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ABBREVIATIONS

ACS Association of Caribbean States
ADC Andean Development Corporation
ALADI Latin American Integration Association

CARICOM Caribbean Community

CDCC Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee
FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FTAA Free Trade Area of the Americas
IDB Inter-American Development Bank

IICA Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture

ILO International Labour Organization

ILPES Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning

IMF International Monetary Fund

IPEA Institute of Applied Economic Research (Brazil)

ITU International Telecommunication Union

OAS Organization of American States

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OECS Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
OLADE Latin American Energy Association
PAHO Pan American Health Organization

PARLATINO Latin American Parliament

SELA Latin American Economic System
SICA Central American Integration System

UNCTAD United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

UNDP United Nations Development Programme
UNEP United Nations Environment Programme

UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNIFPA United Nations Population Fund UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization

UNIFEM United Nations Development Fund for Women

WFP World Food Programme
WHO World Health Organization

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization

WTO World Trade Organization
WTO World Tourism Organization

INTRODUCTION

This report on the activities of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) covers the two-year period between the last session of the Commission, held in May 2002, and April 2004. It reviews the activities carried out under the programme of work of the ECLAC system, which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES). The report consists of three parts.

Part I is divided into seven sections. Section (i) presents a summary of the work of ECLAC in the context of the new realities of Latin America and the Caribbean, with special emphasis on the central issues of the biennium: the "lost half decade" in terms of economic growth, the decline in foreign direct investment (FDI) flows, the modest recovery of the region's economies in 2003, poverty reduction, the issue of sustainable development and the challenges of the information society.

Section (ii) examines the impact of United Nations reform on ECLAC and reviews the new programme initiated by the Secretary-General in 2003, which addresses various aspects of strategic management and coordination. In terms of management, a system of results-based budgeting has been introduced which focuses more on outputs than on the processes and inputs required for their production. In terms of coordination, an effort has been made to achieve greater efficiency in these activities among the different United Nations entities and, above all, in activities involving technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC), at both the regional and interregional levels.

Section (iii) looks at the Commission's advances and new challenges with respect to the Millennium Development Goals set forth in the Millennium Declaration adopted by the General Assembly. In this regard, the secretariat's activities have been centred on poverty eradication, gender equity and environmental sustainability, with emphasis on the execution of inter-agency projects and activities.

Section (iv) lists the principal multidisciplinary documents published by the substantive divisions of ECLAC under the coordination of the Office of the Executive Secretary. These documents have triggered a process of participation and discussion and have helped to reinforce an integrated perspective on issues relating to economic and social development in the countries of the region. Special mention should be made of the following books published by ECLAC in the course of the biennium: *The sustainability of development in Latin America and the Caribbean: challenges and opportunities* (No. 68), *Meeting the millennium poverty reduction targets in Latin America and the Caribbean* (No. 70), *Social capital and poverty reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean: towards a new paradigm* (No. 71) and *Road maps towards an information society in Latin America and the Caribbean* (No. 72), as well as the document which will be presented at the forthcoming session of the Commission, entitled *Productive development in open economies*.

Section (v) describes activities for the preparation and integrated follow-up of the world conferences on economic and social issues, namely, the International Conference on Financing for Development; the World Summit on the Information Society; the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation; the International Meeting for the 10-Year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island

Resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000.

Developing States; the International Conference for Renewable Energies; the World Summit on Sustainable Development; the Second World Assembly on Ageing; the Fourth World Conference on Women; and the International Conference on Population and Development. During this period, a new web site was set up on the information system on United Nations world conferences and summits.²

Section (vi) describes the activities and meetings of the subsidiary organs and special committees, namely, the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development, the Regional Council for Planning of ILPES and the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean. In each case, a brief summary is given of the activities carried out, and the decisions and agreements adopted.

This section also includes a summary of the most important aspects of the following meetings or sessions: the twenty-second session of the Committee of the Whole and seventh meeting of the ad hoc working group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI); the nineteenth and twentieth sessions of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC); the first and second meetings of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC; the second meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC; the meeting of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development; the Caribbean subregional meeting to assess the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development 10 years after its adoption; the open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development; the twenty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of ILPES, held within the framework of the twenty-ninth session of ECLAC; the eleventh Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean and the twelfth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning; and the thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Section (vii) presents an overview of inter-agency activities for collaboration, coordination and consultation between ECLAC and specialized agencies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

Part II reports on the execution of ECLAC programmes. Two tables are included which show the effective results of substantive and operational activities measured in terms of final outputs. These are followed by a brief description of the general direction and the most important aspects of the work carried out under the 12 substantive subprogrammes of the ECLAC secretariat, both in Santiago and in the subregional headquarters in Mexico and the Caribbean, the national offices in Buenos Aires, Brasilia, Montevideo and Bogotá and the liaison office in Washington, D.C. Figures containing statistical information on ECLAC documents and publications are also presented.

The structure of this section is basically consistent with that of the programme derived from the United Nations medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and thus differs somewhat from the format used in the draft programme of work for the 2006-2007 biennium, which will be considered by the Commission at its thirtieth session.

See http://www.eclac.cl/cumbres.

This section now also includes a summary of the training activities conducted by ILPES (subprogramme 7: Planning of public administration), along with data and graphs on the international courses delivered. Information on the training courses offered in specific fields under the other 11 substantive subprogrammes is provided on the relevant pages of the ECLAC web portal. The programme of ECLAC and ILPES courses held in the 2002-2003 biennium is published on the ECLAC web site on training and on the ILPES web site.³ In March 2003, ILPES received confirmation of its role as the Commission's training hub and, as such, is responsible for standardizing procedures for the design, implementation and evaluation of the training activities carried out by the Commission's substantive divisions.

Each substantive division responsible for executing subprogramme elements keeps its outputs updated on its web site in the ECLAC web portal; documents are to be found in the publications catalogues, which can be obtained in printed or digital format through the web site.⁴

The second section of part II lists cooperation activities in the following subsections: (a) overview and general trends of international cooperation; (b) legislative mandate for the Commission's TCDC activities; and (c) cooperation activities conducted during the 2002-2003 biennium by technical assistance missions and by projects financed with extrabudgetary resources. This last subsection is further divided into three points: (i) total expenditure, by donor; (ii) technical cooperation projects; and (iii) TCDC projects and activities. Each of these subsections is illustrated using figures, tables and boxes on the relevant activities and technical cooperation projects.

Lastly, part III recapitulates the main dissemination and communications activities implemented by the Documents and Publications Division, the Library, the *CEPAL Review* (with an overview of the articles published both in the *Review* itself and in *Notas de Población*, the Information Services Unit and the Internet Development and Coordination Unit of ECLAC. In some cases, figures are used to illustrate various aspects of these activities.

See http://www.eclac.cl/capacitacion/ and http://www.eclac.cl/ilpes.

Catalogue of publications 2002 (LC/G.2181/B); Catalogue of publications 2003 (LC.G.2206/I).

I. CENTRAL ISSUES ON THE INSTITUTION'S AGENDA

(i) The Latin American and Caribbean context

According to the Commission's findings, the biennium covered by this report was marked by a contraction in regional output in 2002 and an inadequate recovery in 2003, which made this period part of the six years that were "lost" in terms of economic growth.

The upturn in 2003 (1.5%) was insufficient to reverse the stagnation of the last few years and per capita GDP was 1.5% lower than it had been in 1997. As a result, social conditions also deteriorated. After six years of negative per capita growth and sluggish labour-market activity, poverty is estimated to have increased in 2003, bringing the number of poor people in Latin America and the Caribbean to 226.6 million —including 102 million indigents— or 44.4% of the population.

In the 2002-2003 biennium, the Latin American and Caribbean region was hard hit by negative external factors, which were amplified by the weaknesses in the region's economies. The contraction and near-zero growth were attributable to a common source: the international economy and, in particular, the volatility of international financial markets, which had a devastating effect. Foreign direct investment (FDI) flows slowed during the period to stand at US\$ 29 billion in 2003, far below the average for 1990-2002 (US\$ 38 billion) and 25% lower than the 2002 level.

The region's economic performance strengthened in the last quarter of 2003, reflecting international economic trends particularly the signs of recovery in the United States and Japan and strong growth in China. Thus, for the first time since 1997, the Latin American economies will not show negative growth in 2004.

Against the backdrop of these recent economic and social trends, ECLAC considers that the region faces the dual challenge of assuming a dynamic role within the globalized economy and, at the same time, overcoming the equity gap, exclusion and environmental degradation. In this regard, the situation described above illustrates the difficulties that the countries of the region face in attempting to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, in particular with respect to poverty reduction.

In the past five years, the region has made little progress in alleviating poverty, as poverty and indigence rates have remained practically unchanged since 1997. Between 1999 and 2002, the poverty rate increased by two tenths of a percentage point, moving from 43.8% to 44.0%, while extreme poverty grew by nine tenths of a point to encompass 19.4% of the regional population.

Moreover, the region is concerned about issues closely associated with poverty, namely the lack of food security, undernourishment and malnutrition. In a number of studies, ECLAC has analysed questions of poverty and inequality from a gender perspective and patterns of public spending, which showed a significant increase in the amounts allocated to social sectors in the 1990s.

Similarly, ECLAC data show that unless income distribution is improved, average growth will need to be around 3.6% for the next 12 years in order to halve extreme poverty by 2015 with respect to its 1990 level. The more ambitious goal of halving total poverty calls for a growth rate of close to 5% a year. These values contrast with the region's average annual growth rate of only 2.6% over the past 13 years.

In the area of sustainable development, the Commission has sought to identify more precise indicators of the loss of natural resources. At the regional level, it has attempted to harmonize the Millennium Development Goals with the agreements reached at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. In addition, ECLAC, in conjunction with UNDP and other United Nations organizations, is evaluating existing data for indicators relating to this issue at the world level, which countries can apply in their efforts to monitor compliance at the national level.

Lastly, ECLAC has conducted studies within the framework of the debate on the information society. It considers that from the point of view of Latin America and the Caribbean, it is essential to determine how this new paradigm can contribute to the achievement of broader development objectives and to the region's full integration into the world information society. Thus, in the Commission's view, the answers to three fundamental questions should help to incorporate the issue in the development agenda: What type of information society does the region hope to build? What are the basic characteristics and peculiarities of the transition to an information society in Latin America and the Caribbean? What policy measures could be adopted to speed up this transition?

Thus, given the challenges faced by the region, ECLAC opted for a coordinated approach to the prevailing economic and social phenomena and structured its analytical agenda accordingly. This was reflected, during the biennium, in a long list of publications and activities which are reviewed in detail in this report.

(ii) Impact of the reform of the United Nations on ECLAC

In September 2002 the Secretary-General proposed a set of reforms⁵ to the General Assembly whose premise was that the United Nations should align its activities with the priorities defined in the Millennium Declaration and the global conferences of the past decade. To accomplish this, it was necessary to carry out a comprehensive review of the work of the Organization aimed at identifying activities whose relevance had diminished over the years and new issues, or ones that had acquired new urgency, such as globalization and its impact on development. In order to better reflect the priorities agreed upon at the Millennium Assembly, the Secretary-General submitted a thoroughly revised version of the proposed programme budget for the 2004-2005 biennium.

As a contribution to the Secretary-General's effort in this regard, the ECLAC secretariat carried out two interconnected processes: (i) a self-assessment exercise to take stock of the Millennium Development Goals and adjust the activities of the Commission accordingly; and (ii) active participation in a detailed review of all outputs produced by the members of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs. The review of these outputs, which were classified in 10 thematic clusters, was aimed at identifying areas in which better synergies could be created and coordination could add value, to the benefit of Member States. As a result of this work, ECLAC was able to reallocate resources for advisory services and training activities and to address emerging social and sustainable development issues, such as international migration, financing for development and environmental assessment of natural disasters in the region. These changes are reflected in the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system for the 2004-2005 biennium.

Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change (A/57/387).

The Executive Committee was established in 1997 with the aim of enhancing the contribution that the different United Nations entities working in this field make to the overall objectives of the Organization by reducing duplication of effort and facilitating greater complementarity and coherence and, more generally, facilitating joint strategic planning and decision-making.

A cornerstone of the Secretary-General's reform proposal was the need to replace the former planning and budgeting system, which was complex and labour-intensive, with a simpler process that would enable Member States to focus their attention on objectives and results instead of quantitative measures of input and output. This new process should also allow them to make the necessary link between programmes of work and choices with respect to resource allocation within a realistic planning horizon. The new system will also include: (i) the replacement of the four-year medium-term plan with a two-year strategic framework, which will comprise a plan outline reflecting the policy orientation of the Organization and its longer-term objectives, and a biennial programme plan; (ii) a shorter and more strategic budget, with supplementary detail provided separately; and (iii) a strengthened system of evaluation and monitoring that will measure the impact of the Organization's work more accurately.

Key to success in this area is the consolidation of the results-based budgeting and results-based management approaches introduced in 2001 to ensure a fully results-oriented Organization. ECLAC has been firmly committed to the implementation of these approaches since their introduction and has gradually made significant progress in this connection. The methodology was first used as a planning tool for the preparation of the draft programme of work of the Commission for the 2002-2003 biennium and, more recently, as a performance evaluation tool for the activities carried out during that period. Thanks to the provision of training and the application of lessons learned, ECLAC programme managers were able to acquire an adequate command of the methodology. This has resulted in greater ownership on their part of the preparation of the draft programme of work for the 2004-2005 biennium.

Another significant aspect of the reform process has focused on the need to clearly define the specific roles and responsibilities of the different entities of the United Nations, particularly in the delivery of technical cooperation to developing countries. The aim of this part of the reform process was to facilitate and improve coordination, in order to make such cooperation more effective. In this connection, the Secretary-General commissioned an in-depth review of technical cooperation activities carried out by different entities of the United Nations Secretariat. The main findings of the review, which were reported by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly in September 2003,⁷ were that "A complex and at times under-resourced system appears to be performing reasonably well" and that "The variety of differing mechanisms that exist within the system for the delivery of technical cooperation continue to attract funding support from donors, and their services continue to be of value to developing countries". According to the report, the activities of the regional commissions in all areas seemed to be "logical components of their broader responsibilities" and were not seen to pose significant issues.

(iii) ECLAC and the Millennium Development Goals

Since the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals, the secretariat has adopted its programme of work to better assist its member States in their efforts to meet these commitments, especially those dealing with poverty and hunger reduction, gender equity and environmental sustainability. Activities in all three areas have been aimed at addressing one of the main challenges facing the region in meeting these Goals, that is, the lack of sound, reliable and comparable statistical data; indeed such data are indispensable for formulating and implementing policies that create an enabling environment for reaching the relevant targets within the time frames agreed upon in the Millennium Declaration.

In this regard, the secretariat has pointed out that even though the Millennium Development Goals are an essential general reference for all countries, given the prevailing conditions in Latin America

⁷ Review of technical cooperation in the United Nations: report of the Secretary-General (A/58/382).

and the Caribbean, not all of them are of direct relevance for the countries of the region, since reaching some of them would not represent a significant improvement in the living standard of their peoples. Work is therefore necessary to bring these Goals in line with regional conditions by fine-tuning and/or disaggregating each indicator or even defining complementary ones. In addition, the secretariat has drawn attention to the major implications of the acute and multidimensional inequities prevailing in the region for both the measurement of progress and the formulation of policies. The measurement of progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals must go beyond simple national averages and the data must account for the socio-economic, gender, ethnic and geographical dimensions of inequity.

Regarding Goal 1, Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, during 2002 ECLAC worked with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA) of Brazil on an evaluation of the feasibility of attaining the goal of poverty reduction in 18 countries of the region and an assessment of the impact of different policy instruments in reducing poverty. The results of this work were presented in a joint publication entitled *Meeting the Millennium Poverty Reduction Targets in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/G.2188-P), published in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese in December 2002 (*Libros de la CEPAL* No. 70). An assessment of the chances of halving extreme poverty by 2015, based on the analysis of poverty and indigence estimates for 2001 and 2002 —the most recent available— was presented in the 2002-2003 edition of the ECLAC publication *Social Panorama of Latin America*. In addition, as a result of a joint initiative with the World Food Programme (WFP), the *Social Panorama* also included a chapter providing background information on the scale of undernourishment and child malnutrition —the two dimensions of hunger considered in the Millennium Development Goals— in 23 countries of the region over the past decade and trends towards achieving the Goals.

In the case of Goal 3, Promote gender equality and empower women, ECLAC has provided basic data disaggregated by sex; enriched the set of basic indicators (particularly on poverty) by looking at them from a gender perspective; and made an important contribution to the analysis of the context that would allow countries to meet the Goal. In collaboration with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), UNDP, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Government of Italy, ECLAC has concluded individual country case studies progress towards the Goal in nine countries: Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Peru. These studies will be published in the first half of 2004. Four more case studies will be conducted in 2004.

In relation to Goal 7, Ensure environmental sustainability, progress has been made in identifying more precise indicators relating to the loss of natural resources, complementing the Millennium Development Goals with the commitments derived from the World Summit on Sustainable Development. In addition, ECLAC, UNDP and other United Nations agencies are assessing the usefulness of existing data for the indicators already defined at the global level for the targets regarding access to safe drinking water and improvements in the lives of slum dwellers, to be applied by countries in their efforts to monitor progress at the national level. In this regard, in 2003 ECLAC developed a methodology to assess, on the basis of census and household survey data, the relationship between urban poverty and substandard housing.

In addition, in June 2002 ECLAC signed a letter of intent with the UNDP Regional Bureau, the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) which includes three main lines of work: (i) development of methodologies for the assessment of specific goals and targets, paying special attention to the issue of comparability; (ii) implementation of pilot projects in four countries (Brazil, Colombia, Peru and another country not yet decided upon); and (iii) advocacy to strengthen national

ownership of the Millennium Development Goals, by both governments and civil society. ECLAC is actively participating in all three lines of action, taking the lead role in the methodological work, for the purpose of extending the definition of methodologies for Goals 2, 3 and 7, building upon the work already done with UNDP and IPEA regarding Goal 1.

To help disseminate information on the regional follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals, ECLAC is currently designing an institutional web site for the regional follow-up of the Goals, which, in addition to describing the relevant interdivisional work carried out by ECLAC, will allow the dissemination of the work of other United Nations and regional agencies in this regard. The web site will have links to global Millennium Development Goals sites and to the ECLAC web site on the regional follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits, and may eventually become an inter-agency web site.

In addition to the individual and inter-agency activities described above, ECLAC has been participating in the United Nations Millennium Project. It participates directly in the Expert Group, the Task Force on Poverty, and Economic Development, and the Task Force on Environmental Sustainability, and indirectly in the Task Force on Education and Gender Equality, through the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE).

(iv) Multidisciplinary documents produced by ECLAC

The multidisciplinary documents produced by ECLAC were prepared with inputs from its different substantive divisions and coordinated by the Office of the Executive Secretary. This work gives rise to a participatory process and discussions which help to reinforce the Commission's integrated approach to economic and social development alternatives in the countries of the region and to the factors that condition this development.

During the reporting period, a number of documents of this kind were prepared. They are listed in the sections devoted to the different subprogrammes. Special reference is made to the following titles:

(a) The document to be presented at the thirtieth session of the Commission (San Juan, Puerto Rico, 28 June-2 July 2004), entitled *Productive development in open economies* (LC/G.2234(SES.30/3)), was prepared in 2003 and the first few months of 2004.

This document looks at productive development policies in Latin America and the Caribbean in the context of open economies. In the early 1990s it was thought that economic openness, together with macroeconomic stability and more active private-sector participation in the production of goods and services, would generate faster growth in the region. However, the experience of the past 15 years shows that, although substantial progress was made in implementing liberalization, deregulation, privatization and macroeconomic stabilization policies, the region's average growth was very low (2.6% a year) and very little headway was made in reducing poverty.

As a result, a new paradigm is emerging, based on the understanding that the countries need not only "more market", but also better government. What is more, there is a growing consensus that "more market" without complementary public policies not only is insufficient, but also may be counterproductive, in many cases, for achieving sustained growth and better income distribution.

The need for public policies designed to boost productive development immediately raises the question of what strategies are most appropriate in this regard. Some of the ground rules for such

strategies are that they must be shaped by a sense of the region's history, with its hits and misses; be based on an understanding of each country's current circumstances and future potential; reflect an awareness that productive development policies pose different challenges in open economies than they did during the import-substitution period; take into account both the budgetary constraints related to social demands and the countries' institutional capacity for economic policy-making; and build on the premise that the implementation of public policies and the achievement of certain objectives go beyond the scope of State initiatives and require interaction with the private sector.

A survey of current conditions in the region shows, as ECLAC has pointed out time and again, that development is substantially more uneven in Latin America and the Caribbean than in other regions and that this situation largely prevents productivity gains in certain sectors from generating spillovers for the rest of the production system. This persistent unevenness is reflected by the existence of three types of actors in the production system, which progress at different speeds and may be grouped into three broad categories based on their size or their legal status in the economy: informal enterprises, small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large enterprises. Informal enterprises, owing to the features of their structure and capacity, have the lowest productivity and operate in an environment that affords them few learning opportunities. Formal SMEs have few resources with which to build their capacities, usually operate in undemanding markets and have little chance to benefit from externalities that would boost their competitiveness. Lastly, the most advanced segment, consisting of large firms whose productivity comes close to the international frontier, generally lacks the capacity for innovation.

Thus, the challenges still facing the region in this area are to narrow the productivity gap vis-à-vis the international frontier, to reduce the unevenness of development and to promote a more knowledge-intensive pattern of external economic integration with higher local value added. Productive development policies must therefore focus on the incorporation of knowledge or innovation, defined as the capacity to adopt, adapt and create knowledge.

It is also necessary to implement specific sectoral policies. While these policies must take existing comparative advantages into account, they should seek not only to enhance competitiveness but also, in particular, to add value and knowledge to activities that can capitalize on the dynamism of external markets. The creation of new sectors linked to primary export activities is part of a successful strategy used in a number of countries rich in natural resources, and may be an interesting option for the region. In addition, manufacturing sectors that do not depend on natural resources —an area in which the region's linkages with the world economy have increased— would benefit from policies for developing new activities that would enable the countries to export more domestic value added and, in particular, more knowledge. Lastly, the generation of dynamic comparative advantages in areas where there are human or natural resources whose potential has not yet been tapped would open up opportunities for creating new activities.

The design of productive development strategies must be based on the recognition that the resources available for this purpose are far more modest today than they were in the days of import substitution. This means that policy makers must be very selective in terms of policy orientation and must design instruments with great care, adapting them to the need to offer "soft incentives" instead of the "hard incentives" of the import-substitution period. Moreover, special attention must be paid to implementation-related issues and to the strengthening of impact assessment mechanisms if the policies put in place are to be effective and enjoy public legitimacy.

Productive development strategies face an enormous challenge, since faster productivity growth cannot be confined to a specific area of the economy (big companies, export firms or high-productivity

enclaves), but must also boost the efficiency of technologically backward firms, shortening the distance between them and the top performers. In other words, the structural unevenness that has characterized the region for decades must be smoothed out.

Productive development policies cannot live up to their potential unless they are implemented in an environment conducive to productivity gains. The document accordingly discusses the need to reform the labour market to make it compatible with globalization, while not neglecting the need for social safety nets.

Furthermore, growth without due regard to environmental protection is not only undesirable, but also unsustainable in the long term. This consideration is particularly relevant for countries whose exports are based on natural resources. Moreover, as argued in the document, environmental sustainability represents an opportunity for productive development in the region. Other key issues are the need for adequate infrastructure development and for regulatory frameworks that enable productivity gains to be transmitted to the entire production system.

The analysis also covers the issue of appropriate institutional frameworks for development, and notes that macroeconomic policies should be geared to preventing the wide swings in GDP growth rates seen in the last decade and to generating sufficient financing for productive activities. Lastly, on the subject of development in open economies, the document completes the analysis with an overview of the international environment and of the challenges and constraints it imposes on the region. In this connection, one of the highlights of the document is a discussion of mechanisms for forging linkages with the global economy through bilateral, regional and multilateral agreements.

(b) In 2002 and the first half of 2003, the secretariat prepared a document entitled *Road maps towards an information society in Latin America and the Caribbean*, which served as a basis for the deliberations at the Regional Preparatory Ministerial Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Bávaro, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, in January 2003.

New information and communication technologies have enabled countries to make major strides in terms of development, which transcend the economic sphere and extend to education and research, health, public administration, politics and culture. At the same time, however, a new form of exclusion—the digital divide— has been emerging at two levels: an international divide, which threatens to widen the abyss that separates developed from developing countries, and a domestic divide, which tends to accentuate the enormous social differences found within countries. Three fundamental issues are raised in the document: the model sought for the region; the basic characteristics and specific features of the transition to the information society and the digital age; and the public policy measures that should be adopted to propel this process. Reproduced in the annex to this document is the Bávaro Declaration, which was adopted at the Regional Preparatory Ministerial Conference as the Latin American and Caribbean contribution to the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held in two phases: in December 2003 in Geneva and in November 2005 in Tunis.

⁸ LC/G.2195/Rev.1-P, July 2003.

(c) The document entitled *The sustainability of development in Latin America and the Caribbean: challenges and opportunities*⁹ was originally conceived as an input for the Regional Preparatory Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in October 2001.

The latest revision of this document, prepared by ECLAC and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and presented at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, South Africa, 2002), presents an overview of economic performance and the main trends in social development, population dynamics, the environmental situation and socio-environmental vulnerability in the region in the 1990s. It also analyses public policy on the environment and sustainable development, the international context and the role of the region within a global alliance. Lastly, it assesses the challenges and opportunities that should be taken into account with a view to the adoption of future measures for sustainable development in the region, identifies the individual characteristics of the countries concerned and analyses issues such as the protection and sustainable use of natural ecosystems, biodiversity and access to genetic resources, vulnerability, water and energy management, urban issues and the need to strengthen the institutional underpinnings for a sustainable development process.

(d) The ECLAC secretariat, in conjunction with the Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA) of Brazil and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), prepared a report entitled *Meeting the Millennium Poverty Reduction Targets in Latin America and the Caribbean*.¹¹

The report looks at the conditions under which 18 Latin American and Caribbean countries would individually be able to meet the extreme poverty reduction target established in the Millennium Declaration. Two scenarios are considered for each country: a "historical" one, which extrapolates the country's growth and inequality dynamics of the 1990s into the future; and an "alternative" one which simulates movements that would take each country closer to a hypothetical "regional ideal" which is both richer and more egalitarian than any country in Latin America or the Caribbean actually is today. The report finds that unless economic growth affects income distribution, it will not have much impact in terms of improving the standard of living of the extremely poor population. It concludes that only seven of the 18 countries studied in Latin America and the Caribbean are expected to achieve the goal of halving extreme poverty by 2015 and that the economic remedy of reducing inequality seems difficult to prescribe.

(e) The book *Social capital and poverty reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean: towards a new paradigm* is a compilation of texts that represents the tangible outcome of the international conference "Social capital and poverty reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean toward a new paradigm", held in Santiago, Chile, in September 2001 by ECLAC and Michigan State University, United States, under a cooperation agreement between the two entities. From the ECLAC perspective, social capital refers to a set of social relations based on trust, cooperative behaviours and reciprocity which make it possible to progress further in reducing poverty in the region.

