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

(Prepared by the TAB Secretariat)

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/I. INTRODUCTION

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. This information paper has been prepared, in accordance with established practice, for the Economic Commission for Latin America. It describes some of the technical assistance provided in the Latin American region during 1963 by the United Nations, the Specialized Agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) under both their regular programmes and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA). Examples are also given of assistance provided under the OPEX scheme.
2. As in previous years, the projects are presented under a series of subject headings and are based on material provided by the Organizations participating in EPTA. No attempt has been made to provide a complete survey of all technical assistance activities in the ECLA region, and examples only have been selected, either because they have some interesting features or because they have reached a stage where a broad evaluation seemed possible.
3. Country-by-country statements of the approved programme costs in 1963-64 of EPTA and the regular programmes, and the number of experts and fellows in 1963-64, are provided in Tables I, II and III. The figures given for 1963-64 reflect the EPTA programme as approved including contingency allocations made up to 15 November 1963; those for 1962 represent the EPTA programme as implemented, including all projects financed under contingency allocations. Table IV shows the division of the programme in the region into the main fields of activity.
4. Details of the whole 1963-64 Expanded Programme may be found in document E/TAC/L.281 of the Technical Assistance Committee, and a statement of projects authorized during 1962 and 1963 under the contingency authority of the Executive Chairman, is available in document E/TAC/L.972. The Programme planned for 1963-64 is set out in document E/TAC/L.286.
5. Voluntary contributions pledged by governments of the ECLA region to EPTA for the last three years are as follows:

1962	1,166,000
1963	1,302,000
1964	1,198,000 (so far)

These figures do not include the local cost contributions of recipient countries nor the counterpart expenditures related to technical assistance activities. The influence of ECLA on the technical assistance operations of the United Nations family has also been increasingly felt and has been a valuable contribution to the programme.

6. In the year since the last session of the Economic Commission for Latin America, one important change has been introduced into the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. It was resolved by ECOSOC at its summer session of 1963 that OPEX-type appointments could be made under the Expanded Programme. That is to say, experts may be appointed at the request of recipient governments who would work as servants of these governments and not merely as advisers. They could be invested by the recipient governments with authority to take decisions in their own names and they would not report to the Participating Organizations who recruit them. Part of the cost of such experts would be borne by the recipient governments. This resolution was subsequently ratified by the General Assembly.

7. In the information paper on this subject which was presented to ECLA last year, reference was made to the two-year programming system. The first two-year period was completed at the end of 1962, careful reviews have been made of the value of the system, and the conclusion has been reached that it is an improvement over one-year programming. It will therefore be continued.

8. Reference was also made to project programming, which was to be introduced in preparing the programme for 1963-64. As far as actual programme operations are concerned, it would seem that this system has worked well, but it will not be possible to make a full evaluation of its merits until after the end of 1964, when a full programme period using the project programming method will have been completed.

9. Meetings between the Resident Representatives of TAB and senior officials of the secretariats of each of the Regional Commissions, which are attended by the Executive Chairman of TAB, by the Managing Director of the Special Fund or his representative, and by representatives of the Specialized Agencies, have now become established annual practice. They provide an opportunity, not only for round-table discussions, but time is also allowed for individual private discussions between the members of the various organizations concerned. It has been found that these meetings are of considerable value.

10. An important development in United Nations technical assistance was the trend towards greater decentralization through the establishment of a number of additional regional advisers at the seat of the Regional Commission Secretariat. Steps were also taken to transfer financial and administrative responsibility on all decentralized projects to the ECLA Secretariat. Towards the end of 1963, the total number of United Nations regional advisers posts was 46, in many diverse fields. The coordination of national programmes with the regional activities of the United Nations was also strengthened during the year.

## II. EXAMPLES OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES IN 1963

### A. Assisting development plans, basic surveys, administrative and statistical services

Assistance in economic planning was continued, principally through the Advisory Groups. All of these, with the exception of the mission in Bolivia, were jointly sponsored by the Economic Commission for Latin America, the Organization of American States, and the Interamerican Development Bank. The Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations participated by financing the great majority of expert posts contributed under United Nations auspices. In addition to these long-term posts, the United Nations has also financed short-term assignments of personnel detailed for the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning. Several specialized agencies, notably FAO, ILO and UNESCO, have also supplied experts to several of the advisory groups.

In Bolivia there were eleven members in the Advisory Group, of which seven were sponsored by the United Nations, three by FAO and one by ILO. It has concentrated on revising the Two-Year Plan, especially with a view to preparing a list of projects to be included in a public investment plan. In Central America an Advisory Group was established in 1963 under the auspices of the OAS, IDB and ECLA. Contingency funds were approved by the Executive Chairman to finance the services of five experts, of which two are in industrial programming and one each in public investment, external sector programming and budget programming. Four of these five posts are already filled and the fifth, budget programming, is under active recruitment. The group has been working mainly in the organization and strengthening of the national planning offices of the Five Central American Countries and in the co-ordination of their methods of work within the context of economic integration. In Paraguay the United Nations is providing the services of four experts in general economic planning, budget programming and public investment. An expert in foreign trade promotion has also worked in Paraguay in co-ordination with the activities of the Advisory Group. The group is working on the preparation of a short-term plan for public investment which is expected to be ready by the end of 1963.

In Peru, the United Nations has provided the services of five experts in general programming, foreign trade, national accounts, budget programming and regional planning. This group, which was only organized at the beginning of 1963, has already prepared a diagnosis of the economy which was discussed at a meeting of the Tripartite Committee. This will serve as a basis for

/a short-term

a short-term public investment plan. The programme for 1964 will concentrate on preparing a five-year investment plan for the public and private sectors and in setting up an efficient planning mechanism through reform of the public administration. In 1964, the United Nations will have to increase its share in the financing of the experts and it is hoped to recruit an expert in industrial programming, an expert in national accounting and an associate expert in general economic planning

In Uruguay, the United Nations has provided the services of three experts to the Advisory Group, which co-operates with the Investment and Economic Development Commission (CIDE). They include the Chief of Mission, an expert in public finance and one in budget programming. This group has completed a diagnosis of economic and social problems and an inventory of projects at different stages of preparation. It is proposed to prepare a four-year plan based on the diagnosis and projections of the economy.

Assistance to the Central Office of Co-ordination of Venezuela continued in 1963 through the provision of experts in economic planning, industrial programming, public works programming and national accounts.

