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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

SUMMARY OF ONGOING EXTRABUDGETARY PROJECTS
UNDERTAKEN BY THE CDCC SECRETARIAT FOR THE BIENNIUM 1990-1991



#### **UNITED NATIONS**

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

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#### INTRODUCTION

Complying with the request of the Third Meeting of the Monitoring Committee in Port-of-Spain on 19-20 April 1990, the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) secretariat has prepared a list of ongoing and proposed projects for the information of the member States to be presented at its thirteenth session in Antigua and Barbuda.

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) Subregional Headquarters in Port-of-Spain is currently executing 11 projects, totalling approximately US\$ 1,670,800. In addition, nine projects have been proposed for funding in the following areas: population, natural resources and environmental management, women in development, social affairs, training and trade.

A synopsis of each ongoing project is presented herein, including project background, major objectives and major outputs. This is followed by a list of proposed projects.

### SUMMARY OF ONGOING EXTRABUDGETARY PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE CDCC SECRETARIAT FOR THE BIENNIUM 1990 - 1991

PROJECT TITLE	DURATION	DONOR	PARTICIPATING COUNTRY
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES			
Incorporation of Socio- Cultural and Environ- mental Management Issues In Caribbean Tourism (HOL/87/S48)	4 years (1987-1991)	Netherlands	Barbados, Curacao, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago
INFORMATION			
Patents: Technological Information - Caribbean (IRC/87/S59)	4 years (1987-1991)	IDRC (Canada)	Haiti, Suriname, and the English-speaking Caribbean
Caribbean Computer-Based Communication Development (CF 90-0090)	3 years (1991-19 <b>9</b> 3)	IDRC	Member countries of the CDCC
POPULATION			
Integration of Population in Development Planning for the Caribbean (RLA/86/PO1)	3 years (1988-1991)	UNFPA	CARICOM Countries, Suriname, BVI, Turks and Caicos Islands
Strengthening of Popu- lation Policy Implementa- tion in Dominica (DOM/89/PO1)	2 years (1991-1993)	UNFPA	Dominica
Strengthening of Popu- lation Policy Implementa- tion in Grenada (GRN/90/PO1)	2 years (1990-1992)	UNFPA	Grenada
Strengthening of Popu- lation Policy Implementa- tion in St. Vincent and the Grenadines (STV/89/PO1)	2 years (1990-1992)	UNFPA	St. Vincent and the Grenadines

PROJECT TITLE	DURATION	DONOR	PARTICIPATING COUNTRY
Strengthening of Popu- lation Policy Implementa- tion in St. Lucia (STL/89/PO1)	3 years (1989-1992)	UNFPA	St. Lucia
Support to National Population Council (CONAPO) (HAI/88/PO4)	4 years (1989-1993)	UNFPA	Haiti
SOCIAL AFFAIRS			
Illicit Drug Demand Reduction Project - Grenada (AD/GRN/89/607)	2 years (1989-1991)	UNFDAC	Grenada
TRAINING AND HUMAN RESOURCES			
Promotion of Training Policies in the Caribbean Subregion (HOL/89/104)	2 years (1989-1991)	Netherlands	Member countries of the CDCC

### Caribbean computer-based communication development (Centre file 90-0090)

<u>Duration</u> : 3 years (1991-1993)

Donor : IDRC (Canada)
Cost : US\$247,260

Participating countries : Member countries of the CDCC

#### Background

Within the last decade, an increasing number of bibliographic, numerical and textual databases have been developed and maintained in the Caribbean. These databases are, to a large extent, the products of sectoral information networks, co-ordinated primarily by regional institutions. The existence of these databases, their recorded under-utilization, and the needs of their user groups provide an impetus for a computer-based communications network. The low usage recorded by these databases may be due to existing limitations to rapid access. Another aspect of the problem is the history of poor intra-Caribbean communications, which is precipitated by their geographic separation. The use of microcomputers combined with electronic media for communication presents an opportunity to overcome these barriers and to introduce an efficient means of human interaction and access to information, which is vital to co-ordinated and efficient economic and social development. An IDRC-sponsored workshop (1988) on computer-based communications and a subsequent survey has identified needs, problems and solutions, prospective participants and the facilities of telecommunications providers.