⁹ LC/G.2145(CONF.90/3), October 2001.

¹⁰ LC/G.2145/Rev.1-P, July 2002.

¹¹ LC/G.2188-P, February 2003.

¹² LC/G.2194-P, January 2003.

These texts analyse social capital and its relationship to development, public policies, urban poverty, the gender dimension, the rural sector and environmental sustainability. One of the main future challenges identified in this book is the need to consider how social capital can be developed and maintained in Latin American and Caribbean societies, given their high degree of inequality and segmentation.

(v) Integrated follow-up to world conferences on economic and social issues

As part of its efforts to facilitate regional consensus-building, ECLAC has continued to undertake preparatory and follow-up activities for United Nations conferences and summits. Significant progress was made during this biennium in the implementation of an integrated approach to the follow-up to some of these events. This was the case of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, on the one hand, and the International Conference on Financing for Development and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, on the other.

The Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC and the Women and Development Unit have developed, with the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), a single system of indicators for the regional follow-up to both the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action. This was an enriching exercise that included the review of the conceptual and methodological aspects of the two previously independent systems developed for the Conferences, the identification of common areas and indicators and the assessment of the comparability of the information, leading to the identification of compatible criteria and definitions. These compatible criteria are also of great relevance to the follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals. The system's technical platform is the retrieval of data for small areas by microcomputer (REDATAM) system, developed by CELADE, which allows for easy retrieval of information and for its presentation in tables, graphs and thematic maps.

Even though the user can access the set of indicators for each Conference, the information available in each case is the same, since there is one common database. What varies depending on the entry point is the perspective from which the data are analysed, depending on the analysis required. For instance, there are indicators for the International Conference on Population and Development that provide background information for the follow-up to Beijing and viceversa. This is precisely the valued added offered by the system for the integrated follow-up to both Conferences.

The secretariat has been promoting the establishment of linkages between the implementation of the "leading actions" identified in the Monterrey Consensus and that of the Plan of Implementation adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. These follow-up actions have mainly focused on analytical work, promoting policy dialogue, capacity-building and sharing of best practices. During the World Summit itself, ECLAC, together with the Government of Mexico, UNDP and the Andean Development Corporation (ADC), co-organized a side event on "Financing and investment for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean: Regional perspectives on the fulfilment of the Monterrey Consensus and the Plan of Implementation for Johannesburg" (3 September 2002). The event was an opportunity to examine the challenges to financing for sustainable development in the region and to obtain additional resources —both public and private— for the creation of opportunities for cooperation between the public and private sectors and regional multilateral financial institutions.

In another effort to promote an integrated approach to the follow-up to both summits, in 2003 and 2004 the secretariat took advantage of its annual Regional Seminar on Fiscal Policy, organized jointly

with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Government of Chile, and more recently also with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), to hold workshops on fiscal policy and environment in Latin America and the Caribbean. In August 2003 the secretariat and UNDP organized a methodological workshop on environmental expenditure and investment, aimed at promoting the use of uniform and comparable methodologies to quantify and classify public and private environmental expenditure and investment, in order to improve the quality of the information available to decision-makers in designing funding strategies for environmental purposes.

Another contribution from ECLAC has been the inter-agency web site for the integrated follow-up to United Nations summits and conferences (www.eclac.cl/cumbres). The web site, developed and maintained by ECLAC, includes a decentralized management module to allow each agency to present its contributions to the different international conferences, thus facilitating the exchange of information required for improving inter-agency coordination, as well as the dissemination of information on the work carried out by the United Nations in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In addition to these efforts for integrated follow-up, the secretariat has been assisting member States with the formulation of regional consensus documents to take to upcoming United Nations conferences and summits and with the follow-up to the implementation of commitments derived from those events.

World Summit on the Information Society

The ECLAC secretariat, in conjunction with the Government of the Dominican Republic and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), organized the Regional Preparatory Ministerial Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the World Summit on the Information Society, which was held in Bávaro, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, from 29 to 31 January 2003. This meeting led to the formulation of a regional position, as set forth in the Bávaro Declaration, which was submitted at the first phase of the World Summit, held in Geneva in December 2003. For this event, the secretariat prepared a technical discussion paper entitled *Road maps towards an information society in Latin America and the Caribbean*.

<u>International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor</u> Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

The secretariat also worked with the Government of Paraguay and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States in organizing the Regional Preparatory Meeting of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries, which was held in Asunción, Paraguay, on 12 and 13 March 2003. For this meeting the secretariat prepared two documents: *Towards development in landlocked economies* (LC/L.2075-P) and *Estudio preliminar del transporte de los productos de comercio exterior de los países sin litoral de Sudamérica* (Spanish only).

<u>International Meeting for the 10-Year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States</u>

In October 2003 the secretariat collaborated with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and UNDP in assisting the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in convening the Caribbean subregional preparatory meeting for the

International Meeting to undertake a full and comprehensive review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, to take place in Mauritius in August 2004. As a contribution to intergovernmental discussions, the secretariat prepared a report entitled "Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS POA) in the Caribbean Subregion 1994-2003" (LC/CAR/G.749 and 750).

International Conference for Renewable Energies

At the request of the Brazilian Government, the secretariat acted as technical secretariat of the Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean on Renewable Energies (Brazil, 29-30 October 2003), convened in preparation for the International Conference for Renewable Energies to be held in Bonn, Germany, in 2004. At the Regional Conference, the countries adopted the Brasilia Platform on Renewable Energies, in which they agreed on 19 actions essential for the region's energy future, including the formulation of the long-term public policies needed to further the development of renewable energy sources; the adoption of regulatory and institutional frameworks that incorporate instruments which internalize the social and environmental benefits of renewable energy, and the need for financial institutions to finance national, subregional and regional renewable energy projects.

The secretariat prepared the following three documents for the Conference: *Energy sustainability in Latin America and the Caribbean: the share of renewable sources* (LC/L.1966-P); *Renewable energy and energy efficiency in Latin America and the Caribbean: constraints and prospects* (LC/L.1977-P); and *Entorno internacional y oportunidades para el desarrollo de las fuentes renovables de energía en los países de América Latina y el Caribe* (LC/L.1976-P) (Spanish only). In this task the secretariat received support from UNEP, the German Government and the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE).

World Summit on Sustainable Development

Pursuant to the Johannesburg Declaration and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the secretariat has carried out several activities in support of the work of the Economic and Social Council's Commission on Sustainable Development in follow-up to the World Summit.

At the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, the ECLAC secretariat organized, jointly with UNDP, a regional implementation forum (New York, 29 April 2003) on the initial steps taken in Latin America and the Caribbean to implement the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

The secretariat took advantage of three regional meetings to promote debate and the formulation of regional inputs on measures to speed up implementation and mobilize action to overcome obstacles and constraints in the three core themes of the twelfth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, i.e., human settlements, water and sanitation. These activities were the twelfth Regional Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean (MINURVI) and the eighth Ibero-American Forum of Ministers of the same sector (La Paz, Bolivia, 5-7 November 2003); the fourteenth meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean (Panama, 20-25 November 2003); and the International Seminar on the Analysis of the Johannesburg Summit Outcomes, organized jointly by the secretariat and the Government of Spain (Santiago, Chile, 17-18 November 2003).

Second World Assembly on Ageing

The secretariat, in conjunction with the Government of Chile and the members of the Inter-Agency Group on Ageing (ECLAC, UNFPA, ILO, PAHO/WHO, IDB and the World Bank), convened the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing (Santiago, Chile, 19-21 November 2003). The Conference provided a forum for analysing the status of older persons in the countries of the region and for defining actions aimed at improving their situation; it was also an opportunity to strengthen cooperation among Governments and among relevant international institutions working in this area.

The countries of the region adopted the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. The general purpose of this agreement is to set the priorities for implementing the Madrid International Plan of Action, adopted at the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held by the United Nations in 2002, which built on the United Nations Principles for Older Persons (independence, participation, care, self-fulfilment and dignity), adopted in 1991, and the Millennium Declaration. The Regional Strategy defines a general goal and several objectives for each of the main issues dealt with at the Conference: older persons and development, fostering health and well-being during old age and creation of an enabling and supportive environment.

Fourth World Conference on Women

In cooperation with the Government of Mexico, the secretariat will convene the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean in Mexico City from 10 to 12 June 2004. At the Conference, member States will review the implementation of the international commitments made in the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, which was adopted in 1994 at the sixth session of the Regional Conference and extended in 2000 under the Lima Consensus; this Programme of Action translates the Beijing Platform for Action into an agenda adapted to the regional context.

The preparations for the ninth session of the Regional Conference consisted of three subregional meetings that took place in Central America (Tegucigalpa, Honduras, 5 and 6 February 2004), the Caribbean (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, 11-13 February 2004) and South America (Brasilia, Brazil, 23 and 24 March 2004). The subregional preparatory meetings were the culmination of a long process of intergovernmental dialogue concerning the assessment carried out by the secretariat and presented in the document "Roads and short cuts towards gender equity in Latin America and the Caribbean". This participatory methodology was highly appreciated by government representatives, since it greatly enhanced the member States' ownership of the assessment presented by the secretariat.

<u>International Conference on Population and Development</u>

The secretariat convened an open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Commission's sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development to review the progress made in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development in the Latin American and Caribbean region (Santiago, Chile, 10 and 11 March 2004). As the basis for that regional appraisal, the secretariat presented the report "Commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development: actions undertaken to implement the Programme of Action of the Conference in Latin America and the Caribbean".

The countries participating in the open-ended meeting adopted a Declaration in which they recognized the steps taken by the countries of the region to make progress in fulfilling the objectives of the Programme of Action and reaffirmed their commitment to the principles, objectives and actions contained in the Programme of Action itself and in the document "Key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development", adopted five years after the Conference. The Declaration also highlighted that the implementation of those commitments was essential for the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration. In addressing broader issues, the countries stated that their populations, economies and societies had been hurt by structural adjustment programmes, heavy debt burdens and inequitable trade practices. They called on the international donor community to increase financial support for the Caribbean subregion's implementation of the Programme of Action.

The open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Commission's sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development was preceded by a Caribbean subregional meeting, which took place in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, on 11 and 12 November 2003.

In the context of population and development issues, the secretariat and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in collaboration with various institutional partners in the region and within the United Nations system, organized the Hemispheric Conference on International Migration: Human Rights and Trafficking in Persons in the Americas (Santiago, Chile, 20-22 November 2002). The Conference reinforced intergovernmental cooperation in the field of international migration and contributed to the identification of mechanisms for protecting and promoting the human rights of migrants and for combating and preventing the traffic in human beings.

(vi) Activities of subsidiary bodies

Twenty-second session of the Committee of the Whole and seventh meeting of the ad hoc working group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI)

The twenty-second session of the Committee of the Whole and the seventh meeting of the ad hoc working group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI) took place in New York on 20 April 2004. At that meeting, the Executive Secretary presented the document "ECLAC: Priorities for Latin America and the Caribbean in the coming years", which reviews the economic and social situation in Latin America and the Caribbean in the past decade and identifies the five major challenges that ECLAC will have to address in the coming years: hemispheric integration, productive development, international migration, social cohesion and sustainable development. He also outlined the main issues that will be addressed in the document which the secretariat is preparing for the thirtieth session of the Commission.

Most delegations endorsed the priorities identified in the ECLAC document and added others, reiterating that the core issues on which the Commission should continue to focus should be economic and social development. They also stressed that ECLAC played a dual role in the region, not only as a think-tank and centre for sharing ideas but also as an operational organization that promoted and implemented actions aimed at solving the problems of the Latin American and Caribbean countries.

All the delegations recognized the importance and relevance of the meeting, which had given the permanent missions to the United Nations of the countries members of ECLAC insight into the substantive work that the Commission was carrying out. They suggested that the Committee of the Whole should meet more frequently. They also pointed out that the representatives of the permanent missions

who participated in the different bodies and committees of the General Assembly would benefit considerably from closer communication with Santiago and more familiarity with the central issues addressed by ECLAC.

Lastly, they proposed enhancing the participation of ECLAC in the meetings and forums of the Economic and Social Council with a view to improving the coordination of the work of the Council's regional and functional commissions.

Nineteenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)

The nineteenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, on 14 and 15 March 2002. The participants examined the progress made in implementing the programme of work for the 2000-2001 biennium and considered the programme of work for the 2002-2003 biennium and the programme of work of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean for the 2004-2005 biennium.

Three main recommendations were adopted at the meeting: that the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean should play a more active role in the review process relating to small island developing States to ensure a balance between environmental, economic and social issues; that the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat should foster stronger participation by its member States and associate member States in the activities of the United Nations system; and that ECLAC should continue to provide adequate resources in support of technical cooperation to member States through the CDCC secretariat.¹³

<u>Eleventh meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation</u> Committee

The eleventh meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee was held in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on 10 April 2003.

The participants in this meeting reviewed the progress made up to 31 March 2003 in implementing the programme of work for the 2002-2003 biennium, as well as the status of projects funded with extrabudgetary resources. The draft programme of work for the 2004-2005 biennium was analysed. A report was presented on the approval process for the CDCC Constituent Declaration. The participants also considered the situation of trade flows between Puerto Rico and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), integration prospects and recent developments relating to the proposal for securing international recognition of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development.¹⁴

Twentieth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)

The twentieth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) was held in Saint Croix, United States Virgin Islands, on 22 and 23 April 2004. The Committee considered the implementation of the programme of work for the 2002-2003 biennium and the progress report on the implementation, up to March 2004, of the programme of work for the 2004-2005 biennium. The subregional secretariat also presented the draft programme of work for the 2006-2007 biennium.

Report of the nineteenth session of CDCC (LC/CAR/G.692/Rev.1).

Report of the eleventh meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) (LC/CAR/G.743).

The Committee reviewed the preparations for the International Meeting for the 10-Year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States; the obstacles to the implementation of the Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society; and the subregional response to the challenges posed by the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA).

<u>First meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC</u>

The first meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 25 and 26 March 2002. The delegations welcomed the progress report on the activities of the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, June 2001-June 2003, as well as the proposals contained in the document "Statistical Conference of the Americas: Modus Operandi", which outlines working methods for enhancing the efficiency of the Conference's work and for making full use of the opportunities provided by this forum for analysing in detail the substantive issues identified by the countries. The ECLAC secretariat also presented a preliminary report on the main issues discussed at the thirty-third session of the United Nations Statistical Commission, held in New York in March 2002.

The Executive Committee agreed to use the Millennium Declaration as a frame of reference for the preparation of the programme of international statistical work, and selected three substantive issues for the second meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC: the public credibility of national statistical institutes, the preparation of directories and the management of data quality in national statistical institutes.¹⁵

Second meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC

The second meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC was held in Panama City, Panama, on 11 and 12 December 2002. On that occasion, the Executive Committee adopted guidelines for the preparation of the programme of international statistical work for Latin America and the Caribbean for the period July 2003 to June 2005 and decided to hold the second meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC in Santiago, Chile, from 18 to 20 June 2003. The Committee also took note with interest of the International Comparison Programme project, which was coordinated at the international level by the World Bank and at the regional level by ECLAC, and instructed the ECLAC secretariat to keep it duly informed of any developments relating to that initiative. ¹⁶

Second meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC

The second meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC was held in Santiago, Chile, from 18 to 20 June 2003. The members of the Conference reviewed the report on the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, June 2001-June 2003. They also adopted the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean

Report of the first meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1721).

Report of the Second Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1832).

for the period July 2003-June 2005. Three substantive issues were addressed: the public credibility of national statistical institutes; the preparation of directories and use of administrative registers as a primary information source and as a framework for surveys and other statistical research; and management geared to ensuring the quality of data produced by national statistical institutes. Lastly, the participants elected the following members to serve on the Executive Committee of the Conference for the period 2003-2005: Bolivia, Brazil, Chile (chair), Panama, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago and United States of America.¹⁷

ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development

The ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development met in Brasilia, Brazil, on 7 May 2002. The Chairman of the Committee reported on the progress achieved with the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development and the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994).

The Committee analysed the situation of the Latin American and Caribbean population, as set out in a working paper prepared by the ECLAC secretariat summarizing the dimensions and origins of sociodemographic vulnerability in the region. The Committee also studied the progress made between May 2000 and May 2002 and the activities planned for the period 2002-2004 with respect to the priority issues identified at its preceding meeting (Mexico, May 2000) and at the open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers (Santiago, Chile, 4 and 5 December 2001). The findings of the Ad Hoc Committee's meeting were reflected in resolution 590(XXIX), "Population and development: priority activities for 2002-2004".

<u>Caribbean subregional meeting to assess the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development 10 years after its adoption</u>

The subregional meeting for the Caribbean was convened to review the implementation in the Caribbean of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, on 11 and 12 November 2003.

The participants in the meeting considered the challenges that Caribbean countries faced in incorporating the issue of population in their development strategies. Those challenges included the need to strengthen institutions and refine data compilation and analysis, the issue of migration, reproductive health and, above all, the fact that the subregion ranked second in the world in terms of HIV infection.

The participants in the meeting adopted a declaration in which they reaffirmed the Caribbean countries' commitment to the principles, goals and actions contained in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and to the key actions for its further implementation, and agreed to continue to take steps to produce information, to provide sexual and reproductive health education and services aimed specifically at young people and to prevent and treat HIV/AIDS.

Report of the Second Meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1939(CEA.2003/10)).

¹⁸ Socio-demographic vulnerability: old and new risks for communities, households and individuals. Summary and conclusions (LC/G.2170(SES.29/16)).

ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development: annotated provisional agenda (LC/G.2169(SES.29/15)).

In the declaration, countries were urged to intensify their efforts to strengthen gender equity and the rights of women; to incorporate demographic elements in sustainable development strategies and in the formulation of public policies and plans; to study the effects of international migration; to continue preparing policies and programmes in support of families in their many forms, including single-parent families; to consider and implement legislation guaranteeing the responsible exercise of reproductive rights; to ensure that health-sector reforms included public policies for the provision of comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services; to redouble efforts to reduce maternal, infant and child morbidity and mortality; to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls; and to give priority to the collection and dissemination of statistical data disaggregated by age, sex, ethnicity and other variables of national interest.

Open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development

The open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development was held in Santiago, Chile, on 10 and 11 March 2004.

It was convened to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development at the national, regional and global levels. The meeting considered a technical report presented by the secretariat on the implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development 10 years after its adoption, and adopted the agenda for the regular meeting of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development to be held during the thirtieth session of the Commission (San Juan, Puerto Rico, 28 June to 2 July 2004).

The participants in the open-ended meeting expressed concern at the adverse social effects of structural adjustment policies, which ranged from the fragmentation of social policies and the heavy burden of external debt servicing to the persistence in the region of high levels of poverty and profound inequalities associated with gender, indigenous origin and ethnic origin, all of which jeopardized the construction of inclusive and equitable development models.

The participants adopted a declaration urging the Latin American and Caribbean countries to take steps to follow up on the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and to accelerate the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the key actions agreed upon five years after the Conference by devoting more national resources to that effort.

In that connection, the Presiding Officers took note with concern of the decline in financial support for the region, and requested the international community to implement the Monterrey Consensus in order to strengthen financial flows to the region and make adequate financing available to the countries for accelerating the implementation of the Programme of Action and the key actions, as part of their efforts to combat poverty and inequality.

Twenty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)

The twenty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of ILPES was held in Brasilia, Brazil, on 8 May 2002, within the framework of the twenty-ninth session of ECLAC. The participants considered the activities report for the period January 2000 to December 2001 as well as

the introduction of new activities in the proposed programme of work for 2002-2003. They adopted the proposal on the preparation of an institutional report, "Overview of public management", which would summarize the Institute's activities. In addition, the member States serving as Presiding Officers considered a proposed agenda for the eleventh session of the Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean and for the twelfth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning. At the end of the meeting, the member States adopted several resolutions covering topics such as the expansion of cooperation activities between the Institute and ministries of foreign affairs, the Latin American Parliament and national parliaments in their countries.²⁰

Eleventh session of the Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean and twelfth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning

The eleventh session of the Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean and the twelfth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning were held on 6 November 2002 in Madrid, Spain. The Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean is an intergovernmental forum established by the States members of ECLAC for sharing experiences and research on strategic planning and public policy administration. In Madrid, ministers and high-level government representatives discussed issues of strategic planning, macrofiscal rules and decentralization, together with programme evaluation, results measurement and performance agreements. The participants in the twelfth meeting of the Regional Council for Planning considered the activities carried out by ILPES in 2002 and its programme orientations for 2003-2006. They also endorsed the note prepared by the Office of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC (LC/IP/R.225) on institutional aspects of ILPES, which specified that the Institute, in addition to carrying out activities in its substantive area of work (focusing on public management), should serve as the Commission's training hub and, as such, should help to disseminate the documents produced by the ECLAC system, particularly those of an institutional nature. At the end of the meeting, the member States adopted various resolutions covering this and other relevant subjects.

<u>Thirty-fourth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin</u> <u>America and the Caribbean</u>

The thirty-fourth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, on 5 and 6 September 2002. The Presiding Officers analysed national machineries for the advancement of women in terms of governance and public policy. ECLAC, through its Women and Development Unit, reported on the activities carried out under the project on democratic governance and gender equality in Latin America and the Caribbean. The participants identified the main issues to be considered at the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in 2004; those issues included poverty, violence, human rights and political participation. The ECLAC secretariat informed the participants that the Government of Mexico had offered to host the ninth session of the Regional Conference, and furnished them with a programme of future regional, subregional and international meetings relating to women and gender, with a view to avoiding duplication of effort and facilitating planning.

²⁰ Informe de actividades del ILPES: enero-diciembre 2002 (LC/IP/L.222).

<u>Thirty-fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin</u> America and the Caribbean

The thirty-fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Havana, Cuba, on 28 and 29 April 2003. At that meeting, the secretariat introduced a report on the ECLAC activities carried out between 1 July 2001 and 31 March 2003 for the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean. The participants also considered the fulfilment of the regional commitments undertaken at the eighth session of the Regional Conference and at the Fourth World Conference on Women.

The Presiding Officers agreed that the ninth session of the Regional Conference should be held in Mexico between June and August 2004 and that it should address two themes, tentatively referred to as poverty, economics and gender equity and empowerment, institution-building and gender equity. In anticipation of the ninth session of the Regional Conference, they requested the secretariat to hold three subregional preparatory meetings: one for Mexico and Central America, one for the Caribbean and one for South America.

The subregional meeting for Mexico and Central America was held in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on 5 and 6 February 2004; the subregional meeting for the Caribbean was held in Kingstown, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, from 11 to 13 February 2004; and the subregional meeting for South America was held in Brasilia, Brazil, on 23 and 24 March 2004.²¹

(vii) Inter-agency activities

During the biennium ECLAC continued to expand and strengthen its collaboration and coordination with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and with other intergovernmental organizations both within and outside the region. Organizations in the first group include the other regional commissions and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (Habitat), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the World Tourism Organization (WTO); those in the second group include the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and subregional development banks, the Central American Integration System, the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), the Latin American Economic System (SELA), the Latin American Parliament, the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), the European Union and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Both the monitoring of regional progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and the regional preparations for and follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits have served as a

Report of the thirty-fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1944(MDM.35/4)).

catalyst for strengthening inter-agency activities throughout the biennium. Since both processes have already been described in the preceding sections, this section will merely touch upon some of the most important features of the Commission's cooperation with other institutions.

First, ECLAC worked with the other regional commissions and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to improve coordination between the commissions' work and that of the rest of the system. The fundamental aim of this effort was to ensure that the United Nations as a whole makes the most of the capacities, comparative advantages and positioning of the regional commissions in their respective regions in order to make the whole system's work more consistent in this regard. Central to this endeavour will be the revival of the practice of holding coordination meetings between United Nations organizations for the Latin American and Caribbean region. The next such meeting will be held in the last quarter of 2004 under the chairmanship of the Deputy Secretary-General of the Organization.

Bilateral collaboration between ECLAC and entities of the United Nations system was diversified during the biennium covered by this report, since the Commission's strong partnership with UNDP and UNFPA is now complemented by other ties of cooperation and new initiatives. In March 2003 ECLAC and the World Tourism Organization signed a cooperation agreement on statistical matters with a view to consolidating cooperation between the two entities for developing tourism satellite accounts in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Similarly, in July 2003, ECLAC and Habitat signed a memorandum of understanding to formalize the cooperation activities that had already been undertaken in the area of applied research and training in human settlements and sustainable urban development. In terms of new initiatives, a memorandum of understanding was signed with WFP in March 2003 for the launch of a project aimed at standardizing and analysing information on hunger, malnutrition and lack of food security; carrying out comparative studies, including one on the countries' prospects for meeting the hunger reduction target of the Millennium Development Goals; and assessing food and nutritional security programmes to promote the dissemination of good practices. In April 2004 ECLAC and WIPO signed a cooperation agreement aimed at increasing their collaboration on research and training activities on issues relating to the links between intellectual property, technological innovation and economic development. ECLAC has worked on two activities with UNESCO: the preparation of a joint document on education management and financing in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will be presented at a high-level seminar to be held within the framework of the thirtieth session of ECLAC; and the conduct of a joint evaluation of the Latin American and Caribbean countries' prospects for meeting the education target of the Millennium Development Goals.

In March 2002, at the Commission's initiative, the international institutions involved directly or indirectly in activities aimed at improving the living conditions of older persons in the region formed the Inter-Agency Group on Ageing. The Group is made up of ECLAC, UNFPA, PAHO, IDB, ILO, the World Bank and the United Nations Programme on Ageing. The central objective of the Inter-Agency Group is to provide integrated support to countries for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, which was adopted at the Second World Assembly on Ageing. During the reporting period, the Inter-Agency Group's agenda focused on the implementation of a series of activities that culminated in the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing: Towards a Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (Santiago, 2003).

ECLAC has continued to collaborate with OAS and IDB within the Tripartite Committee, which provides technical support for the process of establishing the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). Its collaboration with IDB extends to various other thematic areas in which IDB finances activities carried out by ECLAC, particularly with respect to the above-mentioned joint initiatives concerning the

Millennium Development Goals. ECLAC has also consolidated its collaboration with IDB, IMF and the World Bank within the framework of the Regional Seminar on Fiscal Policy, held every year by ECLAC with the collaboration of these institutions, the Ministry of Finance of Chile and, since 2003, OECD.

ECLAC has likewise continued to collaborate with subregional integration bodies, particularly the secretariats of the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the Association of Caribbean States (ACS). ECLAC and SICA carried out a joint project on the costs and benefits of Central American integration, whose findings were presented at the Summit of Presidents of Central America, Belize and the Dominican Republic in December 2003. The heads of State decided that the SICA secretariat, with the support of ECLAC, should carry out a comprehensive consultation process whose outcome would serve as an input for the decisions to be taken at their next summit with respect to the renewal of the development agenda and subregional integration. At the request of ACS, ECLAC prepared a document entitled "The main trends in trade, trade policy and integration agreements in the countries of the Association of Caribbean States". Presented initially at the twelfth meeting of the ACS Special Committee on Trade Development and External Economic Relations (March 2003), this document was subsequently published with support from the SELA secretariat.

