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UNITED NATIONS

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THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF ECLAC
MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY, 20 – 24 MARCH 2006

Distr.
GENERAL

LC/G.2296(SES.31/5)
3 March 2006

ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION FROM JUNE 2004 TO DECEMBER 2005

This report on the activities of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) covers the period between the last session of the Commission (San Juan, Puerto Rico, 28 June-2 July 2004) and December 2005. It reviews the work carried out under the programme of work of the ECLAC system, which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES).

The contents of this document will be used to supplement the report that the Secretary-General of the United Nations will present to the General Assembly.

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Abbreviations

ACS	Association of Caribbean States
ADC	Andean Development Corporation
AECI	Spanish Agency for International Cooperation
ALADI	Latin American Integration Association
ARPEL	Mutual Assistance of the Latin American Oil Companies
CACM	Central American Common Market
CAMC	Central American Monetary Council
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CDCC	Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee
CIER	Commission of Regional Electrical Integration
CITEL	Inter-American Telecommunication Commission
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FLACSO	Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences
FTAA	Free Trade Area of the Americas
GTZ	German Agency for Technical Cooperation
ICA	Institute for Connectivity in the Americas
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
ILO	International Labour Organization
ILPES	Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
MINUSTAH	United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement
OAS	Organization of American States
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
OIJ	Ibero-American Youth Organization
OLADE	Latin American Energy Association
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
REGULATE	Latin American Telecommunications Regulators Forum
SICA	Central American Integration System
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNWTO	World Tourism Organization
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

Introduction

During the 2004-2005 biennium, the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean recorded a strong recovery and moderate advances in social development. Indeed, this period saw the strengthening of a growth phase that had started in 2003, following the lost half-decade (1998-2002). Economic activity in the region grew on average by almost 6% in 2004 and by around 4.3% in 2005. The expansionary phase of the economic cycle is expected to continue in 2006 with a slightly lower growth rate, which will nevertheless be over 4%. Consequently, per capita GDP will increase by about 11%, although significant inequalities persist in income distribution.

Nevertheless, the optimism generated by the recent performance of the economies of the region is tempered by two factors. On the one hand, Latin America and Caribbean growth rates, although favourable, are lower than those observed in other developing regions and even in some developed countries. On the other, while the countries in the region have undoubtedly made progress in macroeconomic management, the region's performance is largely due to the highly favourable external context (expansion of the world economy, a substantial improvement in the terms of trade, low international interest rates and, for some countries, an increase in family remittances). The fact that the international climate is not immune to major disequilibria raises doubts as to whether the region will be able to sustain its growth rate or whether, on the contrary, it will find itself once again in a vulnerable position, if that climate deteriorates.

In this context of widespread growth, the performance of the South American countries, and to a lesser extent of the Caribbean countries, has been remarkable, as they have all enjoyed higher levels of expansion than Mexico and Central America. The differences are attributable, among other things, to variations in the terms of trade, which have been extremely favourable for the South American countries and less so for Mexico. The Central American nations, as net oil importers and competitors with China on the United States textiles market, have not only seen their terms of trade deteriorate, but have also experienced a real decline in the rate of increase of their external sales. In the case of Mexico and especially Central America, this unfavourable external context has been offset by a strong surge in family remittances.

For the region as a whole, exports have been one of the most dynamic elements of demand with real growth standing at 8% in 2005 and 10.6% in 2004. Economic growth and the impact of external factors described above have combined to produce the most distinctive feature of the period and an unprecedented phenomenon in the region's economic history: a growing surplus on the balance-of-payments current account.

The Governments of the region are taking advantage of this favourable situation to improve their public accounts. In an unusual pattern for the countries of the region, fiscal revenue has been rising as a result of the various positive advances, while public expenditure has increased by much less. The growing primary balance surpluses (0.8% of GDP in 2004, as a simple average, and 1% in 2005) are being used to reduce public borrowing.

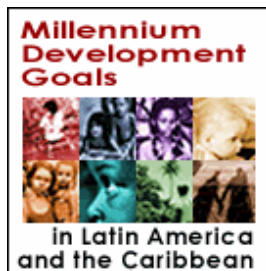
On the downside, there has been an almost universal trend towards exchange-rate appreciation, which is starting to fuel concerns. Since exchange-rate and monetary policies have not been successful in promoting competitiveness in the long term, productivity must be raised by increasing investment in physical and human capital and by improving the quality of products and their value added, based on a sustained process of innovation.

Although gross fixed capital formation increased by 10% in the region as a whole, investment as a percentage of GDP remains low and insufficient to foster growth which can boost productivity and alleviate the persistent labour market problems and problems of well-being in general. Even so, the stronger economic situation has started to have a positive impact on the labour market: the unemployment rate diminished by one percentage point in the past year (9.3% in 2005), while, at the same time, the proportion of formal employment increased.

