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**REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2012-2013 BIENNIAL PROGRAMME
OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES AND DRAFT
2014-2015 BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION ACTIVITIES OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE
OF THE AMERICAS OF ECLAC**

Under the proposed operational guidelines for the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,¹ the working groups shall “draft and submit to the Executive Committee progress and final reports on the group’s biennial programme” and “have a biennial programme to describe the specific goals and attainable targets during the mandate and that are measurable using mid-term and final evaluations”. The annex to the proposed operational guidelines contains a format for the presentation of the biennial programme of the working groups and status and final performance reports.

Pursuant to the provisions of that proposal, this document contains reports from the working groups on institution-building, gender statistics, censuses, national accounts, information and communications technologies, environmental statistics, harmonization of statistics on income poverty and public transfers, international classifications, agricultural statistics, labour-market indicators, household surveys, statistics on childhood and adolescence and statistics on public security and justice.

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**BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF THE WORKING GROUP
ON INSTITUTION-BUILDING**

I. MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

The member countries are Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Ecuador, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Suriname. Colombia is the coordinating country of the working group's activities for the period 2011-2013 and ECLAC serves as the technical secretariat.

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II. OBJECTIVES

1. General

The working group aims to strengthen national statistical offices in the region through compliance with the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean.

2. Specific

- (a) Exchange best practices in the implementation of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean
- (b) Monitor and assess compliance with the principles of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean
- (c) Promote statistical planning using the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean, with a focus on results management
- (d) Propose a formal structure in the framework of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC for the implementation of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean

III. FINAL ACTIVITIES REPORT, 2012-2013

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Use the data received via the 2011 questionnaire on strengths and weaknesses to cross-check information and prioritize the region's needs	The National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) prioritized the region's needs on the basis of information provided by national statistical offices in the 2011 questionnaire, drawing on the most common areas of weakness identified by the offices	April to May 2012	Compilation and consolidation of the strengths, weaknesses and suggestions for improvement put forward by the offices of the region	
Design the methodology for a proposal for a bank of good statistical practices in the region	DANE prepared the proposal for the bank of good practices, which was reviewed and endorsed by the members of the group	July to August 2012	Proposed methodology for developing a regional bank of good practices for Latin America and the Caribbean	
Once the region's needs have been prioritized, propose activities that can be undertaken by the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC to help national statistical offices overcome their weaknesses	DANE and the members of the group prioritized their information needs in accordance with the most recurrent weaknesses found in the aforementioned document	July to September 2012	Set of prioritized activities for the region, presented to ECLAC	These activities were subsequently included in the workshop to disseminate the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean
Design the system for consulting the proposed bank of good statistical practices in the region	The DANE technical team designed and developed the regional bank of good practices, which was then reviewed by the members of the group, who submitted their comments	August 2012 to September 2013	Consultation system for the regional bank of good practices, providing access to a number of statistical good practices in different subject areas using different search criteria	An administration system was also created that will allow all countries in the region to independently upload good practices from their organization
Complete the self-assessment questionnaire on the following principles from the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean: professional independence, statistical mandate for data collection, statistical confidentiality, adequacy of resources, commitment to quality and impartiality and objectivity	DANE drafted proposed questions to measure compliance with the aforementioned principles. The questions were then endorsed by the members of the working group	October to December 2012	A questionnaire was produced that assesses the 17 principles and 84 compliance criteria of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean	

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Design the web application for the self-assessment questionnaire	The DANE technical team designed and developed the web application for the questionnaire on the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean	November 2012 to May 2013	Web application for the questionnaire on the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean reviewed and endorsed by the members of the working group	
Conduct overall assessments of compliance with the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean by the member countries of the working group	DANE	2013-2014	Funding was obtained from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and methodological guidelines were developed for the assessments. The self-assessment questionnaire was administered as a prerequisite for conducting the overall assessments. The guidelines were circulated among the members of the working group.	Assessments will be conducted in 2014 using the resources from the IDB
Hold an on-site workshop for the Caribbean countries on implementing the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean	The event was organized by DANE with the support of the Presidential Agency for International Cooperation (APC) and the World Bank. Twenty national statistical offices from Latin America and the Caribbean participated in the workshop, which was led by three international experts: Pilar Martín Guzmán, Máximo Aguilera and Fernando Cortina.	April to June 2013	Workshop participants gained an understanding of the scope, use and implementation of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean. Areas of weakness and best practices for overcoming them were identified in national statistical systems, taking into account countries' interest in implementing these practices. These areas are: coordinating the national statistical system; using administrative records for statistical purposes; optimizing and redesigning statistical operations and introducing new data capture technologies; designing and implementing quality indicators in all phases of statistical production and dissemination; establishing release calendars for statistical products, and developing a statistical culture.	Workshop participants gave the activity a satisfactory evaluation, since it covered practical subject matter that could potentially be used by each national statistical office

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Hold workshops to encourage the countries of the region to use and update the consultation system	DANE proposed the dissemination strategy for the bank of good statistical practices through a virtual workshop to train the countries of the region in consulting and uploading good practices	June to October 2013	Discussions revealed that the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean is highly regarded by the countries as a tool with the potential to strengthen national statistical systems, and for statistical authorities to perform more efficiently within their national statistical system	
Complete the self-assessment questionnaire via the web application	The countries of the region completed the self-assessment questionnaire in order to measure compliance with the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean by their national statistical offices	July to September 2013	A dissemination workshop was designed and will be held in October. It is hoped that national statistical offices in the region become familiar with using the consultation and administration modules in order to subsequently upload good practices to the system	By 25 September 2013, 13 countries had completed the questionnaire and a further 7 countries were in the process of completing it

IV. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES, 2014-2015

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
1. Exchange best practices in the implementation of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean	<p>Face-to-face workshop to follow up on the implementation of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean by the region's countries. (Activity financed using non-reimbursable IDB resources)</p> <p>Experience-sharing between countries in the framework of South-South cooperation as a feasible strategy for mobilizing technical assistance and facilitating the application of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean. (Activity financed using non-reimbursable IDB resources)</p>	<p>DANE (Colombia)</p> <p>DANE (Colombia) and working group members</p>	<p>November 2014</p> <p>July to August 2014</p>	<p>The countries participating in activities are expected to assimilate and show an interest in implementing the recommendations of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean</p>
2. Monitor and assess compliance with the principles of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean	<p>Administration and completion of the questionnaire on the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean, to follow up on the improvements that each office set out to implement in 2013</p> <p>Overall assessments of compliance with the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean to be conducted in five of the region's countries, with the corresponding improvement plans to be drawn up for each country. (Activity financed using non-reimbursable IDB resources)</p> <p>Review of the self-assessment methodology, including a review of the questionnaire on the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean. (Activity financed using non-reimbursable IDB resources)</p>	<p>DANE (Colombia)</p> <p>DANE (Colombia) and working group members</p> <p>DANE (Colombia)</p>	<p>September 2013</p> <p>May to June 2014</p> <p>August to September 2014</p>	<p>Countries are expected to be aware of the factors determining the application of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean and to have resources at their disposal to implement it in their national statistical systems</p>

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
3. Promote statistical planning using the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean, with a focus on results management	Study on the methodological and technical considerations relating to statistical planning and their relationship with results management. (Activity financed using non-reimbursable IDB resources) Regional training workshop on statistical planning. (Activity financed using non-reimbursable IDB resources)	DANE (Colombia) DANE (Colombia)	November 2013 to January 2014 March 2014	Countries of the region are expected to gain knowledge of the results-management approach to planning
4. Propose a formal structure in the framework of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC for the implementation of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean	Proposed creation of an agency (consortium) to ensure continuity in activities to implement the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean Closer contact with agencies with the potential to fund this proposal	DANE (Colombia) and working group members DANE (Colombia)	May to June 2015 July to September 2015	A structure that provides continuity in implementing and following up on the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean

BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF THE WORKING GROUP ON GENDER STATISTICS

I. MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

- Coordinating country: Mexico (National Institute of Statistics and Geography, (INEGI))
- Member countries: Bahamas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama and Plurinational State of Bolivia
- Technical secretariat: Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC
- Advisory bodies: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the National Institute of Women (INMUJERES) of Mexico

II. OBJECTIVES

1. General

Promote the production, development, systematization and consolidation of statistical information and gender indicators in order to design, monitor and evaluate public policies.

2. Specific

- (a) Develop the technical, methodological and analytical capacities of national statistical offices with regard to gender statistics
- (b) Strengthen partnerships between national statistical offices and mechanisms for the advancement of women
- (c) Foster horizontal and triangular cooperation, international technical assistance and regional collaboration for the development, analysis and dissemination of gender statistics
- (d) Promote the use of gender statistics in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of public policies
- (e) Promote the organization of meetings at the national and regional level to encourage specialized discussion on gender statistics

III. FINAL ACTIVITIES REPORT, 2012-2103

Activity	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Links with other working groups	INEGI (Mexico)	January to December 2012	Contact was made with the Working Group on National Accounts, the Working Group on Institution-building and the Working Group on Agricultural Statistics	
Generate knowledge products	UN-Women	January to December 2012	Studies on violence are being conducted in four countries in the region Two studies were produced that advocate the multidimensional measurement of poverty, considering the issue of women's time poverty in both Mexico and Guatemala	
Training	Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC and UN-Women	January to December 2012	Distance courses were offered covering various subject areas to do with the generation and analysis of gender-sensitive information In Guatemala, a blended learning training course was delivered on gender-sensitive statistics The following courses were also taught in the region: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to gender statistics and indicators • Time-use surveys • Measuring violence against women through national surveys, and public policies on care 	
Technical assistance to and horizontal cooperation among Latin American and Caribbean countries	Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC, UN-Women, INEGI and INMUJERES	January to December 2012	Both ECLAC and UN-Women provide countries with technical assistance and promote horizontal cooperation between their institutions. This is the case with the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) of Mexico and the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC) of Ecuador, on the calculation of the satellite account on unpaid work. Meeting on gender statistics, time use and unpaid work (held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago from 20 to 21 February 2012). The aim of the meeting was to agree on a set of methodological guidelines relating to the technical assistance provided to machineries for the advancement of women and national statistical offices on the production of gender statistics and time-use surveys; as well as the use of classifications and gender analysis. During the meeting, UN-Women, INMUJERES, ECLAC and INEGI reviewed the programme of work and devised lines of action to deliver technical assistance to the member countries of the working group and such non-member countries as may request it. UN-Women provided technical assistance to the National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC) of Panama in order to conduct the National Survey on Time Use, as part of the programme of work of the Working Group on Gender Statistics. UN-Women provided assistance and cooperation to the National Institute of Statistics (INE) of Guatemala to hold the Second International Seminar on Gender, Ethnicity, Poverty and Public Policies.	