Advisory missions in economic planning were also sponsored by the United Nations in Ecuador and Panama. In the former, the United Nations has provided an expert in budget programmes and an industrial adviser. In addition, a short-term expert in modern programming techniques assisted the planning department in the final stages of preparing a development plan, and a second expert has been appointed to advise on the administrative aspects of the implementation of the plan. In Panama, a planning expert under the United Nations Regular Programme is at work on the revision and adaptation of national accounts for planning purposes.

A new impulse was given to training in economic programming with the establishment of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning in July 1962. The Institute took over the ECLA/BTAO training programme, which has been in operation since 1952. The training programme was strengthened and enlarged and the number of students increased greatly, reaching over 70 in 1962 and 1963. The United Nations has continued to finance fellowships for the basic training course and, in 1963, more than 30 fellowships from eleven Latin American countries were financed with UNTA funds. In addition, intensive training courses were held in Brazil, Central America, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay.

In countries in which advisory groups existed, the course was given mostly by experts in the country. In Central America, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico and Peru, the intensive training courses were

/financed by

financed by BTAO within each country programme. Contingency financing was obtained for part of the cost of the course given in Mexico and the one in the Dominican Republic was financed from Regular Programme funds. All others were financed under the Expanded Programme.

Assistance in the field of basic surveys of resources in Latin America in 1963 was increasingly concentrated on short-term missions to assist the governments in policy formulation and in the evaluation of specific projects.

With reference to development of water resources, an expert travelled to Argentina in order to study a variety of power and irrigation projects which were under consideration. A second expert to the Argentina examined certain problems relating to the de-mineralization of water in the arid or semi-arid parts of the country.

In Barbados, a hydrologist completed a geological survey of the island to assess the ground waters available.

The work of the United Nations water and power experts continued in Central America under the CAIP project, relating to the evaluation of the power requirements and hydroelectric potential of the region, and the Governments of El Salvador and Honduras have reached an agreement regarding the inter-connexion of their power networks.

A United Nations expert was appointed for a short-term mission to Jamaica to assist the Government in the evaluation of a proposed large-scale multi-purpose hydroelectric project.

Assistance to the Institute for Hydraulic Resources in Panama continued in 1963. A project started in Peru relates to the use of underground water resources. On the spot surveys are being undertaken to select appropriate sites for pilot projects in this field.

To Costa Rica, UNTA sent two experts to make a preliminary investigation of the possibility of finding geothermal steam in economically exploitable quantities and to recommend an exploration programme to evaluate the geothermal potential of the country.

A geologist and a specialist on natural gas production have been appointed to Trinidad to help the Government in a survey of the mineral resources of the country, and their utilization.

/The Regional

The Regional ECLA/WMO Water Resources Team has been providing assistance to Argentina in the field of evaluation of water resources and the demand for water, including hydroelectric power and water legislation. The experts appointed under the country programme for Argentina have been working in very close co-operation with the regional team throughout their assignments. The members of the team also provided short-term advice to the Governments of Bolivia and Peru.

To assist in surveys and evaluation of metallic mineral resources, short-term missions were appointed by the United Nations to Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Panama and Paraguay. In some of these cases, the assignments related to projects under the Special Fund.

A senior United Nations expert in Chile has made further progress in improving the organization and operation of Government Offices and training local personnel.

The Public Administration project in Colombia has shown increasing concentration in assisting the Advanced School of Public Administration, in which four United Nations experts have taught and advised in 1963.

In Trinidad and Tobago, a United Nations expert has assisted in preparing a report containing detailed recommendations for the modification of land taxation. This has been published by the Government and is expected to be the basis for legislative action. In Jamaica, a United Nations expert completed a mission in the field of local government administration.

Assistance in public administration in Central America is centred on the Advanced School of Public Administration in Central America (ESAPAC) established by the Government of the area with the co-operation of the United Nations. The activities of the school, conducted in close co-operation with the work of the joint ECLA/OAS/IDB Programming Mission and the Economic Integration Programmes, are increasingly concentrated in fields of immediate interest to the governments for the economic development of the countries. In each field, the School undertakes research and fact-finding, followed by seminars and workshops in which the various questions are examined. The conclusions reached in those meetings are tested through direct technical assistance provided to the member governments. The School undertakes training courses for public servants and extension programmes. In 1963 the School concentrated its efforts in the fields of customs administration, fiscal administration and administration of development plans.

A Workshop on Government Purchasing and Supply for Latin American countries took place in Bogota in May and June 1963. Twenty-eight participants from twelve countries, and nine observers from Colombia, attended the meeting. The discussions in the Workshop centered on the formulation of policies on government purchasing and supply, budgeting government purchasing and supply, product specification and standardization, government stores organization, and the organization of transportation services

/and preventive

and preventive maintenance. The participants in the Workshop gave special attention to the analysis of legal, technical and other problems which may delay the application of modern methods of government purchasing and supply and also to the analysis of possible human resistance to modern techniques in this field.

Efforts to promote statistical development continue to receive support from the United Nations. During 1962, arrangements were completed for the provision of three regional advisers under EPTA. These advisers are attached to ECLA, and their primary function is to visit the countries in the region, upon request, to advise on technical problems. The specialities covered in the first appointments are demographic and social statistics, sampling and economic statistics. The programme in general, and the framework within which the regional statistical advisers operate, has been decided by ECLA in consultation with the Statistical Office and the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations. Every effort is made to co-ordinate the work of the advisers with the activities of ECLA and of the Latin American Institute. The sampling adviser has given technical assistance to the statistical services in Bolivia, Chile and Peru. In connexion with the task of encouraging the application of sampling techniques, it is interesting to note that the Government of Bolivia has established a National Sampling Department. The regional adviser was able to collaborate with the Chief of the Department, who is an OPEX official, in some of its initial work. In Peru he helped to design and select a sample of the results of the 1960 housing and population census. This work, which was urgently requested by the Planning Institute of Peru, made it possible to anticipate the final census findings by about a year and a half. The regional adviser on economic statistics took up his duties in December 1962 and collaborated with the statistical services in Chile in evaluating some national statistical series. More recently, he worked in Peru with the Planning Institute, preparing an inventory and evaluation of the statistics needed for economic programming. This work was carried out in close co-ordination with the technical staff of the Peruvian statistical services and the United Nations and FAO statistical experts assigned there. During four months in 1963, the regional adviser on demographic and social statistics carried out assignments in Chile, Peru and Venezuela and made recommendations concerning the civil registration systems in each of those countries.