Although some significant advances have been recorded in the social sphere over the past biennium, Latin America and the Caribbean still has the dubious distinction of being the most inequitable region in the world. The original level of inequality, the insufficient and volatile economic growth of the last twenty-five years and the concomitant lack of quality jobs are the cause of the persistent poverty, which affects 41% of the population on average, including the 17% who live in extreme poverty. Despite the favourable economic situation, various structural factors have combined to prevent any significant reduction in inequality in income distribution and access to productive factors.

I. Central issues on the institution's agenda

A. ECLAC and the Millennium Development Goals



The Commission's growing participation in various activities relating to the Millennium Development Goals called for coordination efforts within the institution. To this end, the Office of the Executive Secretary set up a working group to coordinate activities relating to the goals and targets deriving from the Millennium Declaration. This group held meetings with all the ECLAC divisions in order to find out what activities they were carrying out in that connection.

The formation of this interdivisional working group reflected the interest shown by other organizations in the United Nations system in working together on the follow-up to the regional implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

In October 2004, ECLAC invited all the agencies, programmes and funds in the United Nations system represented in the region to the first inter-agency meeting, which was convened to reach an agreement for the joint preparation of a document on the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals, including a review of the regional situation from an integrated development perspective encompassing the economic, social and environmental dimensions. This review was to focus on the inequalities and inequities that characterize the region and which are reflected, among other things, in the wide disparities in the well-being of the population in geographical or subnational terms and between social strata and the urban and rural sectors.

This first meeting was attended by the directors and representatives of the following organizations: UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIFEM, UNDP, UNEP, WFP, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, PAHO and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements.

The consensus reached on that occasion and at subsequent meetings laid the foundations for the joint production, under the coordination of ECLAC, of the document entitled *The Millennium Development Goals: A Latin American and Caribbean Perspective* (LC/G.2331-P).

Various organizations and programmes collaborated on the production of this document, providing valuable contributions in their respective areas of specialization and revising texts, bearing in mind the synergies produced between the different Millennium Development Goals and the cross-cutting nature of several of them. This facilitated an overall perspective on the situation in the region.

In producing the document, the authors took into account the reports prepared by the different countries in follow-up of the Goals. Differences in the measurement of indicators and sources of information are highlighted throughout the document.



The document *The Millennium Development Goals: A Latin American and Caribbean Perspective* presents a detailed overview of the situation of the countries of the region with respect to the advances and differences recorded in the fulfilment of the Goals.

It was circulated to authorities in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean for information purposes and to enable them to ensure that the points of view of their respective countries were properly reflected.

All the international organizations represented in the region joined forces to prepare this document, under the coordination of the Office of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC. Thus all the organizations worked together, as agreed, to elaborate a system-wide and integrated vision.

The pivotal theme of this report is the question of inequality. Despite the major strides made in relation to a number of social issues, the Latin American and Caribbean region still has the dubious distinction of being the most inequitable region in the world. Hindered by protracted periods of slow growth, the region has been unable to reduce the inequality associated with its distribution of income and access to productive assets. Another equally important contributing factor has been the shortage of quality jobs of the sort that would allow workers to lift themselves out of poverty. People who live in poverty see that their children have little access to suitable health and education services or, in many cases, to an adequate supply of food. As a consequence of all these factors, there is a high probability that the children of poor households will fail to obtain quality employment and will remain in that position when they reach adulthood. This situation is one of the major manifestations of the vicious circle of poverty.

As discussed throughout this text, the initial inequality existing in the region, slow and volatile economic growth and the concomitant shortage of quality jobs are the underlying causes of the perpetuation of poverty; in all, 41% of the population is classified as poor, and this includes 17% who are living in extreme poverty. It is therefore imperative that these factors be addressed if poverty is to be reduced. The fact that this large group within the population is at such a disadvantage in terms of education and health services undermines its members' ability to share in and contribute to the countries' economic development. This, in turn, makes it harder for each country to narrow the economic and social gap separating it from more developed nations.

This analysis also sheds light on another circular causative mechanism that influences the development of our countries: income levels are too low to sustain a sufficiently high savings rate to finance the investment needed to raise productivity and thus fuel a satisfactory rate of GDP growth. In addition to this loop between total saving and investment, because income levels are as low as they are, tax revenues are too limited to spur investment in economic and social infrastructure.

Yet another aspect of these vicious circles is that they often give rise to serious problems of governance which may condemn many countries to remain in their present disadvantageous positions.

The data also show that some low-income countries that have not made much economic headway in recent years have nonetheless succeeded in making major inroads in specific, although isolated, areas by using social programmes to target particular aspects of poverty. This attests to the fact that such programmes can be used to enhance the well-being of the neediest sectors while more structurally based solutions for poverty are being sought.