Activity	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
International meetings	ECLAC	20-21 February 2012	Meeting on gender statistics, time use and unpaid work (Santiago)	
	160 participants from 22 countries and representatives of national statistical offices from 15 countries in the region	8-10 October 2012	Thirteenth International Meeting on Gender Statistics, entitled "Evidence-based policies geared towards the economic empowerment of women" (jointly organized by UN-Women, INEGI, INMUJERES and the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC and held in Aguascalientes, Mexico)	
		11-12 October 2012	Tenth International Meeting of Experts on Time Use and Unpaid Work, entitled: "Public policies, time use and the care economy: the importance of national statistics" (Mexico City)	
		29-30 October 2012	Meeting on the valuation of unpaid work and the satellite account, in conjunction with the National Institute of Statistics and Informatics (INEI) of Peru (Lima)	
		17-18 June 2013	Eleventh International Meeting of Experts on Time Use and Unpaid Work (Mexico City)	
	189 participants from 20 countries and representatives of national statistical offices from 17 countries in the region	4-6 September 2013	Fourteenth International Meeting on Gender Statistics, entitled "Women's empowerment and autonomy: measuring compliance with international commitments in the region" (jointly organized by UN-Women, INEGI, INMUJERES and the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC and held in Aguascalientes, Mexico)	
Participation in other meetings		12-13 April 2012	Meeting of experts on time use and unpaid work (organized by the Andean Community and held in Lima)	
		12 November 2012	Workshop on improving agricultural statistics for gender equality (Porto Alegre, Brazil)	
		28-29 November 2012	Second Congress on Statistics relating to Gender and Indigenous Peoples: statistics on violence against women among the Maya, Xinka, Garifuna and Ladino peoples (Guatemala)	
		13 November 2012	Meeting entitled "Counting the Invisible: Time-use Surveys and Unpaid Work" (Costa Rica)	

IV. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES, 2014-2015

The activities of the working group will focus on the following priority areas:

- (a) Time use and unpaid work
- (b) The economic valuation of unpaid work in the System of National Accounts and the development of economic statistics with a gender perspective
- (c) Rebalancing care work: family and social co-responsibility
- (d) Statistics on violence against women
- (e) The measurement of poverty from a gender perspective
- (f) The identification of emerging issues on countries' gender agendas

Technical assistance to and horizontal cooperation between Latin American countries:

- (a) International agencies exercising secretariat and advisory functions will continue to provide technical assistance over the period. Greater efforts will be made to support exchange between the technical staff of national statistical offices, in the framework of horizontal and triangular cooperation in the region.
- (b) The Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC and UN-Women will continue to give online and classroom-based courses on gender indicators and statistics, time use, surveys on violence and emerging issues.

In order to maintain communication and constant exchange between the members of the group, the working group plans to hold regular virtual meetings to follow up on the progress achieved in the programme of work. Virtual information and feedback sessions will be held with the national statistical offices that make up the working group.

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Develop methodological tools for the economic valuation of unpaid work and for calculating the satellite account on unpaid work. Share these tools with the national statistical offices of the region, and discuss them in specialized forums	<p>Twelfth International Meeting of Experts on Time Use and Unpaid Work (Mexico City)</p> <p>Thirteenth International Meeting of Experts on Time Use and Unpaid Work (Mexico City)</p> <p>Side event to discuss and reflect on the methodological guide to the valuation of unpaid work</p> <p>Coordination with the Working Group on National Accounts to prepare the methodological guide to the valuation of unpaid work</p>	UN-Women, the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC, INMUJERES and INEGI	<p>Second quarter of 2014</p> <p>Second quarter of 2015</p> <p>Second quarter of 2014 and 2015</p>	<p>Methodological guide to the valuation of unpaid work completed</p> <p>At least one meeting held to reflect on and discuss the methodological guide</p> <p>Meetings held</p>
Disseminate the Guidelines for Producing Statistics on Violence Against Women, prepared by the United Nations Statistical Commission Friends of the Chair Group, and the proposals drafted by the United Nations Statistics Division and UN-Women	<p>Produce a knowledge-management document on the core indicators of violence against women</p> <p>Review national statistical production on the basis of administrative records on homicides, feminicides, suicides, rapes and other offences committed against women and recorded by criminal justice systems</p>	UN-Women and the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC	<p>Second half of 2014</p>	<p>Meeting held to disseminate the guidelines, especially seeking the participation of countries in the process of conducting surveys on violence against women</p> <p>Document on the core indicators of violence against women</p>
Propose a set of indicators, based on gender-focused technical and methodological discussions, as an input to the debate on the post-2015 development agenda under preparation by the United Nations		UN-Women and the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC	Second half of 2014	Proposal for a minimum set of indicators, to be completed by late 2014, for the purposes of discussing the continuity or modification of the Millennium Development Goals, the possible adoption of sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda from the gender perspective

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Prepare a document on the current status of poverty measurement from a gender perspective by late 2014, following technical and methodological discussions, to serve as a basis for developing proposals to mainstream the gender perspective in poverty measurement	Side event at the International Meeting on Gender Statistics to discuss and reflect on the document on the current status of poverty measurement	UN-Women and the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC	Second half of 2014	Document on the current status of poverty measurement from a gender perspective discussed by the Working Group on Gender Statistics
				At least one meeting held to discuss and reflect on the document on the current status of poverty measurement from a gender perspective
Organize and hold international meetings on gender statistics	Fifteenth International Meeting on Gender Statistics (Aguascalientes, Mexico)	INEGI, UN-Women, INMUJERES and the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC	Fourth quarter of 2014	Meetings held
	Sixteenth International Meeting on Gender Statistics (Aguascalientes, Mexico)		Third quarter of 2015	
Systematically interconnect the work done in the region with the activities carried out at global level and with other working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas	Systematize the flow of information between the members of the Working Group on Gender Statistics	UN-Women, the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC and INEGI	Ongoing	Virtual and face-to-face meetings held Communications sent and received

BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF THE WORKING GROUP ON CENSUSES

I. MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

The members of the working group are Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Plurinational State of Bolivia,, Uruguay. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has been the coordinating country: since November 2011. ECLAC and the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE)-Population Division of ECLAC lend technical, organizational and substantive support.

II. OBJECTIVES

1. General

The programme of work for 2011-2013 is under the leadership of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and forms part of the Strategic Plan 2005-2015 of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC. Its main goal is to promote and develop initiatives that support countries in the evaluation and analysis of the 2010 round of housing and population censuses through training activities (workshops on evaluating coverage and quality, processing and analysing census information, and formulating population estimates and projections based on the 2010 census round), boosting the exchange of knowledge and experiences among countries (concerning, for example, the use of new technologies in housing and population censuses and data editing procedures), determining how countries carried out their recent censuses in terms of content, methodologies and technologies, and evaluating the experience in the light of the results obtained.

2. Specific

- (a) Support and promote the implementation of the 2010 round of censuses in the countries of the region.
- (b) Provide assistance with census management and operation as well as the conceptual design of content
- (c) Apply technology for gathering and processing census data
- (d) Analyse and disseminate information

III. FINAL ACTIVITIES REPORT, 2012-2103

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Workshop to develop the R+SPXPLAN application on information and web dissemination for the purposes of census distribution		National Statistics and Census Institute of Ecuador (INEC), 2012	The development of Redatam and ongoing training activities in the form of workshops for different groups of users have made a significant contribution towards disseminating countries' sociodemographic and statistical information through increased use of census data, including in public policy, as well as access through the websites of national statistical institutes	
Workshop on the use of census data for migration analysis, with emphasis on the experiences of the 2010 census round	Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Mexico, April 2012	Presentation, using census information, of the efforts made by countries in the region, with a focus on international migration	
Second regional meeting on the capabilities and applications of census data		Santiago, July 2012	Exploration of the possibilities of using population and housing censuses to analyse issues relating to internal and international migration, indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples, housing and housing shortages, metropolitan trends, health based on census variables and other sociodemographic indicators; and institutional capacity-building with a view to producing studies using this information	
Second regional meeting on using census data for demographic evaluation and estimation		Santiago, June 2012	Sharing of experiences regarding the process of estimating and evaluating the components of demographic trends, and regarding the analysis of the internal consistency, quality and coverage of census data. The aim was to boost the capacities of professional and technical staff from national statistical offices to analyse demographic trends during the census evaluation process.	
Workshop on the use of technology in censuses and statistical operations	Argentina, Bahamas, Belize, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Uruguay, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the United Nations Population Fund in Haiti (UNFPA-Haiti), CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC and DevInfo Support Group	Caracas, May 2013	Presentation of experiences gained in carrying out censuses and of the various techniques used to obtain quality statistics, with a particular focus on mobile data collection (MDC) technologies, dissemination at the various stages of the census-taking process and census mapping	

IV. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES, 2014-2015

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Workshops on the use and analysis of census data, focused on potential applications for such data, especially for public policy purposes		Working Group on Censuses and CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC	June to October 2014	To explore the possibilities of using Latin American and Caribbean housing and population censuses to analyse issues relating to internal and international migration, indigenous and Afro-descendent peoples, housing and housing shortages, metropolitan trends and health based on census variables and other sociodemographic indicators, as well as to generate institutional capacity for research based on census information.
Second Latin American and Caribbean Course on Population Estimates and Projections		Working Group on Censuses and CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC	September 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To identify population projection methods, together with their advantages, limitations and scope in respect of Latin American population dynamics - To provide tools for calculating each component of population trends: fertility, mortality and migration - To determine the utility of scenarios and hypotheses in making population projections - To make population projections for certain Latin American and Caribbean countries - To introduce the multi-regional model and projections for small areas, as well as projections based on data relating to households and the economically active population
Training workshops and exchanges of experiences on how to use information technology running Redatam software to carry out various statistical operations		Working Group on Censuses and CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC	August 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To develop Redatam and carry out ongoing training activities on its use in the form of workshops for various types of users in respect of population censuses in the region. - To develop different iterations of the application for the dissemination of census data
Workshop on the assessment of vital statistics and the correspondence with the 2010 round of censuses		Working Group on Censuses and CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC	June 2015	To evaluate the administrative records produced by the various countries of the region on the basis of vital statistics, with a particular focus on births and deaths
Document on the current situation in respect of the 2010 round of censuses in the region		Working Group on Censuses and CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC	November 2015	To produce a document on the current situation in respect of the 2010 round of censuses in the region

BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF THE WORKING GROUP ON NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

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II. OBJECTIVES

1. General

To contribute to the implementation of the System of National Accounts 2008 (SNA 2008) in the countries of the region and thereby to promote greater integration between the production of basic economic statistics, national accounts and users.

