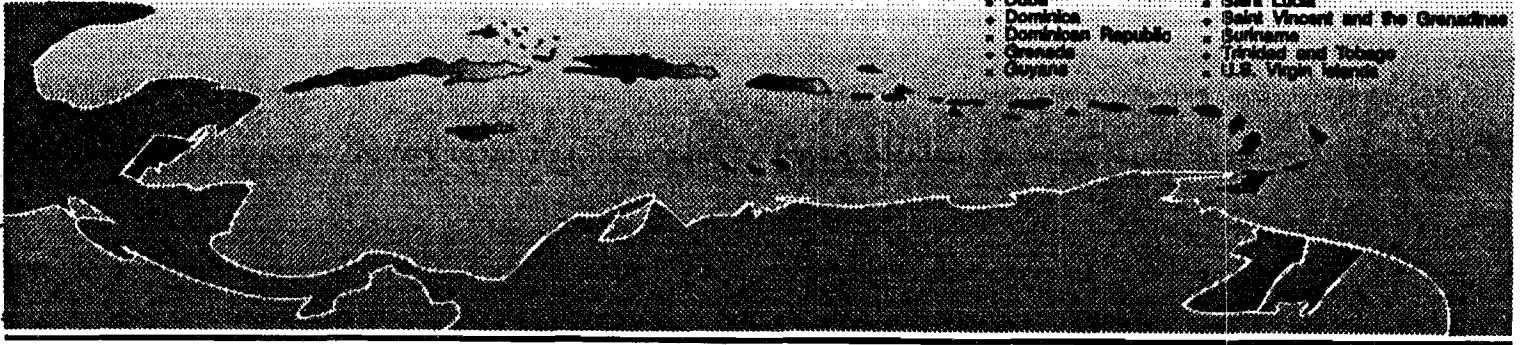




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- Antigua and Barbuda
- Aruba
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Br. Virgin Islands
- Cuba
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Grenada
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Jamaica
- Montserrat
- Netherlands Antilles
- Puerto Rico
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Suriname
- Trinidad and Tobago
- U.S. Virgin Islands