In conjunction with the National Energy Commission of Chile, ECLAC held a workshop in December 2003 on the formation of common electricity markets, with a view to bringing together experts from different multilateral organizations in Europe and Latin America to analyse the European Union's experience in this regard and to study proposals for electricity integration under the Initiative for Regional Infrastructure Integration in South America (IIRSA). This event was attended by representatives of the Andean Development Corporation (ADC), the Regional Electrical Integration Commission (CIER), the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), the European Union and the Regional Association of Oil and Natural Gas Companies in Latin America and the Caribbean (ARPEL).

ECLAC has also maintained contacts with other intergovernmental forums. In April 2004 it supported a joint effort by the Latin American Parliament's Commission on Energy and Mines and the non-governmental organization Sustainable Southern Cone Programme to organize a preparatory seminar, held at ECLAC headquarters, for the International Conference for Renewable Energies. At that event, public policies on the use of clean and renewable energies in the region were analysed with a view to generating greater political will in that area. The seminar was attended by parliamentarians from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Efforts were made during the reporting period to establish closer links with academic institutions, non-governmental organizations and other civil-society entities in the context of the Commission's programme of work. In particular, collaboration agreements were signed with various universities in countries members of ECLAC, including both countries in the region and developed countries. Among these institutions were the University of Morón (Argentina), Alcalá de Henares University (Spain), the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain), the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard University (United States) and the University of Texas at Austin (United States). Similarly, in November 2002 the secretariat signed a framework cooperation agreement with the Latin American Association of Development Organizations (ALOP) to build the capacity of networks of non-governmental organizations in the region and to improve the dissemination of ECLAC studies among social and community leaders in the region.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ACTIVITIES

A. SUBPROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

ECLAC PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE FOR THE 2002-2003 BIENNIUM

ECLAC programme performance for the 2002-2003 biennium is summarized in two tables showing the results achieved in terms of final outputs, and is described in more detail under each subprogramme.

The first table concerns substantive activities (publications, meetings of experts, intergovernmental meetings, technical material (databases, computer software) and information services and material (booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, and information kits)); the second covers operational or technical cooperation activities (technical assistance missions, training courses, seminars and workshops and field projects).

As shown in table 1, the overall implementation rate for mandated outputs was 93%.

Of the total scheduled outputs, only 2% were not completed because it was considered necessary to eliminate them for various reasons. In some cases, they became irrelevant following unforeseen changes in the region; in others, they were eliminated in response to specific requests from end users.

Of the total planned activities for 2002-2003, 5% were not completed within the biennium and were carried over into the 2004-2005 biennium. Most of these outputs are already at the editing and publication stage.

With regard to the operational activities listed in table 2, financed for the most part with extrabudgetary resources, 652 technical assistance missions were conducted in countries of the region; 146 courses were organized, attended by 7,429 people; and 59 projects, financed with extrabudgetary funds, are being implemented.

Table 1

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE, AT THE OUTPUT LEVEL, OF SUBPROGRAMMES LISTED IN THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE 2002-2003 BIENNIUM

SUBSTANTIVE ACTIVITIES

	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates*	
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislatio	on Secretaria	t Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation	67	5	0	7	78	0	0	1	99	99
Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development	29	2	3	25	57	1	1	0	97	98
Macroeconomic policies and growth	48	3	0	0	51	0	0	0	100	100
Social development and equity	21	0	2	18	38	0	3	0	96	93
Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development	23	0	0	0	15	1	5	2	70	70
Population and development	28	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	100	100
Planning of public administration	39	7	0	0	40	0	6	0	87	87
Environment and human settlements	25	2	4	23	53	0	0	1	97	98
Natural resources and infrastructure	46	0	0	12	53	0	3	2	89	91
Statistics and economic projections	52	2	4	0	55	0	3	0	95	95
Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America	58	0	0	3	58	3	0	0	100	100
Subregional activities in the Caribbean	94	0	0	29	98	10	7	8	84	88
Total	530	21	13	117	624	15	28	14	93	94

The columns in tables 1 and 2 have condensed headings, which are explained below:

Table 1

Programmed: Outputs that appear in the proposed programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium, including those financed with extrabudgetary resources.

Implemented: Activities/outputs that were completed as programmed and delivered to the intended users during the biennium under review.

Reformulated: Activities/outputs that were completed and delivered to the intended users but differ from the description in the programme narrative contained in the programme budget. An output is considered to have been reformulated if it continues to address the same subject matter of the originally programmed output and to cater to the same intended users. The new description of each reformulated output should be reflected, along with the reasons for the reformulation.

Because the ECLAC programme of work is adopted two years in advance, certain outputs have to be modified to meet the requirements and reflect the priorities specified by the ad hoc working group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI) relating to the reform of the United Nations and its impact on ECLAC, whose mandate was renewed by the Commission in its resolution 589(XXIX), adopted at its twenty-ninth session (Brasilia, May 2002).

Postponed: An output is considered to have been postponed to the next biennium if it is not delivered to the intended users during the current biennium. The reasons for the postponement of an output should be reflected in the report.

Terminated: Outputs that will not be delivered to the intended users during the current biennium and which have not been postponed to the next biennium. The reasons for terminating an output should be reflected in the report.

- (i) Outputs are terminated either by a legislative decision or at the discretion of programme managers, as set out in rule 106.2(b) of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation. Programme managers may exercise their discretion to terminate outputs under the following circumstances:
 - (a) In cases where it is evident that a certain output duplicates another intended for the same users;
 - (b) In cases of changing circumstances which render a specific subject matter obsolete or irrelevant;
 - (c) In cases where resources were not made available on time during the biennium and it was not deemed appropriate to postpone the output to the next biennium because it would lose its relevance and effectiveness.
- (ii) In each of the above cases, adequate explanations should be provided. In the event that the terminated output falls under a subprogramme designated as a priority in General Assembly resolution 53/206, an explanation should be given as to why it was not possible to reformulate or postpone the output or to redeploy resources from lower-priority activities.

Additional outputs: Refers to two types of outputs implemented during the biennium in addition to those programmed. They are as follows:

- (i) Added by legislation: Outputs added by a legislative decision of the specialized body that oversees the programme of work subsequent to the adoption by the General Assembly of the 2002-2003 programme budget.
- (ii) Added at the initiative of the secretariat: Outputs added in response to general legislation for programmatic reasons.

- With respect to (i) above, the legislative authority and the intergovernmental body which took the decision should be specified, along with an exact description of the output, an identifier and the work-months utilized. In the event that the output was specifically required by the legislative authority, a statement of programme budget implications should be annexed.
- As for (ii) above, programme managers can introduce additional outputs for programmatic reasons by using resources released from postponements and/or terminations or to enhance the attainment of the objectives of the subprogramme, extrabudgetary resources or the savings accruing from more efficient utilization of the resources appropriated. The reasons for adding outputs should be indicated.

Implementation rates: The percentage of the programme described in the budget for the 2002-2003 biennium that was implemented. This ratio is represented by the number of outputs completed as planned expressed as a percentage of the total number of outputs provided for in the programme budget.

Mandated: (programmed+carried over+added by legislation) (Implemented+reformulated) - (additional outputs initiated by secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).

Total: (programmed+carried over+added by legislation+additional outputs initiated by programme managers) (Implemented+reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+additional outputs initiated by secretariat).

Table 2

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE, AT THE OUTPUT LEVEL, OF SUBPROGRAMMES LISTED IN THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE 2002-2003 BIENNIUM

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

	Advisory services			Tı	aining	Field projects		
•	Requests received	Requests implemented	Number of missions	Number of courses	Number of participants	Continuing from 2000-2001	New	Implemented
Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation	19	19	9	0	0	0	0	0
Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development	77	77	77	18	1 432	6	2	8
Macroeconomic policies and growth	7	7	7	0	0	2	1	3
Social development and equity	14	14	30	3	420	3	0	3
Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development	18	18	22	14	1 196	2	2	4
Population and development	41	41	41	15	365	8	9	17
Planning of public administration	9	7	19	16	528	0	1	1
Environment and human settlements	33	29	38	32	2 482	0	5	5
Natural resources and infrastructure	85	85	115	14	163	2	2	4
Statistics and economic projections	34	34	33	2	28	0	1	1
Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America	272	272	229	18	400	4	6	10
Subregional activities in the Caribbean	51	50	32	14	415	3	0	3
Total	660	653	652	146	7 429	30	29	59

Table 2

This table covers the operational activities that were carried out. Since these activities were financed mainly with extrabudgetary resources, their implementation was subject to the availability of such funding. The column headings in this table are as follows:

Requests received: The number of requests for technical assistance received from ECLAC member countries during the 2002-2003 biennium.

Requests implemented: The number of cases in which ECLAC responded to requests for technical assistance.

Number of missions: The number of technical assistance missions carried out by ECLAC staff in countries of the region in response to requests received from Governments of member countries.

Number of courses: The number of training courses organized by ECLAC divisions in Santiago, at subregional headquarters and at national offices.

Number of participants: The number of people who attended courses conducted by ECLAC.

Continuing from 2000-2001: The number of projects initiated in 2000-2001 whose implementation was continued in 2002-2003.

Implemented: The number of projects completed by ECLAC during the biennium.

SUBPROGRAMME 1: LINKAGES WITH THE GLOBAL ECONOMY, REGIONAL INTEGRATION AND COOPERATION

This subprogramme includes both the activities conducted by the Division of International Trade and Integration and the ECLAC office in Washington, D.C., and the activities relating to financing for development carried out by the Special Studies Unit.

Division of International Trade and Integration

During the 2002-2003 biennium, the Division of International Trade and Integration, the main body responsible for activities under this subprogramme, concentrated on the following areas: (a) development of subregional, regional and hemispheric integration; (b) new forms of linkage between the region's economies and the global economy; (c) harmonization and convergence of integration schemes; and (d) the impact of trade on selected groups.

Activities in the first of these areas were conducted to strengthen the decision-making capacity of institutions in member countries in order to generate concrete progress in the field of subregional, regional and hemispheric integration. Within the framework of the IDB/ECLAC/OAS Tripartite Committee, which provides technical support to the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) initiative, the Division, in close coordination with the ECLAC national office in Washington, D.C., reinforced its assistance to the negotiating groups by participating in the meetings of the Negotiating Group on Competition Policy as lead agency and in the analysis of different aspects of trade in services. The Division prepared special reports at the request of the Negotiating Group. The document "Economic Indicators of Latin America and the Caribbean" (LC/R.2106) was prepared for the Eighth Ministerial Meeting of FTAA (Miami, 17-21 November 2003), where it was circulated in both Spanish and English. The Division provided technical assistance to member States in building their negotiating capacity. Regarding the process of regional integration, the Division assisted member States in employing an approach that incorporates a concept of integration that goes beyond cooperation at the border to include domestic policy measures and tools, such as macroeconomic coordination, services, competition policy, procedures and verification of rules of origin, sanitary and phytosanitary measures and trade facilitation. In this connection, the Division was deeply involved in different areas concerning the improvement of the countries' participation in international flows of goods, services, capital, technology and labour. The results of this involvement, although difficult to assess, can be observed in the important role that Latin American countries played during the Fifth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO), held in Cancún, Mexico, from 10 to 14 September 2003, where the countries of the region were able to hold negotiation positions and to effectively defend their national trade interests.

Work in the second area involved supporting the countries of the region in developing and consolidating new forms of linkage with the international economy in the context of globalization and open regionalism. To this end, the Division prepared the Commission's annual publication on international trade, trade policy and regional integration, entitled *Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy* (2001-2002 and 2002-2003 editions), consisting of various chapters and statistical information, and covering a large number of topics, including international trade trends, information technology, export barriers, market access, regional integration, trade negotiations and multilateral relations. With the 2001-2002 Internet edition, a new online readership survey was introduced to assess the applicability and usefulness of the information and analyses provided therein, with highly positive results. Also noteworthy were the publications "Main trade trends, trade policy and integration in the Greater Caribbean" (LC/CAR/G.756), prepared jointly with the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the

Caribbean and presented at the ninth meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Association of Caribbean States, held in Panama in November 2003, and "La calidad de la inserción internacional de América Latina y el Caribe en el comercio mundial" (LC/L.1897-P). The Division intensified its efforts to provide member States with studies and statistics on services, with emphasis on the development of new kinds of services, particularly those incorporated in the production chain.

Activities in the third area aimed at the gradual improvement, harmonization and convergence of the numerous integration schemes, with a view to helping Governments in the region to better understand the domestic implications of the international commitments undertaken in bilateral, regional and multilateral trade negotiations. This involved the preparation of numerous documents containing policy recommendations to strengthen the international competitiveness of the Latin American and Caribbean countries in areas relating to trade promotion, product diversification and export markets. Moreover, the Division of International Trade and Integration will be responsible for the execution of an interregional project to be carried out jointly with the other four United Nations regional commissions, entitled "Interregional partnership for promoting trade as an engine of growth through knowledge management and information and communication technologies".

The Division also paid close attention to improving the analysis of the impact of trade on selected groups, placing special emphasis on the need to incorporate developing countries' small- and medium-sized enterprises into the area of e-commerce. In the context of trade facilitation, trade logistics and e-commerce, the Division published the documents "E-Business Innovation and Customs Renovation for Supply-Chain Management" (LC/L.2035-P) and "E-commerce Environment and Trade Promotion for Latin America: Policy Implications from East Asian and Advanced Economies' Experiences" (LC/L.1918-P), and implemented the project "Comparative Study on East Asian and Latin American Information Technology (IT) Industries", in collaboration with the Institute of Developing Economies of the Japan External Trade Organization (IDE/JETRO).

The execution of the Division's activities led to the publication of numerous documents under the ECLAC *Comercio internacional series* (whereas the national offices of ECLAC published under the *Estudios y perspectivas series*), the holding of meetings and seminars and the provision of technical assistance to various countries in the region.

Special Studies Unit

The activities carried out by the Special Studies Unit, which reports to the Office of the Executive Secretary, were centred on the issues of financing for development, social protection, macroeconomics and poverty.

In the area of financing, the Unit contributed to discussions on the conditions in which the transition from pay-as-you-go pension systems to fully funded ones in Latin America can become a catalyst for capital-market development and a source of long-term financial resources. The discussions emphasized the importance of the mechanism for financing fiscal responsibilities in the transition, and explored the conditions in which the accumulated funds could contribute to financing for development. The discussions were conducted with experts from Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama and Paraguay and were coordinated with the International Federation of Pension Fund Administrators, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Inter-American Center for Social Secutiry Studies (CIESS).

Technical cooperation projects provided support for a regional consultation on financing for development and served as a follow-up to the recommendations of the Monterrey Consensus, which emerged from the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, in March 2002. In different phases, these projects focused on the implications of the very high concentration of technological progress in developed countries; the greater macroeconomic vulnerability of the developing countries; and the contrast between high capital mobility and the restrictions imposed on the international movement of labour, specially unskilled workers.

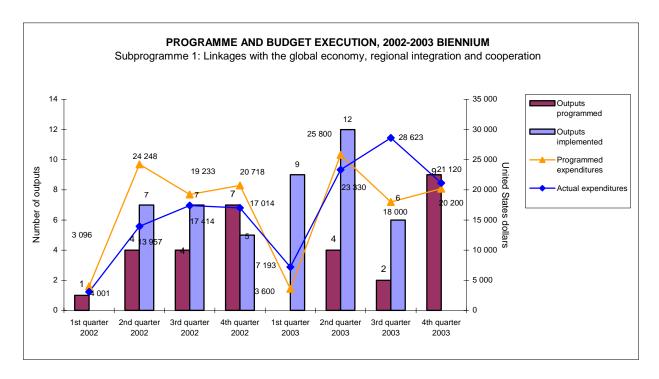
The projects also involved the analysis of the policies and institutional developments needed to enhance the opportunities offered by globalization in terms of the Latin American and Caribbean region's access to private and official international financing. In particular, they looked at ways in which regional and subregional institutions could contribute to the countries' development by facilitating easy and stable access to the international financial system, in particular by reducing financial volatility and vulnerability to contagion. These results were discussed in regional seminars with the participation of national experts.

Two projects were carried out in support of underdeveloped sectors in the region, one on saving in low-income sectors and the other on microfinance. The projects included comparative case studies which were published under the *Financiamiento del desarrollo series* and presented at an international seminar on lessons for Latin America with regard to saving in low-income sectors in the region and Europe, held in La Paz, Bolivia, in June 2002.

Technical cooperation projects in the areas of social protection, macroeconomics and poverty were aimed at analysing the management of public policies in a context of changing economic patterns as a consequence of globalization, privatization and deregulation. Comparisons were made between experiences in Europe (Ireland) and Latin America (Central America, Mexico, Argentina and Chile) and discussions were held on the status of social protection programmes. In particular, the effects of macroeconomic policies and their impact in terms of employment, poverty and equity, social security reforms, fiscal reforms and the management of fiscal accounts were analysed. In addition to being disseminated through publications, workshops and seminars —the most notable of which was a forum on macroeconomic policy and social vulnerability, held in Santiago, Chile, in November 2002—the outputs are being disseminated through two institutional networks: an annual course on social security financing and a panel on social protection financing within the annual ECLAC seminar on fiscal policy.

The above-mentioned results were achieved through the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium. The main features of programme execution are summarized below.

The following figure shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2002-2003 biennium.



The following table shows the actual programme performance of the Division of International Trade and Integration, the ECLAC office in Washington, D.C., and the Special Studies Unit in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final substantive outputs: publications, meetings of experts, intergovernmental meetings, technical material (databases, computer software) and information services and material (booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits).

A	Actual progr	-			to program : substantiv	0	commitm	ents for th	ie	
	Plan	ined	Additio	ons by	Implem	entation	progra	ares from ammed itments		entation es ^a
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation	67	5	0	7	78	0	0	1	99	99

The following table shows actual programme performance under subprogramme 1 in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final operational outputs: technical assistance missions, training courses, seminars and workshops and field projects.

A	actual progr	-			programm perational o	0	nmitment	s for the		
	Plar	nned	Additi	ons by	Implem	entation	progra	ares from ammed aitments	Implement rates	
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation	18	0	0	3	21	0	0	0	100	100

Lastly, the table below summarizes total actual programme performance under subprogramme 1.

Summ	ary of actua	l programn	ne performa	nce unde	r subprogra	mme 1 for t	he 2002-2	003 bienn	ium	
	Plar	nned	Additio	ns by	Implem	entation	progra	ares from ammed itments	Impleme rate	
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation	85	5	0	10	99	0	0	1	99	99

^a Implementation rates: "mandated" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation; "total" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation and the secretariat.

SUBPROGRAMME 2: PRODUCTIVE, TECHNOLOGICAL AND ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT

During the 2002-2003 biennium, the Division of Production, Productivity and Management established and achieved the following three interrelated expected accomplishments for this subprogramme: (i) to enhance policy-making and/or policy-review capabilities for improving competitiveness and restructuring production sectors; (ii) to improve the design of institutional regulatory frameworks and policy instruments; and (iii) to increase the availability of new information, studies and technical support from the Commission to policy makers in the region.

In connection with enhancing policy-making and/or policy-review capabilities for improving competitiveness and restructuring production sectors, 237 missions, representing 120% of the target set for the subprogramme for 2002-2003, were requested and accomplished by the end of 2003, with wide coverage of the countries and stakeholders in the region and extensive feedback on client satisfaction. Objective milestones are further detailed in accomplishments 2 and 3 below. The purchase and distribution of the Competitive Analysis of Nations (CAN) software reached 360% of the target level, demonstrating the high demand for the subprogramme's productivity and competitiveness software package; the World Bank's signature of a third co-publishing agreement is further evidence of its impact. In both cases, the target audiences were policy makers, opinion leaders, the business community and specialized researchers and academics. Capacity-building and training were carried out by means of seminars and conferences, working groups and postgraduate courses. In 2002 and 2003 the Division developed and managed the summer school for postgraduate students on economic development in Latin America, held at the Commissions's Santiago headquarters.

In relation to improving the design of institutional regulatory frameworks and policy instruments, 77 technical assistance missions were carried out (300% of target). The clients were industry and smalland medium-sized firms; the thematic areas were clusters, rural development and agriculture, education sector reform, statistical capacity-building and the development of an information society. These efforts resulted in: (i) consensus on a regional strategy for the development of an information society (Bávaro Declaration); (ii) support to the Governments of Colombia, Bolivia and Brazil in determining priorities for industrial policy; (iii) support for the creation of a Permanent Observatory for Employment and Business Dynamics in the Ministry of Labour of Argentina; (iv) development of socio-economic indicator systems and capacity-building for implementing and evaluating desertification policies in Argentina, Brazil and Chile; (v) development, in the Division's capacity as a member for two years of the International Task Team on Statistical Capacity-Building, of a global set of guidelines that is being used internationally and by individual countries to gauge their statistical systems, which is a key input for productive development; (vi) advice to the Government of Mexico on cluster policies, culminating in the Second Latin American Congress on Clusters, held in Mexico in November 2003, and advice to the Government of Chile on mining and eco-tourism, which resulted in a national dialogue on mining and development and a project in southern Chile to network eco-tourism enterprises; (vii) capacity-building for the negotiation of regional agreements such as FTAA, through workshops and seminars for government officials in the region; (viii) technical assistance on the mobilization of local resources through micro-credit and the management of urban services with a view for developing performance indicators and setting up a client evaluation system in the city of Buenos Aires; and (ix) technical support to Andean institutions affiliated with CALZANDINO (the andean agreement for the leather and footwear industry) and the Corporation for the Development of the Leather, Footwear and Leatherwork industries.

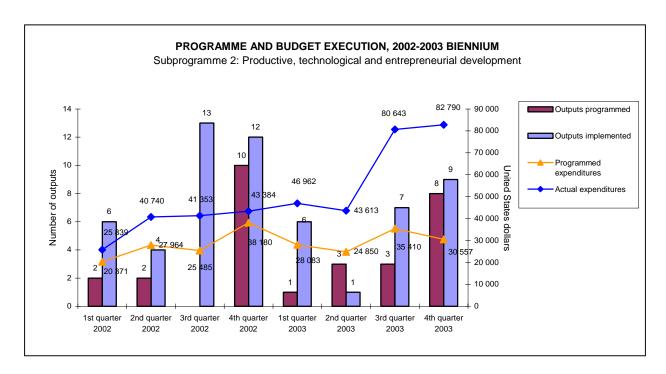
In 2002 and 2003, the Division maintained its tradition of producing relevant policy research relating to its mission, in quantities well over the target level and available in Spanish and English. The diffusion and impact of this work was greater than ever before because of the important supporting infrastructure provided by the ECLAC Internet portal, whereby all ECLAC publications and research papers were made available for browsing and downloading, along with their supporting databases and PowerPoint presentations. The annual flagship publication *Foreign Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean* was downloaded 300,000 times (all years/all parts). The 2002 report was downloaded 71,659 times. The 45 non-recurrent publications produced during the biennium were downloaded (in whole or in part) 372,433 times. Another 26 articles were published externally, attesting to the high quality of the policy-oriented research undertaken in the Division. Since policy-making should build upon a solid knowledge base, the Division's contributions have been aimed at informing policy and opinion makers of the areas that future policies should address.

In short, the Division has been very active in promoting ideas, discussing policy alternatives, providing hands-on technical assistance in putting policy ideas into practice and providing much demanded applications software to facilitate the work of the Division's clients. These accomplishments took place at a time when the need for active policy-making in relation to competitiveness and productivity has been gaining global importance.

Lastly, the Division was actively involved in the preparation of the document *Productive development in open economies*, which will be submitted to the next session of the Commission. This included the development of the analytical framework for the document, the evaluation of the region's recent economic performance and the assessment of recent policy practices in the areas of regulation, education and vocational training, innovation and industrial and enterprise development.

The above-mentioned results were achieved through the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium. The main features of programme execution are summarized below.

The following figure shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2002-2003 biennium.



The following table shows actual programme performance under subprogramme 2, implemented by the Division of Production, Productivity and Management, in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final substantive outputs: publications, meetings of experts, intergovernmental meetings, technical material (databases, computer software) and information services and material (booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits).

	Actual progr	-			programm ubstantive o		mmitmen	ts for the		
	Plar	nned	Additi	ons by	Implem	entation	progr	ares from ammed itments	Implemen rates	
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development	29	2	3	25	57	1	1	0	97	98

The following table shows actual programme performance under subprogramme 2, in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final operational outputs: technical assistance missions, training courses, seminars and workshops, and field projects.

	Actual prog	ramme perfor the 2			to progran : operationa		commitm	ents				
Planned Additions by Implementation commitments rates ^a												
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total		
Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development	63	0	0	70	133	0	0	0	100	100		

Lastly, the table below summarizes total actual programme performance under subprogramme 2.

Summ	ary of actua	l programn	ne perfori	nance un	der subprog	ramme 2 fo	r the 2002	-2003 bienı	nium	
	Plar	nned	Additi	ons by	Implem	entation	progr	ures from rammed nitments	Implemen rates	
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development	92	2	3	95	190	1	1	0	99	99

^a Implementation rates: "mandated" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation; "total" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation and the secretariat.

SUBPROGRAMME 3: MACROECONOMIC POLICIES AND GROWTH

During the 2002-2003 biennium, the Economic Development Division, which is responsible for this subprogramme, concentrated on the following areas of activity: (i) macroeconomic policies and economic performance in the region; (ii) macroeconomic policies in the context of regional integration and cooperation; (iii) the gender dimension of macroeconomic policy; and (iv) macroeconomic policies for achieving long-term growth and social equity.

With respect to the first area, the Division, in accordance with the work programme established for the biennium, continued to report on the macroeconomic performance of the region as a whole and of individual countries in the flagship publications *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean* (including *Current conditions and outlook*) (2001-2002 and 2002-2003 editions) and *Preliminary overview of the economics of Latin America and the Caribbean* (2002 and 2003 editions), using inputs from the Statistics and Economic Projections Division of ECLAC. The number of countries covered increased in the *Preliminary Overview*; in particular, the coverage of the Caribbean subregion improved substantially. Both documents also include updated and detailed data that paint a more accurate picture of the economic situation in the region. A more forward-looking approach has been adopted in presenting content in an attempt to assess the outlook for the region in the near future. Projections for the following year were introduced in the *Preliminary Overview*, while a substantial effort was made in the *Economic Survey* to provide a consistent and comprehensive analysis of trends in the countries over the whole year.

Technical assistance in this area was also provided to the Governments of Bolivia, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico and Paraguay, particularly on issues of fiscal reform. Also noteworthy were the organization of the fourteenth regional seminar on fiscal policy and a complementary workshop emphasizing the e-fiscal area, held in Santiago, Chile, in January 2002, and the international conference Towards Regional Currency Areas?, held in Santiago, Chile, in March 2002. During the period, ECLAC was able to obtain funding for the execution of two new projects: "E-Fiscal Concepts and Issues in Latin America" and "Euro-Latin American Research of Macroeconomic Coordination Experts".

The macroeconomic dimension of regional integration is another activity area highly valued by member countries. In this respect, ECLAC has consolidated a coordination position through a network (REDIMA) of macroeconomists from national and regional institutions interested in studying and promoting open regional integration in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Commission's macroeconomic dialogue network, implemented with financial support from the European Union, has taken on an important role as a forum for discussion and the exchange of experiences among high-ranking government officials on macroeconomic issues linked to the integration process.