This report also indicates that, at the international level, unless certain measures are adopted by developed countries, including steps to promote cooperation for development, the world will not succeed in reaching the Millennium Development Goals and achieving a harmonious form of economic and social development on a global scale.

The publication of this document, together with others such as the Report of the Secretary General of the United Nations, entitled *In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all* (A/59/2005), published in March 2005, served as a valuable input for the representatives of countries, cooperation organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations that participated in the sixtieth session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2005, when over 150 representatives of Governments assessed the advances achieved towards the Millennium Development Goals five years after their adoption.

ECLAC and the other organizations participating in the preparation of this study, jointly with various Governments of the countries of the region, organized a series of presentations of the document, which enabled participants to reflect on the advances achieved towards fulfilment of the Goals and the efforts made by the countries to achieve them.

The first presentation took place in Santiago, Chile, on 10 June 2005. It was attended by the Minister of Finance of Chile, the Secretary General of the Organization of American States and representatives of FAO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNIFEM, PAHO and UNFPA. In June 2005, the document was also presented before the Brazilian Congress with the participation of the President of the Senate and various legislative and executive authorities. In Argentina, a round table on the Millennium Development Goals was held within the framework of the Meeting of Ministers of the Environment and Health. In Spain, the document was presented at a meeting organized by the Government of that country to assess cooperation between Spain and Latin America.

Other presentations took place in Cuba and Panama (at the meeting of the Association of Caribbean States) and in Mexico, Peru and Jamaica. In addition, the document was presented in Washington, D.C., with the collaboration of PAHO, and in New York at the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council. Similarly, it was presented in several countries of the European Union.

ECLAC carried out other important activities in the field of statistics and comparable indicators in order to assess the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals within the framework of the project of the Network of Institutions and Experts on Social and Environmental Statistics (REDESA), which brings together representatives of institutions responsible for statistics from over 20 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Women and Development Unit, working in conjunction with UNIFEM and other agencies, coordinated the preparation of a series of studies on the issue of gender in relation to the eight Millennium Development Goals. To date, twelve country studies have been prepared, of which five have been published. Currently, a regional project is being prepared on gender and ethnicity in Latin America and the Caribbean.

With respect to the issue of education, ECLAC and UNESCO prepared jointly the report "Investing better in order to invest more. Finance and management of education in Latin America and the

Caribbean”, which examines the outstanding challenges for the countries of the region in terms of financing and management.¹

With respect to Goal 8, namely, to develop a global partnership for development specifically with regard to access to the benefits of new technologies (in particular information and communications technologies), ECLAC has designed a programme of work on the information society which is being carried out in the region with the support of the European Union. One of its objectives is to promote the design of public policies for advancing towards information societies geared to regional development. In addition, the Agenda for the Information Society has been created for various actors as a virtual forum on issues such as public policies, regional cooperation and the elaboration of strategies. ECLAC has also collaborated with the countries that participated in the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Tunis in November 2005.

B. Impact of the United Nations reform on ECLAC



Implementation of the outcome of the Millennium Summit

The High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, commonly referred to as the 2005 World Summit, was held from 14 to 16 September 2005 as a follow-up to the Millennium Declaration, five years after its adoption. The Summit resulted in the agreement by the Heads of State and Government on a final document (2005 World Summit Outcome)

setting out measures for addressing various global challenges. In order to strengthen the Organization’s capacity to foster implementation of these commitments, the Heads of State and Government also established measures relating to the management reform proposals presented by the Secretary-General in his report entitled *In larger freedom: development, security and human rights for all* (A/59/2005). The document seeks to renew the consensus on the fundamental challenges and priorities and convert it into a collective action with the holistic vision of promoting development, security and human rights as a single cause. Also contained in the document is a proposal to reform the Economic and Social Council and update all mandates to eliminate those that may have become obsolete and redefine current priorities. The document also includes a review of the rules and policies on the budget, finances and human resources, which seeks to ensure that the Organization can respond better to the challenges of the day.

C. Multidisciplinary institutional documents

The multidisciplinary institutional documents are prepared with inputs from various ECLAC divisions under the coordination of the Office of the Executive Secretary. This work gives rise to a participatory process and discussions which help to reinforce the Commission’s integrated approach to economic and social development alternatives in the countries of the region and to the factors that condition this development.

¹ *Seminarios y conferencias series*, No. 43 (LC/L.2246-P), Santiago, Chile, January 2005. United Nations Publication, Sales No.: E.05.II.G.4.

Numerous documents of this type were produced during the period covered by this report; some of them are listed in this section as well as in the sections on the subprogrammes of work together with other important documents prepared by the different ECLAC divisions. These documents are available through the ECLAC Internet portal² and include the following titles:



Shaping the Future of Social Protection: Access, Financing and Solidarity
(LC/G.2294(SES.31/3))

This document will be presented at the thirty-first session of the Commission (Montevideo, Uruguay, 20-24 March 2006).

