of ECLA and ILPES.

/During the

During the medium-term period, CLADES' goal is to bring about greater development and co-ordination of existing documentation activities in the region, in order to avoid duplication of effort and to promote better use of the human and technical resources devoted to information processing. Techniques of specialized information services will be worked out and experimented. By the end of this period, it is hoped that documentation services in the region will tend to co-ordinate their efforts on a regular and systematic basis.

(ii) Problem addressed

A major factor in co-operation among the Latin American countries, and in taking advantage of the work of the multigovernmental organizations is that of information. Considerable human and technical resources are devoted to information classification and processing, but in such a way that considerable problems exist in matching the information which is generated and available with the decision-making needs of the users. There are many projects of international and national entities aimed at designing and implementing new information systems, but there is a lack of the basic infrastructure at the national level and within the multigovernmental organizations in order for such projects to have the desired effects. Also, there is confusion regarding the appropriateness of alternative techniques and there is a need to experiment with adaptations in order to ensure that the information systems are relevant to the immediate needs of the users. Otherwise, unnecessarily expensive systems are transferred. Better access is required to the documents produced on the region by multigovernmental agencies. More consistency is needed in classification, in order to facilitate retrieval. Strategies for information system implementation need to be realistic as regards the technical and political conditions in the region.

(iii) Legislative authority

ECLA resolution 303 (XIV): Economic and social documentation.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

CLADES will run a regional reference service regarding information services, based on the results of a survey of socio-economic information services now underway in each Latin American country and on a proposed

/survey of

survey of technical information services in the region. This reference file will be used as an instrument of co-ordination among indexing and bibliographic series produced in the region, promoting the development of complete documentation centres on specialized topics giving efficient service to users throughout the region. CLADES will co-ordinate and advise on the development of these centres regarding technical matters. At the same time, it will work closely with national information institutes and associations in translating user decision-making conditions into specific information requirements, identifying the major processors and brokers of information, and dealing with the problems hindering effective sectoral, national and regional information interchange. A key aspect of this will be support for university and professional retraining programmes, by means of seminars, distribution of audio-visual material, and the preparation of textbooks and other materials based on the experiments and research results of CLADES. CLADES will index materials which are of vital importance to United Nations programmes and other users of the region, but which are not being indexed by other services.

(v) Expected impact

One of the major impacts of this programme will be much greater clarity in the region regarding technical alternatives and appropriate norms for information system developments. Another impact will be co-ordination and continuity in indexing, abstracting and other secondary reference activities on Latin American material. Most important will be the reinforcement of relevant information interchange both between the multigovernmental organizations (including ECLA/ILPES) and the countries of the region, and within these countries.

Required growth in total man-months

Programme	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget request	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
Library Services a/				
Professionals	-	48	50	74
All others	-	168	168	168

a/ The estimates given under this programme heading relate exclusively to the Latin American Documentation and Research Centre.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Management of technical co-operation

Location: Santiago

Objective 1

(i) To formulate, negotiate and manage projects of a regional and sub-regional nature, financed with bilateral and multilateral resources, taking into account the development objectives of the countries or groups of countries of the region, the resolutions adopted by the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, the resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly which contain implications at the regional level, the resolutions of the legislative bodies of the United Nations specialized agencies which have implications for ECLA, and the decisions taken by the sub-regional and free trade bodies of Latin America and the Caribbean.

(ii) Problem addressed

The resources from the regular budget of ECLA are not sufficient to finance the growing operational and research activities of the secretariat. It is therefore necessary to have increasing recourse to extra-budgetary financing for these activities in order to comply promptly and adequately with the mandates constantly being received by the ECLA secretariat.

(iii) Legislative authority

Practically all the resolutions adopted by the Commission and its subsidiary bodies provide mandates regarding operational and research activities.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

Projects with extra-budgetary financing are prepared and negotiated in accordance with the demands that must be satisfied in order to comply with the mandates of the legislative bodies of the Commission in particular and the United Nations in general and the decisions of Latin American regional bodies. It may be estimated that during the period 1977-1981 an average of 10 project documents per year

/will be

will be prepared, which, together with the projects already in execution, will give an average of 35 projects to be managed each year by the Division of Operations.

(v) Expected impact

The extra-budgetary funds which ECLA obtains from bilateral and multilateral forces provide quite substantial support for the operational and research activities of the secretariat, thus enabling it to comply satisfactorily with many of the mandates which it is constantly receiving.

