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INFORMATION PAPER ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED  
TO COUNTRIES OF THE ECLA REGION UNDER THE  
EXPANDED AND REGULAR PROGRAMMES

Prepared by the TAB Secretariat for  
ECLA's Committee of the Whole

NOTE: The following abbreviations are used in this paper:

CREFAL	Regional Fundamental Education Training Centre
ECLA	Economic Commission for Latin America
EPTA	Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance
ESAPAC	Advanced School of Public Administration for Central America
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICAITI	Central American Industrial Research Institute
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICEM	Inter-governmental Committee for European Migration
IOFTU	International Confederation of Free Trade Union
ILO	International Labour Organisation
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
OIRSA	Regional International Organization for Animal and Plant Protection
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
PASB	Pan American Sanitary Bureau (now Pan American Health Organization)
SENA	National Service of Apprenticeship (Colombia)
SENAI	National Service for Industrial Training. (Brazil)
SUDENO	Regional Development Corporation for the Brazilian Northeast (Brazil).
TAB	Technical Assistance Board
TAC	Technical Assistance Committee
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNTAO	United Nations Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations
US/ICA	United States of America - International Co-operation Administration
USOM	United States Operations Mission
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization.

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TABLE II: Experts assigned to the ECLA region (1958-1959)

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. This information paper describes the technical assistance provided to the ECLA countries in 1959 by the organizations participating in the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.
2. On this occasion, although figures are available for the actual costs of the programmes delivered in 1958, any comparison of these with the estimated costs of the programme approved for 1959 presents certain difficulties. This is because accounting on a gross cost basis (i.e. inclusive of the local cost element) was introduced for the first time in 1958 under the Expanded Programme, whereas the approved programme for 1959 was still presented on a net basis.
3. If the cost of the Expanded and Regular Programmes delivered by the Participating Organizations to the ECLA countries in 1958 is compared with the approved programmes for 1959, it is found that there was a small increase --from \$13.0 million to \$13.5 million -- (see Annex, Table I). If, on the other hand, the actual costs of the Expanded Programme for 1958 are compared with the approved costs for the same programme in 1959, as has been done on previous occasions since actual figures for the current year are not yet available, an apparent drop of \$0.8 million is found. This is due to the inclusion of the local cost element in the 1958 figures.
4. If this special factor is excluded, it would seem likely that the cost of technical assistance actually delivered to the ECLA countries in 1959 will be at about the same level as in 1958.
5. The share of the Latin American region in the 1959 approved Expanded Programme, was 25.8 per cent. This compared with 26.5 per cent in 1958 and 28.0 per cent in 1957. At the same time there has been an increase in the share of technical assistance going to the African region, taking account of the special needs of newly independent states and territories rapidly approaching independence.
6. Comparative data on the numbers of experts and fellows are available in tables II and III. It will be noted that the number of fellowships approved for 1959 was ten per cent greater than the actual number awarded in 1958. This trend coincides with the expressed wishes of the Technical Assistance Committee and the Economic and Social Council that a greater share of technical assistance resources be devoted to fellowships. A similar rise in the number of expert assignments should also be noted.
7. Contributions from the Latin American countries to the Expanded Programme (in terms of U.S.\$) which had shown a constant upward trend since 1955 were adversely affected in 1959 by the devaluation of the currency of one of the largest contributors. The amounts for the last five years were as follows:

1955	\$ 961,600
1956	1,642,600
1957	1,716,100
1958	2,046,900
1959	1,955,400

It will be noted that these figures do not include the substantial local cost contributions of recipient countries or their counterpart expenditure connected with technical assistance activities.

8. The decision of the International Atomic Energy Agency to participate in the Expanded Programme was not made in time to permit its activities to be included in the programme submitted by the Technical Assistance Board to the Technical Assistance Committee. The Executive Chairman of TAB was, however, authorized to approve IAEA projects up to a maximum of \$200,000 in the course of the programme year.

9. Contingency allocations <sup>1/</sup> for projects in the ECLA region in the first ten months of 1959 amounted to \$473,770. The ECLA region received one-third of the contingency allocations made in this period.

10. Co-ordination between ECLA and the Participating Organizations continued to increase the effectiveness of technical assistance activities. The entire TAB field establishment in Latin America has profited from ECLA's support.

11. The introduction of two-year programming, beginning with the period 1961-62, may be expected to introduce a new measure of flexibility into the operation of the Expanded Programme. Programme negotiations, which will begin in the spring of 1960, should provide the Governments of the ECLA region with an opportunity to review their requirements and make plans for the most effective use of the resources available under the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations.