Efforts were undertaken with government officials and other decision-makers in the region to increase their awareness of the need to include the gender perspective in those areas of policy-making where it could have a significant impact on the economic context. These efforts were evinced, most prominently by the Division's active participation in a variety of meetings addressing the above-mentioned issues.

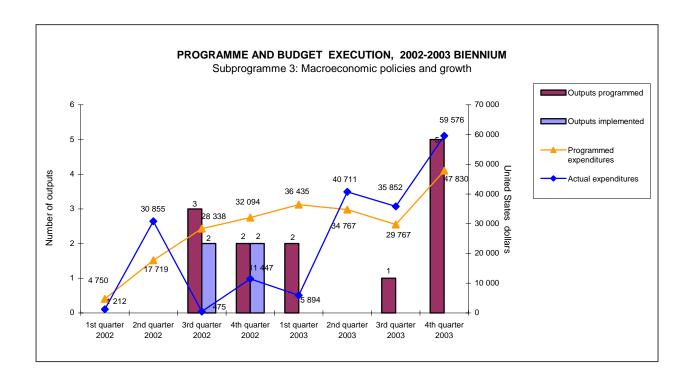
With the aim of increasing countries' capacity to design macroeconomic policies that are more consistent with the objectives of long-term growth and with the goal of social equity, the Division, in response to requests from Governments in the region, focused its attention on the analysis of short-term issues related to external and internal macroeconomic imbalances, mainly through technical assistance

missions and relevant policy research. The Division continued to address emerging key structural issues in the region, mainly through its publications on issues of interest to member Governments. In particular it considered economic growth, employment, the development challenges faced by landlocked countries and the coordination of macroeconomic policies. The Division also organized meetings of experts and carried out collaboration activities requested by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC. Similarly, it coordinated activities with other multilateral organizations such as the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, exchanging views on how to tackle low growth in the region. In this context, particular mention should be made to the organization of the international seminar "Latin American Growth: Why So Slow?", held in Santiago, Chile, in December 2003. These efforts illustrate the continuing relevance of the research carried out by the Economic Development Division, not only at the policy level but also in terms of its conceptual framework.

Lastly, the Economic Development Division continued to issue working papers under the ECLAC *Macroeconomía del desarrollo series* (whereas the national offices of ECLAC published under the *Estudios y perspectivas series*), and carried out valuable studies in the above-mentioned areas, financed under extrabudgetary projects.

The above-mentioned results were achieved through the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium. The main features of programme execution are summarized below.

The following figure shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2002-2003 biennium.



The following table shows the actual programme performance under subprogramme 3, implemented by the Economic Development Division, in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final substantive outputs: publications, meetings of experts, intergovernmental meetings, technical material (databases, computer software) and information services and material (booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits).

A	Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: substantive outputs												
Planned Additions by Implementation commitments rates a													
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total			
Macroeconomic policies and growth	48	3	0	0	51	0	0	0	100	100			

The following table shows actual programme performance under subprogramme 3 in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final operational outputs: technical assistance missions, training courses, seminars and workshops, and field projects.

A	Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: operational outputs												
	Plan	ined	Additio	ons by	Implem	entation	progra	ares from ammed itments		entation es ^a			
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total			
Macroeconomic policies and growth	11	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	100	100			

Lastly, the table below summarizes total actual programme performance under subprogramme 3.

Summ	ary of actua	al programi	ne perfori	nance un	der subprog	gramme 3 fo	r the 2002	2-2003 bie	nnium	
	Plan	ined	Additi	ons by	Implem	entation	progra	ammed itments	Implem rat	entation es ^a
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Macroeconomic policies and growth	59	3	0	0	62	0	0	0	100	100

Implementation rates: "mandated" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation; "total" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation and the secretariat.

SUBPROGRAMME 4: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EQUITY

During the 2002-2003 biennium, the Social Development Division, which is responsible for this subprogramme, concentrated on the following areas: (a) social policies targeting underprivileged groups; (b) follow-up of the situation in Latin America and the Caribbean in different aspects of social development; (c) the capacity of national social institutions to manage social policies, programmes and projects; (d) drug abuse prevention; (e) mainstreaming gender issues in social policies; and (f) a rights-based approach to development.

During the biennium, efforts were focused on strengthening the countries' capacity to design and implement policies that target the most underprivileged social sectors so as to increase the quality of human and social capital, foster social equity and reduce poverty, with a focus on overcoming gender inequality. In this respect, the Division is also providing technical support to the Third Regional Conference in Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, to be held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in the second half of 2004. For this purpose, since mid-2003 it has been preparing a substantive document on the situation and prospects of the poor in Latin American and Caribbean countries, including updated policies for poverty reduction in those countries.

In the context of the follow-up of the region's social development situation, the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 editions of the *Social Panorama of Latin America* were published. New features in these editions include the evaluation of progress made and difficulties experienced by countries in the region in their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals in social areas such as extreme poverty reduction, education and health. The most recent edition of the *Social Panorama* analyses a number of issues relating to the Goals. Three of the document's five chapters —on poverty, hunger and gender-based inequalities— assess the Latin American countries' chances of achieving the targets set by the States Members of the United Nations for 2015. As a consequence of the need to construct indicators for measuring poverty and equity, a growing number of countries in the region are providing ECLAC with household survey data for systematization and processing. Also, the progress made in including the gender dimension has been demonstrated in the *Social Panorama*, the last two editions of which (2001-2002 and 2002-2003) include a section or a whole chapter that applies the gender perspective for a more comprehensive, effective and clearly-defined social analysis.

Moreover, social-policy-oriented research gave rise to the publication of three books entitled "El capital social campesino en la gestión del desarrollo rural. Díadas, equipos, puentes y escaleras" (LC/G.2185-P), "Meeting the Millennium Poverty Reduction Targets in Latin America and the Caribbean" (LC/G.2188-P), and "Social Capital and Poverty Reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean: towards a new paradigm" (LC/G.2194-P), *Libros de la CEPAL* Nos. 69, 70 and 71, respectively. In addition, a large number of documents published under the ECLAC *Políticas sociales series* included diagnoses and proposals in different areas of social development. Within the framework of the Italian-funded Social Capital and Poverty Reduction project, research and diffusion on the social capital approach and concept were undertaken through seminars and workshops, aimed at improving poverty-oriented social programmes in Latin America and the Caribbean and training public officials in charge of poverty-reduction programmes. Also, an online network of researchers and social practitioners was established.

Within the framework of the GTZ/ECLAC regional project "Policy strategies for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean: promotion of a socially sustainable economic policy (Equity II)", substantial research has been undertaken, with results already published, in relation to new

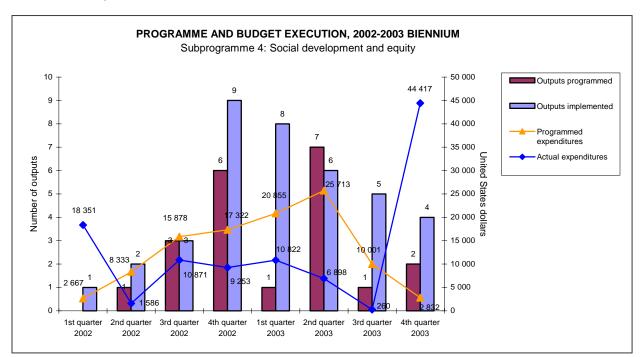
trends in social stratification within the region and the most recent data relating to ethnically-based social inequalities. The Division also continued its collaboration with the Integrated Project Formulation, Evaluation and Monitoring System (SIFEM), providing Governments of the region with a methodological tool for use as a guide in the design, implementation and follow-up of social policy. In addition, the Division started to develop an Internet directory of social institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean (DISALC), which is a shared inter-agency mechanism for electronic consultation on topics relating to housing, education, labour, health and social security. It is currently being used for social policy coordination and the sharing of experiences by more than 700 institutions and officials specializing in issues of social policy, poverty and equity.

In relation to drug abuse prevention policies, ECLAC has continued to develop a comprehensive vision by incorporating socio-economic and cultural aspects into its analyses, as well as the way in which the drug problem impacts on the more vulnerable sectors of society. Also, the Division provided support to the Government of Chile for the implementation of a comprehensive system of specialized information for the National Drug Control Council.

Lastly, in an effort to promote and consolidate a human-rights-based approach to development, the Human Rights Unit, which is part of the Social Development Division, in collaboration with the Office of the Regional Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, analysed the potential for strengthening the linkages between social policies and economic, social and cultural rights, and the role of these rights in peace and human security issues.

The above-mentioned results were achieved through the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium. The main features of programme execution are summarized below.

The following figure shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2002-2003 biennium.



The following table shows the actual programme performance of the Social Development Division in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium in terms of final substantive outputs: publications, meetings of experts, intergovernmental meetings, technical material (databases, computer software) and information services and material (booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits).

A	Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: substantive outputs												
	Plan	ıned	Additi	ons by	Implem	entation	progra	ares from ammed itments		entation es ^a			
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total			
Social development and equity	21	0	2	18	38	0	3	0	96	93			

The following table shows actual programme performance under subprogramme 4 in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium in terms of final operational outputs: technical assistance missions, training courses, seminars and workshops and field projects.

A	Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: operational outputs												
	Plan	ined	Additio	ons by	Implem	entation	progra	ares from ammed itments		entation es ^a			
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total			
Social development and equity	21	0	0	2	23	0	0	0	100	100			

Lastly, the table below summarizes total actual programme performance under subprogramme 4.

Summ	ary of actua	al programi	ne perfori	nance un	der subprog	gramme 4 fo	r the 200	2-2003 bie	nnium	
	Plan	ined	Additi	ons by	Implem	entation	progra	ares from ammed itments		entation es ^a
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Social development and equity	42	0	2	20	61	0	3	0	93	95

^a Implementation rates: "Mandated" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation; "total" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation and the secretariat.

SUBPROGRAMME 5: MAINSTREAMING THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

During the 2002-2003 biennium, the work carried out by the Women and Development Unit, which is responsible for the execution of this subprogramme, focused on the following areas: (i) strengthening of institutional mechanisms in countries of the region for reducing the gender gap in various spheres of development; and (ii) increasing and systematizing the incorporation of the gender perspective into national sectoral institutions as well as in the main activities conducted under ECLAC subprogrammes and projects.

Activities in the first of these areas centred on the follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean and to the Platform for Action, and were focused on the organization and holding of the thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, Chile, 5 and 6 September 2002 and Havana, Cuba, 28 and 29 April 2003, respectively). By agreements 9 and 5 adopted at these meetings, the countries welcomed the methodology and modality of technical assistance currently being implemented in the region by the ECLAC Women and Development Unit and congratulated ECLAC for having provided technical assistance to countries under the following projects financed by multilateral cooperation: (i) "Democratic governance and gender equality in Latin America and the Caribbean", (ii) "Gender impact of pension system reforms in Latin America", and (iii) "Use of gender indicators in public policy-making". In addition, agreement 3 of the thirty-fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers commended ECLAC for its work in developing a system of gender indicators to facilitate region-wide comparability and requested technical assistance from the Commission for the definition of national systems of gender indicators for use in carrying out comparative analyses within countries. Detailed information on activities and meetings of subsidiary bodies can be found in the first section of this activities report and on the new ECLAC web site on United Nations summits and conferences (http://www.eclac.cl/cumbres).

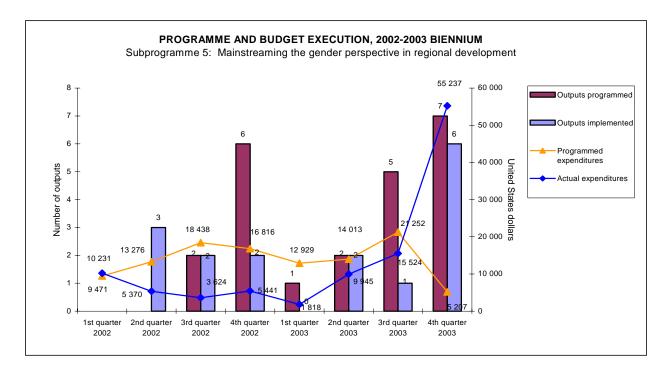
With respect to its second sphere of action, the Unit broadened and diversified its activities for mainstreaming the gender perspective in its work with the countries and within the ECLAC system. In this connection, at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Lima, Peru, in February 2000, the Governments of the region indicated that the lack of official information and gender indicators for evaluating the progress of women was impeding an adequate evaluation of the objectives identified in the Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995). As part of the activities undertaken in follow-up to the recommendations contained therein, ECLAC developed a strategy for collaboration with agencies of the United Nations system (UNIFEM, UNFPA, ILO and UNDP), as a result of which seven countries now have gender indicator subsystems (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama), some of which incorporate systems for follow-up on international commitments (Mexico and Panama). The other countries in the region have basic information disaggregated by sex, and all of them use the regional system of gender indicators. Over 11 countries have prepared civil-society reports using ECLAC indicators, and nine have prepared national reports on progress towards the Millennium Development Goals which included information from sources other than censuses and household surveys relating to domestic violence, reproductive health and women's use of time. Also, two international meetings were held (La Paz, Bolivia, November 2001 and September 2003) of producers and users of the ECLAC indicators of violence and poverty from a gender perspective, as part of the work of the Statistical Conference of the Americas in collaboration with national women's offices. To date, all 12 ECLAC subprogrammes report that their activities include a gender perspective.

The execution of the Unit's activities and projects led to the publication of more than 14 documents in the *Mujer y desarrollo series*, the holding of several meetings and thematic seminars, participation in numerous seminars and training courses and the provision of technical assistance to 12 countries in the region.

The Unit's Internet web site (www.eclac.cl/mujer/) provides information on publications, meetings and other activities performed during the biennium. The fact that this tool offers access to a wide range of gender indicators and serves to facilitate the exchange of views and experiences has led to media statements that the ECLAC web site was the best source of data on the situation of Latin American women.

The above-mentioned results were achieved through the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium. The main features of programme execution are summarized below.

The following figure shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2002-2003 biennium.



The following table shows the actual programme performance of the Women and Development Unit in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium in terms of final substantive outputs: publications, meetings of experts, intergovernmental meetings, technical material (databases, computer software) and information services and material (booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits).

Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: substantive outputs													
Planned Additions by Implementation Commitments rates a													
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total			
Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development	Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional 23 0 0 0 15 1 5 2 70 70												

The following table shows actual programme performance under subprogramme 5 in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium in terms of final operational outputs: technical assistance missions, training courses, seminars and workshops and field projects.

Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: operational outputs													
Planned Additions by Implementation Commitments rates are rates ar													
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total			
Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development	31	0	6	1	38	0	0	0	100	100			

Lastly, the table below summarizes total actual programme performance under subprogramme 5.

Summ	Summary of actual programme performance under subprogramme 5 for the 2002-2003 biennium											
	Plan	nned	Additi	ons by	Implem	entation	progra	ares from ammed itments	Implem rat	entation es ^a		
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total		
Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development	54	0	6	1	53	1	5	2	88	89		

^a Implementation rates: "Mandated" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation; "total" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation and the secretariat.

SUBPROGRAMME 6: POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

During the 2002-2003 biennium, the work carried out by the Population Division (CELADE), which is responsible for the execution of this subprogramme, focused on the following areas: (i) incorporation of sociodemographic elements in social sectors; (ii) technical cooperation and regional training in population and development; and (iii) international migration.

The Population Division continued its efforts to incorporate sociodemographic elements into gender and social programming by supporting countries of the region in strengthening their capacity to produce updated and reliable sociodemographic information, mainly by using new data from the 2000 census round in combination with microdatabases in REDATAM format, and by developing new/improved methodologies for population estimates and projections on topics such as social vulnerability, fertility, housing deficits, residential segregation and internal migration. More specifically, and in response to a request from the countries of the region, the Population Division organized technical meetings and courses to follow up on the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid, Spain, from 8 to 12 April 2002. Particular mention should be made of the organization of the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing: Towards a regional strategy for the implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (Santiago, Chile, 19-21 November 2003), and of the document "Older persons in Latin America and the Caribbean: situation and policies" (LC/L.1973).

In the field of technical cooperation and regional training in population and development, activities were conducted to foster the exchange of experiences and lessons learned in relation to the countries' implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. In this respect, a significant exchange of information (particularly on the subject of sociodemographic vulnerability), which led to a new set of priorities for action, took place at the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development meeting, held in Brasilia in May 2002. In addition, the Population Division, together with UNFPA, provided support to the Caribbean subregional meeting to assess the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development 10 years after its adoption (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 11 and 12 November 2003) and hosted an open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers of the ECLAC Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development (Santiago, Chile, December 2003). Efforts were also made to devise and update appropriate indicators for the national and regional follow-up of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development; in this regard, the Population Division further developed and updated the regional system of indicators and, with the support of the Women and Development Unit of ECLAC, developed indicators for monitoring the Beijing Platform for Action. This integrated system, available on CD-Rom as well as online at the Commission's web site, has also been used as the framework for the development of national indicator systems for monitoring the outcomes of international conferences and of national social policies and programmes. Two subregional training workshops (one for South America and one for Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean) were conducted during the biennium to discuss the most appropriate indicators and to train technicians from national statistical offices in the design, development and implementation of national indicator systems.

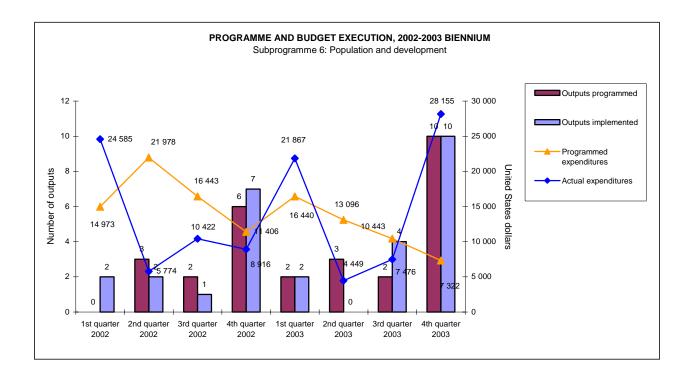
With respect to international migration trends, the Division focused on responding to requests from policy makers, civil-society actors and professionals, as well as from statistical and migration offices, for information and knowledge on the relationships between international migration and development. To meet their needs, the Population Division gathered and systematized information on

patterns and trends in international migration and identified priority areas for policy intervention through bilateral and multilateral agreements, focusing on topics such as human rights, regional integration, remittances, gender and the emigration of technicians and professionals. The Hemispheric Conference on International Migration: Human Rights and the Trafficking in Persons in the Americas (Santiago, Chile, 20-22 November 2002), organized jointly with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and attended by 40 countries, made a major contribution to awareness-raising and provided a significant opportunity to reinforce commitments, not only among policy makers but also in society at large. Five documents were prepared in the context of this conference (*Población y desarrollo series*, Nos. 35, 36, 37, 38 and 39).

The Population Division continued to produce its periodic publications *Demographic Bulletin*, *Notas de Población* (for the dissemination of research and studies on population issues in Latin America) and *REDATAM Informa* and also published a number of policy-oriented studies in the ECLAC *Población y desarrollo series*. Detailed information on activities and meetings of subsidiary bodies and on preparatory and follow-up activities related to world conferences on economic and social issues can be found in the first section of this activities report and on the new ECLAC web site on United Nations conferences and summits (http://www.eclac.cl/cumbres).

The above-mentioned results were achieved through the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium. The main features of programme execution are summarized below.

The following figure shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2002-2003 biennium.



The following table shows the actual programme performance of the Population Division in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final substantive outputs: publications, meetings of experts, intergovernmental meetings, technical material (databases, computer software) and information services and material (booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits).

A	Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: substantive outputs												
Planned Additions by Implementation Commitments rates rates													
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total			
Population and development 28 0 0 0 28 0 0 100 100													

The following table shows actual programme performance under subprogramme 6 in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final operational outputs: technical assistance missions, training courses, seminars and workshops and field projects.

A	Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: operational outputs													
Departures from programmed Implementation commitments rates														
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total				
Population and development	1 6/ 1 0 1 14 1 0 1 /6 1 0 1 0 1 10 1 100 1 100													

Lastly, the table below summarizes total actual programme performance under subprogramme 6.

Summ	Summary of actual programme performance under subprogramme 6 for the 2002-2003 biennium												
	Plan	nned	Additi	ons by	Implem	entation	progra	ares from ammed itments		entation es ^a			
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total			
Population and development	90	0	14	0	104	0	0	0	100	100			

^a Implementation rates: "Mandated" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation; "total" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation and the secretariat.

SUBPROGRAMME 7: PLANNING OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

During the 2002-2003 biennium, the Latin American and Caribbean Institute of Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), in response to the guidelines provided by the intergovernmental forums that mandate its work and the permanent contacts it maintains with the authorities of member countries, carried out various activities relating to: (i) public and administrative procedures in the national, regional and local spheres; (ii) planning of public administration and State regulation; (iii) public planning and management; (iv) integration of the gender perspective into the activities of the subprogramme; and (v) technical assistance to countries in the region.

The most noteworthy events included the eleventh Conference of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean and the twelfth meeting of the ILPES Regional Council for Planning (Madrid, Spain, 6 November 2002). Detailed information on the activities of these meetings may be found in the first section of this activities report and on the new ECLAC web site on United Nations summits and conferences (http://www.eclac.cl/cumbres). The Institute continued to produce its publications under the ECLAC *Gestión pública*, *Seminarios y conferencias*, and *Manuales series*. The capacity of member States to adjust their public and administrative procedures to better achieve national, regional and local goals was enhanced as a direct result of the ILPES training programme, as set forth below.

In order to enhance the capacity of member States to apply the basic principles of efficient public administration planning and State regulation, ILPES organized 25 expert meetings, seminars and workshops, attended by 1,750 participants from national, regional and local governments. ILPES also participated actively in more than 50 conferences and seminars on this same topic convened by various institutions in countries of the region.

ILPES has continued to update its capacity to respond to the member countries' growing demand for new information, studies and technical support regarding such public planning issues as decentralization and administration of public decisions, local development, regulation of public services and non-competitive sectors. In that connection, 43 documents and 13 CD-ROMs were distributed to 350 subscribers in 48 member countries. Moreover, 925 subscribers in the region and elsewhere received a quarterly electronic bulletin on project and programme appraisal and evaluation.

With a view to fostering the integration of the gender perspective into the capacity-building activities carried out under the subprogramme, most of the training courses, seminars and workshops offered have incorporated gender issues in the curricula, resulting in increased gender parity among participants. In 2003, 46% of the participants in these activities were women.

In the area of technical cooperation, ILPES continued to provide technical assistance to different governmental bodies in the countries in the region. Support was provided to the Secretary of the Treasury and Finance of the government of the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina, on public investment management systems. In Chile, assistance was provided to the Ministry of Planning and Cooperation in order to plan life-cycle and investment programming. Also, through a technical cooperation agreement with the Chilean Economic Development Agency, a study of an eco-tourism cluster in the Aysén region was conducted. In Mexico, assistance was provided to the planning secretaries of the states of the west-central region, and specifically to high-level officials. Also worth mentioning is the technical assistance agreement signed with the Ministry of the Presidency of the Government of Peru on decentralization and local and regional development issues. In the Dominican Republic, ILPES provided technical assistance

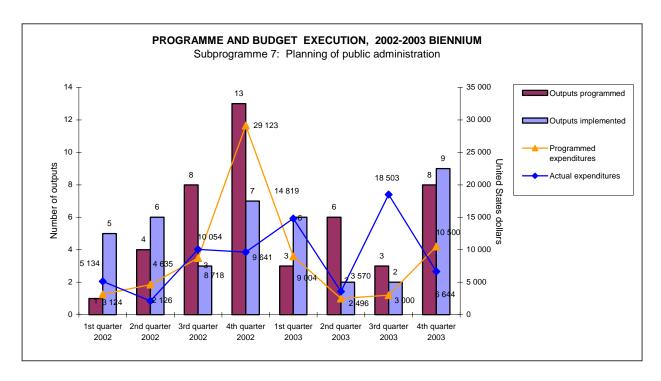
to the National Budget Office to implement a system of indicators for performance evaluation. The Institute also supported the Ministry of Planning and Development of Venezuela through an agreement for strengthening the National Public Investment System.

With regard to training, during the 2002-2003 biennium the Institute organized training activities on issues associated with its areas of work for State and private-sector officials and the teaching staff of universities and academic centres in the region. A total of 2,138 professionals from the national and local governments of 20 member States participated in 17 international and 73 national and subnational courses during the biennium. The knowledge they acquired will have a significant impact in terms of enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of public management in their countries, specifically in budget policies, investment appraisal, management and evaluation and local development, generating huge savings in public-sector spending. The quality of the training programme is reflected in the evaluations given by participants: 96% rated the international courses as "good" or "very good". Moreover, 91% of the participants in 2003 indicated that the course they took was of great or very great importance for their work.

Lastly, ILPES was confirmed in 2003 as the ECLAC training hub for standardizing all procedural matters regarding the design, implementation and evaluation of training activities carried out by ECLAC substantive divisions. Additionally, ILPES will conduct all interdivisional training activities, in accordance with the priorities established by the ECLAC Executive Secretary.

The above-mentioned results were achieved through the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium. The main features of programme execution are summarized below.

The following figure shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2002-2003 biennium.



The following table shows the actual programme performance of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute of Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final substantive outputs: publications, meetings of experts, intergovernmental meetings, technical material (databases, computer software) and information services and material (booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits).

A	Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: substantive outputs													
	Plan	ined	Additi	ons by	Implem	entation	progra	ares from ammed itments		entation es ^a				
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total				
Planning of public administration	39	7	0	0	40	0	6	0	87	87				

The following table shows actual programme performance under subprogramme 7 in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final operational outputs: technical assistance missions, training courses, seminars and workshops and field projects.

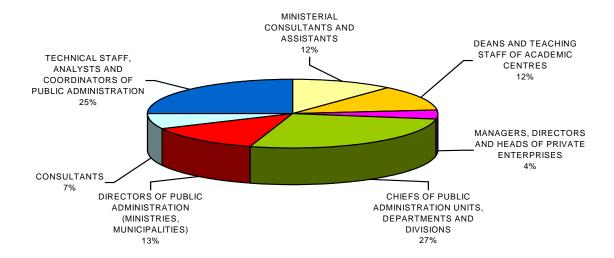
Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: operational outputs													
	ares from ammed itments		entation es ^a										
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total			
Planning of public administration 23 0 0 4 25 0 0 2 91 93													

Lastly, the table below summarizes total actual programme performance under subprogramme 7.

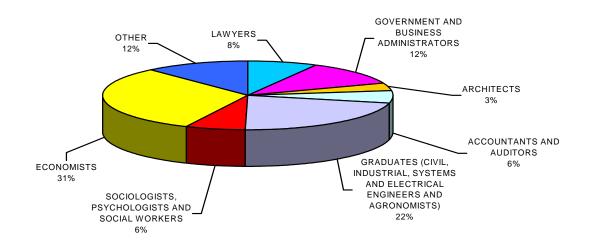
Summ	Summary of actual programme performance under subprogramme 7 for the 2002-2003 biennium												
	Plan	ıned	Additio	ons by	Implem	entation	progra	ares from ammed itments		entation es ^a			
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total			
Planning of public administration	62	7	0	4	65	0	6	2	88	89			

^a Implementation rates: "Mandated" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation; "total" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation and the secretariat.