To further the development and improvement of civil registration services, technical assistance funds have been made available to hold the Second Inter-American Seminar on Civil Registration in 1964. The Government of Peru has generously offered to be host, and preparations are now under way for it to be held in November and December in Lima.

B. Public Utilities, Transport and Communications

In addition to the continuation of the long-term projects in this field in Bolivia, Brazil and Chile, new United Nations activities in 1963 included the appointment of short-term experts for the purpose of project evaluation.

In Central America an expert appointed under CAIP has initiated a review of coastal navigation. A short-term mission was undertaken in Haiti to assist the Government in improving coastal maritime traffic. In this connexion, the United Nations adviser prepared a programme for the development of coastal navigation. His recommendations covered the number and characteristics of the vessels required and the provision of warehousing facilities. A two-man team consisting of a railway economist and a railway engineer is being appointed to Mexico to advise the Government on the technical and economic aspects of a railway through the Isthmus of Tehuantepec.

The ITU increased its technical assistance activities under the Expanded Programme for Technical Assistance. In addition to country experts it had two regional experts covering Central America and South America, who, apart from helping the governments to determine their requirements and the way to obtain the necessary aid, have also given direct assistance to the countries in their respective areas.

The Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama have continued the arrangements for an extensive microwave network to link their capitals with direct telephone connexions and to have connexions with other parts of the world. The regional expert acted as permanent adviser. A regional corporation will set up and operate the network, and a draft convention has been prepared. The ITU will send three experts to give advice during the building of the network.

As a complementary measure, the ITU will organize training courses for 18 fellows and a regional telecommunication school will be set up which will also train technicians for their home administrations. The regional expert has already submitted a preliminary draft for this school.

In Ecuador, an ambitious telecommunication plan was prepared which will cover automatic telephone and national telex requirements for the next 25 years. For this purpose, the ITU has kept a team of three experts in the country. The regional expert for South America has also cooperated. The necessary basic laws have been drawn up and questions arising during the integration process have been envisaged, such as the problem which will arise when a large number of staff becomes redundant in their posts. This problem will be solved by means of vocational readaptation courses.

An ITU expert has been in Chile to prepare a general development plan for telecommunications for the period up to 1970. Once this plan

/is finished,

is finished, it will comprise public telegraphy and telex, and local and trunk telephony. It will also include memoranda on the existing and future situation of television, the problem of organizing telecommunications in Chile, and a preliminary draft plan for a training centre for technical personnel.

A civil aviation adviser from ICAO has given assistance to the Government of Ecuador. While his work has been directed mainly towards financial and organization problems in the Department of Civil Aviation, progress has also been made in detailed planning and other preparatory work in connexion with the implementation of a new aeronautical communications network, navigational aids and an air traffic services system. A study carried out by the expert on the long-term financing of the services provided for civil aviation, with particular attention to the distribution of costs between the Government on the one hand and the users, passengers and airlines, on the other, was completed and submitted to the Government. As a result, amendments to the financial provisions of the Civil Aviation Act were proposed and were awaiting enactment at the time of reporting. The expert acted as adviser to the national delegation at meetings on air transport convened under the auspices of the Organization of American States.

An air transport economist, who had assisted the Government of Bolivia in making an assessment of various economic aspects of that country's air transportation industry, completed his work in August. A radio engineer continued to assist Costa Rica primarily in connexion with that country's participation in the Central American Air Navigation Services Corporation. He also carried out short-term missions to Honduras in the same connexion. A radio engineer in Guatemala has assisted with the same project. In El Salvador, one aerodrome and one radio engineer were assisting in developing the new Ilopango airport. A civil aviation school in Peru has continued to receive assistance, through ICAO, by way of instructors. ICAO missions have also been working in Chile and Paraguay. Projects in the fields of radio frequency search and air traffic services are operating in the region, as well as one in air transport economics in connexion with an air cargo survey being carried out by ICAO as part of an overall air transport study under the auspices of the Organization of American States. Nationals of Bolivia, British Guiana, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela have been awarded fellowships, the majority of which are being implemented at the Civil Aviation Training Centre in Mexico (CIAAC) operated with assistance from the Special Fund.

A WMO meteorological adviser in Colombia, who began his mission in 1962, continued to provide the necessary technical assistance and advice throughout 1963 in connexion with the organization of the national meteorological and hydrological service of Colombia. Recently, a technical commission has been created, composed of members of the Geographical Institute "Agustin Codazzi" and other parties interested in aeronautical

/meteorology, to

meteorology, to analyze questions of common interest. The WMO expert will serve as a technical adviser to this Commission. A WMO expert completed a survey of basic meteorological telecommunications arrangements in South America. During his one-year appointment, he visited all the countries of South America to gather information on the current local arrangements for the collection and international exchange of meteorological data. A report was prepared on the actual position in each country and recommendations were made for overcoming difficulties. Finally, a telecommunications plan was drafted which is now being studied by a working group on telecommunications.

In May 1963, a one-year mission in Argentina, part of which was started in 1962, was completed by a WMO expert who continued research in the field of atmospheric electricity. In 1962, equipment was set up at Pilar and instruction was given to a working team in the practical and theoretical aspects of the problems to be solved. The data already available from several Argentinian stations were collected and processed. Later, a station was set up in Pilar to study thunderstorm activity. In the course of his mission, the expert discovered a storm centre in the High Cordilleras region which had not been detected by study of synoptic data. Such centres, which are associated with orographic conditions and the strong solar irradiation in the high plateau area, constitute a considerable danger to aviation in this region and it is planned to keep them under observation with the aid of the new storm location station. A storm location station was also set up at San Miguel Observatory, near Buenos Aires; a third is to be set up at Resistencia. The basis has thus been laid for a nation-wide network for the observation of storm and frontal activity throughout Argentina. In co-operation with Aachen Observatory a series of experiments was undertaken with special reference to the IQSY, with a view to large-scale identification of storm centres in South and Central America.

The Government of Guatemala received the services of an expert for six months to help with the planning and organization of a hydrometeorological service. The desirability of creating one unified network with well distributed meteorological stations which could serve different purposes became immediately apparent, and the expert made detailed suggestions concerning the basic network, the priority of installations, the selection of instruments and methods of observation and evaluation of data. In view of the fact that the unification contemplated would take an appreciable length of time and there were many hydrometeorological problems in the country which were urgently awaiting a solution, it was recommended that the different government institutions continue their observations but that their activities be co-ordinated; for this purpose a Co-ordination Committee was created.

C. Industrial Production

A United Nations adviser has assisted the Government of Barbados and Surinam in the development of industrial policies and project evaluation.