12. The descriptions of projects which follow are presented under a series of main subject headings and are based on material supplied by the Participating Organizations. No attempt has been made to present a comprehensive catalogue of all activities. The object has been rather to highlight projects which may be of special interest to ECLA and which, in general, have not been described in papers submitted to previous sessions of this Commission. It may be added that details of

<sup>1/</sup> Contingency allocations are made during the programme year under the authority vested in the Executive Chairman of TAB (see E/CN.12.AC40/4, para. 6).

the 1959 Expanded Programme will be found in document E/TAC/L.175 and of the 1960 Programme in E/TAC/L.200 of the Technical Assistance Committee. Reference may also be made to individual project descriptions available in the Project Handbook (TAB/2/Rev.1).

## II. EXAMPLES OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES IN 1959

### A. Assisting governments with the formulation and implementation of development plans, basis surveys of resources and the building up of administrative services

Assistance of this type has, as in the past, been generally provided by the United Nations Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations.

#### i. Formulation and implementation of development plans

13. A new development in the field of technical assistance in connexion with the preparation of economic development plans has been the organization of economic development advisory groups as a joint ECLA/UNTAO project in some of the Latin American countries. In 1959 such groups were organized in Colombia and Cuba where they have been assisting the governments in the preparation of a medium range development programme. In addition to advising in the formulation of the initial economic development programme, the main purpose of the group is to help the government to organize an institutional mechanism for economic programming. This involves the organization of programme units within ministries or other public agencies and the training of the staff to carry on the programme.

14. In Ecuador a senior expert and an associate economist have continued advising the Economic Planning and Coordination Board in the preparation of a five-year development programme for Ecuador.

15. The Economic Development Training Centre conducted in Santiago by ECLA as a regional programme has continued successfully the training of programming economists from several Latin American countries. In addition to the courses and seminars held in Chile, a number of intensive courses were organized with personnel of the centre and lecturers provided especially in Argentina, Brazil and Colombia.

ii) Basic surveys of resources

16. In Argentina, several short-term experts advised the Government in matters relating to geological surveys, mining and preparation of minerals, exploitation of natural gas and petroleum, and electric power production. A mining economist examined the effect of institutional factors and regulations on the development of the mining industry.
17. In Bolivia, a technical consultant on mining policy advised the Minister of Mines and Petroleum in all matters pertaining to mining and more specifically in the formulation of a national mining code. Also in the field of natural resources, four other experts were provided. Two of these experts in addition to assisting the Government in the preparation of a general survey of natural resources and in particular of a geological map of the country taught courses and prepared training material for the Regional Geological Institute established in cooperation with the University of La Paz. Another expert in hydrogeology assisted the Government in the establishment of the National Hydrological Service.
18. In Brazil, seven experts cooperated in the economic resources survey and planning exercise being carried out in the Northeastern region. Experts were provided in the fields of manpower assessment, economic planning, economic appraisal of mineral deposits, geological research and transportation. The question of training local personnel was especially emphasized by the provision of fellowships and by the attention given by the experts to the training of their local counterpart personnel. In addition the services of seven short-term lecturers were provided to carry out an economic programming training course jointly with ECLA. The training course and the experts' activities were carried out in close connexion with the newly formed Regional Development Corporation for the Brazilian Northeast (SUDENO).
19. In Ecuador, assistance was provided since 1955 in the development of an efficient meteorological organization. In the training of local personnel, the expert had to overcome the obstacle represented by the lack of meteorological text books in Spanish. He, accordingly, prepared several manuals and instruction pamphlets in Spanish. This project appears to have

resulted in substantial progress in the meteorological services in Ecuador which encouraged the Government to submit a project to the United Nations Special Fund in the field of hydro-meteorology.

20. Assistance was given to the Government of Uruguay in the field of mining. An expert in exploration of mineral deposits spent several months in 1958 and again in 1959 assisting the Instituto Geologico del Uruguay in the investigation of existing iron ore and manganese deposits.

21. A regional water resources survey group, jointly sponsored by UNTAO/ECLA and WMO, continued to assist in the evaluation and development of water resources in each Latin American country. Since 1957, the team has completed surveys in Chile, Southern Argentina and Ecuador. In October 1959 the group proceeded to Venezuela.

iii) Administrative services (including financial institutions)

22. In Argentina, the expert who had been advising the Instituto Superior de Administración Pública continued his work in 1959. The Government sought his advice in connexion with several aspects of a general public administration reorganization plan.

23. In Bolivia, a technical assistance consultant continued to advise the Government in matters of tax administration while a new expert was provided to deal with questions of customs administration.

24. In Brazil, an expert in personnel administration continued to advise the Bank of the Northeast as did a second expert on financial administration and accounting. Besides their specific duties both experts collaborated with the team giving assistance to the Government in the regional economic development of the Northeastern part of the country.

25. In Chile, several experts were requested to cooperate with the Government in the reorganization of the public administration under special powers granted by the National Congress to the President.