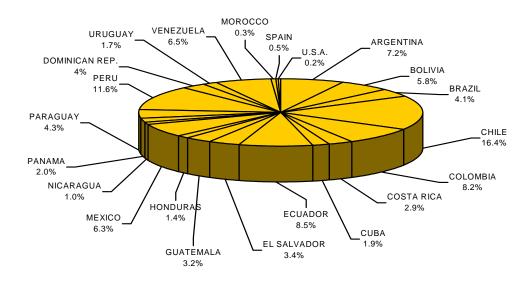
MOST COMMON INSTITUTIONAL POSTS (%) OF PARTICIPANTS IN INTERNATIONAL COURSES 2002-2003 BIENNIUM



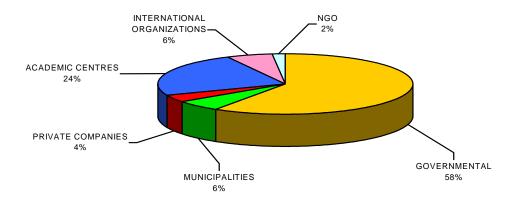
MOST COMMON PROFESSIONS (%) OF PARTICIPANTS IN INTERNATIONAL COURSES 2002-2003 BIENNIUM



NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS (%) IN INTERNATIONAL COURSES BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN 2002-2003 BIENNIUM



AREA OF EMPLOYMENT (%) OF PARTICIPANTS IN INTERNATIONAL COURSES 2002-2003 BIENNIUM



COURSES PROVIDED BY ILPES DURING THE 2002-2003 BIENNIUM

Co	urse	Dates	Place	Country	Teaching hours	Number of participants
Co	urses in 2002					
1.	Course on the management of local development projects	3-14 June	Santa Cruz de La Sierra	Bolivia	80	35
2.	Course on the use of socio-economic indicators to assess the impact of projects and programmes to combat poverty	1-12 July	Cartagena de Indias	Colombia	80	25
3.	Course on problem identification and the logical framework	19-30 august	Antigua	Guatemala	80	35
4.	Fourth course/seminar on the provision and regulation of infrastructure services	2-13 September	Santiago	Chile	80	29
5.	Second course/seminar on the financing of social security	2-13 September	Santiago	Chile	80	32
6.	Eighth course on the preparation and appraisal of local development projects	30 September 18 October	Santiago	Chile	120	29
7.	Fifth course on the strategic management of local and regional development	21 October 22 November	Santiago	Chile	200	42
8.	Tenth course on economic reforms and strategic state management	11 November 5 December	Santiago	Chile	160	36
9.	Methodologies for preparing strategic plans for local and regional development	11-15 March	Piura	Peru	40	100
10.	Methodologies for preparing strategic plans for local and regional development	18-22 March	Arequipa	Peru	40	100
11.	Course on the strategic management of local development	1-19 April	Cuenca	Ecuador	120	36
12.	Course on the strategic management of local development	22-26 July 2-6 September 7-11 October 25-29 November	Guadalajara	Mexico	160	50
Sul	ototals	20 25 110 (011100)			1 240	549
Со	urses in 2003					
1.	Management of project implementation	5-16 May	Cartagena	Colombia	80	32
2.	Use of socio-economic indicators to assess the impact of projects and programmes to combat poverty	9-20 June	Antigua	Guatemala	80	33
3.	The logical framework and impact assessment	18-29August	Santa Cruz	Bolivia	80	35
4.	Fifth course/seminar on the provision and regulation of infrastructure services	1-12 September	Santiago	Chile	80	28
5.	Third course/seminar on the financing of social security	8-12 September	Santiago	Chile	40	27
6.	Tax estimates	22-26 September	Buenos Aires	Argentina	40	21
7.	Ninth course on the preparation and appraisal of public investment projects	6-31 October	Santiago	Chile	160	23
8.	Sixth course on the strategic management of local and regional development	27 October 28 November	Santiago	Chile	200	38
9.	Eleventh course on economic reforms and strategic state management	3-28 November	Santiago	Chile	160	32
Sul	ototal				920	269

SUBPROGRAMME 8: ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

During the 2002-2003 biennium, the work carried out by the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, which is responsible for the execution of this subprogramme, focused on the following areas: (i) international environmental agreements; (ii) environmental management; (iii) sustainable development trends; and (iv) urban management and urban poverty.

In the first of these areas, the main accomplishment in the period under review has been the decision of the countries of the region to give top priority to the implementation of the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development, adopted at the seventh meeting of the Inter-Sessional Committee of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, held in São Paulo, Brazil, in May 2002. As a means of further implementing the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and Agenda 21, during a special meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment held during the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, South Africa, August-September 2002), ECLAC, acting jointly with the secretariat of UNEP, actively participated in the intense debate with the result that the Initiative was reopened for discussion to better reflect the singularities of some Caribbean countries, and was finally adopted and incorporated into the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

The incorporation of the environmental dimension into the design of economic policies and the results of studies (on Argentina, Cuba, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Peru) concerning the innovative use of economic instruments in environmental management were systematically transmitted to senior-level government decision-makers, mid-level officials, private-sector managers and civil-society members through several capacity-building courses (in Chile (2002), Colombia and Peru (2003)) and seminars. At the same time, the Division has been particularly active in launching an innovative approach to the interrelationship between trade and environment by integrating issues such as intellectual property rights, investment, services and environment, which led to the publication of a study entitled "Latin America and the Caribbean: from a strategy on trade and environment towards a strategy on trade for sustainable development" (LC/R.2104). Numerous courses and seminars continued to be offered as part of the training programme on sustainable development and environmental management in Latin America and the Caribbean, within the framework of the collaboration agreement between ECLAC, the World Bank Institute and the Swedish International Development Agency.

Empirical information for the systematic and comparative assessment of national and regional trends towards sustainable patterns of development has been greatly increased. A data bank containing more than 150 variables and indicators at the national level for the period 1980-2000 has been implemented, covering all the Latin American countries. In this regard, the Division provided technical assistance to the Governments of Argentina, Colombia, Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico in the systematization and application of sustainable development indicators. As a result, gaps in the availability of empirical information were significantly reduced.

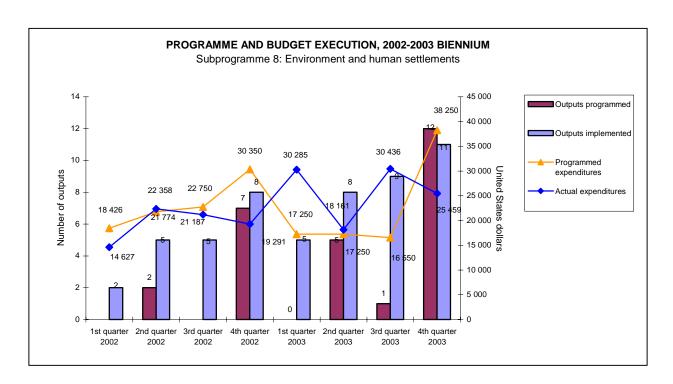
The activities relating to urban management practices and policies were conducted mainly through the provision of technical assistance, particularly in Ecuador, Argentina, Bolivia, Dominican Republic and Mexico. Also, a number of courses and workshops on urban management were held in Argentina (new centres on local management for decentralization), Bolivia (land strategy), Chile (local management to mitigate poverty), Colombia (land/urban observatory for sustainable development), Ecuador (recovery of central areas) and El Salvador (recovery of public centres), and three electronic forums were implemented on public services management, recovery of public centres and mitigation of

urban poverty. With respect to urban poverty, in October 2002 the Division provided substantive inputs for the Regional Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean (MINURVI) by preparing an overview of urban poverty and precariousness in the countries of the region, and in January 2003 it organized a meeting of experts in the framework of a project entitled "Urban poverty: an action-oriented strategy for urban governments and institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean".

The Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division published two books entitled *The sustainability of development in Latin America and the Caribbean: challenges and opportunities* (LC/G.2145/Rev.1-P) and *Contaminación atmosférica y conciencia ciudadana* (LC/G.2201-P), as *Libros de la CEPAL* Nos. 68 and 73, respectively. The Division continued to produce its publications under the ECLAC *Medio ambiente y desarrollo* and *Seminarios y conferencias series*, and carried out valuable activities in the above-mentioned areas under extrabudgetary projects.

The above-mentioned results were achieved through the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium. The main features of programme execution are summarized below.

The following figure shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2002-2003 biennium.



The following table shows the actual programme performance of the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final substantive outputs: publications, meetings of experts, intergovernmental meetings, technical material (databases, computer software) and information services and material (booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits).

Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: substantive outputs												
Planned Additions by Implementation Commitments rates rates												
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total		
Environment and human settlements	1 25 1 2 1 4 1 23 1 53 1 0 1 0 1 1 97 1 98											

The following table shows actual programme performance under subprogramme 8 in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final operational outputs: technical assistance missions, training courses, seminars and workshops and field projects.

Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: operational outputs													
Planned Additions by Implementation Commitments rates a													
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total			
Environment and human settlements	Environment and 40 0 1 32 69 0 0 4 90 95												

Lastly, the table below summarizes total actual programme performance under subprogramme 8.

Sumn	nary of actua	al programı	ne perfori	nance un	der subprog	gramme 8 fo	r the 2002	2-2003 bie	nnium	
	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Environment and human settlements	65	2	5	55	122	0	0	5	93	96

^a Implementation rates: "Mandated" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation; "total" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation and the secretariat.

SUBPROGRAMME 9: NATURAL RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

During the 2002-2003 biennium, activities under this subprogramme were carried out by the Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division, which is also responsible for the activities of ECLAC in the area of transport. Activities were conducted in areas relating to (i) the sustainable development and equitable use of natural resources and infrastructure; (ii) the sustainable management of natural resources and infrastructure; and (iii) international and regional mechanisms for the sustainable development of natural resources and infrastructure.

In the first area, technical expertise was provided to ECLAC member countries with a view to designing suitable policies for promoting the sustainable development of natural resources and infrastructure. In this connection, ECLAC once again played a leading role in promoting a regional dialogue on renewable sources of energy at the Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean on Renewable Energies, held in Brasilia, Brazil, in October 2003. At this meeting two public policy actors were present: authorities of the energy sector, on the one hand, and environment and sustainable development officials, on the other. Discussions centred on the document prepared by the Division" entitled "Energy sustainability in Latin America and the Caribbean: the share of renewable sources" (LC/L.1966). At the meeting, the 21 Governments of the region stressed the importance of the Commission's role by adopting the Brasilia Platform in which they requested ECLAC to prepare the regional document to be submitted to the International Conference for Renewable Energies, which will take place in June 2004 in Bonn, Germany.

ECLAC, as part of the Technical Committee of the Global Water Partnership, participated in the Third World Water Forum, held in Japan in March 2003. At that event, it presented the region's vision on the subjects of "water and governance" and "indigenous rights".

On the subject of mining, particular mention should be made of the Annual Conference of Mining Ministries of the Americas, for which ECLAC acts as technical secretariat and ensures wide distribution of information on the development of mineral resources in the countries of the region.

In the area of transport, ECLAC hosted a regional seminar on urban traffic congestion control held in Santiago, Chile, in March 2002. Sixty participants from most of the larger Latin American cities attended this event, where the book entitled *Traffic congestion: the problem and how to deal with it* (LC/G.2199) was launched. Activities relating to non-urban transport were conducted mainly through the provision of technical assistance, particularly to the Latin American Railways Association (ALAF) and entities in Colombia (road transporters association - COLFECAR) and Chile (Northern University and government authorities of the Third Region).

Also in connection with the first area (sustainable development and equitable use of natural resources and infrastructure), valuable activities financed under extrabudgetary projects were carried out, including active participation in several summits, forums, congresses and meetings organized by other institutions. The issues addressed at these events included the current state of water governance and water services in the global economy at the regional level, the sustainable development of natural resources and energy, transport and urban development policies.

In the second area, in order to increase the capacity of countries in the region to manage natural resources, energy, infrastructure and transport at the decentralized regional and local levels, ECLAC and ILPES have jointly trained 57 professionals from ministries, secretariats, public utility services,

regulatory institutions and others entities in 12 countries, who attended the fourth and fifth international courses on public utilities regulation (Santiago, Chile, 2-6 September 2002 and 8-12 September 2003). The Division also worked towards the improvement of regulatory mechanisms and the design of public policies on the subject, mainly through the provision of technical assistance, policy-oriented research (much of which was published as part of the *Recursos naturales e infraestructura series*) and the exchange of knowledge and information, particularly in Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela.

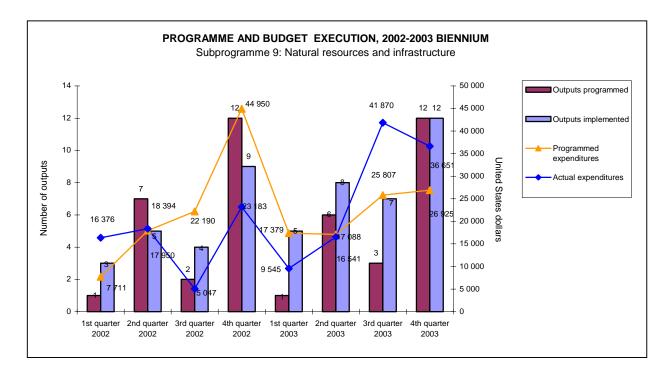
Under the third subject area, efforts were directed at strengthening the negotiating capacity of countries of the region in international and regional mechanisms dealing with the sustainable development of natural resources and infrastructure. In this context, at the request of the Chilean Government, ECLAC hosted the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Executive Steering Committee of the Initiative for Regional Infrastructure Integration in South America (IIRSA), held in Santiago, Chile, on 4 and 5 December 2003, and attended by ministers and authorities of the transport and energy sectors of 11 South American countries, as well as by representatives of regional and multilateral institutions, including the World Bank, IDB, the Andean Development Corporation (ADC), OLADE, LAIA, the Regional Association of Oil and Natural Gas Companies in Latin America and the Caribbean (ARPEL) and the Regional Electrical Integration Commission (CIER). Within this framework, ECLAC organized a meeting of regional energy institutions related to IIRSA with a view to coordinating their activities (Santiago, Chile, 2 December 2003). Also, ECLAC acted as technical secretariat of the Latin American Parliament's Commission on Energy and Mines, and made available to its members information on mining and energy legislation and on the results of mining and energy reforms, as well as on the important role of renewable sources of energy in the future.

In addition, at the request of the Office of the United Nations High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and the Governments of Bolivia and Paraguay, advice was provided on the basis of a study on the economic costs of being landlocked (FAL Bulletin No. 203). The main findings of this study were taken into account in drawing up the Almaty Programme of Action at the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in August 2003.

Lastly, the Maritime Profile of Latin America and the Caribbean, which is published entirely in electronic format (http://www.cepal.cl/transporte/perfil/index.htm), and the international transport database were both updated regularly. The FAL Bulletin (bulletin on the facilitation of trade and transport in Latin America and the Caribbean) was published monthly in two languages, with each issue devoted to a specific subject. The subjects addressed included the cruise-ship industry in South America, urban transport planning, traffic congestion, technologies applied to the transport sector, highway concessions, border crossings in MERCOSUR countries, maritime ports and e-commerce platforms, along with an overview of the region's transport sector during the previous year.

The above-mentioned results were achieved through the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium. The main features of programme execution are summarized below.

The following figure shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2002-2003 biennium.



The following table shows the actual programme performance of the Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final substantive outputs: publications, meetings of experts, intergovernmental meetings, technical material (databases, computer software) and information services and material (booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits).

Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: substantive outputs												
	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a			
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total		
Natural resources and infrastructure	46	0	0	12	53	0	3	2	89	91		

The following table shows actual programme performance under subprogramme 9 in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final operational outputs: technical assistance missions, training courses, seminars and workshops and field projects.

Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: operational outputs												
	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a			
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total		
Natural resources and infrastructure	95	0	1	10	106	0	0	0	100	100		

Lastly, the table below summarizes total actual programme performance under subprogramme 9.

Sumn	nary of actua	al programı	ne perfori	nance un	der subprog	gramme 9 fo	r the 200	2-2003 bie	nnium	
	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Natural resources and infrastructure	141		1	22	159		3	2	96	97

^a Implementation rates: "Mandated" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation; "total" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation and the secretariat.

SUBPROGRAMME 10: STATISTICS AND ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS

During the 2002-2003 biennium, the Statistics and Economic Projections Division conducted activities on a number of issues, including statistical data banks, statistics and regional indicators, national accounts, regional cooperation on statistics, prospective studies on development in the countries of the region and statistics and quantitative analysis on social trends in Latin America and the Caribbean. It focused mainly on the following areas of activity: (i) enlarging the regional framework of statistical information and generating analyses of current economic trends in the region; and (ii) expanding and improving the technical capacity of countries of the region to produce statistics and forecasts as inputs for the development of economic and social programmes in the short, medium and long terms.

During the biennium under review, the regional framework of statistical information was considerably enlarged and strengthened with respect to data banks of statistics on current economic trends, household surveys, foreign trade and national accounts. In matters relating to the dissemination of statistics, a web page (BADESTAT) was created under the subprogramme to provide online access to the databases of the Statistics and Economic Projections Division. Three new online products were offered to the public in 2003: the *Statistical Yearbook*, a database on international trade (BADECEL) implemented in cooperation with several regional organizations and a recently created information system on social statistics and indicators (BADEINSO).

The Division created one additional database on microdata from household surveys conducted in the countries (BADEHOG), for the use of specialized research and policy-making institutions. Additionally, new dimensions related to environment and gender indicators have been added to the data banks. These improvements have been recognized by Governments and institutions in the region, as expressed in the deliberations and conclusions of the meetings of the Steering Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, which took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in March 2002, and Panama City, Panama, in December 2002, and of the second meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, held in Santiago, Chile, from 18 to 20 June 2003.

The Division's capacity to produce harmonized statistics, develop and disseminate data banks and generate forecasts has increased the capacity of member countries and national institutions in the region to design and monitor development policies. In the context of policy-oriented research undertaken in the Division, the 2001 and 2002 editions of the *Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean* were published, in addition to a large number of documents published under the *Estudios estadísticos y prospectivos series* and reports containing short-term indicators. Mention should be made of the large number of technical cooperation missions carried out and the strong demand for the meetings, seminars and training workshops organized under the subprogramme in relation to national accounts, international classifications and household surveys. Also, worthy of note is the continued cooperation received from multilateral and national institutions for the subprogramme's activities.

Work in the second area involved the expansion and improvement of technical capacity in countries of the region to produce statistics and forecasts as inputs for the development of economic and social programmes in the short, medium and long terms. Particular emphasis has been placed on the harmonization of methodologies and concepts at the regional level, to enhance the comparability of national statistics in Latin America and their adherence to international standards. With respect to the development, promotion and dissemination of statistics, the Division continued to prepare manuals and to transfer methodological and technological advances, especially with respect to the full implementation of the new System of National Accounts (1993 SNA) in the region (see the "Progress report on the activities

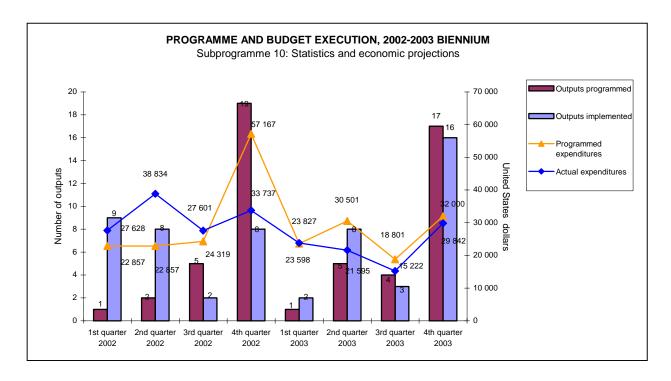
of the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, June 2001-June 2003" (LC/L.1697/Rev.2), available on the web site of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (http://www.eclac.cl/deype/ceacepal/index2.htm). In this regard, a number of countries in the region, especially smaller economies in Central America and the Caribbean, are increasingly interested in incorporating new satellite accounts on tourism. The progress achieved in this line of work prompted the World Tourism Organization to sign an agreement with ECLAC in 2002 to implement specialized satellite accounts for tourism in the region. Similar advances were registered in the field of social statistics and the harmonization of methods used for household surveys (MECOVI programme).

The regional integration schemes also decided to incorporate the statistical and modelling dimension in their activities, and in 2003 associated the subprogramme with their regional network on macroeconomic coordination (REDIMA). This strengthened the institutional role of statistics in the process of regional integration and economic convergence and led to technical advances in the harmonization of macroeconomic indicators and the modelling of regional interactions.

Lastly, the Statistics and Economic Projections Division collaborated with the Economic Development Division and the Social Development Division in the preparation and production of the following ECLAC publications: *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean* (2001-2002 and 2002-2003 editions), *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean* (2002 and 2003 editions), and *Social Panorama of Latin America* (2001-2002 and 2002-2003 editions).

The above-mentioned results were achieved through the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium. The main features of programme execution are summarized below.

The following figure shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2002-2003 biennium.



The following table shows the actual programme performance of the Statistics and Economic Projections Division in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final substantive outputs: publications, meetings of experts, intergovernmental meetings, technical material (databases, computer software) and information services and material (booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits).

A	Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: substantive outputs												
	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a				
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total			
Statistics and economic projections	52	2	4	0	55	0	3	0	95	95			

The following table shows actual programme performance under subprogramme 10 in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final operational outputs: technical assistance missions, training courses, seminars and workshops and field projects.

Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: operational outputs											
	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a		
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total	
Statistics and economic projections	40	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	100	100	

Lastly, the table below summarizes total actual programme performance under subprogramme 10.

Summary of actual programme performance under subprogramme 10 for the 2002-2003 biennium											
	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a		
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total	
Statistics and economic projections	92	2	4	0	95	0	3	0	97	97	

^a Implementation rates: "Mandated" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation; "total" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation and the secretariat.

SUBPROGRAMME 11: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA

During the 2002-2003 biennium, the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico focused on providing relevant analyses and training and expanding technical assistance to build capacity in the countries of the subregion (Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama) to: (i) adjust to rapid changes in the international scene, maximizing the benefits and mitigating the adverse effects of globalization; (ii) improve policies and mechanisms aimed at reducing poverty and gender inequality; and (iii) harmonize energy policies and boost the efficiency of energy management.

Activities in the first of these areas included work on economic, industrial and agricultural development, trade and natural disasters. The most relevant contributions included those related to supporting trade negotiations, subregional integration and cooperation processes. This support helped to increase the capacity to negotiate trade agreements for 34 member States in the case of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), and for five member States in the case of the United States-Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), including the preparation of national strategies to strengthen trade-related capacities in four member States (the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti and Panama). In addition, technical assistance was provided, through the Tripartite Committee, to the FTAA Consultative Group on Smaller Economies and the CAFTA Committee on Trade Capacity Building. ECLAC provided access to systematized analyses on trade-related capacities and possible impacts in sensitive areas, such as agriculture, environmental products and services and the social sector. Another contribution in this area was the ECLAC presentation of its research document "Central American integration: benefits and costs" to the Summit of Presidents of Central America, Belize and the Dominican Republic held in December 2003. As a result, a new regional agenda for development strategies for integration in the context of open markets was set out by the Presidents. In addition, they called for a regional dialogue which should include civil society, to be coordinated by the secretariat of the Central American Integration System (SICA), with support from ECLAC, to provide input for the decisions to be taken at their next Summit. Technical and planning input was provided to the Executive and Technical Committees of the Puebla-Panama Plan on the environment, disasters, energy, rural development, telecommunications, health, education, tourism, gender and human development. Other results include: access to up-to-date economic analyses of the 10 countries served by the subregional headquarters; technical cooperation provided to Cuba for improvement of the national accounts system; the production of relevant knowledge regarding the opportunities and challenges of the agricultural sector and the establishment of a working group of Central American agricultural and statistical institutions to strengthen and harmonize agricultural statistics; and access to analyses on competition, tourism-related environmental services, export competitiveness and new market opportunities in immigrant populations in the United States for small businesses in Central America and Mexico.

The subregional headquarters in Mexico continued to act as the ECLAC focal point for issues related to natural disasters, and —with the cooperation of several substantive divisions and offices— to carry out evaluations of disasters as requested by countries of the region, in particular the earthquake that hit the State of Colima, Mexico; the floods in the Province of Santa Fe, Argentina; and the floods in various states of Mexico. Member States and the public now have access to the Commission's comprehensive and tested methodology for assessing the socio-economic, environmental and gender effects of disasters, which has been published as a manual in both Spanish and English. This methodology has been adopted by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the World Bank, and ECLAC is responding to growing demand from member States for training and technical assistance. Funding from

the World Bank has enabled ECLAC to produce a larger print run of the manual and to increase training in this area. New work is being carried out on indicators for disaster prevention and risk management, with IDB funding.

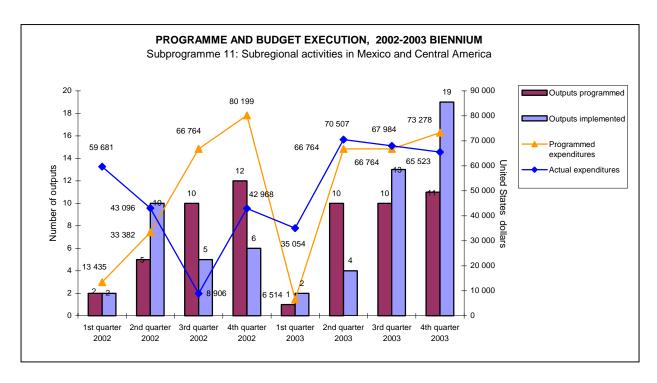
On the subject of improving the formulation and review of policies for reducing poverty and gender inequality in the region, the effects of the work performed can be summarized as follows: Central American legislatures and social and educational institutions acquired knowledge on the relationship between responsible fatherhood and poverty reduction strategies, resulting in a new law in one case and an implementation policy in another; improvements in three poverty reduction strategies/national action plans for children; incorporation of the subject into two public training programmes; preparation of a training manual; and a proposal for related indicators. Technical support requests from member States for the development of social statistics and indicators and for cross-cutting themes such as gender and migration were addressed with several contributions. A technical seminar on social indicators and statistics and follow-up technical assistance was provided to the subregional network for monitoring the Social Summit goals. The subregional headquarters has begun to process and analyse microdata from household surveys in the Central American countries, and now provides previously unavailable comparative analyses on unmet basic needs, poverty levels, social vulnerability, public social expenditures and the relationship between gender and poverty. Gender and migration have been the subject of mandatory documents in this period and the next biennium. Also, public institutions, nongovernmental organizations and regional forums have been provided with technical assistance and analyses on the relationship between gender and poverty/economic development to support policymaking. Support has also been requested and provided on the health costs of drinking contaminated water and on the impact of poverty on children and adolescents and the challenges facing youth.