Summary

The challenge of expanding and improving social protection has become a subject of political and academic debate and soul-searching in Latin American and Caribbean. In many countries, people are plagued by uncertainty regarding future employment, health care, social security coverage and household income.

This raises a challenge in which three variables are present. First, there is consensus on the relevance of bringing development into line with the normative framework of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, set forth in binding agreements concluded at the national and international levels. The fact that the region's countries embrace democratic values and ethics-based global accords and principles places social protection at the point where policy effectiveness and the normative power of social rights converge. Social protection is not simply something that society or governments achieve: it is an imperative which citizens have a right to demand.

The second variable is the restriction of resources which makes it difficult for rights to be transformed into effective guarantees. Unlike civil and political rights, social rights require financing and a technical and political capacity on the part of States. Different levels of development imply different capacities to provide citizens with universal access to benefits and services that enable them to fully exercise their social rights. Per capita income, for example, is a constraint that establishes the limits and possibilities. Institutional and technical resources are also important, since they determine how and to what extent a given level of resources can be used to increase the impact of protection policies. Thus, social rights will not immediately translate into standards of coverage and quality of social protection and authorities must often contend with the harsh reality of the situation.

The third variable refers to the distribution of resources. More egalitarian societies that are equipped with the necessary political and technical resources can boast greater achievements in terms of social protection and are therefore in a better position to make the concept of "social citizenship" (genuine and universal entitlement to social rights) a reality than societies with a similar level of development but a higher concentration of income and benefits. However, if rights are regulatory and restrictions are due not only to resources but also to the way in which they are distributed, then the challenges are also a matter of justice and collective organization.

² <http://www.cepal.cl/publicaciones/>.

Some crucial, albeit controversial, factors that can be adjusted in order to advance towards social protection through better redistribution of costs and benefits are the tax structure and tax burden, increased and better targeted social spending and labour regulation. Redistributive measures must, however, be combined with fiscal equilibria and an appropriate regime of incentives in the productive and labour fields. This leads to a further complexity. Clearly, distributive disputes can have political and economic costs and it is therefore necessary to balance equity, governance and economic buoyancy.

How can social rights be enforced for the whole of society in a region where most countries suffer from major structural inequalities, have high levels of poverty and attain moderate yet volatile levels of economic growth and average per capita income that is far lower than in industrialized countries with consolidated welfare States? This cannot be determined until we decide just how much inequality is ethically tolerable and whether or not there is a certain point after which this very inequality, rather than low average income, is what prevents us from making such rights (including social protection) universal and enforceable.

This is the motivation behind this document, namely, to reconcile the ethical dimension of social rights with the actual possibilities for making progress in terms of the number of people exercising entitlement to those rights. In this context, the proposals relating to the social protection systems described therein operate within the difficult equilibrium of the three variables put forward: rights, distributive structures and level of available resources. To this should be added the efficiency and efficacy of the policies responsible for turning resources into benefits.

The document is made up of five chapters. The first discusses the entitlement to social rights from an ethical and economic perspective and examines some aspects of rights-based development, on the basis that rights refer to an indivisible body of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, but with emphasis on social rights, since they are more relevant in the context of social protection systems. The second chapter considers the difficulties and challenges relating to the expansion of contributory and non-contributory coverage of social protection and analyses the dynamics of the labour market and public finance. In addition, contributory coverage is shown to have diminished in the region and non-contributory coverage will, it is argued, play a central role in improving social protection. The third chapter discusses health-sector reforms and suggests a series of elements on which the reform agenda must be based. In particular, it stresses the need to advance towards integrated solidarity. The fourth chapter analyses the reforms to pension systems and argues that they have not resulted in any increase in coverage. Hence the need to strengthen a non-contributory component that can be integrated into a contributory system. Lastly, the fifth chapter examines social programmes for combating poverty, centring on those that seek to consolidate human capital, such as emergency employment programmes and conditional transfer programmes. The view is that such transfers have been positive but do not solve all the problems of poverty.



The Global Context and the Renewal of the United Nations
(LC/G.2254), May 2004

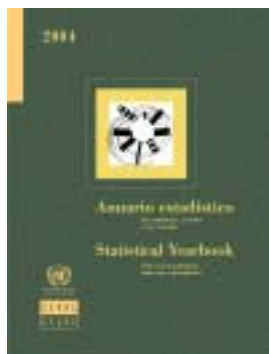
This document was prepared for the high-level round table entitled “The Global Context and the Renewal of the United Nations”, held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, in November 2003. Participating in this round table were Ms. Tarja Halonen, President of the Republic of Finland, Mr. Ricardo Lagos, President of the Republic of Chile and Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Summary

In this post-Cold-War period and at a time of increasing globalization, the role of the United Nations is continually being redefined and challenged. The Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan, said that the United Nations was at a crossroads a moment no less important than its founding, nearly sixty years earlier. Although the United Nations’ basic tenets of democracy, human rights and the rule of law were still universally-held principles and indeed the cornerstone of the global order, he and many others believed that the time had come to redesign its basic structure “to combine the imperative for action with the need for legitimacy”.