In Jamaica, the Government has requested the assistance of the United Nations by the provision of a team of economists and engineers for the formulation and evaluation of a variety of large and middle-sized industrial projects. As a first step towards the implementation of this project, two experts have been provided on a short-term basis and the recruitment of the main team is continuing with a view to its being in the field early in 1964.

In Central America, the development of various industrial projects relating to the Central American Integration Programme is continuing. In 1963, this work has begun to yield results, with the agreement of the governments concerned as to several industries designated as "industrial integration industries".

The United Nations also appoints specialists to advise on the establishment or development of specific industries. Thus, in Argentina an expert helped the industrial research laboratories with regard to their research programmes on the extraction of protein and other chemicals from seaweed.

At the request of the Government of British Guiana, the United Nations and FAO have cooperated in the organization of a four-man team to advise on the development of the wood-processing industries, including the establishment of pulp and paper, cardboard, woodboard, plywood and wood manufacturing facilities. The recommendations of the team included proposals for the early establishment of cardboard and wood manufacturing industries followed at a later date by a larger scale industry of pulp and paper and plywood.

In Mexico, a United Nations expert is advising on the improvement of technical processes and the organization of the salt industry.

In Venezuela, a textile adviser in the Ministry of Development has given further assistance in the evaluation and financing of projects and in the revision of customs regulations.

Only a few Latin American countries have requested United Nations assistance in the field of small-scale industries. In Chile, an expert has been advising the Government, since June 1963, on the elaboration of a comprehensive development programme for small-scale industries and handicrafts. Among other things, the expert has advised on the establishment of financing facilities for small enterprises, and has proposed the establishment of an industrial estate and a handicraft centre near Santiago. In Paraguay, an expert has organized a survey of small-scale industries in Asunción, aimed at eliciting information on capital structure, type of

/equipment, type,

equipment, type, capacity, volume, costs and value of production, financing, sales and other factors. The purpose of the inquiry is to facilitate and expand the financing of small-scale industries by the National Development Bank, and to improve the programming of development in this sector. This expert has made recommendations for the development of rural industries, including the establishment of workshops in rural areas.

Assistance was also given to the Latin American Governments through the appointment of regional experts in the fields of textiles and industrial technology.

A seminar on Industrial Development Programming was held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in March 1963. It was organized jointly by ECLA and the Centre for Industrial Development in cooperation with the United Nations, and was sponsored locally by the National Confederation of Industries of Brazil and the Federation of Industries of the State of Sao Paulo, and other local bodies. The Seminar was attended by sixty-nine participants and observers from eleven countries of the region, four countries outside the region, and by representatives of the United Nations and other international organizations. The discussion was broadly divided into two main areas, which were programming at the sector and project levels. The first covered the methodology of industrial programming within general economic programming, structural changes in production and demand, selection of techniques and economies of scale, and the experiences of Latin America and a few other countries in industrial programming. The discussion at the industry level included topics such as the basic data and criteria for programming a number of industries, including steel-making and transforming, chemicals, pulp and paper, textiles, cement, aluminium and industrial construction, and the evaluation of industrial projects and preparation of feasibility studies, the formulation of sectoral industrial programmes for both dynamic and traditional industries, and implementation and other aspects of industry programming with particular reference to the private sector.

#### D. Agricultural Production

Lethal yellowing, a little-understood disease of coconut, is destroying many plantations in the Bahamas, Cuba, Haiti and Jamaica. A similar disease in Trinidad is called "bronze leaf wilt". For many years, attempts have been made to find the cause of these diseases with no success. No control measures are yet available and trees once infected die without any possible cure.

FAO has been requested to provide technical assistance under EPTA to determine the causes of these diseases and to develop effective control measures. A world authority on the virus diseases of plants, and on insect transmission, has been appointed by FAO to conduct research on coconut diseases in Jamaica. Despite the relatively short stay in that country, where work started only in June 1962, many interesting findings have already been made. Among these are the discovery of an undescribed species of

/thrips generally

thrips generally present on immature fruits of diseased coconuts. These same insects have also been found on orchard weeds showing evident symptoms of virus disease. On the basis of these observations, the expert is now testing the hypothesis that thrips may be the natural bridge through which the disease spreads from weeds to coconuts. Although further tests appear necessary before obtaining definite evidence of the pathogenicity of the thrips, the situation is certainly encouraging.

The Government of Ecuador has great interest in developing its vegetable oil industries and has requested technical assistance in the study of the possibilities of expanding oil palm cultivation. A FAO specialist was assigned to this project from February 1961 to April 1962. He carried out a careful study of the country and found various areas offering very good conditions for oil palm cultivation. On his advice, seeds of improved oil-palm varieties were introduced and two young Ecuadorian agronomists were awarded FAO fellowships to study techniques of oil palm propagation and cultivation which are applied in Africa. Another expert was assigned to the same project in October 1962 and will be on duty until the end of 1964. He is assisting in the establishment of new plantings and in carrying out experimental work on the problems of oil palm cultivation, and is giving advice on a programme of variety improvement. There has been a growing interest in oil palm development in many private concerns and many new plantings were made under the advice of the expert.

Assistance to the Government of Nicaragua on the appraisal, planning and construction of irrigation projects was continued during the year. As noted in past reports, this assistance has produced good results. The project for the production of bananas by ground water pumping has successfully passed through the initial stages and is now making a significant contribution to the export income of the country. The second 1,000 ha. are nearing completion, which will bring the total to 2,000 ha. during the coming year. Following a difficult preparatory period, the actual design and construction on the Rivas irrigation project was approved during the year. This project will ultimately bring 9,000 ha. of highly productive land under irrigation. Investigations and planning have been started on several other potential projects, the most important of which is the Tuma project, and this work will eventually result in detailed planning and development. In addition, the Government has been assisted in undertaking general resource and inventory surveys to determine the full agricultural potential, particularly on the Pacific coast.

The land use planning expert in Chile has been assisting the Government since August 1962 in overall re-planning of agricultural areas with a view to better land utilization and more efficient farm organization. He has also assisted the Government in setting up a permanent research and action programme. He completed his assignment in October 1963. In addition to the land use planning expert, the Government of Chile has asked for a rural administration (farm management) expert. He will take up his assignment in December 1963 in order to assist in farm management factors on the commercial success or failure of farms, to assist in farm

planning, budgeting and programming and to train the farm management technicians of the Ministry of Agriculture. A farm management expert has been working in Colombia since October 1961. He is advising the Government on the best size of farms to be established in settlement areas, on possibilities for crop diversification, on the selection of equipment and livestock, and on credit requirements and the efficient operation of small family farms. A land use planning expert in Central America is provided as a member of the FAO team for the Central American Integration Scheme. The expert, in close co-operation with his FAO colleagues and other United Nations agencies, including ECLA and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and his counterparts from the Governments of the five Central American countries, is carrying out land use surveys and production economic studies as a basis for agricultural production and land use planning for optimum efficiency and maximum income, in connexion with the Economic Integration Programme of the countries.