26. In Colombia, the public administration mission which had been in the country since 1954 was requested by the new Government to intensify its efforts to complete the reform of the public administration. In 1959 experts were provided in general government organization, organization and methods, and



administration and training of personnel.

27. In El Salvador, two experts were assigned to advise the Government in matters of tax policy and tax legislation as part of a programme to obtain adequate fiscal revenues through an equitable tax system.

28. In Honduras, an expert continued to assist the Government in the creation of a national school of public administration which would offer intermediate courses to public officials and would make use of the services of the senior national officials trained at the Central American School of Public Administration (ESAPAC) in Costa Rica, under the Central American Integration Programme.

29. In Venezuela, the Government has been engaged in an extensive programme of improvement in the public administration. Assistance was provided in the form of four senior experts in government organization, personnel administration, personnel training and fiscal administration.

30. The School continued to make an important contribution to the development of good administration in Central America. At the end of the year Panama joined the sponsoring countries.

B. Development of public utilities - power, transport and communications --  
atomic energy

31. A mission from IAEA visited various Latin American countries in the course of the year to make a survey of the conditions and possibilities for the development of the peaceful uses of atomic energy in the countries concerned, to advise the Agency on their needs and the best means of satisfying them, and to indicate to the respective Governments whether and how the Agency could best be of assistance. This mission was composed of six members of the IAEA Secretariat and four experts. In a number of countries of the region a programme of assistance was initiated through the award of fellowships in such fields as reactor engineering, application of radio isotopes in medicine, industry and agriculture, and the processing of radio active materials.

32. In Argentina, a science research project in nuclear physics, which UNESCO began in 1957, developed successfully with the aid of several experts. Initially, a plan for reorganizing the Argentine National Commission for Atomic Energy was elaborated to take account of the need for trained scientists. Close association was established between the National Commission and the universities. A second expert initiated a research project in nuclear spectroscopy within the Atomic Energy Commission in collaboration with the University of La Plata and the University of Uppsala in Sweden. Since 1958 the scope of the project had

widened under funds-in-trust provided by the Argentine authorities. This scheme permitted a third expert in nuclear technology, reactors and neutron physics to be provided for ten months. A summer school in advance experimental physics was carried out at the Bariloche Institute of Physics for the benefit of the various groups engaged in research related to nuclear physics. Another expert was assigned the task of initiating research in nuclear spectroscopy at the Physics Department of the University of Buenos Aires. As an outcome of this mission close liaison has been established not only with European Universities but also between the University of British Columbia in Canada and the Argentine training institutions. Finally, another expert recruited under the funds-in-trust scheme is now giving assistance in the development of research in microwave spectroscopy. In this project a remarkable continuity has been maintained through the close collaboration of each expert with his predecessors. Assistance under UNLSCO's regular programme and EPTA was reinforced by contributions made by the national authorities and by bilateral agreements concluded with foreign universities.

33. In Chile an energy and fuel economist assisted the mining department in the formulation of a fuel and power policy. He advised on improvements in the present system of storage and transportation of coal, possibilities of substitution of imported fuel by the use of coal, and the use of coal as a raw material for chemical products.

34. In Colombia, an expert advised the Government on the establishment and regulation of electricity rates chargeable to power consumers. The expert also trained local personnel in financial and accounting matters relating to the generation, distribution and transmission of electricity

35. The Government of Costa Rica continued to receive assistance from an expert in port construction. The expert drew up plans for the construction of port facilities on the Nicoya Peninsula to bring the agricultural products from that part of the country to San José.

36. In México, the Civil Aviation Training Centre, which operates with the strong support of the Government, continued to prepare personnel in air traffic control, radio mechanics, aircraft and engine maintenance, assistant meteorologists (forecasters) and airport operation officers. The increasing popularity of some of these courses has led to requests from several governments to train -under contract- a number of agricultural pilots and mechanics specialized in maintenance of agricultural fumigation aircrafts. A total of seventy-one trainees received certificates in the middle of 1959. Of these, thirty-six were from Mexico and the rest from other Latin American countries.
37. In Central America the Directors of Civil Aviation of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica have requested technical assistance from ICAO in conducting a survey on the feasibility of establishing an operating agency for the air navigation facilities and services in Central America. The report was duly submitted and approved at a meeting of the Directors of Civil Aviation in November 1959. Pursuant to a decision taken by them additional technical assistance was given in the preparation of a Convention and Statute of the operating agency on the basis of which a conference will be convened by Honduras early in 1960.
38. In Paraguay, a mission of three experts from ITU gave assistance to the Government in the improvement of its radio communication system, and an institute of telecommunications was started to train local personnel. This mission was reinforced by the presence of a civil aviation mission composed of four experts concerned with air traffic control, aviation telecommunications, meteorological stations and forecasting and civil aviation administration. Another expert examined river transportation facilities and their utilization. He also suggested methods for reducing operational costs both in the fleet and in the internal operations.
39. In Venezuela, an expert in telephony collaborated in a comprehensive plan for the reorganization of the national and international telephone and radiotelephone services.