Objective 2

(i) To co-ordinate the technical co-operation services provided by ECLA to governments of the region which so request.

(ii) Problem addressed

The majority of the countries of the region, and especially the countries of less relative development, need assistance in order to solve priority economic and social problems and for the development of their economies and institutions. In addition, the regional and sub-regional groupings require the co-operation of ECLA in order to intensify the process of economic integration.

(iii) Legislative authority

It would be practically impossible to cite here the dozens of resolutions adopted by legislative bodies of the Commission which give mandates for extending technical co-operation to the countries.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

ECLA provides advisory services at the request of interested governments. If the demand for services continues during the period 1977-1981 at the same rate as observed during the two preceding years, it may be estimated that an average of 150 individual missions will be carried out annually in each of the coming five years.

(v) Expected impact

The impact of the activities envisaged cannot be foreseen. It can only be measured when the advisory assistance missions to the economic integration bodies have been completed.

/Objective 3

Objective 3

(i) Management of special projects such as those connected with the provision of assistance as a result of natural disasters.

(ii) Problem addressed

A considerable number of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean frequently suffer from the effects of natural disasters, mainly earthquakes and hurricanes, which cause widespread damage and loss of life.

(iii) Legislative authority

Not applicable.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

In each case, ECLA will send expert missions to make on-the-spot evaluations of the damage caused by these natural disasters and prepare an emergency plan for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of the areas affected by them.

(v) Expected impact

Not applicable.

Objective 4

(i) To co-ordinate the assistance provided by ECLA to UNDP in the preparation of country programmes and projects.

(ii) Problem addressed

ECLA collaborates with the UNDP regional office for Latin America, at the latter's request, in the preparation of country programmes and projects and missions to evaluate these projects.

(iii) Legislative authority

Not applicable.

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

It is expected that in the next 5 years an average of 3 to 5 missions per year will be carried out for the purposes described above.

(v) Expected impact

ECLA's collaboration will make it possible, on the one hand, to prepare UNDP programmes and projects which take into account the objectives and priorities of the countries' own development plans and strategy, while in addition it will enable ECLA to transmit to the countries the knowledge acquired by it in the course of its research and studies.

/Objective 5

Objective 5

(i) To co-ordinate ECLA's activities in the promotion of technical co-operation among the developing countries, and especially: to collaborate with governments of the region to set up focal points for the promotion of such technical co-operation and to prepare specific programmes and projects aimed at achieving reciprocal technical co-operation; to set up within ECLA a regional information system on the capacities and needs of the countries of the region; and to collaborate with the special department set up by UNDP to deal with such technical co-operation activities.

(ii) Problem addressed

In the developing world, high priority is being given to co-operation among the developing countries. In these countries there are abundant human, institutional and material resources and extensive experience in development matters which still remain unused and could be employed very fruitfully in order to collaborate with the development efforts being made by other countries which are in a similar situation. The same is true of the technology and know-how available in the developing countries, which could be exchanged with or transferred to other countries which are in a similar situation.

(iii) Legislative authority

- Final report of the Working Group on Technical Co-operation Among Developing Countries (DP/69) set up by the Administrator of UNDP under the terms of General Assembly resolution 2974 (XXVII);
- General Assembly resolution 3251 (XXIX):
  "5. Requests the regional commissions to study and give priority attention to measures designed to implement the recommendations addressed to them in the report of the Working Group";

/- ECLA

- ECLA resolution 354 (XVI):

"3. Recommends the Executive Secretary of ECLA:

(a) To provide maximum support to the governments of the developing countries of the region and to UNDP in order to set in motion activities aimed at promoting technical co-operation among such countries, with emphasis on the organization and operation of a system for providing information on the existing capacities and needs of the developing countries of the region."

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

A focal point has been set up in the Division of Operations to deal with matters connected with technical co-operation among the developing countries and to collaborate at the regional level with the activities of the special department set up with a similar aim at UNDP Headquarters and also with the focal points which are being established or may be established in the future in various bodies of the United Nations system.

(v) Expected impact

It is expected that activities in the field of technical co-operation among the developing countries in ECLA will enable awareness to be created in the developing countries of the region regarding the need for them to engage in mutual help and to exchange or transfer experience and technology which may be adaptable to the requirements of the recipient countries.