An EPTA request from Argentina for a soil fertility and fertilizer use specialist was filled in July 1963. The expert is advising the Government on fertilizer experimentation and the development of a national fertilizer policy. This involves the development of fertilizer recommendations for farmers, and the determination of policies involving credit, supply and subsidies as related to fertilizers. In most Latin American countries the main emphasis has been on soil surveys, and requests in connexion with soil fertility, soil microbiology, soil physics and land use have not been so frequent. It is hoped that this Argentinian project, with a similar request from the Government of Venezuela, indicate a trend towards more soil programmes in Latin America.

During 1963 assistance to Governments in agricultural development planning increased substantially in the Latin American region. In addition to the agricultural planning economists attached to the national planning organizations or to the Ministries of Agriculture in Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, and to the Central American Integration Scheme, an agricultural economist was assigned to the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning in Santiago, and FAO is participating in missions organized by the Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development (CIDA).

The Inter-American Committee for Agricultural Development was established in August 1961 and is composed of the following five organizations: OAS (Organization of American States), ECLA, FAO, IICA (Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences), and BID (Inter-American Development Bank). A Committee Mission to Brazil aimed at advising the Government particularly with regard to identifying and defining the main economic, technical and social obstacles hampering agricultural development and a rise in the standard of living of the rural population, as well as the planning of agricultural activities within the framework of balanced socio-economic development. The Mission will also have to pay special attention to the agricultural, economic and social problems of the

Northeast of Brazil. FAO has already provided five experts for this Mission, including its Head. A similar mission to Peru will advise the Planning Institute on problems of planning the development of the agricultural sector and will also advise on the preparation and implementation of a regional agricultural development project. FAO is supplying five of the twelve experts for this Mission.

#### E. Health Services

In 1962, the World Health Organization continued its collaboration in plans for the economic and social development of the Latin American countries. The Pan American Sanitary Bureau participated in an international English-language course in health planning given at the Johns Hopkins University in April and May 1963, and in the second international Spanish-language course held at the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning in September-December 1963, in addition to providing short-term consultants on planning to national health authorities in a number of countries. The Organization also maintained close collaboration at Headquarters and in the field with the tripartite missions of ECLA, the IADB, and OAS, with the Committee of Nine of the Alliance for Progress, and with the Inter-American Economic and Social Council.

Most projects designed to strengthen and develop public health services, unlike those concerned with a single disease such as malaria, smallpox, or yaws, are continuing rather than self-liquidating. An illustration of this type of continuing activity is the series of country and inter-country projects designed to strengthen nutrition services and improve the nutritional status of the population in general and of certain groups in particular.

Since 1949, assistance in the form of personnel, funds, and equipment has been provided to the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama in support of its research and training programmes. The programmes have not only aided the six countries of the immediate area, but have been utilized for training personnel from other countries of the Americas and other regions of the world, while the research on protein nutrition which led to the development of Incaparina has stimulated work on other protein-rich food products in the Americas and has interested both Governments and private industry in many parts of the world in the production of Incaparina and similar products. Assistance to Ecuador has, since 1950, been given to the National Institute of Nutrition in connexion with its research and training activities, which, like those of INCAP, have international repercussions. At the national level, primary attention has been focussed on joint activity with FAO and UNESCO for the establishment of co-ordinated programmes of applied nutrition, in which the efforts of national ministries of health, education, and agriculture are combined. Assistance to such programmes, for example, has been given by WHO to Guatemala since 1958, to the State of Northeast Brazil, to Costa Rica, and to Paraguay since 1960, to Colombia, El Salvador, Haiti, and Honduras since 1961, and to British Guiana, Panama and Trinidad since 1962. At present there are

twenty applied nutrition programmes being carried out in eighteen countries of this region. In addition, short-term consultant services are made available to these and the other countries of the Americas, through specialists attached to Headquarters and Zone Offices through visiting experts. Typical of special courses organized in connexion with the nutrition programme in 1963 were the three-month course for teachers of nutrition education in schools of social service organized in Uruguay with the assistance of the Inter-American Institute of the Child, FAO, UNICEF, the United Nations Department of Social Affairs, and the Organization of American States, the three-month course on planning for education in nutrition programmes organized at the University of Puerto Rico, and the one-year course for training agricultural extension workers in applied nutrition organized at the University of Molina, Peru. For the projects noted above, WHO provides medical officers with specialized training in nutrition, lecturers and teaching materials for national and international training courses, and fellowships for study at specialized training institutions. In addition to inter-agency and inter-ministry co-ordination at the national and international levels, however, nutrition programmes involve relations with WHO assisted projects in other fields of public health. At the regional level, important contributions are being made by the Pan American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Centre and the Pan American Zoonoses Centre and by projects for brucellosis control and for assistance to schools of veterinary medicine in the teaching of public health. Within the general programme of assistance to public health services, the guiding philosophy has been that nutrition should be one of the basic activities of integrated health services, and specific nutrition activities were promoted within the framework of the general public health services programmes in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Peru, and through assistance to the National Food and Drug Service in Brazil. These projects are necessarily long-term. Their effects cannot be measured directly, but are reflected in the general decline in death rates, and of infant and child mortality in particular, in the American countries, and, as isolated case studies are beginning to demonstrate, in the increased productive efficiency of labor.

In 1958 an applied nutrition programme (PAEN) was started in Paraguay with the assistance of a FAO nutrition expert. This programme has developed very satisfactorily and is now well implemented with social and economic impact on several rural communities. A co-ordinating committee, including representatives of public health, education and agriculture, has the permanent direction of this programme. It is in continuous contact with similar committees at zone level, and with committees composed of the leaders of the communities. At present, the programme is supervised by seventeen education supervisors, nine agronomists, thirteen home economists and three public health supervisors, and is carried out by the personnel of each ministry in the communities. More than one hundred villages are included in the programme, which has developed 66 school gardens, with extension to home gardening, 29 school poultry-houses, 39 school orchards and 40 nurseries for reafforestation. Sixty-eight

wells have been bored in school grounds and equipped with pumps. Pupils in 1087 schools, totalling 182,000 children, receive school lunches or snacks. A distribution of milk to mothers and pre-school children is made in 89 public health centres. Fifty-four mothers' clubs are working in communities. The members of the communities are participating actively in all phases of the development of this Programme.