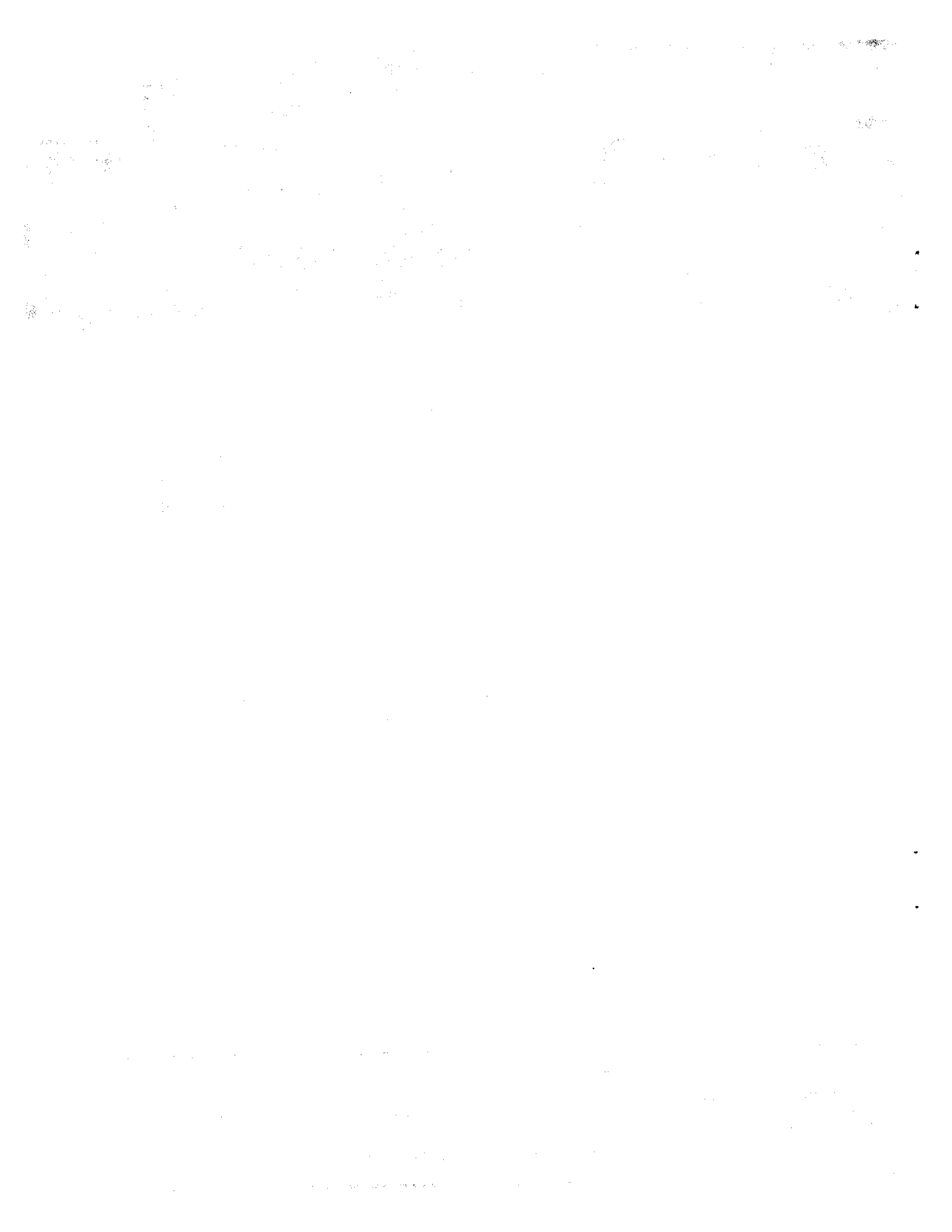


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**DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME OF THE
 ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
 SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS FOR THE CARIBBEAN
 FOR THE 1998-1999 BIENNIUM**



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
 Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION COMMITTEE



**DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME OF THE
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS FOR THE CARIBBEAN
FOR THE 1998-1999 BIENNIUM**

SUBPROGRAMME 11: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

Presentation

The ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, which serves as secretariat for the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), will continue to examine topics of particular relevance to economic and social development in the member countries, formulating recommendations and providing technical cooperation and advisory services that meet their needs.

By opening up their economies, the Caribbean countries have become highly vulnerable to the changes now taking place in the global economy, particularly the increasing liberalization of trade. These changes will affect production, exchange rates and economic and social development in the Caribbean. Analysis of trends in these areas will be aimed at helping the countries of the subregion to adopt strategies and policies enabling them to draw the greatest possible benefit from the changes. The programme of work therefore includes subject areas relating to the subregion's linkages to the global economy, its competitiveness on an international scale and its relations with other countries of the hemisphere, with special emphasis on new phenomena of global or hemispheric scope, such as the establishment of economic blocks, various aspects of the relationship between Caribbean and European countries, and the recent creation of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS).

The CDCC secretariat will persist in its efforts to help the Caribbean countries reconcile their determination to push ahead on regional integration with their need for increased involvement in global and hemispheric mechanisms of economic cooperation. In this regard, there are plans to analyze the economic cooperation agreements concluded under the auspices of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). The programme of work for 1998-1999 includes activities designed to promote cooperation among CDCC member countries and between them and the Latin American countries, bearing in mind the need to integrate the members of the Association of Caribbean States. Special attention will be paid to the programme for reducing language barriers in view of the high priority assigned by member countries to eliminating obstacles to greater cooperation.

During the 1998-1999 biennium, the secretariat will continue to provide assistance to the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST) in order to contribute to the development of scientific and technological capacity in the subregion and to promote greater recognition of the potential contribution of technology to sustainable development. Attention will also be paid to the subject of renewable energy sources and their contribution to Caribbean development. ECLAC and

the Council will study the technological aspects of economic and social development in the Caribbean and will examine the performance of the manufacturing and tourism sectors.

The CDCC secretariat will continue its analysis of economic trends in the countries of the subregion in order to present the situation from the Caribbean perspective. It will also examine various aspects of economic management and planning on the national level and the evolution of the regional and global economic situation; also planned are comparative case studies of export-led development, which will consider experiences both within and outside the region.