C. Industrial production

40. In Argentina, considerable emphasis was placed on assistance in regard to the rationalization of industrial production. The services of several short-term experts were provided to the Government to advise on specialized fields such as steel plant planning, petrolchemistry, utilization of phosphoric ores for steelmaking and related research work. Three other experts gave advice on methods of increasing productivity, one of them specializing in industrial equipment.
41. In Bolivia, an economist continued to advise the National Planning Board in the preparation of surveys and projects in the industrial field. Another expert is giving assistance in the installation and operation of a sugar mill. Experts were also provided in the fields of productivity, manpower and vocational training, while a specialist in employment service gave assistance in the organization of a system of placement offices.
42. In Chile, several experts cooperated in various projects related to the National Plan for Industrial Development initiated by the Chilean Development Corporation. While a senior economist advised on industrial planning, other experts gave assistance in matters of energy and fuel, mining economies, beneficiation of copper ores, underground water, and industrial statistics.
43. In Colombia, an expert gave advice to the Ministry of Agriculture on technological problems involved in the operation of a fertilizer plant, while a second expert continued to work as an adviser on modern mining techniques.
44. In Guatemala, an expert in the textile industry has been advising the Government in the improvement of the production of indigenous textiles and the possibilities of finding export markets for these products.
45. In Mexico, the joint UNTAO, ILO and UNESCO programme with the Bank of Mexico continues to play a key role in the economic and industrial development of the country. The fellowship aspect of this project has continued with the award of nine fellowships in the fields of industrial engineering, economics, organization and statistics and regional planning. Also related to this project is a programme for training abroad professors and teachers from technical institutions where local engineers and technicians needed by the growing national industry may be

trained. In connexion with both these fellowships programmes, an adviser in industrial research and productivity was provided to the Industrial Research Department of the Bank of Mexico.

46. In Paraguay, an adviser in light industries continued to advise the Government on the promotion of new light manufacturing industries and cottage industries that would utilize domestic raw materials.

47. In Perú, the services of experts in industrial development and productivity were provided to the Government. An expert in textile production continued to advise on the modernization and expansion of that important industry.

48. In Nicaragua, an expert continued to advise the Development Institute on problems connected with its industrial development programme. The expert also assisted in surveying the marketing possibilities of local products and helped establish industrial priorities for the programme of industrialization.

49. In Venezuela, an expert in industrial development and productivity assisted the Venezuelan Development Corporation on matters related to the development and promotion of industries. The expert assisted in the preparation of surveys on the structure and markets of existing industries and the formulation of policies for industrial promotion, including analysis of specific projects and special incentive measures. An expert in industrial standards has continued to advise the Venezuelan Government through the Department of Industries of the Ministry of Development on policy matters concerning the establishment of national industrial standards and the measures required to carry out such policies. An expert in iron and steel who had been advising the government for a number of years finished his assignment late in 1959. The expert was advising the government on the establishment of an iron and steel plant and suggested the measures which should be taken in the initial operational stages of the plant. Finally another expert has been advising the Ministry of Mines and Hydrocarbons in Venezuela on the operation of coal mines and the preparation of plans for the development of the operations into a combined steelworks.

50. On a regional basis, six experts were provided to serve with the Central American Industrial Research Institute (ICAITI) located in Guatemala. The Institute is serving the governments and private industry throughout the Central American region and is closely connected with the ECLA sponsored programme of economic cooperation among the Central American countries.

D. Agricultural production

51. Agricultural production and its development absorb, as they rightfully should, a substantial portion of all the technical assistance activities. Of special interest at this time is the work in connexion with the development of regional programmes undertaken with the collaboration of FAO.

52. In Central America, experts in agricultural production have been provided both under country programmes and under the Central American Integration Scheme. The Governments of Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama have joined together in a regional organization (OIRSA) to cope with the problems of plant and animal protection. In 1959 FAO, which gave technical support to this organization since its creation, provided three experts in the co-ordination of national animal and plant protection laws and regulations, development of effective control measures against epizootics, and the control of migratory locusts. One significant result obtained this year through OIRSA has been the successful elimination of Mediterranean fruit fly infection that appeared for the first time in Nicaragua.

53. A regional forestry programme is also in operation as a result of recommendations made by the first FAO regional forestry conference in Latin America in 1948. Experts and equipment were provided for the Regional Forest Research and Training Institute, located in Venezuela, while other forestry experts were provided to various countries of the region. On the recommendation of the Fifth Regional Conference of FAO, held in 1958 in San José, Costa Rica, and with funds provided under a contingency authorization, FAO organized a land reform advisory team consisting of high-level experts. It is designed to assist governments in the appraisal of their land tenure problems, to help in formulating appropriate land reform policies, and to advise on types of assistance needed for the implementation of land reform programmes.