The need of personnel well trained in nutrition has long been felt in Latin America in the Ministries of Agriculture. Such personnel would contribute to forming satisfactory food policies and plans, giving due consideration to the nutrition requirements of the population, would organize training in nutrition in the faculties of agronomy, and would assist in carrying out applied nutrition programmes in their countries. A formal step to accomplish this aim has been taken by the Nutrition Division jointly with the Agrarian University of La Molina, Peru, and with UNICEF assistance, by the organization of a nine months Regional Training Course for Graduated Agronomists. It will be given for three consecutive years and will receive students from all Latin American countries. The training in applied nutrition includes planning the agricultural aspects of applied nutrition programmes, carrying out food and agricultural surveys, socio-economic research on local conditions as an essential step towards the adaptation of the programme, organization and conduct of training courses, preparation of educational materials designed mainly for the family, orientation on the production of protective foods at family and community level, evaluation of programmes, concepts and methods of community development and the development of modern techniques and methods of nutrition education. The course started in April 1963 and was attended by students from thirteen Latin American countries, the total number of students being twenty-three. They all occupy executive positions in the ministries of agriculture of their respective countries and the majority of them are responsible for the agronomic aspects of the applied nutrition programmes. The Institute of La Molina has supplied a number of professors, and other personnel have been secured from various national and international institutions. The expert, a FAO nutritionist, is the co-ordinator of the course. Practical field work on surveys, and the planning and implementation of applied nutrition programmes has been carried out by FAO in various locations in Peru.

#### F. Education

A training course for officials of the educational planning services of Latin American countries was held late in 1963 with the collaboration of the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning. As a result of an agreement signed last May between UNESCO and the Institute, an Educational Planning Section was established within it. The first activity of the Section was to hold a training course in educational planning, which was attended, from July to October, by 35 officials from fifteen countries, who received fellowships from AID, UNESCO or UNICEF.

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This section and the UNESCO Regional Office of Education, which was recently established at Santiago, Chile completed preparatory work for two educational planning meetings in November and December 1963, one for UNESCO experts working in this field and the other an in-service training seminar for national officials of educational planning offices.

Under EPTA country programmes, UNESCO specialists in educational planning and related fields were provided to the following countries: Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Haiti, Panama, Peru and Venezuela, and educational investment programming missions, composed of specialists in educational planning or administration, technical education, economics and agriculture were sent to Brazil and Chile. Also under EPTA, an expert in school building planning was sent to Colombia to give advice to the educational authorities.

A significant development in the field of education in the region has been the creation, through an agreement signed between UNESCO and the Government of Mexico, of a Regional School Building Centre for Latin America.

Under the Major Project for the Extension and Improvement of Primary Education in Latin America, the associated normal schools of Jinotepe and San Marcos (Nicaragua), San Pablo de Lago (Ecuador), Tegucigalpa (Honduras) and Pamplona (Colombia) continued their activities with emphasis on the training of primary school teachers and collaboration in the in-service training of teachers, directors and supervisors. The San Pablo de Lago Normal School (Ecuador) obtained particularly successful results, as shown by the fact that its new curriculum and organizational pattern are being followed by other teacher training institutions in the country. Further, this school collaborates in the implementation of the Andean Indian Programme projects carried out in neighbouring rural schools and in literacy and adult education activities.

UNESCO experts collaborated in Latin American countries in seminars and short courses for teachers and directors of primary and secondary education. These were, a Central American Seminar on Vocational and Educational Guidance, Guatemala (November 1962); a short course for Central American school-teachers of science, Tegucigalpa, Honduras (November and December 1962); a seminar for directors and lecturers of urban normal schools, La Paz, Bolivia (December 1962) and, in early 1963, a seminar on teacher training held in Sucre, Bolivia with the assistance of UNESCO and UNICEF, and a seminar on one-teacher schools in Nicaragua in November 1963.

Projects for the development of primary and secondary education were carried out in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela. Experts in textbook production and audio-visual aids were also sent to Bolivia, Chile and Paraguay.

UNESCO continued collaborating with the Organization of American States and the Government of Venezuela in the operation of the Inter-American Rural Education Centre, Rubio, Venezuela. The regular course for the training of staff for rural education ended in late 1962, and with a similar course in 1963, the operation of this centre will come to an end as a regional institution, according to arrangements made by OAS and the Venezuelan Government. UNESCO provided fifteen fellowships and two lecturers for each course.

UNESCO also assisted in a regional project to help the Governments of the Republics of Central America in the evaluation of their plans for the reform of university education and for its regional integration. A UNESCO consultive mission of three experts studied the draft plan and recommended ways and means for its implementation. The recommendations of the mission stress the need for improving the relations between students and staff and developing the university libraries, and that experts in human and social sciences should be seconded to the University of Costa Rica to improve the teaching and research in these subjects. As a follow-up, a regional expert in higher education, who was a member of the previous mission, was sent to Central America to help the governments to carry out the recommendations of the consultive mission.

The Government of Chile requested an expert to assist in the development of audio-visual aids to education, with particular reference to educational television and radio. Her primary work consisted in advising the University of Valparaíso on the best use of educational television, and in advising the Ministry of Education at Santiago on the production and adaptation of film strips. She also helped by training teachers and by obtaining funds for projectors to be distributed to schools. She promoted the use of educational radio, helping in the production of programmes and in their wider dissemination through various radio stations. A number of radio clubs were also created.

A pilot project on new methods and techniques in physics teaching was set up in Sao Paulo, Brazil, by UNESCO and the Sao Paulo Branch of the Brazilian Institute for Education, Science and Culture. UNESCO allocated US \$140,000 in 1963-64 as a contribution for the appointment of non-Brazilian experts who will direct the work of the project and for the purchase of materials for the production of experimental laboratory equipment, publications and films. A similar amount will be provided by the Brazilian Government to meet the expenses of fellowships, travel costs and local facilities. The project started in July 1963, and will continue for one year. The participants will be directed by a UNESCO staff consisting of five experts. The activities of the project are experimental and combine aspects of education, natural sciences and mass communications. They are designed to answer the question of how programmed instruction, films and television can improve the teaching of physics and reach large groups of students and teachers. In spite of the fact that the participants will spend a whole year in Sao Paulo, it will not be possible for them to cover a complete physics course. It was decided, therefore, to choose a single

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broad, interesting and important topic, namely, wave-particle duality with special emphasis on the properties of light. This is probably the most important single concept in modern physics and it has the advantage that the experimental apparatus needed for the study of light is fairly inexpensive and simple to build. The participants will be the high school teachers in Sao Paulo and also a large number of high school students, and it is expected that many others will come later from other Latin American countries.