The three world leaders analysed the political, economic and social situation of the world, within the context of the current United Nations reform process. They discussed development challenges, multilateralism, the interdependence of countries, and the need for increased, coherent citizen participation at local, regional and global levels. Power, and the way the United Nations might channel and redistribute it, was a central theme, with a collective, civilized use of power the clear goal.

While it is impossible to resolve those complex and sometimes overwhelming issues in one morning or through one event, the hope is that the resulting document will provide the inspiration and insight that lead to effective and innovative solutions for the future.



Statistical Yearbook of Latin America and the Caribbean 2004
(LC/G.2264-P), April 2005

Summary

The 2004 edition of the *Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean* contains a selection of the main statistical series available on economic and social trends in the countries of the region. It represents an effort by the ECLAC Statistics and Economic Projections Division to harmonize the figures and make them internationally comparable. The Yearbook is also available on CD-ROM. To

facilitate the analysis of the information, this version includes statistical tables (in Excel) covering the entire series from 1980 on.

This year's edition does not differ from the 2003 edition in terms of its structure. The tables given in the chapter on the balance of payments continue to be based on the analytical approach recommended in the fifth edition of the *Balance of Payments Manual* published by the International Monetary Fund in 1993.

Part One consists of derived socio-economic indicators (growth rates, ratios or coefficients) which provide an overview of each area of interest and are suitable for use in specialized analyses. This group of indicators includes those used in the periodic regional appraisals of the development process of Latin America and the Caribbean conducted by the ECLAC secretariat.

Part Two provides historical series in absolute figures which can be used for a large variety of purposes. The majority of the statistical tables provide figures on a single topic, organized in such a way as to facilitate comparisons between countries as well as between individual countries and regional totals or averages. The tables on the balance of payments and national accounts are the only exceptions in this respect.

Preliminary estimates for the year of issue of the *Yearbook* are published in the annex. These estimates were produced during preparation of the *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean 2004* with a view to providing timely information on the macroeconomic trends observed in the countries of the region.



Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean 2005

(LC/G.2292-P), December 2005

The *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean* is an annual ECLAC publication prepared by the Economic Development Division in cooperation with the Statistics and Economic Projections Division, the Commission's Subregional Headquarters in Mexico City and Port of Spain and the ECLAC offices in Bogotá, Buenos Aires and Brasilia. The report also reflects the valuable input received from the central banks and national statistical offices of the countries of the region, which provide the statistical information

that serves as a basis for its preparation.

Summary

This edition includes official country figures up to 30 November, an analysis of economic developments in 2005 and projections for 2006. The Latin American and Caribbean economy grew by 4.3% in 2005, which represents the third consecutive year of growth, while per capita GDP rose by about 3%. Unemployment diminished from 10.3% in 2004 to 9.3% in 2005. Poverty rates showed a decrease from 44% in 2002 to 40.6% in 2005.

These results were possible thanks to buoyant domestic demand in the countries of the region and the favourable environment of the global economy, which recorded 3.3% growth in 2005. This expansionary phase of the economic cycle is forecast to continue into 2006 with a growth rate of 4.1% for Latin America and the Caribbean. If these projections are borne out, the average growth rate for the period 2003-2006 will be slightly above 4% per year, while per capita GDP will increase by almost 11%.

Despite this favourable trend, there is no ignoring the fact that the region is growing more slowly than developing countries as a whole, whose output is estimated to have grown by an average 5.7% between 2003 and 2006.

The panorama was mixed in the different subregions, with the countries of the Southern Cone and the Andean Community recording the strongest growth. Performance in the region will be led by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (9%), Argentina (8.6%), Uruguay (6%), Chile (6%), Peru (6%) and Panama (6%).

ECLAC pointed out that one distinctive feature of this boom period was the growing surplus on the balance-of-payments current account, a record in the region's economic history in the past fifty years. The current account balance was reported to be positive in 2005, equivalent to 1.3% of GDP (compared with 0.9% in 2004 and 0.5% in 2003), although with differences between subregions.

The improvement in the terms of trade and increased migrant remittances help to explain this trend in the current account. World economic growth and the increasing participation of China, India and other Asian economies boosted the terms of trade of the countries of South America (a 31% rise between the 1990s and 2005) and to a lesser extent of Mexico (a 22% increase in the same period). Although investment in the region has shown a recovery, it is still below 1998 levels. Investment rates will need to increase by several percentage points if growth rates are to improve and thus help to reduce unemployment more rapidly.

