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**PROPOSED DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE ECLAC
SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS FOR THE CARIBBEAN**

SUBPROGRAMME 12: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

Biennial Programme Plan

Biennium 2010-2011

Subprogramme 12

SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

Introduction

The Caribbean subregion operates within a dynamic global and regional environment, characterised by the erosion of preferential market access for its goods and services; weak public policy frameworks for regional cooperation; high levels of indebtedness; susceptibility to natural disasters and other external shocks such as fluctuations in international commodity prices which contribute to the vulnerability of Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and; increasing challenges to social cohesion and human security. Additionally, the negative effects of global warming, in the form of sea-level rise, destruction of the region's fragile ecology and increased intensity of storms severely hamper the development potential of the subregion.

Moreover, Caribbean Governments have faced great challenges translating global commitments arising from the Internationally Agreed Development Goals (IADGs), into broader regional objectives and country specific goals and priorities. Although substantial progress has been made in regional integration through the implementation of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME) many gaps remain in the form of weak regional policy frameworks to facilitate a common development agenda, the application of evidence-based approaches in policy making and the availability and use of statistical data and standard indicators with which to measure progress in development. Consequently, Caribbean Governments have expressed their need for technical support from the UN system and other development partners in overcoming these challenges and in fostering greater coherence and coordination in external support.

In the 2010-2011 biennium, the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean will continue to analyse issues of special relevance to the economic, social and sustainable development concerns of the subregion. In this context, the subprogramme will seek to: (i) facilitate member countries in using evidence-based approaches to policy formulation; (ii) enhance national capacities to generate the required indicators and statistics essential to monitor progress towards the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs; (iii) provide an increasingly modern and efficient information and knowledge management service to CDCC member countries; (iv) promote analysis, design and implementation of social policies, including gender mainstreaming, poverty reduction, population and ageing policies; and (v) facilitate the attainment of sustainable development goals as set out in the Barbados Programme of Action and further elaborated in the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation (MSI).

Objective: To promote and further strengthen the development process within the Caribbean and enhance the subregion's cooperation with Latin American countries.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat
1. Strengthened capacity of policymakers and other ECLAC stakeholders in the subregion to formulate and implement economic and social development measures and improve integration in the Caribbean as well as between the Caribbean and the wider Latin American region.	1. (i) Increased number of countries formulating or adopting policies and measures in the areas of economic and social development, trade and integration in line with ECLAC recommendations 1. (ii) Number of references in policy documents, academic literature and mass media to ECLAC publications and data whose contents provide analysis and policy recommendations on development in the Caribbean
2. Enhanced capacity and technical expertise to follow-up on the major international programmes of action in the economic, social and environmental fields, particularly related to SIDS and the Mauritius strategy.	2. (i) Increased number of policies and programmes adopted by Caribbean countries to follow-up on the relevant international programmes of action

Strategy

Responsibility for the implementation of this subprogramme is entrusted to the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, which also serves as the secretariat for the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC). This office will continue to provide technical cooperation and support to member and associate member Governments of the subregion to facilitate public policy-making and decision-making in response to meeting the challenges of sustainable development, globalization and subregional and regional integration.

A key element of the strategy is to enhance the CDCC to serve as a forum for Governments to set priorities on key development issues in the subregion and for assessing and reviewing regional progress towards the achievement of the internationally-agreed development goals. Through the partnership arrangements, the subprogramme will promote information and good practices sharing among member countries in the Caribbean and with countries of the wider Caribbean and Latin America. For the success of the partnership approach it will be crucial to actively engage subregional institutions such as the Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM), the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM), Universities and the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), as well as the specialized agencies and programmes of the UN system. The strategy will also involve the promotion of debate and policy dialogue on critical development concerns facing the Caribbean, through the conduct of analytical work and the transmission of wider regional experiences. In this connection, the strategy will include applied research for the formulation of public policies and the facilitation of their practical implementation by making available technical advisory services, capacity-building initiatives and training in the areas of competency. Efforts will be accelerated to ensure that member countries have the capacity to access reliable data and information, reporting and monitoring systems or generate the required indicators and statistics essential to monitor progress towards the internationally agreed development goals including the MDGs. In this respect, the subprogramme will continue to be engaged with the UN system in preparing and implementing

the UNDAF for CDCC member countries. Finally, the subprogramme will ensure the integrated follow-up to the implementation of the programmes of action derived from the major international conferences and summits sponsored by the United Nations in the economic and social field.