In the field of energy, support was provided for the gradual harmonization of energy policies and for increasing the efficiency of energy management in the subregion. Increased emphasis is being placed on sustainable energy development, particularly in the field of environmental externality guidelines and options for biofuels. The impacts of these efforts include the following: Costa Rica, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua used inputs on liquid petroleum gas to harmonize standards for the customs union; El Salvador, Guatemala and Costa Rica developed environmental guidelines for service stations; Guatemala negotiated with private-sector electricity providers using ECLAC information; El Salvador used ECLAC data to negotiate with private hydrocarbon providers and reduce margins in the supply chain, with the Ministry of Economic Affairs reporting savings of US\$ 20 million for gasoline consumers; the Central American Committee for Cooperation on Hydrocarbons (CCHAC), the Central American Electrification Council (CEAC) and the Coordinating Association of Electric Energy Regulatory Bodies of Central America (ACERCA) participated in designing and reviewing the studies produced by the subregional headquarters and used them to identify the major problems in national energy markets and possible solutions; technical staff of the Ministry of the Environment of Mexico received training on externalities and evaluated the environmental costs of 13 electric power plants; and national authorities of six countries in the region were provided with technical assistance in relation to biofuels, which has helped them to define national plans for implementing biofuels that are currently under discussion with private energy producers.

In summary, the subregional headquarters has sought to respond to the needs and requests of the member States, both those expressed at the previous session and those presented during the biennium in view of the changing challenges of the subregion. There has been an increase in the demand for and provision of technical advisory services, which has enabled ECLAC to more effectively disseminate and apply knowledge and support analyses, policy discussions and decision-making by member States.

The above-mentioned results were achieved through the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium. The main features of programme execution are summarized in the following annexes (see annex 1, 2 and 3).

The following figure shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2002-2003 biennium.



The following table shows the actual programme performance of the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final substantive outputs: publications, meetings of experts, intergovernmental meetings, technical material (databases, computer software) and information services and material (booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits).

Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: substantive outputs											
	Planned		Additi	ons by	by Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a		
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total	
Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America	58	0	0	3	58	3	0	0	100	100	

The following table shows actual programme performance of the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium in terms of final operational outputs: technical assistance missions, training courses, seminars and workshops and field projects.

Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: operational outputs												
	Planned		Additi	ons by	Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a			
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total		
Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America	298		1	4	298				100	100		

Finally, the table below summarizes total actual programme performance under subprogramme 11.

Summary of actual programme performance under subprogramme 11 for the 2002-2003 biennium											
	Planned		Additi	ons by	Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a		
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total	
Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America	356		1	7	356	3			100	100	

^a Implementation rates: "Mandated" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation; "total" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation and the secretariat.

SUBPROGRAMME 12: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

During the 2002-2003 biennium, the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, secretariat of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), focused on the analysis of issues of special relevance to economic and social development in the Caribbean subregion. In this context, the subregional headquarters set forth and attained the following three interrelated expected accomplishments: (i) to improve policies, programmes and projects to facilitate Caribbean societies' adjustment to rapid changes on the international scene; to maximize the benefits and mitigate the adverse effects of globalization; to boost the subregional integration process, incorporating the changes derived from the evolution of the multilateral trade regime; and to alleviate poverty and reduce gender inequalities; (ii) to strengthen member States' capacity to develop and apply indicators to measure the catalytic effect of science and technology on economic and social development in the subregion; and (iii) to strengthen national capacities to implement, in the Caribbean countries, the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

With regard to the first of these areas, Caribbean member and associate member States continue to benefit from the programmes and polices implemented by the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean. In an effort to improve relations with member States, ECLAC/CDCC prepared research papers on economic trends in the countries of the subregion and disseminated 56 technical studies and reports that provided up-to-date information on trade and integration, science and technology, gender, sustainable development strategies, Caribbean tourism and other issues of interest that have an impact on Caribbean economies. Among the meetings convened by the subregional headquarters, particular mention should be made of the nineteenth session of CDCC, held in Trinidad and Tobago in March 2002, and the eleventh meeting of the Monitoring Committee of CDCC held in Puerto Rico, in April 2003. The latter was attended by 19 of the 23 member and associate member States, and reviewed the implementation of the work programme of the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean. Mention should also be made of the Caribbean Subregional Meeting to Assess the Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Trinidad and Tobago on 11 and 12 November 2003.

In an effort to strengthen member States' capacity to utilize their limited resources, the subregional headquarters organized 12 training workshops during the biennium. As a result of these interventions, 364 people, of whom 128 were women, from 18 member States received training in the area of trade and social statistics, information technology, science and technology indicators, disaster assessment, protocols for evaluating domestic violence and diplomacy. Moreover, the subregional headquarters has set up fully searchable databases for trade and social statistics aimed at increasing the capacity of policy makers to formulate, implement and evaluate trade and social policies. At the same time, there were indications of a revitalization of the CDCC process as 332 people, from member and associate member States and selected regional institutions participated in the 13 meetings convened by the secretariat. The meetings examined issues such as small- and medium-sized enterprises, gender socialization and domestic violence, the production of statistics, protecting and promoting the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, the construction of the social vulnerability index (SVI), the Free Trade Area of the Americas in the Caribbean and trade in services.

In the area of technical assistance, 90 missions were carried out in countries of the subregion, particularly in connection with regional integration and cooperation, information management for development, human and social development, review and development of a legislative agenda for dealing with domestic violence (especially violence against women), environmental sustainability, water

resources management and trade. In addition, the subregional headquarters provided wide-ranging support to the Association of Caribbean States, especially in the area of trade, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Caribbean Community in response to requests for the preparation of substantive papers for use at meetings of these institutions.

Furthermore, activities were undertaken through extrabudgetary projects, including the completion of an extensive assessment of the social impact of the closure of the sugar industry in Saint Kitts and Nevis, a marine-based tourism project focusing on the yachting sector in the Eastern Caribbean, development and establishment of databases for trade and social statistics and the development of a draft national human development agenda for the Government of Belize. National reports on the yachting sector, which were prepared for seven countries of the Eastern Caribbean, have so far brought results in Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Lucia, where dedicated yachting officers have been appointed within the Government to facilitate regular consultations between the Government and the private sector. In Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Government has taken actions to establish a marine tourism task force with a view to developing a marine tourism policy. The project received widespread media coverage in the national and regional press and the Trinidad and Tobago report was extensively referred to in a feature story in the international magazine *Cruising World*. One consequence of the widespread media attention has been an increase in requests for assistance in dealing with the yachting sector.

With regard to science and technology, Caribbean countries have compelling reasons for collecting and analysing meaningful and disaggregated data on science and technology. One of these reasons is the critical role science and technology plays in the process of sustainable development, which involves the integration of social, economic and environmental components into policy decisions. To this end, the secretariat produced a methodological manual entitled "The development of science and technology indicators in the Caribbean" (LC/CAR/G.696). Member States have been urged to use this manual when collecting and collating indicators on science and technology for submission to ECLAC, which will serve as the basis for a database and for a document on science and technology indicators to be published in 2006. Although there was a slowdown in the training aspects of the development of science and technology indicators for the Caribbean subregion, as well as some difficulties in obtaining donor funds, the secretariat was able to achieve a 93% success rate. Another key area has been the dialogue with member States on the establishment of a Caribbean Water Partnership, as part of the Global Water Partnership.

As a result of the successful programme of preparing assessments of the socio-economic and environmental impact of natural disasters, member States have requested ECLAC/CDCC to conduct training workshops in this essential subject area. Training was intended to shorten the response time for evaluation after a natural disaster event. Accordingly, ECLAC/CDCC has reviewed the existing ECLAC methodology to take into account the peculiar nature of the small island States of the subregion. During the biennium 132 people, including 48 women, received training in the use of the Manual in Jamaica, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago.

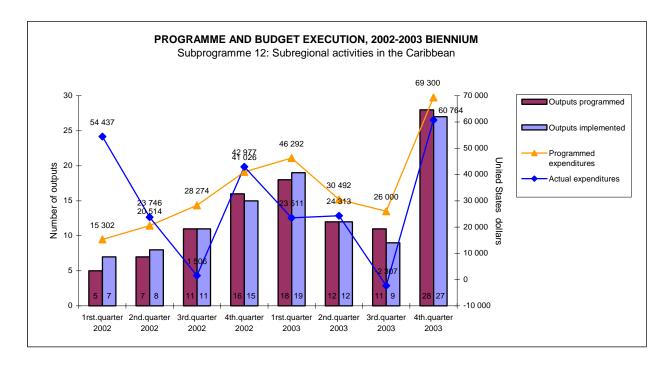
Lastly, ECLAC/CDCC continued to serve as the operational secretariat in the subregion for the implementation in the Caribbean countries of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. This activity was pre-empted by United Nations General Assembly resolution 57/262 of 20 December 2002, which provided for regional preparatory meetings in connection with an international meeting that is to convene in Mauritius in August 2004 to undertake a full and comprehensive review of the implementation of the Programme of Action. In this context, the Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting was held at the technical level in Trinidad and Tobago (6-10 October 2003) and, to guide the discussions, the subregional headquarters prepared the background documents and

assisted with secretariat functions and other substantive aspects, in conjunction with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The interregional preparatory meeting, at the ministerial level, was convened in the Bahamas in January 2004.

All the above-mentioned activities have resulted in a significant increase in the number of member and associate member States participating in the various programmes of the secretariat aimed at achieving the goal of sustainable development in the subregion.

The above-mentioned results were achieved through the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium. The most relevant features of programme execution are summarized below.

The following figure shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2002-2003 biennium.



The following table shows the actual programme performance of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium, in terms of final substantive outputs: publications, meetings of experts, intergovernmental meetings, technical material (databases, computer software) and information services and material (booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits).

Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: substantive outputs												
	Planned		Additio	ons by	s by Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a			
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total		
Subregional activities in the Caribbean	94	0	0	29	98	10	7	8	84	88		

The following table shows actual programme performance of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium in terms of final operational outputs: technical assistance missions, training courses, seminars and workshops and field projects.

Actual programme performance in relation to programme budget commitments for the 2002-2003 biennium: operational outputs												
	Planned		Additi	ons by	Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a			
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total		
Subregional activities in the Caribbean	62	0	0	9	70	0	0	1	98	99		

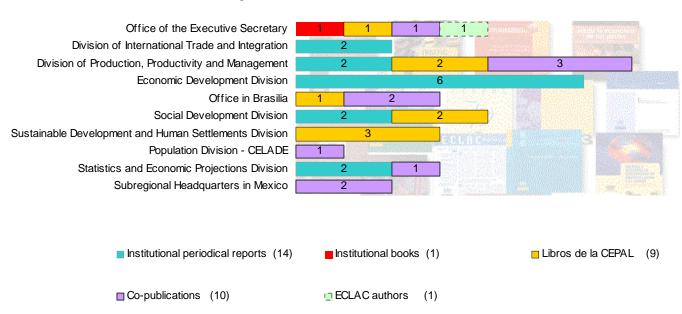
Finally, the table below summarizes total actual programme performance under subprogramme 12.

Sumn	Summary of actual programme performance under subprogramme 12 for the 2002-2003 biennium												
	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a				
Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total			
Subregional activities in the Caribbean	156	0	0	38	168	10	7	9	90	92			

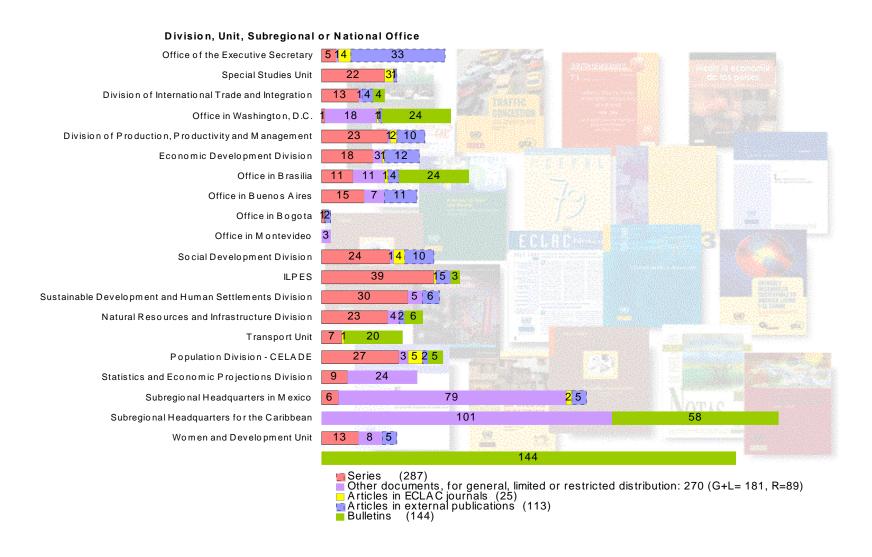
^a Implementation rates: "Mandated" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation; "total" includes final outputs programmed+reformulated+carried over+added by legislation and the secretariat.

NUMBER OF BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE ECLAC SYSTEM IN 2002-2003 (Preliminary figures)





NUMBER OF OTHER ECLAC PUBLICATIONS IN 2002-2003 (Preliminary figures)



B. COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

(a) Overview and general trends of international cooperation

This chapter reviews the cooperation activities conducted by ECLAC in the wider international context of cooperation for development and the United Nations system's approaches and reforms with respect to technical cooperation, with emphasis on technical cooperation among developing countries and regions (TCDC). This first section provides a general overview of international cooperation, while the second describes the legislative mandates that govern the Commission's TCDC activities. The third section, which constitutes the core of this chapter, reports on the full range of cooperation activities carried out by the Commission in the 2002-2003 biennium, with special reference to TCDC.

The overall context for international cooperation in 2002-2003 was marked by a number of changes with regard to the amount of resources made available, the modalities and new trends of cooperation efforts and their implementation by the United Nations system.

During the period there was a change of direction in the aggregate flow of official development assistance, which for the past decade had been stagnant in absolute terms while declining slightly in relation to world GDP. The total amount of such assistance increased from US\$ 52.3 billion in 2001 to US\$ 58.3 billion in 2002 and US\$ 68.5 billion in 2003, 22 a record high in both nominal and real terms. Nevertheless, the net contribution of donor countries as a proportion of their GDP, at about 0.25%, is still far from the United Nations target of 0.7%. It is estimated that, even if the commitments to increase contributions undertaken at the International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey, March 2002) are honoured to the letter, in 2006 the total will amount to some US\$ 75 billion, meaning that contributions as a percentage of GDP will barely exceed their current level. 23

The projections of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)²⁴ indicate that, despite this significant improvement, it will be very difficult to meet many of the Millennium Development Goals which the international community, under the leadership and coordination of the United Nations, aspires to achieve by 2015. Hence the vital importance of further efforts on the part of the world's developed and developing countries to increase the effectiveness of cooperation resources and activities. To this end, significant improvements are needed in terms of the harmonization of donor practices, in addition to a more clearly defined focus on the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals at every level. Among other things, this will entail making more intensive and efficient use of specific instruments at the national level, such as poverty reduction plans and national development strategies.

In Latin America and the Caribbean this overall state of affairs is manifested in ways that are specific to the region, but are still in keeping with the same general assessment. Consequently, the region also needs to increase its resources and make more effective use of them in economic and social

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (2004), "Development Co-operation Report 2003", *The DAC Journal*, vol. 5, No.1, 2004; and http://www.oecd.org, "Modest Increase in Development Aid in 2003", 19 April 2004.

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (2004), "OECD report shows rising aid flows but more effort needed to reach Monterrey goals", on http://www.oecd.org.

The countries members of the Development Assistance Committee provide about 95% of official development assistance worldwide.

programmes, particularly those geared to reducing poverty and promoting sustainable development. Cooperation among the less developed countries and regions can also play an important role in this area.

As part of the reform process launched by the Secretary-General, the United Nations system has embarked on a review of its entire array of technical cooperation activities in an effort to provide greater clarity, increase the flow of information and improve coordination within the system. To this end, steps are being taken to determine how responsibilities should be apportioned and to define the role and activities of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the regional commissions and operational funds and programmes such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). ECLAC, together with the other regional commissions, has been actively collaborating with the United Nations Secretariat in the deliberations of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs concerning the programme of work and institutional responsibilities with a view to achieving greater coherence among cooperation activities at the regional, subregional and national levels.²⁵

Against this backdrop, ECLAC and the other regional commissions play a fundamental role in regional technical cooperation by providing analytical and institutional support for the establishment of economically, socially and environmentally sustainable development patterns. They perform an equally important function in promoting regional cooperation and helping to build the political consensuses needed to ensure that the international commitments undertaken at global summits and conferences are fulfilled at the regional, subregional and national levels. This is particularly the case of the commitments set forth in the Millennium Declaration, which are the focal points towards which the work of the entire United Nations system converges. In Latin America and the Caribbean, the main spheres of action in this regard are the harmonization and creation of macroeconomic policy networks, the design and implementation of fiscal policies and measures focusing on sustainable development and rational resource use, regional cooperation in statistical matters, action plans on issues of population and population ageing, the further advancement of women and gender equity in public policies and specific subregional integration initiatives, such as the Puebla-Panama Plan and the Initiative for Regional Infrastructure Integration in South America (IIRSA). The following section provides further details on the subject areas and specific projects on which the Commission has been working over the past biennium.

Technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC) within the United Nations system receives its mandate and general direction from the meetings of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries. In the 2002-2003 biennium, States Members of the Organization undertook initiatives and adopted agreements for moving forward with TCDC within the system. At its thirteenth session, held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 27 to 30 May 2003, the High-level Committee assessed the progress made by United Nations organizations and by Governments in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and the decisions of the High-level Committee itself. The participants reaffirmed the validity and continued relevance of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, 25 years after its adoption, as an instrument for the promotion and implementation of TCDC. South-South cooperation has continued to be a useful and necessary tool, as has been demonstrated in the deliberations and resolutions of the Group of 77 South Summit (Havana, Cuba, April 2000), the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (Brussels, Belgium, May 2001), the International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey, Mexico, March 2002) and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, South Africa, August-September 2002).

Those exchanges served as inputs for a report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly, entitled "Review of technical cooperation in the United Nations" (A/58/382).

The High-level Committee considered that TCDC in Latin America and the Caribbean had made significant progress, both in the framework of regional and subregional integration and in the establishment of networks and forums on specific issues, in which government representatives, non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector took part. Regarding TCDC modalities, the Committee stressed the promotion of triangular cooperation and partnerships with governmental and non-governmental entities, including the private sector. The Committee also urged the international community to intensify its efforts to support South-South cooperation.

To fully understand the work of ECLAC with respect to TCDC at the regional level, it must be borne in mind that the countries members of the Latin American Economic System (SELA) have designated that body as the regional coordinator for the activities carried out by national TCDC focal points. This is the institutional context in which annual meetings are held for these focal points, which are located within national divisions or agencies for international cooperation. These meetings are now the foremost operational mechanism for the exchange of information and ideas and for hearing the views of the countries in the region on sectors and matters of interest. The periodicity of these meetings, which are convened by the permanent secretariat of SELA, makes it possible to obtain appropriate feedback from the technical agencies that coordinate cooperation at the national level.

During the 2002-2003 biennium, the fifteenth and sixteenth Meetings of Directors of International Technical Cooperation were held. The ECLAC secretariat has participated in such meetings on a regular basis, reporting on the Commission's activities in support of TCDC and collaborating with the SELA permanent secretariat and the UNDP Special Unit for TCDC, which has furnished the necessary financial support to the countries. The meetings were held in Montevideo, Uruguay, in March 2002 and in Panama City, Panama, in July 2003, respectively. (The issues discussed and the main conclusions drawn at each meeting are summarized in annex 1).

(b) The legislative mandate for the Commission's TCDC activities

The Commission's legislative mandate to implement TCDC activities arises from specific resolutions adopted following the establishment of SELA in 1975, the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action in 1978 and the creation of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and Regions as the principal policy-making body of ECLAC in such matters. They include General Assembly resolutions, as well as resolutions adopted at sessions of the Commission, following their endorsement by the Economic and Social Council. The outcomes of the other meetings, reports and agreements that are listed in annex 2 round out the framework within which ECLAC carries out its activities in this area.

At the twenty-ninth session of ECLAC (Brasilia, Brazil, May 2002), the Committee on Technical Cooperation adopted a draft resolution that was later adopted in plenary session as resolution 591(XXIX) on technical cooperation among developing countries and regions. That resolution, which guided the secretariat's activities during the biennium, refers to various areas in which the ECLAC system can help promote TCDC in the region. These include: (i) intensifying activities aimed at incorporating modalities of technical cooperation among developing countries into the various areas of the secretariat's programme of work; (ii) strengthening the exchange of national and subregional experiences and best practices in technical cooperation projects; the identification of successful strategies for promoting small and medium-sized enterprises; trade, environmental, scientific and technological development, tourism, investment, macroeconomic management and gender policies; and disaster prevention and mitigation; (iii) identifying priority areas for technical cooperation among developing countries in close coordination with the Latin American Economic System and continuing to collaborate with that organization in all

relevant activities; and (iv) promoting joint activities with countries in the various developing regions in coordination with the competent organizations of the United Nations system.

As indicated in the following section, the cooperation activities carried out by ECLAC during the biennium, including those focusing on TCDC, have been financed both from its regular budget and with extrabudgetary resources obtained through the negotiation of agreements with bilateral and multilateral donors for the execution of cooperation programmes and specific projects. Such negotiations are particularly important in the case of TCDC, as most of the activities conducted by ECLAC in this area are financed with extrabudgetary resources.

(c) Cooperation activities during 2002-2003

(i) Technical assistance missions

Part II, section A, of the Report on the activities of the Commission since May 2002 (LC/G.2237(SES.30/5)) describes the work carried out under each of the Commission's subprogrammes, including those that comprise technical advice to countries in the region. The present subsection briefly, albeit more specifically, details the cooperation activities related to the technical assistance missions carried out by ECLAC experts and consultants during the biennium.

A total of 753 technical cooperation missions to 17 Latin American and 19 Caribbean countries were conducted in 2002-2003 (see figure 1, which shows the number of ECLAC technical cooperation missions in each country). A wide array of issues were addressed, such as the processing and analysis of information gathered in population and housing censuses, international trade and treaty negotiations, natural resource regulations and policies, environmental indicators and policies, State modernization and planning, refinement of household surveys and economic and social statistics, assessment of natural disasters and gender mainstreaming in government policies and programmes (see figures 2, 3 and 4, which show the number of ECLAC technical cooperation missions in each country by subject area: economic, social and environmental and sustainable development). These missions are carried out at the request of the Governments of member countries in the region and are coordinated with related activities or programmes carried out by other international organizations and with national entities at various levels (subregional, national and local).

Technical advisory services almost always involve an in-service training component when the mission does not specifically involve workshops or training courses. In a large and growing number of cases, however, advisory missions are taking the form of substantive collaboration with national authorities, professionals and technical experts.

Technical assistance missions play a pivotal role in the Commission's work. They are a form of direct collaboration with member States in specific areas of interest, through which ECLAC can learn about specific experiences that it can then systematize through more general analysis. This provides a better empirical basis for the Commission's diagnostic assessments, conclusions and recommendations.

Figure 1
ECLAC TECHNICAL COOPERATION MISSIONS, 2002-2003 BIENNIUM



Figure 2
ECLAC TECHNICAL COOPERATION MISSIONS, 2002-2003 BIENNIUM ECONOMIC ISSUES

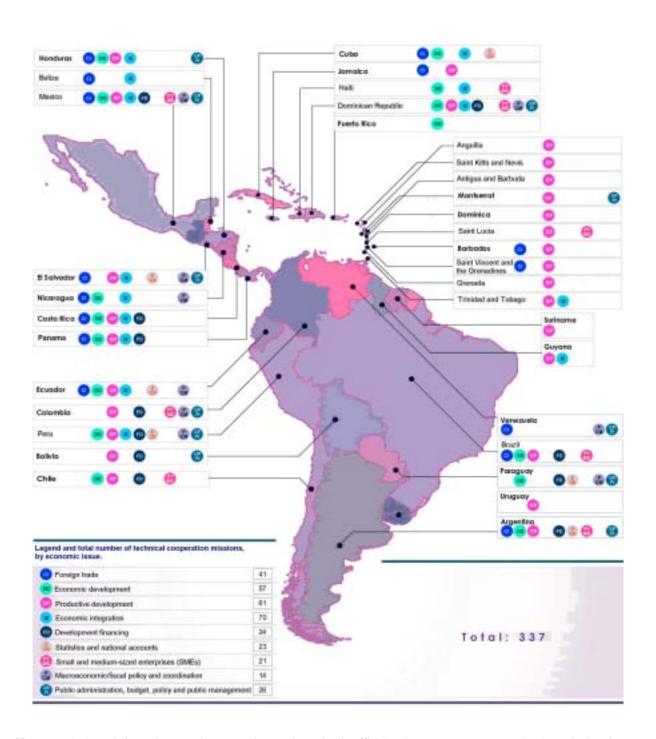


Figure 3
ECLAC TECHNICAL COOPERATION MISSIONS, 2002-2003 BIENNIUM SOCIAL ISSUES



Figure 4
ECLAC TECHNICAL COOPERATION MISSIONS, 2002-2003 BIENNIUM ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ISSUES



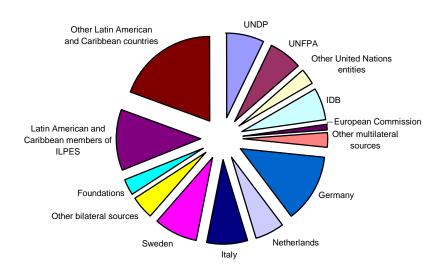
(ii) Projects financed with extrabudgetary resources

• Total expenditures by donor

During the 2002-2003 biennium, ECLAC executed a total of 176 technical cooperation projects financed wholly or partly with extrabudgetary resources. The subject areas and outputs of these projects are described at the end of this report. Total estimated expenditure for the period was US\$ 18,293,182, which was slightly lower than the total for 2000-2001. Nonetheless, this figure is higher than it was in any biennium of the 1990s and is equivalent to 26% of the regular budget of ECLAC.

As shown in figure 5 and the table that follows, the source of such funds continues to be predominantly bilateral, with a considerable proportion provided by European countries (France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain and Sweden). These contributions, along with those of Japan and Canada, covered 39% of these expenditures. Among the countries of the region, which together provided 31.3% of the financing for these expenditures, the biggest contributions came from the Governments of Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Uruguay and from other countries members of ILPES.

Figure 5
FINANCING SOURCES FOR ECLAC EXTRABUDGETARY EXPENDITURE, 2002-2003 BIENNIUM^a



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official figures.

^a Total estimated expenditure in the biennium amounted to US\$ 18,293,182.