Governments are taking advantage of this favourable environment to improve public accounts. As fiscal revenue expands, surpluses are being used to reduce public borrowing, which ECLAC views as a positive sign. While the borrowing ratio of many countries is high, the reduction in the public debt/GDP ratio leads to a situation of less vulnerability in the region, with the exception of the pattern in some countries in the Caribbean.

Sustained growth for three years has started to have a favourable impact on the job market and is beginning to mitigate the difficult social situation in Latin America and the Caribbean. The increase in employment, together with a less buoyant labour supply, has been reflected in a lower jobless rate against the background of an increase in the proportion of formal employment in the region.



Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2004-2005

(LC/G.2279-P), August 2005

The *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean* is an annual ECLAC publication prepared by the Economic Development Division in cooperation with the Statistics and Economic Projections Division, the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), the Commission's subregional headquarters in Mexico City and Port of Spain and the ECLAC offices in Bogotá, Brasilia, Buenos Aires and Montevideo.

Summary

The *Economic Survey* is divided into two parts. Part one deals with the performance of the region's economy as a whole and begins with an introductory section that analyses recent changes in

some aspects of the region's trade and financial position. This section then goes on to discuss the macroeconomic policies being pursued by many of the countries together with their implications for the region's growth. The following chapters are devoted to the international situation and the external sector, macroeconomic (fiscal, exchange-rate and monetary) policy, and the region's performance (level of economic activity, inflation, employment and wages). Sidebar boxes are included on the restructuring of Argentina's external debt and the progress being made under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative. These analyses highlight important factors in the current economic environment and, more specifically, in the effort to reduce the region's vulnerability.

The main link between economic development and social development is the labour market. This market has performed poorly in recent years and a special chapter on the topic has therefore been included in this edition of the *Economic Survey*. In this chapter, after a brief review of recent trends in the region's labour markets, the discussion moves on to labour and employment policy options for improving job creation and employment conditions.

Part two provides overviews of macroeconomic policies and trends in the Latin American and Caribbean countries in 2004 and the first half of 2005. These country reports include tables on the main economic indicators.

The print version of the statistical appendix contains 25 regional tables while the statistical appendix included in the attached CD-ROM includes over 400 tables which provide ready access to information for recent years and facilitate the creation of electronic spreadsheets. The CD-ROM also contains the electronic version of the text and figures presented in the *Economic Survey*.



Foreign Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean 2004
(LC/G.2269-P), March 2005

This document is prepared annually by the Unit on Investment and Corporate Strategies, the Division of Production, Productivity and Management and the Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division.

Summary

For the first time since 1999, foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows into Latin America and the Caribbean grew in 2004. These inflows topped US\$ 56.4 billion, far exceeding the US\$ 39.1 billion registered in 2003 and representing a 44% increase. This was welcome news for the region, as it may portend the beginning of a new and sustained investment boom. However, it does not mean that the Latin American and Caribbean countries have solved their problems with regard to the limited benefits they receive from the presence of transnational corporations within their borders. In general, existing FDI inflows are not of the quality that is required. If the region's countries are to increase the benefits they reap from the presence of transnationals, they will need to improve the national policies and institutions they have put in place to deal with international commitments regarding investment, establish incentives to attract FDI and evaluate the results of FDI policies.

This year's report focuses on market-seeking investment strategies of transnationals in the region. The second chapter deals with the experience of Brazil, which is a major FDI recipient that mainly

attracts this kind of FDI and has begun to demonstrate an interest in attracting other kinds, especially the efficiency-seeking variety that generates exports. The third chapter looks at the experience of the electricity sector in the Southern Cone. This sector was characterized by market-seeking investment during the boom of the 1990s, but that investment failed to redress existing capacity shortages and the industry went into crisis. This chapter suggests that a subregional approach to this sector's development might help to attract FDI from new stakeholders, such as petroleum companies, through the integration of gas and electricity activities.



Social Panorama of Latin America 2004

(LC/L.2220-P/I), November 2004

The *Social Panorama of Latin America* is prepared annually by the Social Development Division and the Statistics and Economic Projections Division of ECLAC. The 2004 edition was produced in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and with support from the Ibero-American Youth Organization (OIJ).

Summary

The 2004 edition of the *Social Panorama of Latin America* analyses the major demographic changes that have occurred in the region over the past few decades, examines the socioeconomic status of Latin American youth, looks at institutional and programmatic guidelines for youth policies and describes how household structures and family roles have changed. As in past years, recent trends in poverty and income distribution in the Latin American countries are also reviewed.