External factors

The objective and expected accomplishments of the subprogramme will be achievable based on the following assumptions:

- (a) An excellent rapport and trust with the key national stakeholders must be maintained and strengthened;
- (b) It is crucial that the requisite resources be provided by the international community and the government themselves for the successful achievement of the desired results. Requisite resources will include human, financial and adequate equipment;
- (c) The further strengthening of collaboration and cooperation between regional and international organizations operating in the sub-region will be crucial to our overall success.

Activities

Subject area 12.1: Economic Development

1. Meetings

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

(i) One session of the CDCC, involving the preparation of reports and the relevant substantive documentation in keeping with the focus of ECLAC Period of Sessions. The meeting will address the progress made on the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(ii) One meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

(b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) A meeting of experts on trade and economic competitiveness in the context of a knowledge economy (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(ii) A meeting of experts on the importance of sports and cultural industries as a vehicle for development in the Caribbean (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

2. Other substantive activities

(a) Recurrent publications

Annual publication of the *Economic Survey of the Caribbean* (two issues in the biennium) (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

(b) Non-recurrent publications

(i) A study of the impact of natural disasters on macro-economic performance in the Caribbean linking environmental vulnerabilities to economic vulnerabilities (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(ii) A comprehensive study on economic management, competitiveness and restructuring in the context of regional integration (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(iii) A study on the importance of sports and cultural industries as a vehicle for development in the Caribbean (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(iv) An analytical study of the investment incentives policies and mechanisms in the Caribbean; (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(v) Research in support of a regional integration strategic framework (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(vi) A study on the management of economic cycles/trends to catalogue long-term growth (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(vii) A study on the social and economic consequences of migration in the Caribbean sub-region; (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

(c) Technical material

(i) Regular updating and maintenance of the trade statistics databases; (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(ii) Contributions to the text of the *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean*, the *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean*, and *Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy*, 2010 and 2011 editions. Surveys on the economies of the countries of the subregion (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(iii) Design and implement a process of consultation with key stakeholders in the CDCC member and associate member Countries, representatives of the UN system's funds, programmes and agencies in the Caribbean and others actively involved in technical cooperation and research for development programmes in the subregion (low correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

(d) Material and information services

Publication of the quarterly bulletin *UN Focus on the Caribbean*, covering activities carried out by the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean (8 issues in the biennium, in English only) (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

3. Technical cooperation(a) Advisory services

Provision to countries of the region, upon request, of technical cooperation with respect to macroeconomic policy issues, including trade and integration, investment and sectoral policies within the Caribbean and between the Caribbean and Latin America and to the Working Group of Associate Member Countries to support specific initiatives (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

4. Intermediate activities

Integrated follow-up to the major global summits and international conferences in the economic field, such as the Mauritius Strategy, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Monterrey Consensus and the Millennium Summit (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

The implementation of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extra-budgetary resources.

Subject area 12.2: Sustainable Development1. Meetings(a) Organization and substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

High level meeting of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism (RCM) to review the progress of the Mauritius Strategy Initiative (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

(b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) A meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional Coordinating Committee (RCM) (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(ii) A meeting of experts on the applicability and implementation of the clean development mechanisms in Caribbean countries (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(iii) A meeting of experts to analyze the impacts of climate change on the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

2. Other substantive activities

(b) Non-recurrent publications

(i) A study to determine the adequacy of current environmental regimes and impact of globalization on sustainable tourism development (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(ii) A study on the implications of climate change for development in the Caribbean (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(iii) A study on the applicability and implementation of the clean development mechanisms in Caribbean countries (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(iv) A study on the applicability of biotechnology to development in the Caribbean (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(v) A study on the impact of science and technology initiatives on development in CDCC member countries; low correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(vi) A study on the importance and application of early warning systems in reducing vulnerability in the Caribbean subregion (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(vii) Review and progress report on the operationalization of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism (RCM) (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

(c) Technical material

(i) Regular updating and maintenance of the sustainable development databases. (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(ii) Preparation of a work programme for the RCM taking into account; The agenda of the Commission for Sustainable Development and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation (MSI); The priorities of the Caribbean region; and Priorities set by national authorities (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

(d) Material and information services

Preparation and presentation of public education materials and information on sustainable development (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

3. Technical cooperation(a) Advisory services

Provision to countries of the region, upon request, of technical cooperation with respect to policies oriented to promote environmentally-sound technologies in the Caribbean, including disaster preparedness and risk reduction (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

(b) Courses, seminars and training workshops

A workshop in collaboration with regional partners on the Implications of Climate Change for the Sustainable Development of Caribbean economies (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

4. Intermediate activities

Integrated follow-up to the major global summits and international conferences, such as the Mauritius Strategy, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and the Millennium Summit (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