Unit: ECLA

Programme: Management of technical co-operation

Location: Port of Spain

Objective: Technical co-operation among the Caribbean countries

(i) To promote and co-ordinate co-operation activities among the Caribbean countries and assist governments in the elaboration of concrete projects oriented towards action for mutual technical co-operation, especially in the fields of technological information, technology relating to low cost housing and construction methods, public health, education, human resources development, training and food production.

(ii) Problem addressed

The determination of the Caribbean countries to pool their capacities and experience is an essential requirement for collective action aimed at substantive changes of mutual benefit.

Some of these countries have accumulated human, material and institutional resources which they could make available to other interested countries. It has been observed that often experts from a similar background provide more efficient assistance, because of their knowledge of the common problems of developing countries and their greater ability to adapt to local conditions. To speed up the process of reciprocal exchange, emphasis is laid on the need to adopt special measures and programmes to overcome language barriers - dissemination of practical teaching of Spanish, French and English in all member countries - and make good deficiencies in communication, data collection and distribution.

(iii) Legislative authority

Resolution 358 (XVI) of the Economic Commission for Latin America which recommends the formation of a Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee and resolution 2 (I) of that Committee on possible fields of co-operation.

/(iv) Strategy

(iv) Strategy and corresponding output

The countries of the region have suggested that there should be a systematic flow of technological and methodological information on the subregion, in collaboration with the area's universities and other research institutions. They also point out the need to exchange technology on low-cost housing for lower-income groups, and that such programmes are linked to community development programmes.

Priority is attached to efforts in the field of public health and education, particularly in relation to the exchange of technology more suited to countries of the region with the aim of increasing food production.

Activities will also be carried out in connexion with mutual co-operation in priority development sectors and to bring up to date information on human resources, and on training to facilitate the use of those resources on the basis of negotiations among the governments.

(v) Expected impact

The countries of the region will benefit from the development experience of other countries in the same region in similar conditions, and the creation of conditions such that in turn each country can also establish its own system of co-operation with the other countries of the region.

Required growth in total man-months

Programme	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget request	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
Management of Technical Cooperation Activities				
Professionals	96	96	96	96
All others	72	72	72	72

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA-MEDIUM-TERM PLAN 1977-1981
PROGRAMME GROWTH IN MAN-MONTHS (REGULAR BUDGET ONLY)

	1974-1975 Actual	1976-1977 Budget	1978-1979 Estimate	1980-1981 Estimate
210 Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries				
Professional	121	147	171	171
All others	96	120	144	144
240 General Economic Development a/				
Professionals	884	987	1 060	1 060
All others	480	576	648	648
270 Environment				
Professionals	74	78	100	124
All others	48	48	72	72
290 Human Settlements				
Professionals	-	6	52	52
All others	-	-	24	24
330 Industrial Development				
Professionals	217	200	224	224
All others	264	264	264	264
340 International Trade and Development				
Professionals	517	530	584	584
All others	408	456	504	504
460 Natural Resources b/				
Professionals	125	148	172	196
All others	144	144	168	168
480 Population				
Professionals	-	-	96	96
All others	-	-	72	72
520 Science and Technology c/				
Professionals	-	78	148	172
All others	-	48	96	120
530 Social Development				
Professionals	220	246	317	340
All others	120	120	144	168
540 Statistics				
Professionals	385	384	408	408
All others	648	624	624	624
550 Transport and Communications				
Professionals	120	122	122	146
All others	96	96	96	96
780 Library Services d/				
Professionals	-	48	50	74
All others	-	168	168	168
790 Management of Technical Cooperation Activities				
Professionals	96	96	96	96
All others	72	72	72	72
TOTAL MAN-MONTHS:				
Professionals	2 759	3 070	3 600	3 743
All others	2 376	2 736	3 096	3 144
% Growth of substantive programme over preceding biennium:				
Professionals	100.0	111.3	117.3	104.0
All others	100.0	115.2	113.2	101.6
% Growth of substantive programme over 1974-1975:				
Professionals	100.0	111.3	130.5	135.7
All others	100.0	115.2	130.3	132.3

Note: Man-months exclude temporary assistance: consultan man-months are shown in the estimates for "Professionals": non-substantive activities are ecluded.

a/ Includes programme 490 Transnationals.
b/ Includes programme 650 Energy.
c/ Includes programme 420 Transfer of Technology.
d/ The estimates given under this programme heading relate exclusively to the Latin American Documentation and Research Centre.

SRF/mms
19 January 1976