An expert was assigned to a scientific and technical documentation centre project in Cuba, from October 1962 to September 1963. The basic purpose of the centre is to build up information for use by developing industries. It was grafted on to the already existing documentation centre for the Institute of Geography and Geology, and the authorities selected a number of volunteers for training from among the advanced students. During the first six months, a staff of fifteen was recruited. By the end of the year the number increased to twenty one; the number envisaged for the complete establishment is fifty five. One fellowship has so far been provided by UNESCO, and the first issue of an abstracts bulletin has been produced.

Latin American Regional Centres for Physics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and for Mathematics in Buenos Aires, Argentina, have been assisted by UNESCO fellowships and an important amount of equipment. Agreements were reached between the Physics Centre and scientific bodies in Latin America to extend the teaching and training of physical sciences in this area, and these activities are being carried out in spite of the fact that the centre still exists on a provisional basis only. The ratification of the agreement is still pending in the various parliaments. In the Centre for Mathematics in Buenos Aires, the provision of experts has been continued.

#### G. Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy

The main interest of countries of the region in atomic energy was in assistance regarding various aspects of nuclear reactor operation. These included reactor design, reactor safety, reactor accidents, reactor metallurgy, storage of nuclear data, etcetera. In all countries in the region which received assistance from the International Atomic Energy Agency, the other main field of assistance was in the application of radioisotopes, particularly in medicine. Assistance in raw material production, particularly uranium prospecting and uranium processing, played a prominent role in Argentina, Brazil and Mexico, where atomic energy techniques are already well advanced. Some assistance was also given, for the first time, under the regular programme, in scientific documentation for nuclear energy development programmes.

#### H. Community Development

In the Andean countries of South America, United Nations technical assistance in Community Development is closely correlated with the Andean Indian project, which is conducted in co-operation with ILO, FAO, UNESCO

and WHO. The United Nations contributes the services of a regional adviser in community development as well as experts in the country programmes of Bolivia, Chile and Ecuador. It may be added that United Nations experts in Chile and Colombia are also at work in urban and rural areas not covered by the Andean Indian project.

In Central America, work in this field was undertaken in Costa Rica and Panama. A team of three community development experts is advising the Government of Mexico in the organization and implementation of a comprehensive national programme. This programme consists of a number of pilot projects, of which the first was inaugurated in mid-October. As part of their assignment, the members of the team are providing training for Mexican officials.

Preparatory work has started for a South American Seminar to discuss the role of community development in over-all economic and social development efforts.

The Regional Fundamental Education Centre for Community Development continued its operations normally in Patzcuaro, Mexico, with the technical and financial support of the Government of Mexico, as well as of the United Nations, ILO, FAO, UNESCO and WHO. UNESCO continued to provide the Centre with a Director, a Deputy-Director and five professors, and contributed to the provision of twenty four administrative and general services staff.

Projects in adult education, literacy and community development have been carried out in Bolivia, Chile and Ecuador by UNESCO, particularly in the implementation of the Andean Indian Programme. Further assistance was given to these countries and to Peru, through the Regional Office of the Andean Indian Programme, for which UNESCO has appointed a Deputy-Director in Lima.

#### I. Population

Work on population in 1963 was largely conducted under the auspices of CELADE (Latin American Demographic Centre in Santiago, Chile) with the co-operation of ECLA and UNTA. These activities were mainly financed through the United Nations Regular Technical Assistance Programme and the support of private foundations. CELADE started a new project in 1963 relating to a fertility survey in a number of Latin American countries. In addition, the Centre continues its training programmes in demography, and its advice to governments on the development of their demographic studies, which are correlated with the work of the advisory groups in the countries in which they are in operation.

#### J. Housing, Physical Planning and Social Services

Technical assistance operations in housing were further strengthened through the appointment of a regional expert who has provided assistance to governments in the development of their national programmes. A United Nations

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expert serving in Central America under the CAIP Programme has helped in reaching an agreement in principle on the standardization of measurements and production of building materials within the region. He has also promoted the commercial production of roofing materials and has given advice to individual countries on their low-cost housing programmes and projects.

In Argentina an expert in physical planning appointed under the Regular Programme of the United Nations is advising the Consejo Federal de Inversiones in the organization of a planning office and in the formulation of a work programme for the preparation of a pilot plan, mainly for the Northeast of the country.

In Trinidad and Tobago, a team of three experts in physical planning is also advising the Physical Planning Unit of the Ministry of Development in the preparation of a national development plan for the entire territory; the experts will also assist the Government in the control of all land and building development plans, and in the coordination and integration of physical planning with economic and social policies, programmes and projects.

In the course of 1963 United Nations advisers in the social field were at work in Bolivia, Colombia, Honduras, Guatemala and Paraguay. A Working Group of Latin American experts on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders was convened in Caracas, Venezuela in September 1963, with the collaboration of the Government. Social Defence experts from eleven Latin American countries participated as well as an expert from Sweden and observers from some of the Specialized Agencies, the Organization of American States, and several governments and non-governmental agencies in the Western Hemisphere. Recommendations were made on the prevention of juvenile delinquency, the training of personnel, probation and related measures and institutional treatment, together constituting an integrated, concrete and up-to-date programme of action consistent with United Nations aims.