2. Specific

(a) **International coordination**

To coordinate the efforts of the international organizations working on the development and implementation of SNA. Diagnostic studies and inventories will therefore be updated and expanded with a view to furthering the preparation of strategic plans for monitoring SNA implementation in the region.

(b) **Development of methodologies and standards for basic statistics and national accounts**

To raise awareness of the methodologies and best practices used in national accounts estimates in the region and of recommendations, manuals, classifications, norms and international standards that are useful for implementing the SNA in the region.

(c) **Regional harmonization**

To promote the harmonization of methodologies, classifications, cycles and coverage used in relation to national accounts and basic statistics in the region.

(d) **Human resource development**

To expand capacities and specific technical skills via such methods as courses, working groups, seminars, missions and horizontal cooperation.

III. FINAL ACTIVITIES REPORT, 2012-2013

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Advanced course on national accounts	Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Ecuador and Peru	Bogota, 20-22 June 2012	Two modules, an employment matrix and a responsibility assignment matrix	Eight new modules were proposed for development by the countries
Substantive Seminar on National Accounts 2013, entitled "Developing basic statistics in the national accounting system"	Members of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	November 2013	Greater integration between the production of basic economic statistics, national accounts and their users to contribute to the implementation of SNA 2008 in the region	In preparation, with support from ECLAC Presentations by Brazil, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and ECLAC
International workshop on ERETES for Latin America	Brazil, Peru and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Lima, 2-6 July 2012	Operation of the ERETES module	
Workshop on the institutionalization of water statistics and accounts in Latin America	Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Peru	Lima, 27-29 November 2012	Exchanges of experiences on generating information systems	With the support of ECLAC and the United Nations
International seminar on unpaid work in measuring economic activity and well-being: time-use surveys as a basis for calculating the satellite account on unpaid work in households	Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Peru, Spain, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Lima, 29-30 October, 2012	Exchanges of experiences and discussion on the process of calculating the satellite account on unpaid work on the basis of information from time-use surveys	With the support of the Ministry for Women and Vulnerable Populations of Peru, ECLAC and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
ERETES workshop	Peru	Lima, 16-20 September 2013	Operation of ERETES module with large data sets and liaison with International Comparison Programme	
Advanced international course on national accounts, second workshop	Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), ECLAC and the Andean Community	Lima, 2-6 September 2013	Evaluation and review of eight modules	Modules under development

IV. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES, 2014-2015

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
International coordination	Updating the survey of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean carried out by ECLAC	Coordinating country and ECLAC	2014-2015	Assessment of progress towards the implementation of SNA
	Organization of the international seminar on national accounts for Latin America and the Caribbean	Coordinating country and ECLAC	2014-2015	International seminar on national accounts for Latin America and the Caribbean
Development of methodologies and standards	Advanced course on national accounts	Coordinating country	June 2014	Modules of the advanced course on national accounts (subject to availability of funding)
	Drafting a manual of best practices for national accounts	Coordinating country and ECLAC, in coordination with the countries of the region	November 2015	Manual of best practices for national accounts
Human resource development	Horizontal cooperation	Coordinating country and ECLAC	2014	Horizontal cooperation plan (countries' requirements and capacities)
	Updating the project on improving basic economic statistics for incorporation into the Initiative for the Promotion of Regional Public Goods, and organizing an advanced course on national accounts	Coordinating country and ECLAC	2014-2015	Presentation to IDB

BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF THE WORKING GROUP ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES

I. MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

Members:	Argentina, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Panama, Suriname
Coordinating country:	Dominican Republic
Technical secretariat:	ECLAC

II. OBJECTIVES

1. General

The working group aims to help national statistical systems to build capacities and develop methodologies on measuring information and communications technologies (ICTs).

2. Specific

- (a) Coordinate efforts to ensure that the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean have relevant statistics on the use, availability and impact of ICTs on the economy and society at large, and to establish a baseline for a common set of indicators for the region
- (b) Promote the dissemination of indicators on access to and use of ICTs
- (c) Update the compendium of practices on the inclusion of questions relating to ICT statistics in household or business surveys.
- (d) Promote the strengthening of the online regional database of the Observatory for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (OSILAC)
- (e) Contribute to defining quantifiable targets and indicators for the Plan of Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2015)

It also intends to:

- Significantly increase the number of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean that incorporate the measurement of ICTs into their household and business surveys
- Continue fulfilling its commitment to systematize and disseminate ICT statistics and indicators with a gender-based approach
- Foster the involvement of the countries of the Caribbean and Central America in the working group's activities
- Harmonize techniques for the measurement of ICTs so as to promote their international comparability

III. FINAL ACTIVITIES REPORT, 2012-2013

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Drafting a report in English and Spanish on the 2011 survey on the process of creating harmonized statistics on ICTs in national statistical offices	Coordinating country and working group members	First quarter of 2012	Submission of report on the process of creating harmonized statistics on ICT	A brief comparative analysis of the 2010 and 2011 versions of the survey was published on the ECLAC website
Updating the ICT module for businesses	Working group members and eLAC	June 2012	Revised module on measuring ICT access and use by businesses	Financial and technical support from ECLAC provided through eLAC, with the cooperation of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE)
Meeting to review the concepts and methodology				
Following up the work started in 2011, coordinated by the commission on indicators, on the document containing the eLAC2015 indicators	Coordinating country and working group members	April 2012	eLAC2015 indicators	Revised at the regional level
Revising and implementing the 2012 edition of the survey on ICTs in national statistical offices	Coordinating country and working group members	June to December 2012	Improved ICT survey sent out and data collected	Processing in 2013
Workshop to review and provide training on the ICT module for businesses	19 countries in the region	March 2013	ICT module for businesses reviewed and completed in September 2013	Financial and technical support from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); support from eLAC and the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC) of Panama
Workshop on developing the ICT module for the health sector	Coordinating country and working group members, regional experts in the field, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), eLAC and the Centre of Studies on Information and Communication Technologies (CETIC.br)	April 2013	Preliminary list of indicators for measuring access to and use of ICTs	Financial and technical support from eLAC, and technical cooperation from PAHO and CETIC.br

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
<p>Continuing the development of the ICT module for the health sector</p> <p>First phase: finalizing the list of indicators with definitions</p> <p>Second phase: developing the methodology to be proposed (under way)</p> <p>Third phase: presenting the module to the ministries of health of the countries in the working group for their comments and drawing up a questionnaire</p> <p>Fourth phase: updating the document by inputting contributions, and forwarding to PAHO, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), UNCTAD and the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development for the purposes of feedback</p>	<p>First phase: under the responsibility of eLAC and CETIC.br</p> <p>Second, third and fourth phases: under the responsibility of Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic and Mexico, and with support from the participants in the workshop</p>	<p>November 2013 (proposed date for completion of the module)</p>	<p>ICT module for the health sector (tool for health ministries and institutions in the region and national statistical offices)</p>	<p>In the event that this activity cannot be completed this year, work will continue into 2014 and a training workshop will be held with the support of PAHO, ECLAC and CETIC.br</p>
<p>Updating the compendium of practices on the inclusion of questions relating to ICT statistics in household surveys for 2013</p>	<p>Technical support from ECLAC, in cooperation with the working group</p>	<p>November 2013</p>	<p>Compendium updated for 2013</p>	<p>Available to countries on the website of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC</p>
<p>Processing of data from the 2012 ICT survey for national statistical offices</p>	<p>Coordinating country and working group members</p>	<p>November 2013</p>	<p>Submission of the report</p>	<p>Data from the survey currently being processed</p>
<p>Adaptation of the ICT survey to the requirements of the ministries and institutions implementing the digital agenda in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and acting as the eLAC focal points, in coordination with its secretariat, with a view to measuring the production of ICT statistics in different sectors</p>	<p>Mexico (responsible for follow-up), with the support of the members of the working group and eLAC</p>	<p>April to November 2013</p>	<p>ICT survey adapted to the requirements of the ministries and institutions implementing the digital agenda</p>	
<p>Carrying out the 2013 ICT survey, as adapted to the eLAC focal-point ministries and institutions (if survey is ready)</p>	<p>Coordinating country, working group members and eLAC secretariat</p>	<p>December 2013</p>		<p>Data collection and processing in the first four months of 2014</p>

IV. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES, 2014-2015

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Carrying out the 2013 survey on the process of creating harmonized statistics on ICTs, as adapted to government ministries and institutions	Processing the data and forwarding the report to countries	Coordinating country and working group members Work in collaboration with eLAC	First four months of 2014	Submission of the report on the 2013 survey of ministries to countries and eLAC
Finalizing an ICT module for surveys of the health and eHealth sectors	Training seminar	Coordinating country and working group members Work in collaboration with PAHO, eLAC and regional health-sector organizations	First four months of 2014	Submission of the module to the region's health ministries and institutions and national statistical offices
Support in coordinating the final monitoring plan for eLAC2015	Collecting indicators and drafting the document on the final monitoring plan	Coordinating country and working group members Work in collaboration with eLAC	First four-month period of 2014 to first four-month period of 2015	Document on the final monitoring plan for eLAC2015
Planning, together with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and Suriname, training workshops for Haiti and the English-speaking Caribbean countries, as well as developing any necessary modules on ICT measurement		Coordinating country and working group members Technical and financial support will be sought from ECLAC, UNCTAD and PAHO	Second four-month period of 2014	Submission of modules measuring ICT access and use in Haiti and English-speaking Caribbean countries
Forwarding the 2014 survey on the process of creating harmonized statistics on ICTs in national statistical offices	Monitoring of completion	Coordinating country	Third four-month period of 2014	Data collection and processing in the first four months of 2015
Collecting the results of the 2014 survey on national statistical offices	Processing the data and forwarding the report to countries	Coordinating country and working group members	First four months of 2015	Submission of the report on the 2014 survey to the national statistical offices

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Revising and updating the ICT module for the education sector	Planning the timetable of work	Coordinating country and working group members (Support will be sought from UNESCO)	First four months of 2015	Submission of an updated ICT module for the education sector to the national statistical offices
Drawing up a methodology for measuring gender and ICT indicators in households and administrative records	Planning the timetable of work	Coordinating country and working group members, together with the Working Group on Gender Statistics	Second four-month period of 2015	Submission of the methodological guide for measuring gender indicators in households and administrative records
Forwarding the 2015 survey to government ministries and institutions	Monitoring of completion	Coordinating country and working group members	Third four-month period of 2015	Data collection and processing in the first four months of 2016

Although considerable progress has been made in the eight years since the working group was set up, significant challenges remain. Meeting those challenges will require building on the work that has been carried out at the regional level and consolidating the production of ICT statistics at the national level. In that connection, therefore, the working group calls on ECLAC once again to set up an internal body responsible for the comprehensive vision of all stakeholders in this field and providing this working group with the specialized technical support it requires.

BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS

I. MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

1. Executive Committee

- José Branca, Chief, Environmental Statistics Unit, National Statistics and Census Institute (INEC) of Panama
- Ana Victoria Vega Acevedo, Director of Synthesis and National Accounts, National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) of Colombia
- María Elena González Quesada, National Statistics System Coordination Unit, National Statistics and Census Institute (INEC) of Costa Rica
- Adrián Amado Alcántara Alcántara, Environmental Adviser, National Statistics Office (ONE) of the Dominican Republic
- Dinoira Yurdit Moreno Perdomo, Manager, Environmental Statistics, National Institute of Statistics (INE) of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
- Mara Murillo Correa, Deputy Regional Director, Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- Clarice Ann Turnquest Bridgewater, Assistant Director of the National Accounts Section, Department of Statistics of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas
- Janet Geoghagen-Martin, Deputy Director, Social and Environment Statistics Unit, Statistical Institute of Jamaica
- Angali Aradhana Sangeeta Kisoensingh, Researcher, General Statistics Office of Suriname
- Philomen Harrison, Project Director for Regional Statistics of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
- Diane Quarless, Chief, ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean

2. Executive secretariat

- Representative of the country responsible for each of the components of the project
- Janine T. Perfit, Lead Specialist, Modernization of the State, State, Governance and Civil Society Division of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
- Kristina Taboulchanas, Economic and Environmental Statistics Unit, Statistics Division of ECLAC
- Francisco Javier Jiménez Nava, National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) of Mexico (executing agency)

3. Coordinators of the components

Component 1: Costa Rica

Component 2: to be confirmed

Component 3: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Component 4: Colombia and the Dominican Republic

II. OBJECTIVES

1. General

Promote regional implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) and the development of official systems for basic environmental statistics to support such accounts, with a view to incorporating them into the national statistical systems of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

2. Specific

- (a) Assess the current situation in respect of environmental statistics and SEEA implementation in the countries participating in the project, with a view to developing and strengthening these systems through technical capacity-building.
- (b) Promote coordination on environmental statistics, indicators and accounts between institutional stakeholders at the national level.
- (c) Strengthen regional cooperation in order to promote the standardization and comparability of common environmental statistics with a view to implementing SEEA in Latin America and the Caribbean.

III. FINAL ACTIVITIES REPORT, 2012-2013

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcome	Remarks
Hiring a consultant for the project launch meeting	Executing agency, IDB and ECLAC	May to July 2013	Máximo Aguilera was hired as consultant for the meeting	
Project launch meeting in Panama City	Executive Committee, executing agency, IDB and ECLAC	27 and 28 June 2013	The meeting was held with the participation of the Executive Committee, IDB, ECLAC, CARICOM, UNEP and the executing agency (INEGI)	
Drawing up terms of reference for the employment of a consultant to be in charge of component I of the project	Executing agency	July to December 2013	A draft version has been drawn up that is currently being revised	

IV. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES, 2014-2015

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Component 1: Assessing the development of environmental statistics, their degree of integration into official national statistics systems and strengthening them in the countries of the region				
Consultant to develop and implement a self-assessment tool and provide workshop support	Preparing a self-assessment tool Implementing the self-assessment tool Holding a workshop to monitor progress	Country responsible for coordinating the component and the executing agency	January to May 2014	Regional assessment of the situation regarding official environmental statistics and the implementation of SEEA
Consultant to draft a report using the results of the self-assessment	Carrying out the self-assessment			
Countries' participation in carrying out, reviewing and validating the assessment	Reviewing and validating the self-assessment			
	Presenting the regional assessment			
Component 2: Drawing up a strategy and action plan for the development and strengthening of environmental statistics in the countries of the region				
Consultant to determine the scope of, and establish the concepts and guidelines for, the strategy and the principal elements of the action plan	Drawing up terms of reference for the consultant	Country responsible for coordinating the component and the executing agency	June to December 2014	Strategy and action plan to promote the standardization and comparability of common environmental statistics with a view to implementing SEEA in Latin America and the Caribbean
Workshop to define the strategy and action plan in terms of its scope, main content and guidelines with a working group of countries	Holding the workshop and preparing the corresponding report	Consultant and country responsible for coordinating the component	July 2014	
Consultant to draft a document setting out the strategy and action plan	Drawing up the strategy and action plan Developing and implementing the consultation tool	Consultant, country responsible for coordinating the component and the executing agency	January to May 2015	
Remote consultation with countries on the strategy and its endorsement	Drawing up the strategy and action plan	Consultant, country responsible for coordinating the component and the executing agency	November 2014 to May 2015	

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Component 3:	Designing a toolkit to develop and strengthen the production of environmental statistics			
Consultant to design the toolkit	Drawing up terms of reference for the consulting exercise.	Country responsible for coordinating the component and the executing agency	June to December 2014	This component will provide the tools to carry out the consultation that will lead to the standardization of environmental statistics systems
Remote consultation with countries	Developing and implementing the consultation tool	Consultant, country responsible for coordinating the component and the executing agency	July to December 2014	
Involving countries in the remote consultation	Collecting comments from countries using the consultation tool	Consultant, country responsible for coordinating the component, the executing agency and participating countries		
Consultants to travel to countries to report on experiences and good practices	Drafting reports on good practices		September to October 2015	

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

I. MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

Members: Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Jamaica, Panama,
Paraguay, Peru, Suriname and Uruguay

Technical secretariat: ECLAC

II. OBJECTIVES

1. General

- (a) Obtain an updated map of the status of national experiences relating to income poverty
- (b) Promote horizontal cooperation and training activities
- (c) Encourage broad discussion of topics not covered to date

2. Specific

III. FINAL ACTIVITIES REPORT, 2012-2013

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
<p>Systematize and analyse the outcomes of the workshop on the harmonization of poverty statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean, held on 22-24 May 2012, and include them in a report emphasizing similarities and differences for discussion. The report should be ready by November 2012.</p>	<p>Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Peru, Uruguay, ECLAC and the World Bank</p>	<p>5 June 2013</p>	<p>The outcomes of this meeting are presented at the end of this report</p>	<p>The working group itself did not systematize the outcomes, but Luis Beccaria and Pablo Gluzmann prepared the document “Medición de los ingresos y la pobreza oficial en América Latina y el Caribe”, which fulfils the group’s objective</p>
<p>Organize a workshop on alternative multidimensional poverty measurements. Financing will be required for this workshop, which should be held in 2013</p>				<p>This activity was cancelled by the Executive Committee in a decision taken at its meeting on 3-4 September 2013, at which time it was considered opportune to establish task forces (groups set up for a specific purpose and for a limited period). To that end, ECLAC was tasked with preparing a proposal to be presented at the seventh meeting of the Conference, to be held in November 2013, which would involve Colombia and Mexico, as the two countries that have officially begun to conduct multidimensional measurements. The idea is to reflect on the possible dimensions of well-being that could be included in the measurement of multidimensional poverty and propose basic modules of questions to measure them. In this connection, the working group, as it currently exists, would be wound up at the end of this year and an ad hoc task force would take its place.</p>

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Request training support from the World Bank for the adoption of the Accelerated Data Programme and its improved use in all countries. This should be done in 2013 following the joint exercise with the working group countries.				A proposal was made to organize a major meeting with members of the working group with the support of the World Bank, but the idea was dismissed as it was believed that such a meeting would not contribute to the preparation of an updated map of the status of national experiences the use of this instrument by countries was extremely heterogeneous.
Design a horizontal cooperation plan that promotes human resources training and the preparation of harmonized statistics through internships and sharing of experiences for implementation from 2013				The activity was not carried out

I. Report on the virtual meeting

On 5 June 2013 a virtual meeting was held by the working group with the participation of Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Peru, Uruguay, ECLAC and the World Bank. The participants discussed whether the group should continue with its harmonization work or redirect its focus towards the multidimensional measurement of poverty. The group's primary objective to date has been to obtain an updated map of the status of national experiences relating to income poverty. Regarding progress on this objective, the working group itself did not systematize the outcomes of the workshop on the harmonization of poverty statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean organized by the working group and held in Montevideo on 22-24 May 2012; however, in the framework of that workshop, Luis Beccaria and Pablo Gluzmann prepared a document entitled "Medición de los ingresos y la pobreza oficial en América Latina y el Caribe" (*Working Paper*, No. 148, CEDLAS, see [online] <http://cedlas.econo.unlp.edu.ar/eng/areas-of-work.php?idA=1>) which fulfils the group's objective.

Having fulfilled the mapping objective, the participants at the virtual meeting proceeded to explore the possibility of further harmonizing the statistics on income poverty and an idea was put forward regarding the preparation of a manual containing set questions to gather standardized information on income in Latin America. Financing would be needed to meet this objective.

As to whether the multidimensional approach should substitute or complement the measurement of income poverty, it was noted that the definitions for measuring multidimensional poverty are not only technical, but also political, making them a matter for local debate. Also, since the sources of information are different in each country, it would be difficult to harmonize them across the board. Nevertheless, an agreement could perhaps be reached on including certain subjects in the questionnaires. Most countries have shown great interest in moving forward on this issue. The reality is that few countries have carried out such measurements and it would therefore be a great challenge to progress towards harmonizing an indicator of this type.

The participants proposed that, owing to the limited time remaining, one possibility was to focus on completing its work on the issue of income poverty on the basis of the paper by Beccaria and Gluzmann (2013) and to continue with the discussion on multidimensional poverty

IV. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES, 2014-2015

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome

No plan of activities is proposed for the period 2014-2015. At its meeting held on 3-4 September 2013, the Executive Committee concluded that the original goal of the working group to obtain an updated map of the status of national experiences relating to income poverty had been accomplished and that priority should be given to the measurement of multidimensional poverty, given the great interest that countries had shown in that topic. Owing to the technical, political and data-source complexities involved, the Executive Committee requested ECLAC to draft, with the support of the two countries that already conduct multidimensional measurements of poverty (Colombia and Mexico), proposed terms of reference for an ad hoc group under the Conference. It was requested that this report should be presented at the seventh meeting of the Statistical Conference for discussion and decision.

BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF THE WORKING GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATIONS

I. MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

The Working Group on International Classifications is made up of 18 national statistical offices from the following countries: Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Saint Lucia and Uruguay. The Andean Community and the United Nations Statistics Division are also represented.

Technical secretariat: ECLAC and United Nations Statistics Division.