The first chapter presents projections of poverty and indigence rates for 2003 and 2004. The conclusion drawn from these projections is that the region has failed to gain any ground since 1997 in its effort to combat poverty and actually witnessed a slight deterioration in this respect in 2003. Nevertheless, stronger growth projections for 2004 indicate that many countries are still in a position to succeed in halving extreme poverty by 2015.

Meanwhile, Latin America continues to be the world region with the worst income distribution indicators of all. This situation has been exacerbated by the fact that some countries have actually witnessed an increase in income concentration. This heightens the urgency of developing distributive policies to increase the income-generating capacity of low-income strata with the help of stronger social safety nets and a more inclusive production model.

The chapter on major demographic changes analyses issues such as population ageing, birth rates, mortality rates, international migration and development, internal migration and the spatial distribution of the population. It then goes on to explore the implications of these phenomena for public policy, social equity and the exercise of human rights.

The third chapter focuses on various dimensions of the position of young people in society, including their demographic patterns, occupational status, the organizational structure of the households in which they live and their access to health care and education. Various aspects of young people's participation in society and their cultural consumption patterns are also reviewed.

The fourth chapter delves into the changes that have been taking place in household structures and how they relate to levels of well-being in Latin America. It also refers to the growing importance placed on the family in the new approaches being taken to social policy-making, especially in the case of poverty-reduction measures.

This edition's chapter on the social agenda analyses the main results of an ECLAC survey on national youth programmes in Latin America. Governments' response capacities in dealing with the problems faced by young people were found to vary quite markedly. In addition, the programmatic activities implemented in the various countries betray the existence of differing—and sometimes overlapping—paradigms, together with insufficient coordination with the most appropriate institutional mechanisms for building and implementing specific policies for young people.



Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy, 2004. Trends 2005

(LC/G.2283-P), September 2005

Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy is prepared annually by the Division of International Trade and Integration of ECLAC with the cooperation of the Statistics and Economic Projections Division, the Commission's Subregional Headquarters in Mexico City and Port of Spain and the ECLAC offices in Bogotá, Buenos Aires, Brasilia, Montevideo and Washington, D.C.

Summary

The 2004-2005 edition of *Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy* is divided into six chapters.

Chapter I examines recent developments in the world economy, particularly the major changes occurring in the structure of international trade and financial flows and their implications for the Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Chapter II analyses the international negotiations taking place within the framework of the World Trade Organization (WTO). These multilateral negotiations have yet to result in the anticipated convergence, although the participants have shaken off the discouragement that came with the frustrated expectations of Doha and the failure of Cancún, when the original 2005 deadline for the talks' conclusion was pushed back. The chapter gives an account of the negotiations on the main topics under consideration. It also assesses the potential for the success of this process, in which the countries of the region have maintained an increasingly active presence as exemplified by Brazil's leading role in the establishment of the Group of Twenty (G-20).

Chapter III looks at the status of regional integration efforts at this critical juncture, as a number of the region's countries become more actively engaged in North-South negotiations with the United States and the European Union. This situation underscores the need to harmonize the trade agenda's different levels and highlights the classic challenges of subregional integration, i.e., how to go about strengthening the institutional structure for integration, harmonizing disciplines, ensuring macroeconomic coordination and dealing with asymmetries.

Chapter IV discusses protectionist trends in the world economy and especially in developed countries. The analysis covers the pressures being exerted on China's textiles sector, the main agricultural issues and the favourable rulings secured by some developing countries through the Dispute Settlement Body of WTO.

Chapter V considers the strategic aspects of economic and trade relations between China and Latin America and the Caribbean, particularly South America. China has become a major actor in world markets for goods, services and capital and is becoming a valuable strategic ally for the Latin American and Caribbean countries in trade-related matters and negotiations. This chapter reviews the formidable network of trade and investment agreements that has grown up between South America and China, which is engendering expectations of a new type of relationship between the two.

Chapter VI provides a Latin American and Caribbean perspective on the complex links that have developed between trade, security and transport as security measures are tightened in the wake of terrorist attacks in the United States and Europe.

D. Integrated follow-up to world conferences on economic and social issues



As part of its efforts to establish a methodological platform for facilitating regional consensus-building, ECLAC has continued to undertake preparatory and follow-up activities for United Nations conferences and summits on economic, social and environmental issues. This was the case of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, on the one hand, and the International Conference on Financing for Development and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, on the other.

The Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC and the Women and Development Unit continued to use a single system of indicators for the regional follow-up to both the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action. The methodological work carried out for this single system of indicators has become highly relevant in the follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals.