#### Major Objectives

- 1. To facilitate and expand utilization of computer-based telematic techniques by diverse user communities for various aspects of developmental services.
- 2. To promote greater utilization of databases and information systems and increased and more timely information exchange with the user community.

- 1. Training and promotional materials for distribution to participants.
- 2. An on-line inventory of databases and telecommunications services in the region and a network user guide.
- 3. A Caribbean Telematic User's Group electronic newsletter available on-line.
- 4. A network user guide to various databases and network facilities.
- 5. A full-text database on issues relating to databases and computer-based communication (to become a permanent resource of information).

# Incorporation of socio-Cultural and environmental management issues in Caribbean tourism (HOL/87/S48)

<u>Duration</u> : 4 years (1987-1991)

<u>Donor</u> : Government of the Netherlands

<u>Cost</u> : US\$122,000

Participating countries : Barbados, Curacao, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago

#### Background

As one of the fastest growing areas of international trade, tourism provides a powerful tool for national development particularly for small Caribbean countries with limited alternative development options. Tourism is a developmental activity in which the links with environmental quality and socio-cultural attractions are obvious, since natural and socio-cultural resources provide a significant part of the product which a destination has to offer. A successful tourism strategy will therefore, seek to maximize the total benefits to development, while preserving or improving the national and socio-cultural assets upon which tourism depends.

#### Major objectives

- 1. To derive broader methodological, institutional and policy conclusions relevant to small island states in the Caribbean.
- 2. To put into sharper focus the latent effects of tourism and through the training in national and regional workshops, of policy and decision-makers, to enhance the awareness of the need to incorporate these factors in tourism development programmes and policies.

- Four country case studies on socio-cultural and environmental management issues.
- 2. A comparative document on socio-cultural and environmental management issues in the Caribbean.
- 3. Recommendations and guidelines for avoiding resource management and social conflicts in the implementation of tourism development projects.

### Patents: Technological Information - Caribbean (IRC/87/S59)

<u>Duration</u>: 4 years (1987-1991)

Donor : IDRC (Canada)
Cost : US\$ 197,493

Participating countries : Haiti, Suriname, the English-speaking Caribbean

#### Background

Various meetings of Caribbean government officials and regional organizations have recognized the urgent need for modernizing and strengthening the industrial property systems in the Caribbean at national and regional levels. These meetings highlighted technological information from patent documents as one of the most important sources of patent information. Subsequently, the governments of the region mandated the establishment of a Patent Information and Documentation Unit (PIDU) within the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat. PIDU works closely with national patent offices to form a Caribbean Patent Information Network. However, it does not have sufficient resources to meet incoming requests and to extend its consultancy services to promote and encourage understanding, use and application of industrial property. Through this project, PIDU, in collaboration with the Canadian Patent Office, will carry out research into the development of a technological information programme based on patent literature, relating as far as possible the Canadian experience to the Caribbean region.

#### Major objectives

- 1. To search for a way to institutionalize the Caribbean Patent Information and documentation Network, including the identification of the most appropriate location for PIDU; so as to satisfy the substantive and technical needs of the region, taking into account the existing framework of pertinent national and regional institutions.
- 2. To maintain the computerized Caribbean Patent data base to enable quick and ready retrieval and dissemination of patent information.
- 3. To conduct on-line training sessions to facilitate the user community with reliable and effective information in the transfer of technology while at the same time improving and broadening options for choice of technology for long-term industrial development.

- 1. Strengthening of national patent offices.
- 2. PIDU's Information Specialist trained in on-line data base searching.
- 3. Caribbean Patent Index and newsletter published.
- 4. Educational brochures and training seminars for workers in the Patent Offices and users in the Industrial Sector.

# Integration of Population in Development Planning for the Caribbean. (RLA/88/P61)

<u>Duration</u> : 3 years (1988-1991)

Donor : UNFPA Cost : US\$499,920

Participating countries : CARICOM countries, Suriname, British Virgin

Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands

#### Background

Caribbean governments have made limited attempts at incorporating population into the development planning process. This is due, largely in part to the absence of population units within the Ministries of Planning which would be responsible for co-ordinating activities related to the integration of population into development plans. In addition, most planners/policy-makers possess inadequate knowledge of the theories and techniques required to achieve this population/development integration process. A further drawback is the lack of policy-relevant research findings and data considered essential for policy and programme formulation.