Table
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: EXTRABUDGETARY
EXPENDITURE, BY SOURCE OF FINANCING, 2002-2003 BIENNIUM

Source of financing	Amount (dollars)	Percentage
MULTILATERAL		
United Nations system	3 043 937	16.6
United Nations Development Programme	1 338 931	7.3
United Nations Population Fund	1 156 782	6.3
United Nations Foundation	238 300	1.3
Other	309 924	1.7
Specialized agencies of the United Nations	1 851 831	10.1
Inter-American Development Bank	1 108 015	6.1
European Commission	213 793	1.2
World Bank	86 170	0.5
Central American Integration System	319 334	1.7
Other multilateral agencies	124 519	0.7
BILATERAL		
Developed countries	7 129 257	39.0
Germany	2 378 012	13.0
Netherlands	1 009 549	5.5
Italy	1 432 672	7.8
Sweden	1 526 011	8.3
Spain	416 821	2.3
France	131 505	0.7
Japan	157 565	0.9
Canada	25 338	0.1
Other	51 784	0.3
Latin American and Caribbean countries	5 682 136	31.1
Argentina	2 510 541	13.7
Chile	651 007	3.6
Colombia	114 653	0.6
Uruguay	136 061	0.7
Other Latin American and Caribbean countries	154 554	0.8
Latin American and Caribbean members of ILPES	2 115 320	11.6
Foundations, universities, private sector	586 021	3.2
Ford Foundation	381 604	2.1
University of Minnesota	82 019	0.4
Kellogg Foundation	83 497	0.5
Other	38 901	0.2
Total	18 293 182	100.0

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

The second largest source of project funding has been international organizations, including those that belong to the United Nations system (UNDP, UNFPA, UNFIP and others). These organizations contributed about 16.6% of the resources used for extrabudgetary expenditure. In addition, some of the technical cooperation projects executed by ECLAC were financed with resources from the Development Account. This account, which is part of the United Nations regular budget for operational activities, provided a total of US\$ 1,058,360 during the 2002-2003 biennium. Other multilateral institutions, principally the Inter-American Development Bank, the European Commission and the Central American Integration System (SICA), financed 10.1% of these extrabudgetary expenditures.

In comparison to the preceding biennium, the most significant change was the relative increase in the contributions made by developed countries, which partially offset the decrease in contributions from countries of the region. In fact, the relative shares of the two groups of countries were practically reversed, largely because of widespread economic difficulties and, in particular, the depreciation of the local currencies of Latin American and Caribbean donor countries over the past few years. Contributions from international organizations have remained relatively stable, with decreases in both absolute and relative terms being registered in the level of financing provided by United Nations entities and an increase in the share contributed by IDB and the World Bank. The share of extrabudgetary resources provided by foundations, universities and other private-sector organizations increased from 1.2% to 3.2% and is likely to remain at this level or increase further in the future.

• Technical cooperation projects

During the biennium, the Project Management Unit of the Programme Planning and Operations Division continued to support the execution of numerous technical cooperation projects with extrabudgetary financing. Such operations are overseen, as appropriate, by ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, the subregional headquarters in Mexico and the Caribbean, country offices in Buenos Aires, Brasilia, Montevideo and Bogotá and the liaison office in Washington, D.C.

Technical cooperation projects are designed in response to requests from Governments in Latin America and the Caribbean and pursuant to the guidelines of donor agencies. These projects enabled the ECLAC secretariat to strengthen and expand the scope of some of the activities included in the programme of work of the ECLAC system for the 2002-2003 biennium.

The projects implemented in the period under review included subregional or regional research and comparative studies, technical advisory services to individual countries, collaboration with subnational entities, training courses and workshops or seminars at the national, subregional and regional levels. An ongoing effort was made to disseminate information in the form of books and series published by ECLAC, co-publications and postings on the ECLAC web site in which the contributions of donors are duly acknowledged. The substantive outputs of these projects were also included in several of the Commission's flagship publications.

Annex 3 provides an overview of technical cooperation projects, grouped thematically, taking into account such factors as their substantive importance, their multisectoral scope and what impact they have had on ECLAC subprogrammes and divisions. The multidisciplinary, interdivisional work carried out under these projects, with the support of extrabudgetary resources, is a highly productive facet of the Commission's work and provides a different perspective on the regular activities conducted under the

As these resources come from the United Nations regular budget, they have not been included in the figure and table on extrabudgetary contributions.

subprogrammes from that provided in part II, section A, of the activities report (LC/G.2237(SES.30/5)) and in the following subsection on TCDC.

• TCDC projects and activities

As mentioned earlier (see point 2 above), ECLAC carries out activities that support and promote technical cooperation among developing countries and regions within the general legislative framework of the United Nations on cooperation activities, and more specifically according to the recommendations formulated by member countries through the Commission's sessional Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and Regions. In carrying out these activities, the ECLAC secretariat takes into account the regular programme of work and its complementarity with projects financed with extrabudgetary resources.

During the 2002-2003 biennium, ECLAC carried out numerous activities with significant TCDC components, such as comparative studies to broaden countries' awareness of the experiences of countries with a similar or higher level of development; the promotion of exchanges of experiences, best practices and new methodologies through discussion seminars and training workshops; and the establishment and broadening of formal and informal networks of government representatives or experts to facilitate more ongoing, longer-term contacts.

The range of issues covered was broad and spanned all the subprogrammes of work of the Commission. The ECLAC web site on cooperation²⁷ provides detailed information, in tabular format, on projects with significant TCDC components. The information below was taken from that web site.

In terms of linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation, two projects stand out. The first, financed by the Government of Japan, concerns free trade agreements in the Americas. The project involved the wide dissemination of experiences with negotiation processes, including the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and a number of bilateral agreements of special relevance to the Central American countries. The second project, also financed by the Government of Japan, compared the development of industries linked to information technologies. Although the study included only a few countries in the region, its benefits are broader in scope, since it provides information and analytical tools regarding policies and best practices for all interested countries. Furthermore, the project helped set up a web site open to all countries members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum.

In the area of productive, technological and entrepreneurial development, several projects supported by cooperation funds from the Governments of Germany and Italy were carried out on issues ranging from technical, professional and vocational training to production linkages and microfinancing for small and medium-sized enterprises. The projects provided substantive inputs for an inter-American network on professional education and resulted in the creation of a new network; together, these networks serve Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Paraguay and Uruguay. In addition to the relevant technical assistance, there was an extensive process of debate and exchange of experiences among 10 Latin American and 3 Caribbean countries regarding policies on competitiveness, microcredit and the development of production clusters.

²⁷ See http://www.eclac.cl/cooperacion/ctpd.

In the field of macroeconomic policies and growth, one of two noteworthy examples is a project, financed with European Commission contributions and United Nations Development Account resources, for the creation of the Network for Macroeconomic Dialogue (REDIMA), which involved the establishment of both a regional network and subregional networks for the countries of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), the Andean Community and Central America. The second major project, funded with a contribution from IDB, studied the experiences of financial reforms in promoting equity and efficiency. The findings of this study have been widely disseminated in the region by way of publications, seminars and the ECLAC web site.

Concerning social development and equity, a project on socially sustainable development policies, financed by the Government of Germany, developed practical guidelines for policy-making in this area and set up forums for dialogue between various sectors and countries, particularly Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Uruguay, to discuss experiences with such policies and the adaptations required. Another project, which received financial support from the Government of the Netherlands, helped to disseminate lessons learned regarding institutional aspects of social policies and to establish a network of social institutions in Latin American and Caribbean countries, with the expectation that it will be strengthened in the future.

With respect to mainstreaming the gender perspective, various activities were carried out to establish networks, design and disseminate gender indicators for use in policy-making and spread best practices in this regard in the sphere of social security, labour and productive development policies. Fifteen Latin American countries benefited directly from these exchanges, but the experiences and networks are currently available to all countries in the region in printed form and on the Internet. The projects were financed with contributions from the Governments of the Netherlands, Italy and Germany.

In the area of population and development, the regional population programme financed by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) carried out various TCDC-related activities. One such activity was the discussion and sharing of national experiences in executing and following up on the Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development. In this context, training on population issues by way of horizontal cooperation mechanisms was specifically promoted and direct support was provided to the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development, to the benefit of all member States. Furthermore, IDB financed two important projects on the dissemination and use of data from the 2000 census round and of indicators on indigenous populations, in which the experiences of Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama, Paraguay, Mexico and Nicaragua were studied and exchanged; other countries in the region will benefit from this exercise in the future.

With regard to the planning of public administration, the Regional Seminar on Fiscal Policy is a useful mechanism for establishing contacts, exchanging experiences and forming government and expert networks. ECLAC holds this seminar every year in collaboration with the Government of Chile, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), IDB and the World Bank. The fourteenth Seminar was held in 2002 and the fifteenth, which received additional contributions from OECD, the Government of Germany and UNDP, was held in January 2003. The Seminar is attended each year by more than 80 experts, academics and authorities of Latin American and Caribbean central banks and economic ministries.

With respect to the environment and human settlements, a number of projects were implemented on policies for environmentally sustainable development, environmental management of national projects and territorial and urban management from the perspective of poverty reduction. These projects received financial support from the Governments of Germany, Italy, Sweden and the Netherlands. During their implementation, comparative and case studies were conducted, manuals were prepared, dialogue was

promoted and information on policy instruments and experiences was widely disseminated in 13 Latin American and 11 Caribbean countries.

With regard to natural resources and infrastructure, the Government of Sweden, via the Global Water Partnership (GWP), contributed to the establishment and expansion of the Latin American water network, officially set up in the GWP South American Technical Advisory Committee (SAMTAC), which promotes and facilitates dialogue, distributes up-to-date information and publications on water issues in the subregion and follows up on the targets established at the World Summit on Sustainable Development for groundwater and flood management.

In the area of statistics and economic projections, for several years IDB financed the programme for the improvement of surveys and the measurement of living conditions in Latin America and the Caribbean (MECOVI), which involved the active participation of 22 Latin American and Caribbean countries and placed strong emphasis on exchanging experiences and increasing the comparability of indicators obtained from surveys, particularly those related to poverty. Additionally, and with financial support from UNDP, an assessment was conducted of the Latin American and Caribbean countries' chances of meeting the poverty reduction target established as part of the Millennium Development Goals; this exercise covered 17 countries of the region.

As part of its subregional activities in Mexico and Central America, ECLAC collaborated with UNDP and the Mexican Institute for International Cooperation to update and strengthen Mexico's development cooperation strategy, with special emphasis on TCDC. The existing legal framework, financing mechanisms and successful national TCDC experiences were analysed and a methodology was designed for monitoring and evaluating TCDC programmes and projects. Moreover, with financial support from IDB and the World Bank, training and experience-sharing activities were carried out in seven Central American and Caribbean countries regarding information on and the assessment of the economic and social impact of natural disasters.

Regarding subregional activities in the Caribbean, the Government of the Netherlands provided funding for social vulnerability and trade support projects in countries members of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), which enhanced the exchange of experiences and helped to strengthen technical cooperation networks, in addition to providing direct support to the Committee. Also noteworthy was the set of activities carried out in support of the subregional review of the Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development, the preparation of a future plan of action for the Caribbean and the dissemination of experiences and best practices, for which UNFPA provided financial support.

Annex 1

MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION DURING THE 2002-2003 BIENNIUM

The periodic Meetings of Directors of International Cooperation of countries in the region, which are convened by SELA, have helped to strengthen coordination among regional bodies and forums that engage in TCDC activities.

The meeting held in Montevideo, Uruguay (March 2002) addressed the issue of "International cooperation in the twenty-first century: new forms and stakeholders". The meeting's conclusions and recommendations included: (i) the need to increase the use of national focal points for cooperation, to which end a programme to promote a data exchange network was proposed; (ii) the importance of promoting programmes and projects under a comprehensive, flexible and efficient scheme that would ensure their effectiveness, through triangular cooperation —among other financing mechanisms— and increased participation by new stakeholders such as the private sector and civil-society organizations; (iii) the advisability of summarizing specific experiences relating to cooperation processes and programmes in the countries, with a view to creating an information source focusing on shared technical abilities and know-how that would strengthen current and future regional cooperation; (iv) the relevance of designing methodologies and systematizing processes for following up and evaluating TCDC in order to assess and measure its impact and make it more efficient and effective; and (v) the importance of including the issue of migration on the agendas of international entities and meetings, considering that it affected not only the economies of countries, but family structures and society as well.

The meeting held in Panama City (July 2003) focused on "Financing for development and the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean", and was organized jointly with the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance of the Republic of Panama, SELA and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). At the meeting, ECLAC presented a paper on the technical cooperation activities carried out by its experts within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals. The ECLAC representative stressed that the Goals had already been incorporated into its 2002-2005 medium-term plan and its regular programme of work for the 2002-2003 and 2004-2005 bienniums. The core objective was to increase the ability of member States to meet the Goals. ECLAC had identified three priority areas of action in relation to the Goals: (i) poverty reduction policies, including social policies and the impact of economic policies on poverty and equity; (ii) national policies and mechanisms for international cooperation, including the further integration of the countries of the region into the world economy and the improvement of the relationship between economic and social development in the context of globalization; and (iii) linkage between economic and environmental strategies.

The participants in the Panama meeting adopted the following conclusions and recommendations: (i) to pay special attention to the vulnerability of small economies, island States and landlocked countries in the region, which bore higher transaction costs in obtaining international cooperation; (ii) to reaffirm the importance of the Millennium Development Goals and the region's commitment to achieving them within the established time frames by strengthening the countries' ability to design and execute relevant strategies and policies; (iii) to increase dissemination activities and strengthen the commitment of national Governments and non-governmental organizations to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals; (iv) to urge countries in the region to increase budgetary allocations in the areas of education and health so that the Millennium Development Goals could be met; (v) to allocate more resources —both human and material—to South-South cooperation, making them available for exchange programmes, collaborative studies, training (including professional training), the exchange of experiences and strategic alliances, particularly in the area of science and technology; and (vi) to make full use of the human, institutional and national capacities developed by some Latin American and Caribbean countries to promote South-South cooperation activities in areas linked to the Millennium Development Goals.

Annex 2 TIMETABLE OF EVENTS RELATING TO ECLAC ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (TCDC)

	TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COU	
Year	Event	Source of information
1975	Creation of the Latin American Economic System (SELA), headquartered in Caracas, Venezuela, and consisting of 27 Latin American and Caribbean countries,	Panama Convention
	to serve as a regional coordinating body for activities to promote TCDC	
1978	Adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing	General Assembly resolution
	Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries	33/134
1979	Establishment of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and	ECLAC resolution 387(XVIII)
	Regions as the Commission's principal policy-making body in matters of	
	horizontal cooperation	
1981	First meeting of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and	E/CEPAL/G.1167
	Regions, held during the nineteenth session of ECLAC	
1984	Second meeting of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries	E/CEPAL/SES.20/G.10
	and Regions, held during the twentieth session of ECLAC	
1986	Third meeting of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and	LC/G.1401(SES.21/22)
	Regions, held during the twenty-first session of ECLAC	
1988	Fourth meeting of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries	LC/G.1505(SES.22/10)
	and Regions, held during the twenty-second session of ECLAC	
1990	Fifth meeting of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and	LC/G.1611(SES.23/12)
	Regions, held during the twenty-third session of ECLAC	
1992	Sixth meeting of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and	LC/G.1711(SES.24/13)
	Regions, held during the twenty-fourth session of ECLAC	
1993	Establishment of a cooperation programme between the Government of the	Agreement
	Netherlands and ECLAC	
1994	Seventh meeting of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries	LC/G.1809(SES.25/16)
	and Regions, held during the twenty-fifth session of ECLAC	
1995	The General Assembly recognizes the importance of the new directions for TCDC	General Assembly resolution
	adopted by the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation	50/119
	among Developing Countries	
1996	Cooperation agreement between ECLAC and IDB	Agreement
1996	Eighth meeting of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries	LC/G.1906(SES.26/11)
	and Regions, held during the twenty-sixth session of ECLAC	
1998	Ninth meeting of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and	LC/G.2000(SES.27/14)
	Regions, held during the twenty-seventh session of ECLAC	
1999	Establishment of a voluntary contribution for annual programming with the	Exchange of letters
	Government of Italy	
2000	Millennium Declaration	General Assembly resolution
		55/2
2000	Tenth meeting of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries and	LC/G.2081(SES.28/13)
	Regions, held during the twenty-eighth session of ECLAC	
2001	Establishment of the programme modality for cooperation with the Government of	Exchange of letters
	Germany	
2002	Fifteenth Meeting of Directors of International Cooperation of Latin America and	XV.RDCIALC/DF-02
	the Caribbean, organized by SELA	
2002	Monterrey Consensus, adopted at the International Conference on Financing for	A/CONF.198/11 and General
	Development	Assembly resolution 56/210B
2002	Eleventh meeting of the Committee on Cooperation among Developing Countries	LC/G.2160(SES.29/6), section
	and Regions, held during the twenty-ninth session of ECLAC	II.C.(iii)
2002	World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa	A/CONF.199/20
2003	Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement between the European	Agreement
	Community and the United Nations	
2003	Thirteenth session of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical	TCDC/13/4
	Cooperation among Developing Countries, organized by UNDP	
2003	Sixteenth Meeting of Directors of International Cooperation of Latin America and	XVI.RDCIALC/DF
	the Caribbean, organized by SELA	

CROSS-SECTORAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY MORE THAN ONE DIVISION, BY SUBJECT AREA

1. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), productive development and technological innovation

The area of productive development and SMEs was primarily the responsibility of the Division of Production, Productivity and Management, the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, the subregional headquarters in Mexico, the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, the ECLAC office in Buenos Aires and ILPES. Financing and external support came mostly from donations made by the Governments of the Netherlands, Italy and Germany. The German Government made its contribution through the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ).

Advisory services were provided to the four subregions in the design and implementation of SME-oriented policies, using innovative methodological approaches, which culminated in the release of a CD-ROM containing updated databases on the support framework and policies available to industrial SMEs in the region; in addition, a book is scheduled to be published in 2004 on experiences with coordination among SMEs in specific regions and sectors in Brazil, Chile and Mexico.

In the Andean countries, support was provided for the training of small-scale entrepreneurs in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru on how to plan and implement joint investment ventures. In the Caribbean, three videos were filmed to train microenterprise owners in how to form and build a business. In the Southern Cone, assistance was provided to the Argentine Ministry of Labour in the compilation of databases on employment, particularly among SMEs, and in the preparation of studies on policies aimed at creating SME employment. This effort culminated in 2002 in the Ministry's decision to set up a permanent SME observatory.

Studies were conducted on the public and private sectors in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua on microenterprises and SMEs (micro/SMEs) in Central America, which led to a subregional seminar attended by representatives of the countries, GTZ, the Centre for the Promotion of Micro- and Small Enterprises in Central America (CENPROMYPE), the Foundation for Sustainable Development (FUNDES) and IDB. Another outcome was a GTZ/ECLAC joint publication on the competitiveness of micro/SMEs in Central America. Separate studies were also carried out on microfinancing in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico, all of which received technical assistance in this area.

With respect to the situation of SMEs and technological innovation, it was found that some sectors had incorporated major innovations (biotechnology in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, printing in Mexico and winemaking in Chile), together with appropriate instruments and policies. Opportunities in relation to "environmental goods" were identified in Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Mexico, taking into account existing regulations, international markets and companies' public and corporate image. It was found that significant progress had been made regarding certain technological policies in support of SMEs but that those steps were still insufficient for meeting the challenges of competitiveness, especially in a context of increasingly globalized production and trade.

Distributed in English for the Eastern Caribbean, in Papiamento for the Netherlands Antilles and in Creole for Haiti.

2. Preparation, analysis and use of censuses, surveys and databases in designing and implementing public policy

Databases and their analysis in the countries of the region are an increasingly important tool for the discussion, formulation, implementation and evaluation of economic, social and environmental public policies. In the 2002-2003 biennium, ECLAC significantly expanded the thematic and geographical coverage of its information on the countries' economic and social development, thanks to increased participation by a number of divisions and support from several donors, which enabled the Commission to address requests from member States in a timely manner. The Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC, the Statistics and Economic Projections Division, the Division of Production, Productivity and Management, the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, the subregional headquarters in Mexico, the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean and the Women and Development Unit all collaborated on these activities. Financing and external support were provided mainly by the Governments of the Netherlands, Italy, Germany and France and by UNFPA, UNDP, UNIFEM, the United Nations Development Account, IDB, World Bank and the University of Minnesota, United States.

Numerous activities were carried out during the biennium, including the production of updated sociodemographic information, which gave rise to a system of indicators (available online) for the follow-up of the Cairo and Beijing Conferences. ECLAC also made available to the Governments a system of gender indicators for following up on the Beijing Platform for Action (in partnership with other United Nations entities), public policies and the Millennium Development Goals; these indicators were discussed by the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Statistical Conference of the Americas. A gender subsystem was created within the statistical systems of nine countries in the region.

As a result of technical assistance provided by the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC, databases of census microdata were created in REDATAM format for all the countries that had data available from the 2000 census round (Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela) and for some Caribbean countries. Moreover, substantial progress was made in revamping and expanding the regional data bank of information from censuses dating back to the 1960s.

A series of maps were developed in which various georeferenced socio-economic and environmental indicators were combined for use in analysing sustainability and specific issues such as the rate at which basic needs were being met, population density, biodiversity, soil characteristics, climate, water, natural disasters and agriculture. Based on this methodology and on databases compiled from household surveys and agricultural censuses (both in REDATAM format), a pilot project on socio-economic indicators was launched in Argentina, Brazil and Chile to study the causes and consequences of desertification. As a result of this project, consensus was reached on 12 indicators of desertified or degraded areas.

With a view to improving surveys and the measurement of living conditions, a series of regional discussion and analysis workshops were prepared and held jointly with IDB and were attended by some 225 representatives of countries in the region.⁴ Technical advice on household surveys was provided to

² Specifically in Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras and Panama.

³ See http://www.eclac.cl/mujer.

⁴ Materials from the workshop are available on the ECLAC web page at http://www.eclac.cl/deype/mecovi/.

Argentina, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru.

The establishment of the Network of Institutions and Experts for the Development of Social and Environmental Statistics (REDESA) was supported through the creation of an Internet portal that has received numerous visits.⁵ In addition, a database of social statistics and indicators (BADEINSO) containing data that are comparable across all countries of the region was created and is available online. The production of social and environmental statistics in eight countries was evaluated and regional workshops on integrating systems of social indicators in Latin America and the Caribbean were held for experts in social statistics, attracting over 60 participants.

The capacity to produce current, detailed and comparable information on trade in the Caribbean has improved significantly, and the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, located in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, has implemented a very comprehensive database that has been available on its web site since January 2004.⁶

The Comparative Analysis of Nations (CAN) software has become a widely used tool for analysing foreign trade data in order to evaluate countries' competitiveness trends in the medium and long terms. In 2002-2003 ECLAC, in collaboration with the World Bank, updated the database so that it could be used in Africa and Asia as well. The Commission's primary tool for analysing disaggregated trends and structures in the manufacturing industry in countries of the region —the PADI software for analysing industry dynamics— was updated to meet the increased demand from institutions specializing in industrial analysis, such as government entities, chambers of industry and universities.

3. Socially sustainable public policies

In addition to policies aimed at stimulating economic recovery, most countries of the region are in need of institutional reforms for promoting legal security and social reforms for facilitating the development of human capital, which form the basis for genuine competitiveness and sustainable growth. Accordingly, ECLAC carried out a number of activities on social equity, overcoming ethnic, racial and gender barriers, reconciling certain social policies with economic policies and the socio-economic effects of the demographic transition in the region. The Social Development Division, the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC, the Statistics and Economic Projections Division, the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, the Special Studies Unit and the Women and Development Unit collaborated on such activities. Financing and external support were provided mainly by the Governments of Germany, Chile, France, Italy and the Netherlands and by United Nations entities (UNFPA, UNIFEM and the World Food Programme (WFP), among others), the World Bank, IDB and the University of Michigan, United States.

A systematic exchange of experiences and best practices with respect to social policies was initiated and, to date, 232 experiences in 13 countries of the region have been identified and will soon be accessible to all interested parties via an electronic directory.⁷

See http://www.eclac.cl/redesa.

⁶ See http://www.eclacpos.org.

In October 2002 an electronic directory of public and private institutions linked to social policy was published online; the English version was launched in the second half of 2003. The information contained in the directory has evolved in terms of content, quantity and quality (www.eclac.cl/dds). Also, a specific web site for

The reconciliation of public social policies with economic or financial policies was analysed and proposals were formulated in the area of social protection, taking into account insurance and saving, distribution, solidarity, management efficiency, coverage and the gender perspective. Of particular note among the technical assistance missions, workshops, seminars and publications were the annual regional course on social security financing, the workshop on macroeconomics and poverty and a panel discussion on financing social protection, held during the Regional Seminar on Fiscal Policy organized annually by ECLAC, IMF, the World Bank and IDB.

The approach taken to the design of policies for sustainable social development and for underprivileged segments of the population focused mainly on two topics: social stratification and mobilization and minority ethnic groups, which are among the most vulnerable segments of the population and are prone to extreme poverty and discrimination. With respect to indigenous populations with aboriginal languages, ECLAC continued to support activities aimed at encouraging dual literacy in Guatemala, Paraguay and Peru, using materials on topics such as reproductive health, the environment, the gender perspective and multiculturalism.

In collaboration with WFP, ECLAC addressed the issues of poverty and hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean in documents and at regional and subregional seminars and workshops in order to analyse their scope and characteristics, the potential for eradicating them and for providing food security, and how they relate to economic and social development. In the context of poverty reduction programmes, the issue of social capital was discussed in an interdisciplinary dialogue held at a seminar involving economists, sociologists and anthropologists, which created a network of specialists on the subject. This activity led to the publication of a book that includes contributions from experts both within and outside the region.

Studies were carried out on labour markets in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, El Salvador, Mexico and Peru in order to analyse their role in reducing social inequities and in increasing the competitiveness of the region's economies. Support was provided for the formulation and implementation of cross-sectoral labour policies that incorporate the principle of gender equity in key sectors of the economy, such as sectoral and women's affairs ministries. Furthermore, activities were undertaken in five countries to promote young people's integration into the workforce, in coordination with bilateral project activities carried out by GTZ.

The repercussions of the swift demographic transition taking place in the region's societies received a great deal of attention during the biennium. ECLAC provided support for the preparation of diagnostic studies and national policies, and collaborated on a regional study to assess the situation of older persons in preparation for the Second World Assembly on Ageing (Madrid, Spain, April 2002). These activities culminated in the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing: Towards a Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (Santiago, Chile, November 2003), in which representatives of 30 countries

disseminating working papers and other publications on the subject has been established (www.eclac.cl/dds/noticias/proyectos/6/7796/index.asp).

The relevant web site (www.eclac.cl/mujer/proyectos/gtz/Default.htm) was updated and work was begun on the expansion of the directory of experts on the gender approach.

This led to the creation of a regional inter-agency group on ageing and socio-economic development (consisting of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNFPA, PAHO, ILO, IDB and the World Bank).

took part.¹⁰ With cooperation funds from the Government of France, a seminar was held on the determinants and consequences of the decline in fertility, with the participation of the University of Paris X research centre on populations and societies.

4. Open regionalism and policy coordination

Since its inception, ECLAC has promoted and supported regional integration in Latin America and the Caribbean as a key pillar for the development of the region's production and trade capacities and for the consolidation of harmonious relations and cooperation among neighbouring countries. This dynamic resulted in the establishment of various trade integration schemes, such as the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA) and the Central American Common Market (CACM) in the early 1960s, followed 10 years later by the Andean Community and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), and more recently by the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR). During the biennium, ECLAC carried out a series of activities in relation to the current international context and new integration schemes and to the challenges they pose. The Economic Development Division, the Division of International Trade and Integration, the Statistics and Economic Projections Division and the Special Studies Unit collaborated on these activities. Financing and external support were provided mainly by the Governments of France and Japan and by the European Community and the United Nations Development Account.