54. Besides this assistance on a regional basis, the FAO provided in 1959 over one hundred and twenty experts to all Latin American countries to advise on agricultural production matters including livestock production, fruit, vegetable and crop production, production of fibres and agricultural raw materials, plant and animal protection, forestry, fisheries and nutrition.

E. Auxiliary services to industry and agriculture

55. Under this heading are grouped several activities complementary to the basic productive processes in these two fields.
56. Experts provided by the ILO gave assistance in connexion with vocational training projects in several Latin American countries among them Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.
57. In Brazil, a seminar was held at the SENAI Centre to acquaint the responsible authorities in various Latin American countries with the new techniques of adult vocational training applicable to countries undergoing rapid industrialization.
58. In Colombia, funds from EPTA and from national sources were used to cover the cost of the assistance to the Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje (SENA).
59. In Ecuador, the ILO is providing two lecturers and nineteen study grants from regular programme funds for a Regional Worker's Education Seminar organized by the ICFTU.
60. In Venezuela, a substantial team of experts was financed by the national authorities under a special funds-in-trust agreement which is to continue in 1960. This project is designed to expand and improve vocational training in the country.
61. On a regional basis, assistance continued to be provided for the Andean-Indian Programme which consists of a series of pilot projects in the combined fields of vocational training, community development, health and colonization, under the leadership of the ILO. These projects, which were originally located in Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador, have now been extended to Colombia. A substantial proportion of the ILO's technical assistance funds and personnel continued to be devoted to this project in 1959. Largely as a result of the joint efforts of the ILO and FAO several projects related to the Andean-Indian Programme were presented by the Governments of Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru to the Special Fund.

F. Health services

62. The programme of technical assistance in this field combines the activities of WHO and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) with other agencies, especially UNICEF. The major emphasis in country projects under EPTA has been to advise on and assist in the organization and expansion of national and local health services. These integrated health projects operate in nine countries of the region (Argentina, Colombia, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Panamá, Paraguay, Perú and Uruguay) and absorb thirty-four of the total of ninety-three WHO experts in the field under EPTA.

63. About 45 per cent of EPTA funds allotted to WHO for Latin America are devoted to these integrated health projects. Another 20 per cent is devoted to environmental sanitation and about 6 per cent to projects in nursing rehabilitation and nutrition. Thus the projects designed to strengthen general health services account for 71 per cent of the programme with the remaining 29 per cent in communicable diseases control and eradication. Activities financed under EPTA represent approximately 18 per cent of the total country and regional projects administered by WHO and PAHO.

64. When all funds administered by WHO and PAHO are taken into consideration, approximately 59 per cent is directed toward communicable disease programmes, 33 per cent toward strengthening of health services, and 8 per cent toward assistance to educational institutions. Education and training, primarily through courses and fellowships, form an important part of all programmes, this portion being estimated at roughly 30 per cent. It is desired to increase substantially efforts to strengthen health services and assist educational institutions, without relaxing the drive against communicable diseases.

65. Malaria eradication is the largest single programme, consuming about 45 per cent of all funds administered by PAHO and WHO. Its economic significance is enormous for the twenty-eight countries and territories where active projects are under way. UNICEF also is devoting the major part of its resources in this region to this campaign. Active work is under way in all malarious areas except Haiti, where work has been suspended for lack of national funds, and Cuba, where work is in the planning stage.



66. It should be pointed out that the malaria eradication programme is financed largely from a Special Malaria Fund composed of voluntary contributions from governments for this purpose. The campaign is designed to break the chain of transmission through use of insecticides on inner walls of houses, complemented by drugs where transmission persists. Several years will be required and it is too early to predict a termination date. Reduction of incidence already has increased man-power resources in malarious areas. Completion of the task will release financial resources.

67. A major health and economic problem confronting the countries of the Americas and the Organization is the lack of community water supplies. A Special Fund for Community Water Supply has been created in both WHO and PAHO to provide advisory services to governments. Availability of potable water is not only a health problem but also is closely linked with concentration of population for man-power in industrial areas as well as industrial water supply requirements. The fully coordinated efforts of national ministries and the cooperation of international agencies will be required to solve the legal, financial, organizational and technical problems in this programme.

68. To develop and sustain expanded health services, more attention must be given to the quantity and quality of educational and training facilities. Potential resources for this purpose are now being explored.

#### G. Education

69. In Bolivia, a project involving in-service training of teachers and the preparation of educational materials for primary schools and adult illiterates is progressing satisfactorily. To make up for the deficiency in the preparation of most teachers in the country, a special Supporting Service has been established within the Ministry of Education. This service organizes correspondence courses for those who are already teachers and, when completed, leads to a valid primary school teaching certificate. Other activities of the Supporting Service include the preparation of text books and complementary materials for primary schools, the preparation of primers and readers for adult literacy classes, and the training of adult literacy teachers.