#### Major Objectives

By the end of 1990 to have established population units in four countries; developed institutional frameworks and guidelines for population policy implementation; increased skills in integrating population in development planning; provided policy-relevant research findings; and disseminated data and information required to increase awareness and accelerate the population development integration process.

- 1. Policy-makers/planners trained.
- 2. Establishment of national population policy co-ordinating committees and population policy implementation plan of action for each country.
- 3. Publication and dissemination of three research studies on interrelations of fertility, mortality and migration.

### Support to National Population Council (CONAPO) (HAI/88/PO4)

<u>Duration</u>: 4 years (1988-1991)

Donor : UNFPA : US\$38,800 Participating country : Haiti

#### Background

The Haitian Population Division in recent years has been collecting and analyzing basic population data. Activities related to maternal and child health/family planning and population education have also been launched. The government of Haiti, therefore, decided to set a National Population Council (CONAPO) equipped with a technical secretariat to ensure that the population variables are integrated into economic and social development. This project aims to provide CONAPO with the necessary human, technical and material resources for proper functioning.

#### Major objectives

- 1. Definition and adoption of a population policy and priority programmes of maternal and child health/family planning and IEC/population.
- 2. Setting up of systems of data collection suited to the evaluation needs of the population policy.
- 3. The integration of the population variable into development planning.

- 1. Population policy.
- 2. Methodology for the integration of the population variable into the next development plan.
- 3. National IEC/population programme.

### Strengthening of Population Policy Implementation (STL/89/PO1)

<u>Duration</u> : 3 years (1989-1992)

Donor : UNFPA
Cost : US\$ 46,877
Participating country : St. Lucia

#### Background

Progress in the implementation of St. Lucia's population policy has been slow since its adoption by the Government in 1984, and notwithstanding Government's subsequent authorization of the establishment of a population unit. The lack of a technical secretariat and co-ordinator for the unit is a major obstacle to the implementation process. Existing population policy will not be implemented efficiently nor will population be integrated effectively into the planning process unless there is a catalyst in the form of a national population co-ordinator.

#### Main objectives

- 1. By the end of 1989 to have a National Population Co-ordinator in place as Head of the Population Unit. This person would be in responsible for the direction and co-ordination of activities related to the population policy implementation activities and the integration of population in the planning process.
- 2. By the end of 1990 to have a chapter on population-development linkages incorporated into the national development plan and to have a well-established Population Unit in the Ministry of Health.

- 1. National Population Co-ordinator recruited, trained and in place.
- 2. Chapter on population-development linkages incorporated in national development plans.

# Strengthening of Population Policy Implementation in St. Vincent and the Grenadines (STV/89/PO1) Grenada (GRN/90/PO1) Dominica (DOM/89/PO1)

This group of national projects is closely related to the regional project Integration of Population in Development Planning for the Caribbean (RLA/86/PO1).

<u>Duration</u>: St. Vincent and the Grenadines - 2 years (1990-

1992)

Grenada - 2 years (1990-1992) Dominica - 2 years (1990-1992)

<u>Donor</u> : UNFPA

<u>Cost</u> : St. Vincent and the Grenadines : US\$ 38,800

Grenada: US\$ 38,175 Dominica: US\$ 52,015

#### Background

In recognition of the fact that some of the primary socio-economic problems might be influenced by the prevailing patterns of population growth and distribution, the governments of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada and Dominica have formulated national population policies. These governments have also recognized that there is need for institutional bodies in each country which will ensure the consideration of population issues in socio-economic programmes, and the co-ordination of all major sectors involved in planning. However, policy implementation has been slow. The major obstacle is identified as the lack of a technical secretariat, especially a Population Planning Co-ordinator to direct and co-ordinate activities.

#### Major objectives

- In the long range, to have developed and strengthened the capacities of the governments of the respective countries for the co-ordination and direction of their population policies, implementation activities and population development integration process.
- 2. To establish a National Population Co-ordinator for each country by the end of the first year of the project.
- 3. To incorporate population-development linkages into each National Development Plan.