The secretariat will pursue its efforts in the field of statistics and statistical development. Its purpose is to help the Caribbean countries modernize the methods they use for compiling national accounts data and to provide training in the proper use of information technologies and systems. The secretariat's Caribbean Documentation Centre will continue to provide support for substantive activities and to help member countries improve their capacity to develop and maintain computerized data storage systems.

The secretariat will continue to carry out activities related to population and development, women and development, and social development, topics that have assumed particular importance in the environment created by the adoption of new economic adjustment measures. Special emphasis will be placed on maintaining support for CDCC member countries in their implementation of the programmes of action adopted at United Nations world conferences devoted to these topics.

The subregional headquarters will also carry out activities related to the environment and development and to a variety of factors that affect sustainable development in small island developing States. The programme of work calls for updating environmental databases and for preparing studies on implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States; on transboundary environmental and development issues in the Caribbean subregion; and on other aspects of sustainable development of particular importance to Caribbean States.

Lastly, the CDCC secretariat will continue to provide services to the Caribbean Information System for Economic and Social Planning in relation to its programme of work and to the needs of member countries.

Programme element 11.1: Linkages with the global economy and competitiveness of the Caribbean economies

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to analyze the repercussions of hemispheric and global economic events on the economic integration and global linkages of the Caribbean countries.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on global and hemispheric economic events and their repercussions on economic policy in the Caribbean.

ii) A study on factors relating to increased development of the services sector in the Caribbean.

iii) A document on the progress made in international trade negotiations on greater liberalization of world trade, and their consequences for the Caribbean.

iv) A document on the implications for the Caribbean of the globalization of financial markets.

v) A study of the competitiveness of some Caribbean economies in the context of global and hemispheric developments.

vi) A report evaluating CARICOM policies on trade, investments and payments, in the context of global and hemispheric economic development.

vii) A study of recent developments with regard to hemispheric economic cooperation and their significance for the Caribbean economies.

viii) A report on Caribbean trade statistics, including an analysis of trade between the Caribbean and Latin America, with a view to the identification of traditional and emerging markets.

c) Information materials and services

Quarterly publication of an information bulletin, External Sector Briefing Notes (8 issues).

d) Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Preparation of documentation will require collaboration with, and, in particular, the provision of data and information from regional organizations such as the OECS, CARICOM, SELA, and SIECA secretariats, regional central banks and member governments of the ACS.

e) Users and anticipated uses of the output

Reports on global economic developments are prepared, initially, for annual meetings of Foreign Ministers of the Caribbean Community. These documents will also be circulated to all CDCC member governments, (departments of foreign affairs and economic and social planning), regional central banks, the Caribbean Development Bank, regional universities, and United Nations offices in the Caribbean. The trade statistics publication will be of direct use, and will be circulated to, regional organizations including the OECS, CARICOM, ACS secretariats, and private sector organizations. The outputs will provide useful up-to-date information on and analysis, and will contribute to policy formulation in the Caribbean on economic issues and linkages with the global economy.

Programme element 11. 2: Integration and regional cooperation in the Caribbean

a) Substantive servicing of inter-governmental meetings

One session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), and one meeting of the CDCC Monitoring Committee.

b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to analyze aspects of cooperation for development relevant to CDCC member countries.

c) Non-recurrent publications

i) An updated study on trade among the CDCC member countries and between them and the other countries in the hemisphere.

ii) A study on the economic integration of the Caribbean in the context of the development of hemispheric and global trade.

iii) A study on economic cooperation among the Caribbean members of the Association of Caribbean States and the other members of that Association.

iv) An analysis of the potential impact of the creation of the Free Trade Area of the Americas on the economies of the non-independent Caribbean countries and possibilities for cooperation with these countries under the plan of action of the Summit of the Americas.

v) A study on the capacity of ECLAC associate members to carry out, at the national level, the activities contemplated in the programmes of action resulting from United Nations world conferences on the environment, small island developing States, women, natural disaster reduction, population, social development and human settlements.

d) Technical material

Update of the statistical database on trade among the member countries of the Association of Caribbean States and between the Association and the rest of the world.