70. In Brazil, an educational clearing house and advisory service have been supported by UNESCO's Clearing House. Training fellowships have also been provided.

71. Expert assistance has been provided since 1958 to the University of Chile for establishing a teaching and research programme in the field of solid state physics. The UNESCO expert has given guidance to the laboratory staff in research and studies utilizing X-rays for testing materials. These studies are often prepared at the request of private industrial firms. The expert has also initiated the theoretical and practical teaching of crystallography and crystallo-chemistry at the University.

72. The most serious educational problem facing the majority of the countries in Latin America concerns the insufficient number of primary schools and the deficiency of the services being rendered by those in operations. In response to the urgency of this problem, UNESCO established in 1959 its major project for the Extension of Primary Education in the region. During 1959 most of the activities and resources available under EPTA and the regular programme were directed towards the training of primary school teachers and of education specialists. Assistance in the training of primary school teachers is directed towards the institutions known as Associated Normal Schools. So far, those located in Pamplona (Colombia), San Pablo del Lago (Ecuador) and Jinotepe de San Marcos (Nicaragua) have been so designated by UNESCO. Preparatory work for the organization of the Associated Normal School of El Carrizal (Honduras) is now being carried out.

#### H. Community Development

73. Included under this heading are technical assistance activities in fundamental education, community development, agricultural extension, and home economics and nutrition. Responsibility for these activities is divided between various Participating Organizations.

74. In Chile, audio-visual equipment was furnished to assist in a vast community development plan that aims at training community leaders to serve in the 500 rural centres established by the Instituto de Educación Rural.

75. In the Dominican Republic, a UNESCO expert in vocational education trained a small team of counterparts. He is scheduled to continue his work in 1960, when he will give special attention to the role of emotional factors in learning and in every-day life.
76. In El Salvador, an expert in vocational guidance gave assistance in the reorganization of the Instituto de Educación Técnica.
77. In Guatemala, the project of Education for Productivity has continued with the expert in vocational guidance undertaking the training of one thousand teachers and local supervisors in guidance techniques, tests and measurements and applied psychology. A school guidance service was successfully put into operation, and guidance centres were established at the Instituto de Señoritas Belen, the Instituto Normal Centro America and the Escuela de Ciencias Comerciales.
78. In Nicaragua, a fundamental education project in the Northeastern region of the country has been in operation now for five years. Its objective is to integrate the people in the Rio Coco valley into the national life and culture as well as to promote the overall social and economic development of this region. Under the leadership and with resources mainly obtained from the Ministry of Education, this project has developed into a full inter-ministerial programme, and a field team of some thirty national fundamental education specialists, assisted by other specialists, is working in the area. An international expert in fundamental education serves as technical adviser to the national team.
79. In Paraguay, a fundamental education project serving thirty-one communities in the vicinity of Asunción is in progress. This project involves out-of-school education with assistance from the school staff and the fundamental education specialists. The schools serve as social and cultural centres, as meeting places for adult discussion groups, and as centres for teaching adult illiterates.
80. The Regional Fundamental Education Centre for Latin America (CREFAL) has been in operation since 1951. It has offered facilities to the Latin American countries for training specialists in fundamental education and in various aspects of education for social and economic development, and it has also acted as a clearing house for services and technical advice for programmes in community education and development. In the seven regular courses given since 1951, each lasting eighteen months, nearly 400 specialists from nineteen Latin American countries and the United States have graduated. The graduates from CREFAL are now engaged in many occupations of great importance for the social and economic

development of the region. Among them some have been placed in charge of fundamental education programmes within their own ministries of education, others staff the national training centres that have been established, others are directly engaged in fundamental education projects within their own countries, many have become directors and supervisors of primary schools, some teach at elementary and secondary schools, others at normal schools and universities and yet others have become international experts in this important field. This project, under the leadership of UNESCO, has had valuable co-operation from other international organizations.

81. The community development aspects of the Andean Indian Programme were discussed in paragraph 61 above.

82. At the request of the Governments of Brazil, Ecuador and Peru, a study tour was organized to provide an opportunity for senior officials responsible for policies and programmes related to rural development to gain experience through observation of projects and programmes of this type now being conducted in the other participating countries. Four participants from Brazil, four from Ecuador and three from Peru engaged in the tour from 22 May to 1 July 1959.

#### I. Social services

83. Activities grouped under this heading mainly concern improvements in labour relations, labour legislation, social security, vocational rehabilitation, building and housing and town and country planning, and others not specifically classified.