#### Major outputs

1. An Action Plan in each country for the continued implementation of national policy.

### Illicit Drugs Demand Reduction Project - Grenada (AD/GRN/89/607)

<u>Duration</u> : 2 years (1989-1991)

Donor : UNFDAC
Cost : US\$ 115,890
Participating country : Grenada

#### Background

The Grenada Government's concern about drug abuse is articulated in a National Policy on Drug Abuse which sets out guidelines for dealing with the production, trafficking and consumption of illegal drugs. The Government-appointed National Drug Avoidance Committee and other agencies involved in the anti-drug fight face serious difficulties in implementing policies and action programmes, foremost among which is the unavailability of adequate financial and human resources and the lack of public co-operation. It is agreed that drug demand reduction activities make the most effective use of resources and have the greatest impact, and that education is one of the best means of effecting such a reduction. The basic thrust of this project, therefore, will be to create public awareness, particularly among the youth, of the dangers of drug abuse.

#### Major objectives

- To increase public awareness of the dangers of drug abuse through the implementation of a Mass Media Campaign and the production and dissemination of educational materials; and to promote the involvement of a greater number of citizens in the fight against illicit drugs by involving community service organizations like the Rotary and Lions Clubs and other groups and/or persons in the community who are willing to take up the challenge.
- 2. To promote the development of positive alternatives to a drug-dependent lifestyle through the training of persons in the society; the imparting of basic occupational skills to unemployed youth (175 persons) and the promotion of certain personalities (especially sports personalities) as role models in the community.

- 1. Mass Media Campaign implemented.
- 2. Production of educational materials with an anti-drug message.
- 3. A cadre of trained personnel, especially young people, who are well equipped to assume leadership positions in the community with respect to the antidrug campaign.

### Promotion of Training Policies in the Caribbean Subregion (HOL/89/104)

<u>Duration</u> : 2 years (1990-1991)

<u>Donor</u> : Government of the Netherlands

<u>Cost</u> : US\$308,490

Participating countries : Member countries of the CDCC

#### Background

Staff training programmes in the English and Dutch-speaking Caribbean, either organized by the countries/territories or by external organizations, gave long been identified as a solution to maintain and increase the technical competence of the individuals concerned. Some governments have attempted to systematize these efforts: isolated formal or on-the-job training was carried out on a country or subregion bases, but lack of institutional and individual follow-up has often led to a squandering of the training effort. Many countries /territories do not possess a well-defined policy regarding overall or sectorrelated training. Given the limited resources, closer attention should be paid to better integrated training programmes and to over-all co-ordination. The ECLAC Subregional Office for the Caribbean is well placed to initiate, coordinate and/or be a channel of funding for training activities. A project could be set up to strengthen this role and would serve in mobilizing and accessing greater resources in training, organizing training programmes, formulating training policy, identifying needs and specific areas for training in close cooperation with the governments involved and with other institutions/organizations.

#### Major objectives

- Formulation of specific proposals for the improvement and/or systematic structuring of national training policies for public administrations and/or related academic or research institutions, which would take into consideration the situation and limited size of staff and financial resources.
- 2. Elaboration of a systematic and practical approach towards mobilizing and accessing internally, regionally and elsewhere available resources for training.
- 3. Systematic co-operation among national and subregional organisms in order to promote joint analysis of training needs, and technical co-operation among them in addressing these needs.

- 1. A general approach to national training policies for the smaller Caribbean countries and territories.
- 2. At least four proposals for systematic national training policies, for public administrations and/or related academic or research institutions, taking into account the realities of staffing and financial resources of the region's governments and their objectively existing technical knowledge requirements.
- 3. Systematic and practical guidelines on how to mobilize and access nationally, subregionally or elsewhere available training resources which would assist in realistically addressing the subregion's training needs.

#### Annex I

#### LIST OF PROPOSED EXTRABUDGETARY PROJECTS

(March 1991)

#### Natural Resources and Environmental Management

- Environmental Statistical Database.
- Video Sustainable Caribbean Development

#### Population

National Demography Training for Suriname.

#### Social Affairs

- Removal of Language Barriers in the Caribbean.

#### <u>Trade</u>

- Computerization of the Trade Procedures Guide.

#### Training

- Initiation of a Caribbean Tertiary Level and Research Network.
- Training and Liaison Programme in Organizational Development for Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs).

#### Women in Development

- Improvement of Legal and Institutional Framework for the Incorporation of Women into Development in Selected countries of Latin America.
- Women and Trade Phase II