e) Information materials and services

i) Publication of quarterly newsletter, Focus, on activities of the CDCC; (eight issues)

ii) Publication of the monthly newsletter, Associate, on subjects of interest to ECLAC associate members.

f) Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Collaboration is anticipated with regional governmental and non-governmental organizations in the Caribbean, and Central and South America, and with member governments of the ACS.

g) Users and anticipated uses of the output

Outputs will be directly useful to the ACS, CARICOM and OECS secretariats for purposes of their work in forging closer economic and functional cooperation among the members of the ACS and between the countries of the Caribbean and Latin America. Inputs will be expected from these said organizations. Outputs will also be directly useful to member governments of the ACS for purposes of strategy formulation in regard to their participation in regional and hemispheric groupings. Users will be reached through publications, meetings and consultations.

Programme Element 11. 3: Development of production and technology in the Caribbean

a) Substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Two plenary sessions of the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST) and four meetings of its Executive Committee.

b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to analyze various aspects of technology and its relation to the economic and social development of the Caribbean.

c) Non-recurrent publications

i) A document on the operation and management of the agencies and institutions working in the field of science and technology in CCST member countries.

ii) A study evaluating the possibilities for greater development of the industrial sector in some Caribbean countries.

iii) A study on the technological dimensions of economic diversification and development in the Caribbean countries.

iv) A study evaluating the science and technology networks operating in the subregion and their effectiveness.

v) A document on recent trends and developments in the manufacturing sector of some Caribbean countries to be determined.

vi) A study on the promotion and adoption of new technologies within the context of sustainable development.

vii) A study evaluating the efficiency of the projects on renewable sources of energy carried out in the Caribbean.

viii) A study on the contribution of the tourism sector to the economic development of some Caribbean countries to be determined.

d) Information materials and services

Publication of quarterly Newsletter of the CCST (eight issues)

e) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services in connection with the development of production and technology, to government bodies and non-governmental organizations that request it.

Execution of operational activities and of the activity referred to in d) above will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

f) Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Regular consultations will be held with sector specialists in a number of Caribbean and international organizations. Collaboration at the subregional level will be maintained with CARICOM, OECS and the CDB Technology and Energy Unit. At the international level, working relationships will continue with UNESCO, UNDP, UNCSTD and other United Nations and non-United Nations bodies, as appropriate. At the national level there will be close operational relationships with institutions engaged in science and technology activities.

g) Users and anticipated uses of the outputs

Users will be science and technology, industry ministries, development corporations, and development planning departments of member countries; the private sector; universities and subregional and international bodies engaged in science and technology activities and industry and development. Users will be reached through dissemination of the CCST Newsletter, documents, consultative missions, and participation in regional and subregional meetings. It is anticipated that the outputs will serve to foster science and technology development in the countries of the subregion and will contribute to a better understanding of linkages between technology and development.

Programme Element 11.4: Economic development and information for development

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

Expert meeting to examine aspects relating to the economic management of the countries of the subregion in the context of world and regional developments.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study on economic diversification and development in the single-crop economies of the Caribbean.

ii) Two summaries on economic trends in the CDCC countries (one in each year of the biennium).

iii) A comparative study on macroeconomic policies in some small island countries of the Caribbean and other regions.

iv) A study on the contribution of foreign investment to the economic development of the Caribbean.

v) A document evaluating the approaches and methodologies used in the preparation of economic projections in the Caribbean countries.

vi) A study evaluating the methodologies used in the Caribbean countries for the compilation of national accounts.

vii) Two reports on selected statistical indicators of Caribbean countries (one in each year of the biennium).

viii) A study on the effective use of information technology and systems in the Caribbean.

c) Information materials and services

Publication in print and electronic media of the monthly information bulletin, Current Awareness Bulletin.

d) Technical material

i) Production of the CARISPLAN database on CD ROM, provided extrabudgetary resources are available.

ii) Maintenance of a database containing bibliographic information and full text for remote access.

e) Operational activities

Advisory services

i) Provision of technical cooperation services related to economic planning and policy formulation and to the preparation of databases and data organization, to member countries and regional institutions that request it.

ii) Provision of technical assistance to documentation centres in the countries of the region that request it.

Execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources

f) Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

The annual document is prepared, in the first instance, as an input into the ECLAC publication entitled "Overview of Economic developments in Latin America and the Caribbean". It is also used by the CARICOM Secretariat as an input into its annual Heads of Government meeting, held in early July of each year. The half-yearly publication provides a summary of developments in the Caribbean as an input into the end of year statement by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC. Both documents are also published by the CDCC as they will be of interest to all CDCC countries, mainly to ministries of Foreign Affairs, Trade, and Finance and to Central Banks and Departments of Planning.

g) Users and anticipated uses of the output

These documents will provide the target audience with timely and comprehensive information on the economic performance of CDCC countries. They will seek to link policy with performance and draw lessons as to what might or might not be appropriate in the current circumstances. They also provide information to the secretariat on economic developments in the member countries, with a view to assisting it to provide advisory services.

Programme Element 11.5: Human and social development in the Caribbean

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

i) Expert meeting on the implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women.

ii) Expert meeting on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

iii) Expert meeting to consider matters relating to poverty and income distribution in the Caribbean, as part of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development (XB)

b) Non-recurrent publications

- i) A document on some aspects of social integration in the Caribbean.
- ii) A study on some aspects of poverty and income distribution in the Caribbean.
- iii) A summary of social development indicators in the Caribbean countries.
- iv) A study on recent population growth trends in the CDCC member countries.
- v) A study evaluating the efforts made by Caribbean governments to include demographic considerations in development planning.
- vi) A report on ways and means of implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development in the Caribbean countries.
- vii) A study on aspects of planning and gender equality in the Caribbean.
- viii) A report on implementation by the Caribbean countries of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, in the light of the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean.
- ix) A study on the expansion of employment opportunities for women in the Caribbean countries

c) Technical materials

- i) Update of the database on social development indicators.
- ii) Update and expansion of the socio-demographic database.
- iii) Update and expansion of information systems on vital statistics.
- iv) Update of the computerized bibliographic database on women and development in the Caribbean

d) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to CDCC member countries that request it, in the following areas: evaluation and analysis of demographic statistics, the design and implementation of population policies, the integration of women into development, and the promotion of social development.

The execution of operational activities and of the activity referred to in a) iii will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

e) Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Collaboration is envisaged with the various regional and international organizations with interest in population and development, women and development and issues of social development. These include non-governmental organizations, inter-governmental organizations of the Caribbean as well as United Nations agencies operating in the Caribbean; and in particular the CARICOM and OECS secretariats, UNFPA, UNIFEM, UNICEF, the UNDP and the ILO.

f) Users and anticipated uses of the outputs

Users will be the member governments' development planning, population, women's and social development departments. The outputs will also be of direct interest to all of the subregional and international organizations, including non-governmental, with an interest in better understanding human and social development dynamics in the Caribbean and in planning and policy formulation in these areas. Users will be reached through documents, technical assistance and consultations. The outputs will contribute to a better understanding of the human and social development issues in the Caribbean and are expected to contribute to policy formulation in the areas indicated.

Programme Element 11.6: Environmental sustainability

a) Organization and substantive servicing of meeting of experts

Expert meeting to consider aspects of sustainable development relevant to the Caribbean countries.

b) Non-recurrent publications

i) A study analyzing aspects of sustainable development of particular relevance to the Caribbean, in light of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

ii) A study on transboundary issues relating to the environment and development in the Caribbean countries.

iii) A report on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

c) Technical materials

Update and expansion of the environmental database for the Caribbean countries

d) Operational activities

Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation services, to CDCC member States that request it, in connection with environmental sustainability and also with the implementation of follow-up activities relating to the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

Execution of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

e) Inter-agency cooperation and liaison

Activities will be carried out with cooperation from other units of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, from UNEP, UNDP and other United Nations agencies, and from regional organizations of the Caribbean, such as the CARICOM and OECS secretariats. Collaboration may include joint execution of projects and programmes.

f) Users and anticipated uses of the output

Users will include national development departments, subregional development institutions, international agencies and non-governmental organizations with an interest in sustainable development. Users will be reached through meetings, consultations and dissemination of documents and other information. The outputs will contribute to the availability of statistical information and to a better appreciation of environmental aspects of sustainable development.

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