II. OBJECTIVES

1. General

The overall objective of the Working Group on International Classifications is to support the countries in the region in adopting or adapting the new versions of international classifications in order to contribute to the development of official statistics in the various statistical programmes

2. Specific

- (a) Identify and promote regional and subregional cooperation activities to boost the capacity of the member countries in the processes of adopting and adapting international classifications
- (b) Exchange and document experiences, knowledge and good practices in relation to the implementation of international classifications
- (c) Provide regular updates on the progress made in terms of new revisions to international classifications, particularly with a view to conducting economic and population censuses and changing the base year for national accounts in the countries of the region, as well as ensuring the proper management of directories of businesses and establishments
- (d) Promote the creation of inter-agency platforms for collaboration in, and coordination and integration of, regional initiatives on international classifications among blocks of countries
- (e) Prioritize the translation into Spanish of texts on international classifications to enable their timely adoption by the countries of the region
- (f) Make the arrangements necessary to hold meetings of the Working Group on International Classifications, with a view to promoting the use and dissemination of economic and social classifications
- (g) Promote the establishment of a network of experts on international classifications to provide countries with mechanisms for communication and updating classifications and nomenclature

III. FINAL ACTIVITIES REPORT, 2012-2013

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Identify the statistics offices of each country in the region and other organizations responsible for the development, maintenance, adoption or adaptation of the different classifications with a view to establishing horizontal cooperation	Steering Committee of the working group	13 February 2012 to 9 March 2012	18 national statistical offices are members of the Working Group on International Classifications. They operate in conjunction with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Statistics Division. Colombia supported Uruguay in implementing Central Product Classification (CPC) Version 2	Mexico proposed forming a Steering Committee of the working group to carry out specific tasks, a proposal which was supported by all the members of the Working Group. The Committee is made up of the statistical offices of Chile (INE), Costa Rica (INEC), the Statistics Division of ECLAC as technical secretariat, the United Nations Statistics Division and ILO. Mexico (INEGI) serves as coordinator.
Identify and consult the international agencies that could provide technical cooperation (respond to questions on the classification of activities, products, occupations) in the adoption or adaptation of international classifications	Steering Committee of the working group	13 February 2012 to 31 December 2013	ILO, custodian of the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO), is a member of the working group. The United Nations, custodian of International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) and of the Central Product Classification (CPC) is a member of the working group. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is interested in supporting the working group in its area of experience, although it is not yet a member of the group.	Mexico, the coordinator of the Working Group on International Classifications, contacted ILO and FAO at the meeting of the Expert Group on International Statistical Classifications, held in May 2013 and invited them to support the working group
Rank the countries that require support in relation to the adoption or adaptation of classifications by order of priority	Steering Committee of the working group	10 September 2012 to 14 September 2012	It was determined that: Honduras needed support in the implementation of ISIC and CPC Peru needed support in the implementation of ISCO Uruguay needed support in the implementation CPC	On budgetary or procedural questions, horizontal cooperation was conducted only with Colombia and Uruguay

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Draft documents on good practices and guidelines for the adoption, adaptation and updating of classifications within the national statistics systems of the countries of the region, using the relevant international recommendations as a reference	Subcommittee for translation of the implementation guide to ISIC Rev.4, made up of Argentina, Chile and Mexico, with Chile as coordinator	2 January 2012 to 31 December 2013	Translation into Spanish of the introduction and chapters 1 to 5 of the draft of the implementation guide to ISIC Rev.4	
First face-to-face meeting of the working group	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay, and with the following organizations: Andean Community, ECLAC, United Nations Statistics Division and ILO	10-12 September 2012	Identification of the strengths and requirements of the Working Group on International Classifications and determination of possible solutions and training of subcommittees, as explained in the report (Spanish and English versions) of the first meeting of the members of the working group held in Santiago from 10 to 12 September 2012	The report was circulated by e-mail to all members of the group and posted on the electronic forum
Second face-to-face meeting of the working group	Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Saint Lucia and Uruguay, and by the following organizations: ECLAC, United Nations Statistics Division and ILO	17-20 June 2013	Raising issues and questions concerning the ISIC, CPC and ISCO classifications, revision of the advances of the national statistical offices in adopting or adapting the classifications and the tasks assigned to the subcommittees of the working group; agreements to identify the national statistical offices that require support in adopting or adapting the classifications, as explained in the report (Spanish version) of the second meeting of the members of the working group, held in Aguascalientes, (Mexico), from 17 to 20 June 2013	The report was circulated by e-mail to all members of the working group and posted on the electronic forum
First face-to-face meeting of the steering committee of the working group	Chile (INE), Andean Community, Costa Rica (INEC), Mexico (INEGI), United Nations Statistics Division Economics Division and ECLAC	13-14 September 2012	Agreements on the scope and functioning of the working group and its steering committee, and distribution of specific tasks, as explained in the report (in Spanish and English) of the first Meeting of the steering committee of the Working Group, held on 13 and 14 September 2012 in Santiago	The report was circulated by e-mail to all the members of the working group and posted on the electronic forum

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Second face-to-face meeting of the steering committee of the working group	Chile (INE), Costa Rica (INEC), United Nations Statistics Division and Mexico (INEGI)	21 June 2013	Agreements to determine the mechanism for sending in responses to specific questions on ISIC and CPC, revision of the plan of work 2014-2015, as well as aspects of financing and meetings, as explained in the Report (Spanish version) of the second meeting of the steering committee of the Working Group, held in Aguascalientes (Mexico), on 21 June 2013	The report was circulated by e-mail to all the members of the working group and posted on the electronic forum
Videoconference of the steering committee of the working group	ECLAC, Andean Community, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico and Uruguay	2 April 2013	Report "Cuadro de acuerdos y tareas en preparación para la segunda reunión del GTIC"	
Preparation of reports on the meetings held and their posting on the electronic forum for the information of the members of the working group	Mexico, in its capacity as coordinator of the working group	24 September 2012 to 30 October 2013	Reports of the first and second meetings of the members of the working group and the steering committee of the working group. Report "Cuadro de acuerdos y tareas en preparación para la segunda reunión del GTIC"	Before the reports are circulated by Mexico, they are sent to the members of the steering committee of the working group for validation
Strengthen the use and implementation of international classifications in the national statistics systems in the region, with a view to improving the comparability of the information produced	National statistical offices that are members of the working group	10 September 2012 to 31 December 2013	ISIC Rev. 4 and CPC Ver. 2.1 are being set up	Translation of explanatory notes of CPC Ver. 2 and translation into Spanish of the draft of the Implementation Guide to ISIC, Rev. 4 are basic documents for implementation of the classifications
Review periodically the websites of the United Nations and of other custodians of the international classifications to check for documents, recommendations and information on international classifications to be brought to the attention of the members of the working group through the online forum	Steering committee of the working group	2 January 2012 to 31 December 2013	Identification of the following documents:- CPC 2.1 in English- Implementation Guide to ISIC Rev. 4; ISCO in Spanish;-Reports of the Group of Experts on International Statistical Classifications	One of the main challenges for the members of the working group in terms of their being able to implement the international classifications on a timely basis is that most of the documents are written in English, hence the importance of having them translated into Spanish

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Circulate the general plan for incorporating the classifications into the different statistical programmes of each country with a view to informing countries of the details of the updates	National statistical offices that are members of the working group	5 November 2012 to 9 November 2012	Information on the plan for implementation of the ISIC, CPC, ISCO and HS (Harmonized System) classifications in the statistical programmes of the national statistical offices, which helped to identify the common issues for adapting the national classification and sharing specific solutions for implementation of those classifications	
Establish mechanisms for communication among the following international organizations that are custodians of international classifications: United Nations, World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), World Customs Organization (WCO), International Labour Organization (ILO) and World Health Organization (WHO)	Steering committee of the working group	10 September 2012 to 31 December 2013	Contact was made with the custodian of ISCO as well as with FAO. The United Nations Statistics Division and ILO are members of the Working Group	
Contact the international organizations which are custodians of classifications and have created documents for the adoption, adaptation or updating of classifications. Find out whether they already have Spanish versions available and, if not, offer assistance in translating these documents	Mexico (coordinator) and ILO	24 September 2012 to 31 December 2013	Contact was made with ILO	
Coordinate a preliminary translation into Spanish of the published documents that the members of the Working Group consider to be of interest	Subcommittee for translation of CPC Ver. 2 into Spanish and of the changes to CPC Ver. 2.1, comprising Chile, Colombia (coordinator) and Peru	29 October 2012 to 25 October 2013	Translation of the explanatory notes of CPC Ver. 2	
Coordinate the revision of already completed translations of international classifications or documents of interest	Subcommittee for the revision of the translation of ISCO-08, made up of ILO, Honduras and Mexico (coordinator)	29 October 2012 to 25 October 2013	Revision of translation into Spanish of ISCO-08.	

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Obtain financing from international organizations that are willing to support the activities of the Group's programme of work, such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), World Bank and United Nations	ECLAC and all national statistical offices that are members of the Working Group on International Classifications	17 September 2012 to 15 August 2013	Letters of support from those national statistical offices belonging to the working group, which supported the Latin American Cluster for the Promotion of Standard Information and Classification Systems (CLASIC)	
Coordinate the work of the group with that of the Expert Group on International Statistical Classifications of the United Nations	United Nations Statistics Division and Mexico (coordinator)	10 September 2012 to 31 December 2013	Presentation of the document "Grupo de Trabajo sobre Clasificaciones Estadísticas Internacionales de la Conferencia Estadística de las Américas" at the meeting of the Expert Group, held in New York, United States, in May 2013 Translation into Spanish of the report of the meeting of the Expert Group on International Statistical Classifications, 13-15 May 2013, New York, which was uploaded to the United Nations website and the forum of the working group	The United Nations Statistics Division and Mexico are members of the Bureau of the Expert Group on International Statistical Classifications of the United Nations
Compile and present to the Group of Experts on International Statistical Classifications the concerns and proposals with regard to classifications expressed by countries in Latin America and the Caribbean	United Nations Statistics Division and Mexico (coordinator)	10 September 2012 to 31 December 2013	Presentation on the working group to the Expert Group on International Statistical Classifications at the same meeting	