84. Among the assistance given in this broad field, special attention may be drawn to the Inter-disciplinary Round Table in the Social Sciences organized at the University of San Marcos in Lima, Perú with UNESCC's assistance. Three experts in the social sciences, one of them attached to a national project, were provided. Two other experts from the Social Science Regional Centres for Latin America contributed to this meeting. The object of this round table, which brought together social scientists from five Peruvian Universities, was the consideration of problems arising from social stratification in industrial societies and in societies in the process of industrialization. The national specialists were able to review the latest teaching and research methods used in sociology and anthropology and to become familiar with the recent tendencies in the social sciences in Europe and the United States. Also in Perú expert assistance was furnished for the first time in the fields of labour relations

and administration. This request reflects the interest of the Government in the harmonious development of a growing labour force for its industries.

85. The Government of Panama received assistance from two experts in the field of housing. A housing and planning policy expert continued to advise the Institute of Housing and Urbanization on all matters relating to housing planning. An expert in the legal aspects of housing assisted in the preparation of general legislation in the field of housing.

86. Assistance was also given to the Latin American Faculty for the Social Sciences, located in Santiago, Chile, and to the Latin American Centre of Research in Social Sciences located in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. These two institutions work in close co-operation and under two common bodies; a consultative assembly composed of the representatives of all Latin American countries and an executive committee composed of eight prominent personalities from the Latin American Universities. UNESCO gives assistance in the form of experts, fellowships, equipment and books. The Faculty, a post graduate institution, has been limited up to now to a school of sociology. Other schools of economics, political science and public administration, are planned for the future. The Research Centre has initiated studies on some of the following subjects: the social implications of economic development in the Bahia region (Brazil); stratification and social immobility in six Latin American countries; the present state of social science in Latin America; and the agrarian structure and labour conditions in agriculture in Central America.

87. The United Nations, in co-operation with the UNESCO sponsored a seminar in Santiago drawing the attention of Governments of the region to the problems arising from the urbanization process. Its objective was to assist Governments in the formulation of practical policies to meet the problems that accompany the rapid growth of cities and the massive migration from the countryside to the cities. The Seminar provided an opportunity for sociologists, demographers, economists and other social scientists, who have studied various aspects of the urbanization process to meet with Government representatives who have experience in different types of social and economic measures being applied in urban areas.

88. A seminar on rehabilitation of the handicapped was held in Denmark for Latin American participants who were sponsored by UNTA. Expert assistance was also given in the field of social services to Brazil and Guatemala; assistance in family and child welfare was given to El Salvador, in social work training to Argentina and Honduras, and in general social welfare to Bolivia, Guatemala and Paraguay.

89. The Regional Demographic Training Centre in Santiago, Chile continued to receive assistance under the regular programme of technical assistance. A Seminar on the Evaluation and Utilization of Population Census Data in Latin America was held as a part of the programme of the Latin American Demographic Training Centre.

### III. FUTURE PROSPECTS

90. In preparing its recommendations for the Expanded Programme for 1960, the Technical Assistance Board sought to maintain the assistance to countries of the ECLA region as near as possible to the level reached in 1959. At the same time, it felt a special responsibility to respond to the growing needs of the African region, especially the needs of newly independent countries and territories on the verge of independence. In this connexion, it has to be borne in mind that so long as there is no significant increase in the total resources available to the Programme, any shift in favour of one region means reduction in the levels of assistance to countries of other regions.

91. The future prospects of technical assistance for countries of the ECLA region are, of course, linked directly to those of the Expanded Programme as a whole. Pledges for 1960 showed increases in the contributions of several governments. However, the over-all increase in estimated resources, though encouraging, will still be relatively small, so that the 1960 programme is not expected to be significantly higher than the programme actually delivered in the current year.

92. On the other hand, to obtain a complete picture of the resources available for technical assistance through the United Nations family, one must take account not only of the Expanded and Regular Programmes but also of the United Nations Special Fund, which started its operations in 1959. With the inclusion of the Special Fund, the total resources available in 1960 for technical assistance to be carried out by the United Nations in Latin America, as well as in other regions, will be appreciably larger than ever before.

A N N E X

Table I

COST OF FIELD PROGRAMME IN THE ECLA REGION

1958 - 1959  
( in thousand of U.S. dollars)