Subject area 12.3: Statistics and Social Development1. Meetings(a) Organization and substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

An inter-governmental meeting to review achievements in implementing major global and regional programmes of action in the area of population and development (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

(b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) A meeting of experts to review achievements in improving social and gender statistics for measuring and monitoring progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and other IADGs and to plan the way forward; (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(ii) A meeting of experts to examine critical areas in the provision of social services and economic security programmes particularly for vulnerable population; (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(iii) A meeting of experts on the socio-economic impact of crime and violence in the Caribbean and discussion of policy instruments to address these issues; (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(iv) A meeting of experts on gender parity and the strengthening of democratic governance; (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

2. Other substantive activities

(a) Recurrent publications

(i) Caribbean Development Report (one issue in the biennium) (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(ii) Online database of Statistical Publications of Caribbean Countries (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(iii) Online database of Statistical Indicators (SSI) (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

(b) Non-recurrent publications

(i) A review of the achievements in improving social and gender statistics for measuring and monitoring progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and other IADGs and to plan the way forward (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(ii) An examination of the critical areas in the provision of social services and economic security programmes particularly for vulnerable population (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(iii) An analysis of the socio-economic impact of crime and violence and discussion of policy instruments to address these issues (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(iv) A study on women's unrecognized contribution to the economy, particularly their participation in the informal sector (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(v) A review and appraisal of comprehensive policies and programmes to address poverty in the Caribbean (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(vi) A study to assess the degree of implementation of various programmes of action in the area of population and development and prevailing constraint (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(vii) An analytic study of the capacity of statistical offices of the Caribbean to produce environment, social, economic and gender statistics (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(viii) A study on the linkages between gender equality, poverty and the achievement of MDGs and other IADGs (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

(c) Technical material

(i) Development of online access for sharing information on gender issues in the subregion; (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(ii) Updating and maintenance of the Caribbean social statistical database; (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(iii) A report on the use of databases of social and gender statistics in the development of policies and programmes; (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(iv) A report on the use of surveys for periodically measuring unpaid work performed by women and men in the development of policies and programmes (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

3. Technical cooperation

(a) Advisory services

Provision of technical cooperation to requesting countries of the region with respect to statistical capacity building and social policies in the region (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

(b) Courses, seminars and training workshops

Two training workshops for national statistical offices to strengthen national capacities in Crime and Gender Statistics and to encourage the inclusion of standardized gender indicators in the collection of data for the 2010 census (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

(c) Execution of technical cooperation projects

It is expected that a technical cooperation project to enhance the capacities of the countries of the subregion to collect, disseminate and analyse social statistics will be in execution during the biennium (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

The implementation of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extra-budgetary resources.

4. Intermediate activities

Provision of inputs for ECLAC databases on social statistics and for the ECLAC flagship documents *Social Panorama* and the *Statistical Yearbook* (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

Integrated follow-up to the major global summits, international conferences and agreements in the social field, such as the International Conference on Population and Development, the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Millennium Summit (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

Subject area 12.4: Knowledge and Information Management

1. Meetings

(a) Organization and substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings

Intergovernmental conference on knowledge strategies for development (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

(b) Organization and substantive servicing of meetings of experts

(i) One meeting of experts to examine the impact of ICT for Development on the Caribbean – 10 year review; (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(ii) An expert review meeting of the Caribbean knowledge networks. (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

2. Other substantive activities

(a) Recurrent publications

A regional study on measuring progress in the Caribbean Information Society and knowledge economy (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

(b) Non-recurrent publications

(i) One study on the advances in information and communications technologies for development in the period 2000 -2010 (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(ii) One study on the Caribbean Knowledge Networks (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(iii) One study on approaches to Knowledge Management in the Caribbean (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

(c) Technical material

(i) Further development and expansion of the Caribbean Knowledge Management Portal; (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(ii) Caribbean Development Profiles (web-based); (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(iii) Regular updating and improvement of the website and the Caribbean Digital Library (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(iv) Regular updating of the CKMC Bibliographic Database (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1);

(v) Regular updating and maintenance of the Caribbean Skills Bank (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

(d) Material and information services

Monthly online publication of the *Current Contents Newsletter* (24 issues in the biennium) (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 1)

3. Technical cooperation(a) Advisory services

Provision to countries of the region, upon request, of technical cooperation with respect to policies and national strategies on knowledge economies in the region (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(b) Courses, seminars and training workshops

(i) Regional Seminar on Knowledge Management in the Public Sector (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2);

(ii) Measuring the knowledge economy – workshop (medium correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

The implementation of operational activities will be subject to the availability of extra-budgetary resources.