IV. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES, 2014-2015

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Identify and promote regional and subregional cooperation activities to boost the capacity of the member countries in the processes of adopting and adapting international classifications	Continue with the periodic application of the survey on international classification in Latin America and the Caribbean in adopting or adapting the international classifications in the countries of the region. Nota bene: At the second meeting of the working group, it was agreed that this survey would be conducted annually. Prepare and submit to the working group a summary and analysis of the findings of the survey on international classification in Latin America and the Caribbean	ECLAC or the United Nations Statistics Division	24-28 March 2014 23-27 March 2015	Identify the main challenges facing the countries of the region in adopting or adapting the classifications
		ECLAC or the United Nations Statistics Division	26-30 May 2014 25-29 May 2015	Obtain a diagnostic assessment to determine how much support is required by the countries of the region and to identify if they need help from the custodians of the classifications or horizontal cooperation with other national statistical offices
	Continue to identify the statistical offices of each country in the region and other organizations responsible for developing, maintaining, adopting or adapting the different classifications with the possibility of establishing horizontal cooperation	Steering committee of the working group	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Formalization of prospective horizontal collaborations between national statistical offices Identifying and supporting prospective horizontal collaborations between national statistical offices in implementing assisted and automated classification systems
	Continue to identify and consult international agencies that can provide technical cooperation for the adoption or adaptation of international classifications	Steering committee of the working group	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Support from international agencies that will be able to respond to questions relating to the classification of activities, products or occupations, for example, the United Nations Statistics Division and ILO
	Rank the countries that require support for the adoption or adaptation of classifications by order of priority	Steering committee of the working group	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Identify the countries that require priority support for the adoption or adaptation of classifications
	Update the training programme on classifications	Subcommittee on Training, made up of Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador and Uruguay (coordinator)	3-31 March 2014 2-31 March 2015	Establish the programme that includes the country or organization that provides the training, the countries that will receive it and the topics and dates

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
	Promote fulfilment of the training programme, evaluation of the courses and introduction of the necessary adjustments to the programme on the basis of the feedback received	Subcommittee on Training made up of Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador and Uruguay (coordinator)	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Coordinate the training activities between the Working Group on International Classifications and the international agencies Obtain training material used by the international agencies Improve the quality of the classification through better knowledge of the classifications
Exchange and document experiences, knowledge and good practices in relation to the implementation of international classifications	Continue to promote the working group's electronic forum. Designate an administrator of the electronic forum. Continue to obtain international reference documents on best practices and guidelines for the adoption, adaptation and updating of classifications within the national statistical systems of the countries of the region Hold face-to-face meetings of the working group (third, fourth, fifth and sixth meetings)	All the members of the working group Steering committee of the working group Steering committee of the working group Steering committee of the working group	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015 16 June 2014 to 19 June 2014 13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015 Tentative dates: June and November 2014 and June and November 2015	Facilitate communication between the members of the Working Group in order to share experiences with classifications Keep the members abreast of revisions to the international classifications Check the questions and answers to make sure that the answers provided are correct Support the national statistical offices with the adoption and adaptation of classifications Assess the advances, identify the challenges and come up with alternative solutions in the tasks assigned to the subcommittees, share experiences, take note of the outcome of horizontal collaborations and best practices for classifications
	Hold fact-to-face meetings, subject to available funding, videoconferences or telephone conferences by the steering committee of the working group	Steering committee of the working group	Tentative dates: June and November 2014 and June and November 2015 Tentative dates: June and November 2014 and June and November 2015 and two videoconferences in April 2014 2015	Assess the functioning of the electronic forum, the working meetings and the usefulness of the documents, identify frequently asked questions, common problems, support provided to the countries for the adoption or adaptation of classifications, advances in the tasks entrusted to the subcommittees, etc.

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
	Prepare reports on meetings held and upload them to the electronic forum for the information of the members of the working group	Mexico (coordinator)	One week after the completion of the meetings	Reports that highlight the main agreements and the specific tasks established at the meetings of the working group
Provide regular updates on the progress made in terms of new revisions to international classifications	Continue to update regularly the United Nations site and those of the other custodians of international classifications	Steering committee of the working group	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Monitor the documents, recommendations and announcements relating to international classifications and bring them to the attention of the members of the working group through the electronic forum
	Share information each year on the overall plan for establishing classifications in the different statistical programmes of each country	National statistical offices belonging to the working group	12 May 2014 to 11 May 2015	Find out the status of the classifications in the countries and identify the scope for horizontal cooperation
Promote the creation of inter-agency platforms for collaboration in, and coordination and integration of regional initiatives on international classifications among blocks of countries	Continue to communicate with the following international organizations, which are custodians of international classifications: United Nations, ILO and FAO; and establish communication mechanisms with the following organizations: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), World Customs Organization (WCO) and World Health Organization (WHO)	Steering committee of the working group	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Keep the national statistical offices abreast of the updates of the international classifications, thereby helping to introduce the up-to-date versions
	Continue to communicate and coordinate with bodies such as MERCOSUR or the Andean Community that have developed or are developing regional classifications	Steering committee of the working group	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Understanding the work that other agencies have done or are doing and that can be shared
Prioritize the translation into Spanish of texts on international classifications to enable their timely adoption by the countries of the region	Continue to contact the international organizations that are custodians of documents for the adoption, adaptation or update of classifications and ascertain whether the Spanish version already exists and if not offer to help with the translation	Mexico (coordinator)	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Continuing support from the United Nations, ILO, etc. and formal contact with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), (custodian of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED))
	Continue to coordinate the production of preliminary translations into Spanish of the documents published by the members of the working group and considered to be of interest	Translation subcommittees	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Documents translations of which will be useful for the national statistical offices

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
	Continue to coordinate the revision of previously translated international classifications or documents of interest	Translation subcommittees	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Revision of translation of classifications such as the ISCED
Make the arrangements necessary to hold meetings of the Working Group on International Classifications, with a view to promoting the use and dissemination of economic and social classifications	Continue to arrange for financing with international organizations that are willing to support activities under the working group's programme of work, such as IDB, the World Bank, United Nations and the national statistical offices that are members of the working group	ECLAC	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Securing resources for carrying out the necessary activities, such as meetings, training programmes, technical assistance
Promote the establishment of a network of experts on international classifications to provide countries with mechanisms for communication and updating classifications and nomenclature	Identify experts in international classifications from the member countries of the working group, using the Knowledge Transfer Network	ECLAC and Mexico, (coordinator)	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Establishment of a network of experts to respond to the requests formulated by the countries of the region
	Identify experts in international classifications from member countries of the Working Group that belong to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)	Steering committee of the working group with support from Saint Lucia	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Promote the work of the working group in the countries of the Caribbean, and seek to integrate them into the working group
	Continue to link the work of the Working Group with that of the United Nations Expert on International Statistical Classifications	United Nations Statistics Division and Mexico (coordinator)	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Submit to the Expert Group, the concerns and proposals of the Latin American and Caribbean countries with respect to classifications
	Identify and contact international consultants and experts on economic classification issues	ECLAC	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	Respond to any requests from countries of the region
	Request the national statistical offices to present a report on the results of the consultants' work	Steering committee of the working group	13 January 2014 to 14 December 2015	A list of consultants whose performance has been satisfactory for the purposes of the working group

BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF THE WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

I. MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

Members: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, and Uruguay

Technical secretariat: Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

II. OBJECTIVES

1. General

To improve and harmonize agricultural statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean and define the implementation plan for the global strategy in the region, taking into account the current status of statistics in the region, the training of teams and the design of a feasible work programme for improvement under the global strategy.

2. Specific

- (a) Promote the global strategy in the region
- (b) Institution-building
- (c) Assess the statistical capacities of countries
- (d) Training for institutions
- (e) Technical assistance
- (f) Development of methodologies

III. FINAL ACTIVITIES REPORT, 2012-2013

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
First meeting of the Working Group on Agricultural Statistics	Representatives of the national statistical offices and ministries of agriculture of nine countries: Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Peru	6-7 September 2012	Governance structure for the implementation of the global strategy in Latin America and the Caribbean, with the Working Group on Agricultural Statistics as the regional steering committee and Brazil, Mexico, FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean making up the regional executive board Guidelines drafted for filling out the standard questionnaire	Awareness raised among other countries in the region Decision taken to carry out a pilot test in Colombia, Mexico and Peru on the processing of the standard questionnaires and the development of indicators and country profiles
Teleconferences	Regional executive board	Several teleconferences held since September 2012	Discussions held on modifications to the questionnaire, the guidelines for filling it out, the action plan for implementing the global strategy in the region, and other actions	Second meeting of the Regional Steering Committee prepared
Prepare the standard questionnaire, adapted to the region, in electronic format in Spanish and English	Regional executive board	December 2012 to May 2013	Assessment questionnaire on national statistical systems	
Draft the guide to filling out the questionnaire in Spanish and English	Regional executive board	March to May 2013	Guide to filling out the assessment questionnaire on national statistical systems	
Pilot test the processing of standard questionnaires and the development of country profiles and indicators	FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean	October 2012 to March 2013	Pilot test carried out by four countries: Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico and Peru	
Prepare the implementation plan for the global strategy in Latin America and the Caribbean	FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean	December 2012 to October 2013	First draft of the plan	

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Disseminate the standard questionnaire among all countries of the region	Brazil	May 2013	Questionnaire completed by 10 countries	The other countries are in the process of filling out the questionnaire
Second meeting of the Working Group on Agricultural Statistics	Members of the group	4 June 2013	Analysis and adoption of the implementation plan for the global strategy in Latin America and the Caribbean, with recommendations for adjustments and amendments. Final approval recorded electronically in order to be submitted to the Global Steering Committee for approval.	
Draft the proposal for the regional public goods project	Regional executive board	August 2013	Registered with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)	

IV. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES, 2014-2015

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Establish the regional implementation structure (support offices)		Regional executive board	Early 2014, subject to the approval of the project submitted to IDB	Regional support teams formed
First assessment of Latin American and Caribbean countries based on the standard questionnaire		Regional executive board	May 2014	Assessment carried out on agricultural statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean
Carry out in-depth assessment (four countries per year) and determine technical assistance, training and research needs		FAO	Depending on the availability of funds, this could be carried out through FAO projects.	Programmes and materials designed for statistical courses delivered in the classroom or remotely through the Knowledge Transfer Network
Subregional workshops on sampling models and frames		Regional executive board and the Inter-American Statistical Institute (IASI)	Mid-2014, subject to the approval of the project submitted to IDB	At least two subregional workshops held on sampling models and frames
Subregional workshops on methodologies for integrating information from key respondents into probability-based surveys		Regional executive board and IASI	Early 2015, subject to the approval of the project submitted to IDB	At least two subregional workshops held on methodologies for integrating information from key respondents into probability-based surveys
Hold subregional workshops on common core content		Regional executive board and IASI	Late 2014, subject to the approval of the project submitted to IDB	Harmonization of concepts, prioritization and standardization in the collection of core agricultural statistics, with convergent approaches and procedures
Study electronic data-collection instruments.		Regional executive board and IASI	To be carried out in 2014 and 2015, subject to approval of the project submitted to IDB	Partial implementation of infrastructure for continued research on agricultural statistics, with server maintenance, computer systems, Internet connections, technical personnel and specialized support. A single centre could serve the entire region or several centres could be set up to serve each subregion.