Country	1958 (delivered)			1959 (approved)		
	EPTA <sup>1/</sup>	REGULAR <sup>2/</sup>	TOTAL	EPTA <sup>3/</sup>	REGULAR <sup>2/</sup>	TOTAL
Argentina	464.8	204.9	669.7	429.5	214.1	643.6
Bolivia	500.5	117.4	617.9	514.5	159.4	673.9
Brazil	706.7	336.9	1,043.6	566.9	345.4	912.3
Chile	535.7	83.7	619.4	424.5	126.0	550.5
Colombia	445.7	153.3	599.0	455.9	278.5	734.4
Costa Rica	159.5	57.4	216.9	145.0	60.9	205.9
Cuba	38.9	52.8	91.7	78.3	183.1	261.4
Dominican Republic	78.1	131.5	209.6	87.5	192.2	279.7
Ecuador	587.6	162.2	749.8	415.5	240.4	655.9
El Salvador	142.9	47.3	190.2	128.8	151.7	280.5
Guatemala	201.5	130.0	331.5	215.5	131.3	346.8
Haiti	265.8	331.4	597.2	221.7	209.0	430.7
Honduras	244.5	49.1	293.6	199.0	81.8	280.8
Mexico	484.3	168.4	652.7	457.7	173.5	631.2
Nicaragua	189.7	39.6	229.3	141.1	121.0	262.1
Panama	129.1	59.4	188.5	145.5	55.5	201.0
Paraguay	447.4	68.2	515.6	358.1	82.2	440.3
Peru	485.2	135.9	621.1	383.5	174.4	557.9
Uruguay	237.9	40.2	278.1	194.8	25.8	220.6
Venezuela	316.3	24.4	340.7	369.5	176.8	546.3
Regional <sup>4/</sup>	1,334.5	2,629.5	3,964.0	192.9	3,143.6	4,336.5
<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>7,996.6</b>	<b>5,023.5</b>	<b>13,020.1</b>	<b>7,125.7</b>	<b>6,326.6</b>	<b>13,452.3</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Gross costs i.e. inclusive of the local cost element.

<sup>2/</sup> Consolidated estimated costs of , Regular Programmes of the following Organizations: UNTA, ILO, UNESCO, WHO/PAHO and IAEA (only in 1959).

<sup>3/</sup> As approved by TAC plus contingency allocations up to 31 October 1959.

<sup>4/</sup> Excluding non-selfgoverning territories.

A N N E X

Table II

EXPERTS ASSIGNED TO THE ECLA REGION  
1958 - 1959

	1958 (delivered)			1959 (approved)		
	EPTA	REGULAR <sup>2/</sup>	TOTAL	EPTA <sup>1/</sup>	REGULAR <sup>2/</sup>	TOTAL
Argentina	52	15	67	48	11	59
Bolivia	40	10	50	43	11	54
Brazil	57	17	74	55	18	73
Chile	41	7	48	54	9	63
Colombia	40	9	49	47	14	61
Costa Rica	15	4	19	15	4	19
Cuba	4	4	8	11	17	28
Dominican Republic	6	10	16	9	12	21
Ecuador	45	12	57	40	18	58
El Salvador	15	4	19	14	5	19
Guatemala	18	8	26	25	10	35
Haiti	27	18	45	20	14	34
Honduras	24	3	27	18	5	23
Mexico	25	11	36	20	14	34
Nicaragua	18	5	23	14	9	23
Panama	11	2	13	15	2	17
Paraguay	34	8	42	34	5	39
Peru	42	8	50	38	9	47
Uruguay	19	1	20	19	-	19
Venezuela	28	9	37	38	21	59
Regional	99	128	227	121	223	344
T O T A L	660	293	953	698	431	1,129

<sup>1/</sup> Under programme as approved by TAC plus contingency allocations up to 31 October 1959.

<sup>2/</sup> Consolidated estimate of experts assigned under the Regular Programme of the following Organizations: UNTA, ILO, UNESCO, WHO/PAHO and IAEA (only in 1959).



TABLE  
A N N E X  
TABLE IIIFELLOWSHIPS AWARDED TO NATIONALS OF THE ECLA REGION  
1958 - 1959

	1958 (delivered)			1959 (approved) <sup>1</sup>		
	EPTA	REGULAR	TOTAL	EPTA <sup>1</sup>	REGULAR	TOTAL
Argentina	36	63	99	28	88	116
Bolivia	16	32	48	8	20	28
Brazil	15	78	93	15	59	74
Chile	29	35	64	19	32	51
Colombia	17	83	100	14	54	68
Costa Rica	12	33	45	9	12	21
Cuba	8	14	22	6	12	18
Dominican Republic	1	6	7	7	9	16
Ecuador	11	29	40	7	46	53
El Salvador	6	28	34	11	12	23
Guatemala	10	44	54	9	35	44
Haiti	5	18	23	-	18	18
Honduras	21	31	52	21	29	50
Mexico	70	62	132	80	42	122
Nicaragua	6	31	37	9	19	28
Panama	14	39	53	6	18	24
Paraguay	31	18	49	2	26	28
Peru	24	38	62	3	55	58
Uruguay	17	30	47	2	31	33
Venezuela	4	17	21	9	30	39
Regional <sup>2/</sup>	-	-	-	216	129	345
Undesignated	47	12	59	-	-	-
T O T A L	400	741	1,141	481	776	1,257

1/ Under programme as approved by TAC, plus contingency allocations up to 31 October 1959.

2/ These totals can only be broken down and re-distributed by nationality when the actual statistics for 1959 become available.