One focus of attention was the coordination of macroeconomic policies among Governments and regional and subregional entities to cope better with the economic and social consequences of international volatility, prevent crises and create conditions conducive to more stable and sustainable growth. This was achieved through the creation of the Network for Macroeconomic Dialogue (REDIMA) and three subregional networks in MERCOSUR, the Andean Community and Central America. Within this network, high-level officials of ministries of economic affairs and central banks, with the Commission's support, exchange information and views on national macroeconomic policies and opportunities for regional and subregional coordination. The results of these exchanges are disseminated more widely through seminars, documents and electronic means, such as online forums and conferences.

The statistical dimension was incorporated into the studies in light of the need to support the coordination and monitoring of macroeconomic policies using an up-to-date and reliable regional information system. Special support was provided for initiatives aimed at harmonizing statistical information in the three subregions covered by REDIMA. In MERCOSUR and the Andean Community, efforts focused specifically on harmonizing several key indicators and building models and simulations of the subregional economies, while in Central America, support was provided for the institutionalization of regional cooperation in statistical matters.

The European experience served as a historical frame of reference, as a trade integration scheme that strengthened its policy coordination mechanisms, which culminated in the creation of a single currency. These issues were discussed at the international seminar "Towards Regional Currency Areas?" and in a book that included contributions from experts in Africa, Asia, Europe (notably France) and throughout the Americas. The result was a compendium of over 70 presentations and documents on the subject.

The Conference adopted the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing.

A network of national experts analysed the impact of macroeconomic policies on employment, poverty and equity, in areas that engender insecurity, uncertainty and tension in individuals, families and society as a whole. They also looked at social security reforms and ways in which the functions of insurance and saving, distribution and solidarity, universal coverage and benefits could and must be reconciled within the State's fiscal responsibilities.

With respect to integration dynamics in the region, the principal free trade agreements in the Americas were analysed, especially from the perspectives of Mexico and Chile, in relation to compatibility with World Trade Organization (WTO) commitments. Emphasis was also placed on the negotiation processes of various trade agreements, identifying areas of difficulty and conflict during negotiations and implementation. The outputs of these activities include a comprehensive study with important background information on the subject.

5. Financing for development

The generation, attraction and efficient allocation of the financial resources necessary for attaining the Millennium Development Goals are major challenges for the Latin American and Caribbean countries. ECLAC has been analysing financial systems, institutions and instruments at the national, subregional and regional levels in terms of their development, their relationship to long-term saving and ways of orienting them towards meeting development needs. In the past few years, these areas have been addressed through projects on debt, saving and capital formation; banking regulation and supervision; and pension-system financing. A cross-cutting approach was taken to the analysis of these issues, which involved several different divisions, including the Division of Production, Productivity and Management, the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division and the Special Studies Unit. Financing and external support were provided mainly by the Governments of the Netherlands, Italy, Sweden and Germany and by UNDP, the World Institute for Development Economics Research of United Nations University and IDB.

During the biennium, support was provided for a regional consultation prior to the International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey, Mexico, March 2002). The book *Growth with stability* was widely disseminated during and after the Conference. The Commission also supported the efforts of various countries to follow up the Monterrey Consensus recommendations concerning the policy instruments and institutional arrangements needed to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by globalization for gaining access to international financing, both public and private.

Issues such as the availability of external financing for emerging economies, specific markets such as those for bank lending and derivatives, foreign direct investment and the performance of risk rating agencies were examined and compared across countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Mexico). This activity also included an exchange of experiences with countries in Asia (Malaysia, the Republic of Korea) and Africa (South Africa).

Studies on low-income saving and microfinance were carried out, with emphasis on poor segments of the population. Case studies showed that the motivation to save is linked to families' acquisition of physical and/or human capital (housing, education), but that the success of the initiatives put into practice has been limited by the absence of instruments suitable for low-income individuals. Comparative studies concluded that in order to improve low-income sectors' access to formal financial services, a distinction must be made between transfer policies aimed at alleviating poverty and assistance provided to solvent economic stakeholders through microfinancing institutions that are able to handle

credit risks, information asymmetries and transaction costs. Other issues addressed were the credit access problems encountered by microenterprises and small businesses and proposals for practical solutions, which prompted the participating countries to make institutional changes and offer specific training.

Work was also carried out with regard to the evaluation of strategies for financing environmentally sustainable development in the region. During the biennium, studies on seven countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico and Trinidad and Tobago) were published, in addition to the book *Financing for Sustainable Development: visions and proposals for action from a Latin American and Caribbean perspective*, which gives a general overview of the region. Two high-level meetings were held, the first of which took place in the framework of the International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey, Mexico, March 2002) and focused on the issue of public-private partnerships for environmental investment in the region. The second meeting was held during the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002) and focused on financing and investment for sustainable development and regional prospects for implementing the Monterrey Consensus and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. The results of these activities provided important inputs for the programme of regional courses on economic instruments and sources of financing for sustainable development.

Moreover, inputs were provided for the debate on pension-system transition and reform and on the effects of these changes on capital markets, particularly with respect to long-term investment financing. Attention was drawn to the fiscal responsibilities associated with the reforms and to the coverage problems observed in most countries of the region, as well as their impact on minimum and welfare pension costs. The conditions which accumulated funds must meet in order to contribute to development financing in accordance with investment rules were analysed, together with the impact of pension reform on the situation of women. Research and policy proposals were formulated.

6. Sustainable development, productivity and the use of natural resources

The Latin American and Caribbean region faces a major challenge in implementing innovative polices to achieve economic and environmental sustainability, especially in natural resource sectors, while simultaneously reducing poverty. This policy focus requires sharpening after the unsatisfactory macroeconomic, social and environmental experiences of the region over the last decade (1993-2003). The pressing issues in this area were globally recognized at the United Nations Millennium Summit (September, 2000) and in the Millennium Development Goals on sustainable development and poverty reduction, and were taken up again in 2002 at the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

The cross-cutting nature of environmental and sustainability issues has naturally called for interdisciplinary analyses undertaken through cooperation across projects and ECLAC divisions in major policy areas, including fiscal, economic, energy, water, social, environmental and agricultural policies. The seventh Millennium Development Goal, on the integration of environmental policy into macroeconomic and sectoral policies, helped to structure this collaboration. The Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, the Division of Production, Productivity and Management, the Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division, the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC and the subregional headquarters in Mexico collaborated on these activities. Financing and external support were provided mainly by the Governments of the Netherlands, Sweden and Germany and by UNDP, the World Bank and the Global Water Partnership (GWP).

A systematic and comprehensive evaluation was undertaken of the progress made towards greater sustainability in the region. In particular, support was provided to the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean and dialogue was promoted between fiscal and environmental authorities, in an attempt to identify the obstacles faced by environmental authorities in their efforts to implement economic policies under current conditions. Activities were initiated to systematize environmental, economic and social indicators at the national level. Desertification and land degradation processes were studied under a pilot project covering Argentina, Brazil and Chile, which yielded a small number of agreed indicators. To support countries seeking to manage their water resources sustainably, the South American Technical Advisory Committee (SAMTAC) of GWP coordinated various national activities on issues such as governance, water and food and privatization, including the regulations governing it.¹¹

For the first time, high-level meetings took place between environmental authorities, the energy sector and government authorities responsible for economic and fiscal policy, inaugurating a regional process of dialogue between environmental and sectoral authorities. In January 2003 the Regional Seminar on Fiscal Policy, held every year by ECLAC, brought together high-level public decision-makers, academics and international experts to address specific questions and analyse the potential benefits of combining fiscal and environmental policy.

With regard to the environment and energy, the total primary energy supply has been estimated for most countries in the region. This includes the renewable energy supply (baseline 2000) for the assessment of the progress made on commitments undertaken by the countries of the region at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. A complementary study on regulatory frameworks for renewable energy sources was presented at the Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean on Renewable Energies (Brasilia, Brazil, October 2003), held in preparation for the International Conference for Renewable Energies (Bonn, Germany, June 2004). Studies on environmental problems in large cities showed how fiscal policy may run counter to energy and environmental policy aimed at combating pollution, and lessons were drawn in order to avoid such policy conflicts. Close collaboration with energy-sector authorities of the Central American isthmus facilitated the formulation of a proposal for standardizing legal and regulatory guidelines to attain more sustainable and efficient use of hydrocarbons and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG).

Other activities included identifying business opportunities in environmental technology and protection, especially for SMEs, to provide new opportunities for processes, products and services that could help improve technical and human resources and create more competitive conditions for gaining access to international markets.

Education and training modalities linked to the improvement of companies' indoor environments (occupational safety and health), the external environment and the implementation of quality standards in public, business and union policies and regulations were evaluated. Training activities played a major role in all the above-mentioned activities. Among them, an ECLAC/World Bank/Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency programme offered training for Latin American and Caribbean professionals —particularly those working in the public sector— in the areas of public policies for sustainable development; environmental economics and environmental policies; environmental governance and justice; international treaty/agreement negotiation; and indicators, data and information on sustainable development in the region within the global context.

¹¹ The GWP secretariat was established through a joint project with ECLAC.

¹² The seminar was held in collaboration with IMF, the World Bank and IDB.

III. DISSEMINATION AND COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS DIVISION

The Documents and Publications Division edits, translates, processes, reproduces, distributes and sells the documents prepared by the secretariat in both English and Spanish and, to a lesser extent, in French. Since 2002, a special effort has also been made to start publishing in Portuguese. The Division also provides these services at conferences and meetings sponsored by the Commission at ECLAC headquarters and elsewhere. In fulfilment of the policies established by the Publications and Information Services Committee, it produces printed documents for cost-free distribution and publications for sale, using its own printing facilities or external printers, or through co-publishing agreements with outside publishing houses. It also produces electronic documents for publication on the Internet. The latter two activities have expanded considerably, thanks in part to the conclusion of multilateral agreements with other agencies for the publication of books in Spanish and English. The fact that almost all ECLAC documents are published on its web site has both expedited and expanded their dissemination. The Division collaborates with the United Nations Sales Section in the task of commercial distribution; it also acts as technical secretariat to the Publications and Information Services Committee and draws up and implements the ECLAC Publications Programme.

The Division has continued to enhance its work through technical innovations and to outsource editing, translation and graphics services where necessary. The small in-house staff, which is seen as a highly qualified core group, is mainly responsible for the documents of greatest institutional importance. The use of new computer software, progress in electronic communications and the acquisition of ondemand printing technology has enabled the Division to deliver a high-quality product within very short time frames and in a minimum of two languages.

In the 2002-2003 biennium the Division consolidated the changes that were proposed and agreed upon with the Office of the Executive Secretary with a view to implementing a more consistent editorial policy (begun in 1998). The policy objectives that have been met include the following:

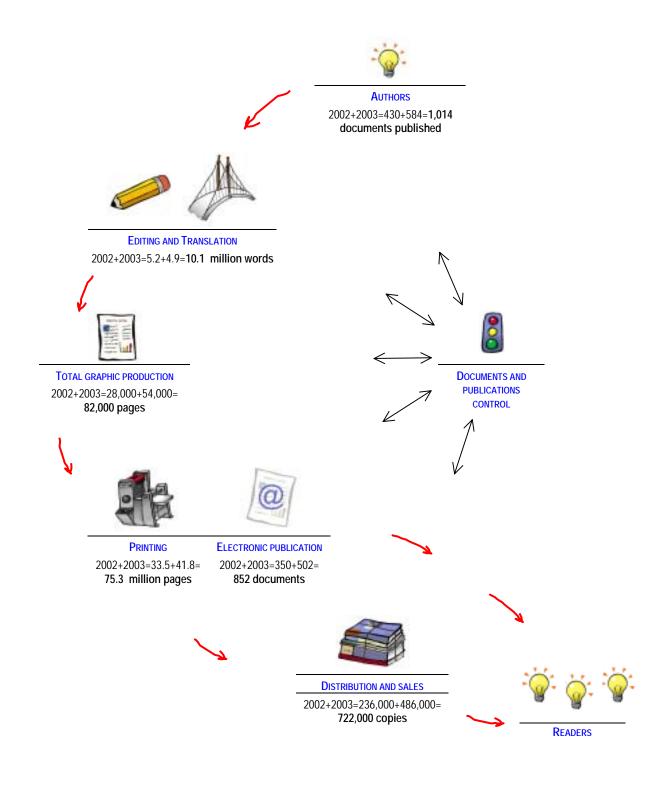
- (i) ECLAC flagship publications in English and Spanish, produced with a standard format so that they can be readily distributed and identified as a set.
- (ii) A collection of ECLAC books, with their own distinguishing features and an improved presentation. During the biennium 22 of these ECLAC books were published.
- (iii) Replacement of traditional institutional documents with "series" publications. Research and studies carried out by ECLAC are disseminated through series of publications on various themes, produced by the respective substantive divisions. The Division has trained a large number of staff from different areas of the Commission in the formatting of these series. The publications programme of the subregional headquarters and the national offices also includes the production of series.

- (iv) Co-publishing: Having been delegated the authority to sign joint publication and distribution agreements with commercial publishing houses, ECLAC considerably increased the number of such agreements. In the 2002-2003 biennium 13 books were produced as joint publications, with ECLAC providing financial contributions in most cases, using either regular-budget or extrabudgetary resources.
- (v) Development of electronic publications as a contribution to the ECLAC web site. The number of documents available electronically on the site increased significantly.
- (vi) Marketing: during the biennium the Division waged an intensive campaign to market and disseminate its publications at book fairs, high-level seminars and book launches.

During the 2002-2003 biennium the Division provided a variety of support services to 25 conferences and meetings sponsored by ECLAC. It edited, translated and revised 10.1 million words and produced 1,014 documents and publications, including 47 substantive publications and 373 titles in series. It printed a total of 75.3 million pages (49.1 million internally and 23.2 million externally); it distributed 722,000 copies of documents and publications free of charge and delivered 62,000 copies of publications to the United Nations sales network. The Division delivered 852 documents in electronic format for publication on the ECLAC web site (some of which were processed externally) and produced 13 publications in conjunction with external commercial publishers (see figure showing production statistics for the 2002-2003 biennium).

ECLAC, DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS DIVISION PRODUCTION STATISTICS, **2002-2003**

(approximate figures)



ECLAC LIBRARY

1. United Nations libraries in the Organization's reform process

One of the goals defined by the Secretary-General as part of the second round of reforms of the Organization refers specifically to the modernization and integration of United Nations libraries. A concrete measure aimed at achieving such integration was the establishment, in January 2003, of the Steering Committee for the Modernization and Integrated Management of United Nations Libraries, which reports to the Deputy Secretary-General through the Department of Public Information and whose deliberations are regularly reported to the United Nations Committee on Information. The offices in New York, Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna and the regional commissions are also involved in this initiative.

The Steering Committee has been very active in defining the basis for integration and the tools for facilitating concerted action by all the information services involved. This requires the Organization to define standards and common working tools that contribute significantly towards integrating library services and strengthening their activities. The ECLAC Library has been actively involved in all of the Steering Committee's deliberations, with results that are extremely promising in terms of achieving the objectives identified.

The adoption of common terminology for the processing of information facilitates exchanges and makes it possible for resources to be shared across the entire Organization. In 2003 the Library adopted the United Nations Bibliographic Information System (UNBIS) thesaurus, which is used to describe all United Nations programmes and activities and provides simultaneous access to information in all the official languages of the Organization.

The Secretary-General's mandate has significantly supported the activities carried out independently by the various information services of the United Nations, whose uneven development has mainly been due to differences in the resources allocated for their work. Coordinating the information services of the United Nations and the specialized agencies—including the libraries and information services of the ECLAC subregional headquarters and national offices— is of direct benefit to users, who receive integrated information services based on resources that libraries have made available to the Organization as a whole.

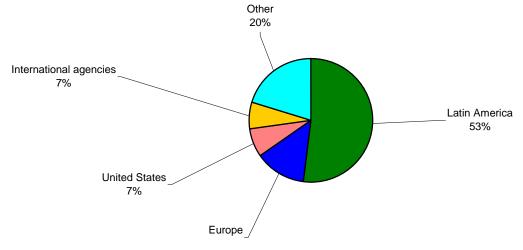
2. ECLAC in the United Nations Official Document System (ODS)

During the biennium, considerable headway was made with the digital library project for digitizing important ECLAC texts and helping to preserve them. ECLAC is now part of the United Nations Official Document System (ODS), which will facilitate the creation of a centralized system to provide documents in digital form. This will directly benefit ECLAC offices in the region, which will be able to replace their collections of printed documents.

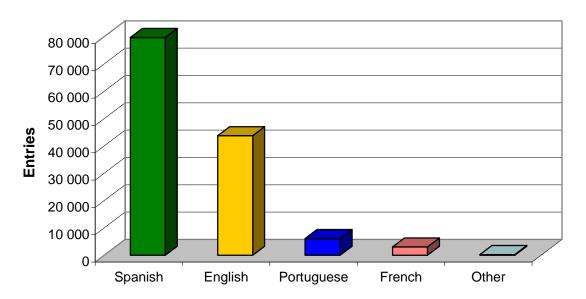
The Library received equipment to digitize texts for ODS in November 2002. Since then, a significant number of documents have been digitized and a link has been established with Headquarters to make the material available for Internet searches.

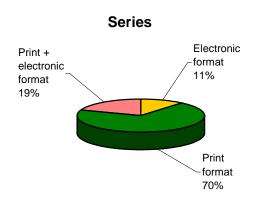
Prior to the Commission's incorporation into the system, the Library carried out the relevant studies, structured the basis for operations, defined the internal workflow and trained staff in how the system operated. An assessment was made of the human resources and equipment required for the project, which is being implemented in coordination with the Official Document System at Headquarters and in consultation with other ECLAC units involved in the process.

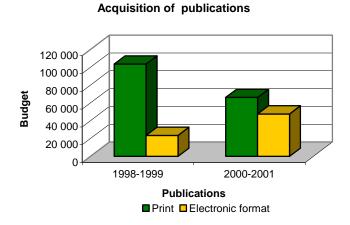
Request for information addressed to the library by e-mail, by origin



Library databases - Languages







Source: ECLAC.

ECLAC JOURNALS

CEPAL Review

The CEPAL Review is a quarterly publication in Spanish and English, launched in 1976 as a contribution to the study of economic and social development issues in Latin America and the Caribbean. It contains articles written by experts in economics and other social sciences from both within and outside the United Nations.

In the 2002-2003 biennium, issues 76 to 81 of the *CEPAL Review* were published, with articles on development options available to countries of the region (3 articles), structural features of these countries (2 articles), processes of integration into the world economy (8 articles), macroeconomic, fiscal and financial policies (10 articles), policies for restructuring production (9 articles), social policies (12 articles), policies and problems relating to employment, income distribution and poverty (13 articles) and political aspects of development (3 articles).

For the fifth consecutive year, the full text of the *Review* (Spanish version) was published on the ECLAC web page (http://www.cepal.cl/publicaciones/). For the second year in a row, the full text of the *Review* in English was also published on the web site at the same time as the printed version. The Internet edition has consistently attracted a readership of over 50,000, judging by the number of users who downloaded the files within the first two years of the appearance of each issue. In addition, the *Review* is distributed to universities, research institutes, other international organizations and individual subscribers.

The press releases produced by the Information Services Unit on the main articles appearing in each new issue of the *Review* have undoubtedly contributed to such wide circulation.

The *Review* encourages ECLAC experts to adapt as articles some of the working documents from ECLAC series that might appeal to a wider readership. The *Review* also seeks out contributions from researchers and policy makers all over the world.

Articles are submitted to peer review to determine quality and suitability for publication. Approximately half of such reviews are carried out within ECLAC and the other half by professionals and academics.

Notas de Población

In the 2002-2003 biennium, issues 74 to 77 of the journal *Notas de Población* were published and are available in full on the ECLAC web site (http://www.cepal.cl/publicaciones/ and http://www.cepal.cl/celade/).

Notas de Población No. 74 contains five articles, plus the statements delivered by two of the region's distinguished demographers: the incoming and outgoing Presidents of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP). The articles cover highly topical issues such as differential fertility and Nicaraguan migrants in Costa Rica, the formation and dissolution of unions in Argentina, the family life cycle and labour in Uruguay, pension system reforms in Chile and the economic capacity of households in Argentina.

Notas de Población No. 75 presents the latest advances in population and housing censuses. The articles deal with conceptual issues such as the application of modern technologies and the analysis of their potential. The articles are based on activities carried out in recent years as part of the preparations for this decade's round of censuses

Notas de Población No. 76 includes a variety of articles dealing mainly with methodological aspects of demographic research, as a contribution to the formulation of public policies. The subjects covered are: multiregional population and labour-force projections, methods for measuring adult mortality in developing countries, a multi-level model for studying the effects of contraceptive use and a study on the occupational status of workers according to their migratory status.

Notas de Población No. 77 is a special issue on older persons, focusing mainly on the diagnostic analysis of and outlook for support networks, quality of life, social participation, living arrangements, informal transfers and other issues, in specific social and economic contexts. Several of the articles analysed the results of the health, well-being and ageing surveys carried out in eight countries of Latin America and the Caribbean with the sponsorship of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and other organizations.

INFORMATION SERVICES UNIT

In 2002-2003 the Unit continued to implement the Commission's communications policy. A special effort was made to disseminate the institutional views of ECLAC on the most important events and processes in economic and social development, public policy and international financial architecture in the region. The Unit also designed specific communication products for the Office of the Executive Secretary and for each division on the basis of their needs.

One of the main tasks of the Unit is to assist the Office of the Executive Secretary or Deputy Executive Secretary in drafting opinion pieces on ECLAC or United Nations issues, for submission to newspapers in the region. The Unit also worked with the "Grupo de Diarios América" newspaper consortium under a cooperation agreement with that entity. Interviews with ECLAC experts were arranged at the request of journalists who use the Commission as a source of economic information on the region, which considerably raises the profile of ECLAC. The Unit also organized visits to the ECLAC building and gave talks to students and the general public.

Also worth mentioning are the dissemination campaigns organized to present the ECLAC flagship publications to the public. The last such launch in 2003, for the *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean*, generated a record 240 articles or references. A third of these were comments by columnists or public authorities, which shows the importance that opinion-makers in the region attach to that ECLAC document.

The other flagship publications that were the subject of press launches were the *Economic Survey* of Latin America and the Caribbean, the Social Panorama of Latin America, Foreign Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean and Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy.

The Unit continued to publish *ECLAC Notes*, a newsletter distributed by electronic and regular mail to more than 8,000 opinion-makers. The Unit was also responsible for updating the ECLAC web site's home page, the Press Centre page and the page for the Office of the Executive Secretary. During the biennium, the Unit increased its production of audiovisual material in order to improve those parts of the web site for which it has some responsibility.

The Unit was involved in the dissemination and promotion of the *CEPAL Review* and other ECLAC publications, and in communication activities concerning the new Executive Secretary.

The main activities of the biennium included the dissemination of information on some of the regional and international meetings in which ECLAC participated, such as the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development (for the 10-year review of the progress achieved in implementing the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development) and the twenty-ninth session of the Commission, at which the publication *Globalization and Development* was presented.

The Unit continued to work with the United Nations Secretariat and its Department of Public Information for the purposes of communication activities in Chile. The Unit also worked closely with the Secretary-General's delegation during his visit to Chile in November 2003, and helped to publicize the annual reports of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB).

INTERNET DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION UNIT

The ECLAC Internet portal includes 22 specialized sites on the main aspects of the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean, and constitutes the primary means of electronically disseminating the Commission's ideas and proposals.

The Internet Development and Coordination Unit is responsible for the technological administration of the portal, while a network of over 30 focal points in all units that produce content —including divisions, subregional headquarters and ECLAC national offices— maintains the specialized sites. These sites contain a wide selection of texts, abstracts and complete documents in digital format, including periodic reports, documents presented at the sessions of the Commission, ECLAC books, copublications with publishing houses, the *CEPAL Review*, the journal *Notas de Población*, the *Demographic Bulletin* and the ECLAC series produced by the various divisions and units. Most of these are available free of charge in English and Spanish, and some in Portuguese and French.

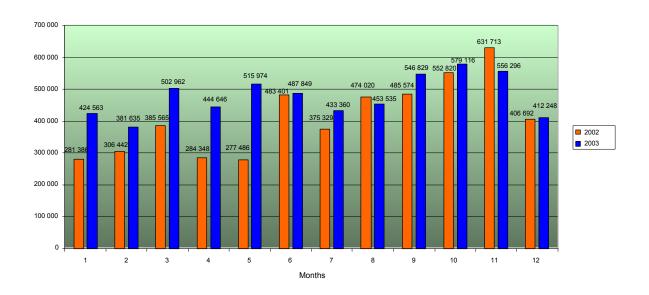
The Unit is also responsible for many other products and services, including press releases, the calendar of events, online statistical and demographic databases, directories, electronic conferences, software, reference material on the Commission and information on training courses provided by ECLAC and extrabudgetary projects implemented by the Commission. The services offered by the Unit include *CEPAL News*, which enables users to register to receive monthly e-mail alerts on new additions to the web site. Many public electronic conferences are also held and may be "attended" by users interested in the issues involved. At the end of 2003, new interactive systems were introduced to survey users' opinions on ECLAC publications and documents. Similarly, new multimedia elements compatible with the Internet's technological advancement are now being included in the portal, with a view to taking better advantage of the multiplier effects of communications media that facilitate mass access to the knowledge offered by the Commission.

Statistics on user access and downloads of complete documents confirm that the ECLAC Internet portal was the Commission's main means of electronic distribution during 2002-2003. In 2002, 2,334,914 users visited the portal and downloaded 4,940,788 document files, while in 2003, the figures show 2,706,847 visitors and 5,695,163 document file downloads.

PROFILE OF CEPAL NEWS SUBSCRIBERS

		Government	Public		Educational	Private		International			
Position/institution	Ministry			University	institution	enterprise	NGO	bodies	Independe	nt NA	Total
Senior members of the											
executive or legislature	340	454	24	22	3	16	41	14	15	3	932
Executives and											
administrators	74	142	57	79	24	128	208	53	77	10	852
Company directors	27	26	33	25	6	307	71	10	75	4	584
Department heads or											
managers	206	501	195	105	22	771	202	81	110	19	2 212
Company owners and											
managers	5	3	5	13	3	243	14	2	115	4	407
Professionals,											
researchers, scientists											
and intellectuals	699	986	457	3099	189	935	1010	558	1 608	161	9 702
Teaching professionals	28	39	28	1215	192	29	73	22	182	204	2 012
Technical professionals	236	393	172	129	21	260	192	175	288	22	1 888
Office workers	25	45	27	27	1	81	15	19	44	5	289
University students	59	73	63	6 324	153	162	102	64	1 466	89	8 555
Other students	4	6	7	209	101	12	10	8	176	44	577
Other	64	89	34	105	7	114	106	96	386	16	1 017
Non-classified	4	9	3	40		14	6		22	8	106
Total	1 771	2 766	1 105	11 392	722	3 072	2 050	1 102	4 564	589	29 133

106 NUMBER OF DOCUMENT FILE DOWNLOADS, 2002-2003



VISITORS IN 2002-2003