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Develop generic systems to support statistical procedures		Regional executive board and IASI	Development and implementation throughout 2014 and 2015, subject to the approval of the project submitted to IDB	Computer application that can be personalized for mobile devices for the purposes of image manipulation, GPS, critical editing, automated data entry, transmission and management. Data available in all countries via the Knowledge Transfer Network.
Develop training instruments		Regional executive board and IASI	Development and implementation throughout 2014 and 2015, subject to the approval of the project submitted to IDB	Systems for managing field surveys, data transmission and storage, review, estimation, construction and maintenance of sampling frames available to all countries through the Knowledge Transfer Network
Prepare strategic sectoral plans as part of the strategic plans of national statistical systems in all countries in the region		FAO and each country	Depending on the availability of funds, this could be carried out through FAO projects	Strategic sectoral plans, integrated into the national statistical systems of the region's countries
Ensure that a minimum set of high-quality agricultural and rural statistics is generated		Each country	Continuous	A minimum set of high-quality agricultural and rural statistics is generated in the countries of the region
Engage in technical assistance, training and research efforts to support the operation of agricultural statistical systems		Regional executive board, FAO and IASI	Development and implementation throughout 2014 and 2015, subject to the approval of the project submitted to IDB and on FAO technical assistance projects	Training delivered to national operations teams
Ensure the sustainability of the agricultural survey system		Regional executive board and IASI	Development and implementation throughout 2014 and 2015, subject to the approval of the project submitted to IDB and countries' contributions	Secure funding

BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF THE WORKING GROUP ON LABOUR-MARKET INDICATORS

The working group is coordinated by the statistical offices of Chile and Colombia. Chile's National Statistics Institute (INE) has tasked two of its departments with providing ongoing support for the group's activities. The Department of Labour Studies will be responsible for technical coordination of the group; the Office of International Relations will coordinate international cooperation and organize on-site meetings, courses and seminars.

As for the specific component referring to decent work indicators, coordination will be handled by Colombia through its National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE).

I. MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

The group is composed of 13 member countries: Argentina, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Saint Lucia.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) serves as the technical secretariat.

II. OBJECTIVES

1. General

Contribute to the strengthening and development of national statistical systems, as well as proposing new indicators relating to the labour market. Further the comparability of labour market indicators at the regional level via the exchange of national experiences and the harmonization of methodologies.

2. Specific

- (a) Establish a regional position on the current definitions of employment, unemployment and underemployment that will be revised during the nineteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS), to be held in Geneva on 2-11 October 2013.
- (b) Review the official tools used by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to measure employment, unemployment, underemployment, informality and decent work in order to provide an up-to-date inventory of related practices followed by the countries of the region.
- (c) Promote a strategic plan for developing a set of basic indicators for monitoring and assessing progress towards decent work.
- (d) Work towards incorporating decent work indicators into the national statistical systems of the Latin American and Caribbean countries.
- (e) Reach a consensus on the best way to obtain the basic information needed to construct indicators on underemployment, informality and decent work.

III. FINAL ACTIVITIES REPORT, 2012-2013

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Preparation and completion of two questionnaires concerning the measurement of employment, unemployment, underemployment, informality and decent work	All of the working group member countries	2012	Satisfactory response from all the countries within the agreed deadlines Valuable input for preparing the respective analyses	
Preparation by the ILO of a consensus document on reviewing and updating international standards for statistics on the economically active population, employment, unemployment and underemployment	Coordinating countries	2012	Document used as an input by ILO in Geneva to prepare the final proposal on the review for consideration at the nineteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS), to be held in Geneva on 2-11 October 2013	
Organization, in conjunction with ILO, of a substantive seminar during the eleventh meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas (Quito, July 2012) in order to share the progress made in the discussions on the guidelines currently under review by the ILO	A representative of each coordinating country and the technical secretariat	July 2012	Dissemination of the objectives and progress of the working group to countries in the region that are not members Desire expressed by some countries to join the working group	
Organization of two on-site meetings during the implementation period in order to provide opportunities for discussing and exchanging national experiences	All of the working group member countries	First on-site meeting: March 2012 Second on-site meeting: September 2013	Participation of the designated focal points, who brought stability to the group and depth to the technical discussions Reaffirmation of the key role of on-site meetings as opportunities for countries to discuss concepts and exchange experiences Presentations distributed through the Knowledge Transfer Network	Meetings are held subject to the availability of funding, which cannot always be secured in advance
Preparation of an assessment on the statistical measurement of informality and decent work in Latin America and the Caribbean	Coordinating countries	2013	Initial mapping of the situation in the countries Definition of themes to explore in detail in the report on the assessment and other issues to be addressed in the period 2014-2015	

IV. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES, 2014-2015

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Identify and systematize gaps in the harmonization of the measurement of informality using the assessment carried out, the review of countries' experiences and an analysis of the most recent international recommendations in this regard	Prepare a technical note (metadata) for each country that includes a description of the criteria, information sources and the methodology for the current indicators, as well as a questionnaire on the basic criteria that should be taken into account for each of the concepts involved in the measurement of informality, the relevance of each, the availability of data and how feasible it is to measure	Coordinating countries	First half of 2014	A report systematizing the experiences of the member countries, using the technical note and the presentations made by some countries of the group at the second on-site meeting
Work towards identifying the main components for harmonizing the measurement of indicators of informality in the region	Draft a proposed set of basic reference questions for measuring informality in labour force surveys Discuss the different possible methodologies for measuring informality, including their advantages and disadvantages Prepare a document on the definition of the current informality indicators for each country, both official and preliminary, and the trends observed over time	All of the working group member countries	Second half of 2014	To gain a full picture of the possibilities for harmonization and analyse possible harmonization guidelines in conjunction with the technical secretariat
Evaluate the measurement of decent work and identify the requirements for incorporating the measurement of this element in the national statistical systems	Provide a forum for discussion with the institutions involved in the measurement and monitoring of decent work indicators in the region (statistical offices or information producers, labour ministries and ILO) and share national experiences in this connection	Coordinating countries	During the third on-site meeting (third quarter of 2014)	Systematize countries' experiences and gather concrete evidence on the measurement of decent work indicators, including the constraints and challenges involved for statistical offices and public policymaking

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
<p>Following the adoption of the resolution of the nineteenth ICLS, provide forums for dissemination and discussion in order to determine the impact of and challenges relating to the new international standards on the measurement of labour force statistics at the regional level</p>	<p>Prepare a general assessment of the situation in the countries with respect to the changes</p> <p>Follow up on the implementation of the new guidelines by the member countries</p> <p>Evaluate the impact that the new guidelines adopted at the nineteenth ICLS will have on countries' measurements of labour force statistics</p> <p>Discuss the conceptual operationalization of the new recommendations to promote harmonization among the countries in relation to the group's priority topics</p>	<p>All of the working group member countries</p>	<p>2015</p>	<p>Evaluate the concrete operational implications of the new recommendations for countries' labour statistics systems</p>
<p>Put forward other issues related to the measurement of labour-market indicators for future consideration by the working group, according to the current needs of countries or their national work plans</p>	<p>Include some topics for exploration on the agendas of upcoming on-site meetings, such as the International Classification by Status in Employment (ICSE), the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO), measurement of branches of activity in household surveys, labour force flows, links or overlaps between series resulting from changes in concepts and in the measurement of labour force statistics, earnings and labour migration, as well as other issues involving synergies with other groups, such as household surveys, poverty and nomenclature</p>	<p>All of the working group member countries</p>	<p>Following the third on-site meeting (third quarter of 2014)</p>	<p>Draw up a map of the issues currently of concern in the countries that coincide with the group's objectives and the instruments on which the labour-market indicators are based, in order to make them a future priority for the working group</p>

BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF THE WORKING GROUP ON HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS

I. MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

Coordinating country:	Ecuador (National Statistics and Census Institute (INEC))
Member countries of the group:	Argentina, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica and Mexico
Technical secretariat:	Statistics Division of ECLAC

II. OBJECTIVES

1. General

Support the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in improving household surveys as a basic source of information for the analysis of well-being and the establishment and implementation of policies designed to improve living standards.

2. Specific

- (a) Support the formation of integrated household survey systems as a framework for the implementation of household surveys and standardize their structure
- (b) Document and exchange experiences and good practices in the statistical design of household surveys
- (c) Strengthen the use of methodologies for generating transverse and longitudinal estimators based on continuous surveys
- (d) Identify and promote regional and subregional cooperation activities to strengthen the capacities of member countries to implement good-quality household surveys

III. FINAL ACTIVITIES REPORT, 2012-2013

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Establish, with the support of ECLAC, an online forum to facilitate communication between national focal points and exchange experiences, successful or otherwise, in the statistical design of household surveys, as well as manuals on best practices, methodologies and similar activities	Ecuador and ECLAC	March 2012	A tool enabling member countries to communicate and exchange documents and experiences	
Carry out introductory training on the use of the website and promote its use	Ecuador and ECLAC	April 2012	Basic guidelines for management of the website	
Encourage working group members to participate in the online forum	Ecuador and ECLAC	Ongoing	Working group members are encouraged to participate actively in the online forum	
Organize a regional workshop to exchange experiences relating to the construction of master sampling frames	Argentina, Ecuador and ECLAC	October 2012	The preparation of a compendium of national practices has been prioritized Some countries have gained experience in the construction of master sampling frames Discussion of the core areas of an integrated survey system It was suggested that the experiences of countries in other regions should be reviewed	One or more countries in the group could implement some of the recommendations while the document is being prepared, in the form of a pilot study
Prepare a questionnaire based on the integrated household survey system	Ecuador and ECLAC	February 2013 to October 2013	INEC of Ecuador, supported by ECLAC, has developed a questionnaire to send to the countries in the region regarding the way surveys are produced, as background for assessing the implementation status of integrated household survey systems	

IV. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES, 2014-2015

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Perform an assessment of the status of integrated household survey systems in the member countries	Prepare a report on the basis of the self-assessment form for measuring the conceptual structure of the integrated household survey system	Ecuador and ECLAC	February 2014	An assessment of the status of integrated household survey systems in the member countries
Keep the working group's online forum active	Continue to add member countries' technical documents to the group's virtual library	ECLAC		Access to the methodological documents relating to each member country's integrated household survey system
	Continue to encourage working group members to participate in the online forum	Ecuador		Active participation by each member country
Investigate further the methods for generating the master sample of the integrated household survey system	Gather information from each member country on generating units of the frame, stratification of the frame, and constructing and continuously updating the master sample	ECLAC	February 2014	Access to the methodological documents concerning the main elements for generating the master sample in each member country
	Organize a regional workshop to exchange experiences relating to the construction of Ecuador's integrated household survey system	Ecuador	March 2014	Experiences and methods relating to the formation of Ecuador's integrated household survey system are shared
	Prepare a report on the main elements for generating the master sample	Ecuador and ECLAC	September 2014	The essential elements for generating the master sample of an integrated household survey system are specified
Strengthen the use of methodologies for generating transverse and longitudinal estimators based on continuous surveys	Gather information on panel surveys in the member countries	ECLAC	February 2015	Access to the methodological documents relating to member countries' panel surveys
	Organize a regional workshop to exchange experiences on transverse and longitudinal estimators based on continuous surveys	Ecuador and ECLAC	June 2015	Experiences and methods regarding estimators of transverse and longitudinal estimators based on continuous surveys are shared

**BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF THE WORKING GROUP ON STATISTICS
ON CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE**

I. MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

Member countries: Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Panama and Paraguay

Member countries with established focal points: Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama and Paraguay

Technical secretariat: UNICEF.