Following a request submitted by the Government of Ecuador, it was agreed to assign an ILO expert along with an expert from FAO to advise the Government on land settlement policy and the establishment of a land settlement authority within the administrative machinery of the Government. One expert from the ILO and one from FAO arrived in Ecuador at the beginning of 1956 and remained until early in 1957. The former dealt more specifically with the human and social aspects of settlement and the FAO expert with the technical aspects. In actual practice the two worked as a team, dividing tasks on an ad-hoc basis. The experts, acting as technical advisers to the National Planning Board and in collaboration with national technicians, carried out a variety of activities, including drawing up basic elements of a colonization policy and a preliminary plan for specific action. The most important accomplishments included the definitions of "agricultural region" from the standpoint of colonization and of the "agricultural family unit", that is, that size of holding which can ensure an adequate standard of living to the rural family under given climatic and soil fertility conditions. Several possible areas suitable for colonization were identified and suggestions were made for the appropriate

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criteria to be used in the selection of settlers and of assistance to them. The experts also made recommendations on the nature and scope of a National Institute of Colonization, which was later established by special decree. In March 1958, another ILO expert was assigned in the project to the new National Institute of Colonization, the National Planning Board and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, to work with a new FAO expert. The collaboration with the National Planning Board included the study of questions of social and economic development, directly or indirectly related to colonization, agrarian reform and rural development; and the preparation of the General Colonization Programme, which actually constitutes part of the Economic Development Plan, published by the Board in July 1963. For the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the expert made a study of internal migrations and agricultural labour legislation. As to the latter, two draft laws were prepared, the first containing general principles and the second aimed at regulating all crop-sharing contracts. The drafts were approved but have not yet been promulgated by the Ministry. The phenomena of internal migrations, which often coincide with spontaneous colonization, were examined in the framework of the land settlement policy, and proposals were made on its regulation and co-ordination with the general colonization programmes. The elaboration of specific colonization programmes was prepared in collaboration with technicians of the National Institute of Colonization. Several important problems relating to uncultivated land were tackled, and most of the suggestions made by the expert are reflected in the legal provisions adopted by the Government. Other notable contributions included the elaboration of the plan for the San Domingo de los Colorados colonization pilot project, active participation in the advisory committee set up to analyse the development problems of Azuay, Cañar, and Morona-Santiago provinces, the preliminary draft of the S. Lorenzo regional development plan, and the detailed elaboration of the agricultural development plan of the Carchi region. In collaboration with the technicians of the National Institute of Colonization, the expert conducted surveys of areas suitable for settlement, and preliminary studies were carried out for the better utilization of the State-owned estates administered by the Asistencia Pública. The expert also participated on several occasions on committees and other bodies charged with the drafting of agrarian reform legislation, a text of which is now before the legislature.

The social security project in Uruguay works in close co-ordination with the ECLA/IBRD/ILO Advisory Group in Montevideo. It is conducting a survey on social security conditions in relation to the over-all economic development of the country. In carrying on this survey, an ILO expert works with the Uruguay Retirement Pensions and Compensations Fund (Caja de Jubilaciones, Pensiones y Compensaciones), with the Re-Insurance Bank (Banco de Re-aseguro) and with some other collective labour funds for family allowances. The most important tasks of the expert in relation to the social security organizations are to assess the actual financial situation of the different collective funds and the extent in which their operation corresponds with the country's legal framework, and to find out how suitable the scale of contributions from labour members is, taking into account the different salary levels. The expert also engages in surveys of the structure of the benefit system, of the adequacy of the

formulae employed to assess the amount of monetary benefits, and of the procedures of administration. It is, however, in the financial aspect that the expert's work co-ordinates more closely with the Advisory Group, as the final purpose of this survey is to find out to what extent the country benefits from investments derived from social security funds, and what has been their impact in the country's over-all development. The expert will draw plans and projects for future investments from social security funds and their integration to the natural economic plan.

In 1960, the Ministry of Labour of Colombia was re-organized, and among its new duties was the establishment of a National Productivity Centre. For this purpose the Government requested an ILO expert to advise and assist, who was sent in 1962. He was to advise on organization, to draw suitable programmes, to design technical material and to establish teaching methods in the field of productivity development. The expert also organizes seminars, courses, practical demonstrations, and so on.

In accordance with the plans for economic integration of the five countries of Central America, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, ILO has started a regional project for a survey of labour costs. For this purpose, ILO has recruited a regional expert who arrived in Mexico in October 1962. The work was undertaken under the care of the University Institute of economic and social studies of Central America. The survey, which has been extended to Panama, is meant to determine the total cost of salaries and charges by hour of effective work, and, where possible, by unit of production. This survey should cover all industrial enterprises. An advisory committee, formed of representatives of the Ministries of Economy and Labour, as well as productivity centres, universities, national services of statistics and labour statistics, central and national banks, social security institutions, employers and workers, has been established in each country to help to set up the survey and to ensure the necessary co-ordination between the various services. The detailed questionnaire established by the expert, in agreement with the advisory committees and ECLA, has been sent to employers. Investigators, trained by the expert, visit employers, helping them to answer. The results of the investigation will be analysed in Mexico by mechanical means. It is hoped that the results of this survey will be available in the course of 1964.

The Government of Ecuador requested an expert in labour evaluation and planning, who arrived in this country in the middle of 1963. Until then, the technical services of the National Planning Commission had assembled a great amount of statistical data on the demand for labour and it became necessary to analyse this material. The task assigned to the expert, in co-ordination with the ECLA Advisory Group, is to establish continuous information on labour, and to advise the commission on the human factor in economic and social development plans.

A course took place in São Paulo, Brazil, in December 1962 and January 1963, in which twenty-five participants from eight Latin American countries studied economic development planning. The courses were given by experts of UNESCO.

A UNESCO expert was placed at the disposal of the Faculty of Political Science of the Advanced School of Public Administration, Bogota, Colombia. In 1962, the expert gave a course of lectures on comparative political systems and, in 1963, two other courses, one on government, society and the individual, and the other on the methods and techniques of political science research. He also took part in the preparation of a conference on Public Administration in developing countries, which took place at the School in April 1963, and prepared a bibliography on political science.

A seminar on social research and problems of rural life in Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean Region, which was held in Mexico, was organized by UNESCO with the help of the Mexico Office of ECLA. It was concerned with social problems of rural life in relation to economic development and the raising of living standards. It brought together Latin American specialists and administrators dealing with economic development programmes in rural areas, and social scientists skilled in research in relation to problems of rural life, and a small number of experts from other regions of the world.

The Medellin Pilot Public Library, opened in 1954, was organized under a five-year agreement (1952-57) by the Government of Colombia and UNESCO. An evaluation showed that in 1958 a total of 1,218,000 volumes had been used by the registered readers of the Library, totalling about 17,000 persons. Recently the project was found to be in need of assistance to overcome financial and organizational difficulties. In 1962-63 an expert in libraries carried out three short missions, totalling nine months, to negotiate with the authorities with the object of putting the Library on a sound financial basis and to assist in the re-organization of its services. There followed an increase of almost 200 per cent of the Library's budget for 1964, a revision of the legal status of the Library, which is not a national enterprise, negotiations with industrial firms to obtain contributions for the organization of special reference services to industry, and the training of the staff and re-organization of library techniques and processes.