II. OBJECTIVES

1. General

To promote the generation, systematization and integration of statistics and indicators on childhood and adolescence with a view to the evaluation and implementation of policies and programmes aimed at fulfilling commitments on the rights of the child undertaken by all the countries of their region.

2. Specific

- (a) To boost regional coordination in the production of statistics and indicators on childhood and adolescence in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean
- (b) To achieve greater comparability of statistics in the region
- (c) To improve the reliability of administrative records
- (d) To achieve coordination both cross-sectorally and with international organizations in order to help develop indicators that promote and protect children's rights
- (e) To generate data that can be used to design and evaluate public policies
- (f) To check for information gaps and discrepancies in member countries' statistics on childhood and adolescence
- (g) To initiate a process to harmonize member countries' statistics on childhood and adolescence

III. FINAL ACTIVITIES REPORT, 2012-2013

Activities	Participants	Implementation period	Outcomes	Remarks
Draft the working group's annual plan	Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama and Paraguay	15 February 2012	Annual plan prepared	
Evaluate the indicators produced by the participating countries on childhood and adolescence, with a view to reaching a consensus on the indicators that will be used to follow up on the subject of children's rights	Panama	March to April 2012	List of possible indicators to be included in a software application for dissemination	
Decide on key minimum indicators for monitoring and evaluating whether the commitments made by countries on children's rights have been met	Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama and Paraguay	May to October 2012	List of indicators agreed upon to be included in a software application for dissemination	
Create an online platform on DevInfo to store, analyse and publish data on the selected indicators, by country	Panama	November 2012 to July 2013	Information platform designed	A database has been created containing indicators on childhood and adolescence. Web implementation currently under way (item included in the programme of activities, 2014-2015).
Perform a country-by-country analysis of the indicators to be constructed for comprehensive monitoring of progress towards the commitments made on children's rights				Not completed (item included in the programme of activities, 2014-2015)

IV. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES, 2014-2015

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Draft the working group's annual plan	Hold meetings to agree on activities and tasks Submit the annual plan to the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	Technical secretariat and coordinating country	July-August 2014	An annual plan to ensure that the objectives can be achieved
Detect information gaps so the member countries of the Statistical Conference can construct indicators on childhood and adolescence	Send countries the document "Analysis of regional information gaps" prepared on the basis of the annual UNICEF report, <i>The State of the World's Children</i> , so that they may express an opinion on the subject Compile countries' views Organize a webinar for the region's statistical institutes to explain the objectives of the exercise and the potential benefits Prepare an assessment of the statistical situation concerning indicators on childhood and adolescence, which provides suggestions or outlines the steps to be taken and how these should be prioritized in order to solve the problems encountered	Coordinating country The Americas and Caribbean Regional Office of UNICEF Consultant (subject to availability of resources) or technical staff from the member countries of the working group	August-September 2014 October 2013 November 2013 to March 2014	Document evaluated and validated by the countries Information provided on the action taken Assessment performed
Detect problems concerning harmonization of the indicators on childhood and adolescence used by the member countries of the Statistical Conference	Manage support from UNICEF offices in the region to follow up with statistical institutes Create a template to record possible discrepancies in key indicators for monitoring the rights of children and adolescents Discuss the content of the template with the member countries of the working group, and invite them to make suggestions for improvement	The Americas and Caribbean Regional Office of UNICEF DevInfoLac group Working group	As needed August to September 2014 September to October 2013	Statistical offices supported by UNICEF in coordinating the working group's activities Template created for compiling basic information in order to harmonize statistics on childhood and adolescence Suggestions received from the countries on the methodology used to validate follow-up indicators on childhood and adolescence

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
	Validate the indicators suggested for monitoring issues of childhood and adolescence	The Americas and Caribbean Regional Office of UNICEF	November 2013 to February 2014	Indicators validated
	Follow up by videoconference	Working group	April 2014	Coordination among the member countries of the group
	Prepare a report analysing the harmonization issues and the action that could be taken, together with guidelines for the harmonization process	Consultant (subject to availability of resources) or technical staff from the member countries of the working group	November 2013 to March 2014	An instrument for taking action to improve statistics on childhood and adolescence
	Hold a workshop to decide on strategy and begin taking action to harmonize statistics on childhood and adolescence	The Americas and Caribbean Regional Office of UNICEF (funding subject to availability of resources) Member countries of the group (participants)	May 2014	List of indicators on childhood and adolescence that could be harmonized, and effective guidelines for harmonization
Disseminate information on indicators on childhood and adolescence	Give countries access to the first version of the application for consulting indicators on childhood and adolescence	DevInfoLac group	October 2013	Follow-up of the indicators on the rights of children and adolescents
	Agree on a methodology for periodically updating the indicators	Working group	November 2013	Methodological instrument selected
Implement strategy lines for harmonizing statistics on childhood and adolescence	Update the indicators periodically Hold video conferences, workshops and virtual meetings	Coordinating country Member countries of the group	As needed January to August 2015	Indicators periodically updated Statistics on childhood and adolescence harmonized

BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PUBLIC SECURITY AND JUSTICE STATISTICS

I. MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

The members are: Chair of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, Brazilian Geographical and Statistical Institute (IBGE), National Statistical Institute of Chile (INE), National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) of Colombia, National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC) of Costa Rica, National Office of Statistics and Information (ONEI) of Cuba, National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC) of Ecuador, National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC) of Panama, National Institute of Statistics and Informatics (INEI) of Peru, National Statistical Office (ONE) of the Dominican Republic, National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) of Mexico.

The Centre of Excellence in Statistical Information on Government, Crime, Victimization and Justice, of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) serves as the technical secretariat.

II. OBJECTIVES

1. General

To coordinate efforts to generate, develop and standardize statistical information on crime and criminal justice in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, focusing on international and regional projects, initiatives and mandates on statistical information on these issues for the purpose of generating better data to support evidence-based public policy design and decision-making targeting problems related to crime and criminal justice in the region's countries.

2. Specific

- (a) Contribute to the generation and development of an international classification of crime for statistical purposes
- (b) Promote the development of victim surveys and contribute to their implementation
- (c) Promote and support the strengthening of administrative records on crime and criminal justice

III. FINAL ACTIVITIES REPORT, 2012-2013

Activities	Participants	Implementation period execution	Outcomes	Remarks
Preliminary meeting of the working group on the role of national statistics offices in implementing the road map for improving crime statistics at the national and international levels	Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama and Peru	7-9 August 2013	Presentation of experiences with statistics systems on crime and criminal justice Review and adjustment of the work programme and each activity	Approval of the group will be considered at the next meeting of the Conference

IV. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES, 2014-2015

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Propose a generic statistical system on crime and criminal justice with pillars defined for each component	Develop a concept paper for a statistical system on crime and criminal justice	Mexico and the technical secretariat	January to June 2014	Concept paper
Conduct an assessment of the status of crime and criminal justice statistics in the region's countries using a survey	Prepare a survey Administer the survey	Technical secretariat	January to June 2014	Assessment
Generate recommendations for recording official data at each stage of the legal process	Send, receive and process the information received Prepare and circulate a draft Prepare a final version of the document	Ecuador and the technical secretariat	June to December 2014	Document containing recommendations
Participate in the design of training courses on data use and analysis and georeferencing	Identify available resources Review bibliography Assemble the group that will be responsible Develop the course	All countries	January to December 2014	Training course
Promote the inclusion and generation of statistical information on crime and criminal justice in national statistics programmes	Promote the inclusion of statistical information in international, regional and national forums	All members	Ongoing	Inclusion of statistical information on crime and criminal justice in national statistics programmes
Foster inter-agency cooperation in the framework of statistical systems on crime and criminal justice	Promote and participate in inter-agency efforts to create statistical systems on crime and criminal justice	All members	Ongoing	Promotion of activities to spur inter-agency cooperation
Share knowledge and strengthen the technical capacities of the national statistics offices in the framework of the Knowledge Transfer Network of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	Disseminate materials, manuals, studies and methodology papers	Technical secretariat	Ongoing	Published materials
Participate in the discussion on the data revolution in the framework of the global partnership on improving the quality of statistics, in connection with the objectives and goals of the post-2015 development agenda	Attend meetings to discuss the data revolution in the framework of the new international initiative on improving the quality of statistics	Members, on a voluntary basis	Ongoing	Participation of the region's national statistics offices in discussions on the data revolution

Activities	Related actions	Lead entity or country	Date	Expected outcome
Conduct a methodology-concept test of the framework of international crime classification for statistical purposes, to be promoted by the United Nations Statistical Commission and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and coordinated in the region by the Centre of Excellence in Statistical Information on Government, Crime, Victimization and Justice	Conduct the methodology test	All members	September to December 2013	Delivery of the test application to the technical secretariat
Collaborate on the preparation of a manual on international crime classification for statistical purposes	Send comments on the manual on international crime classification for statistical purposes	Members, on a voluntary basis	January to December 2014	Comments sent to the technical secretariat
Promote the creation of crime classifications in each country in the framework of the statistical systems on crime and criminal justice	Promote the inclusion of statistical information in international, regional and national forums	All members	April to December 2015	
Participate in on-site and online training activities on victim surveys	Attend the regional meeting on victim surveys	All members	October 2013	Contribution to the discussion on regional standards for victim surveys
Generate recommendations to strengthen the methodological-conceptual and statistical design of existing victim surveys in the region with the support of the initiative committee for the creation of this working group, for the purpose of generating and promoting the use of good practices in victim surveys (statistical design, questionnaires, processing and dissemination)	Select thematic areas Propose content Review papers and send comments Edit and publish thematic methodology papers	Members, on a voluntary basis, and the technical secretariat	January to December 2014	Thematic methodology papers
Prepare and present reports on the activities of the working group	Prepare annual reports	Technical secretariat	Annually	Annual report
Generate a new programme of work	Prepare programme of work Distribute draft Receive comments and adjust document Publish and send programme of work	All members and the technical secretariat	2015	New programme of work