The ECLAC secretariat has continued to work on developing an integrated analytical approach and promoting dialogue on policies and the exchange of best practices with a view to creating systematic linkages between the implementation of the “leading actions” identified in the Monterrey Consensus and those of the Plan of Implementation adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The secretariat therefore continues to take advantage of the high attendance at its annual Regional seminar on fiscal policy to hold workshops on fiscal policy and the environment. These workshops have enabled fiscal and environmental authorities in Latin America and the Caribbean to make progress in their technical and substantive dialogue for the purposes of exploring opportunities to improve coordination and integration in the formulation, design and application of fiscal and environmental policies designed to achieve the sustainable development objectives established by the region’s countries. The workshops analyse the challenges of implementing “green” fiscal reforms and instruments, especially in terms of their potential application in the energy and transport sectors; case studies of financing trends in national

environmental management systems amidst fiscal restraint; how to channel resources towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals in contexts of fiscal and environmental federalism and growing decentralization; and economic policy and the challenges of applying fiscal instruments that support environmental objectives in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Another forum that boosted an integral perspective of follow-up to summits and conferences was the Meeting of the Ministers of Landlocked Developing Countries Responsible for Trade organized by the Government of Paraguay (Asunción, Paraguay, 9 and 10 August 2005) in preparation for the Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO). The ECLAC secretariat's contributions to that meeting took the form of a presentation given by the Executive Secretary and a document on landlocked countries and trade facilitation negotiations in the Doha Round.

In addition, the secretariat has assisted member States in drafting documents of regional consensus to be presented at United Nations conferences and summits, and in assessing the implementation of commitments resulting from such meetings.

Fourth World Conference on Women

The ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Mexico City from 10 to 12 June 2004, to examine application and compliance in terms of regional and international agreements, particularly the Beijing Platform for Action, the Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean and the CARICOM Plan of Action. The meeting also considered the following strategically important issues for the region: (i) poverty, economic autonomy and gender equity, and (ii) empowerment, political participation and institution-building.

The participants in the meeting adopted the Mexico City Consensus, in which they reaffirmed the region's commitment to the principles, goals and actions contained in the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995), the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994), the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, 1995), the Programme of Action of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Durban, 2001) and the Millennium Declaration (New York, 2000) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, and to all agreements reaffirming Governments' adherence to this international agenda.

Resolution 605(XXX) adopted at the thirtieth session of the Commission reaffirmed the Mexico City Consensus and reiterated that the Consensus represents the regional contribution to the Commission on the Status of Women which, at its forty-ninth session (March 2005), examined the application of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the results of the twenty-third Special Session of the General Assembly, as well as current problems and future strategies in terms of the advancement of women and girls and their empowerment.

Since its adoption, the Mexico City Consensus has been a fundamental part of the work not only of Governments and the ECLAC secretariat but also of United Nations agencies, as described at the thirteenth Meeting of Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies of the United Nations System on the Advancement of Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, on 6 September 2005.

World Summit on the Information Society

The ECLAC secretariat worked with the region's countries on preparations for the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, and also provided assistance in the second phase (Tunis, November 2005) by facilitating regional cooperation and the adoption of regional consensuses. ECLAC also took part in Preparatory Committee meetings held in Geneva and in the Summit itself.

At the request of the Brazilian Government, ECLAC acted as the technical secretariat for the Regional Preparatory Ministerial Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Río de Janeiro, Brazil, from 8 to 10 June 2005. The ECLAC secretariat presented a document entitled *Public policies for the development of information societies in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/W.19). As a result of the regional conference, countries adopted the Río de Janeiro Commitment (a regional political declaration oriented towards sustainable development, digital inclusion and regional solidarity) and a Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLac 2007) that included concrete initiatives and activities and measurable targets and that was based on the Plan of Action adopted at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society.

Previously, the ECLAC secretariat had worked with the Government of Ecuador and UNESCO in organizing the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Technical Preparatory Meeting for the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Quito, Ecuador, from 4 to 6 May 2005.

During the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Tunis, representatives of the region's countries attended daily meetings of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean countries (GRULAC). In this context, they agreed to set up a temporary regional mechanism by 10 December 2006, as a basis for a permanent mechanism to coordinate and monitor implementation of eLAC 2007. The temporary regional mechanism will enable national priorities to be identified in relation to the working groups set up under the regional Plan of Action and will facilitate the establishment of operative and political guidelines for the permanent mechanism by mid-2006 at the latest. Representatives of the region's Governments requested the support of the ECLAC secretariat for the implementation of the temporary regional mechanism and technical assistance in setting up a virtual forum for dialogue and cooperation.

Follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society has been characterized by an increase in interagency collaboration. ECLAC has achieved a high level of coordination not only with specialized agencies such as the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and UNESCO, but also with other regional commissions of the United Nations. At the regional level, ECLAC has strengthened its links with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Organization of American States (OAS), Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), Andean Community, Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Institute for Connectivity in the Americas/ International Development Research Centre (ICA/IDRC), Inter-American Telecommunication Commission, Latin American Telecommunications Regulators Forum (REGULATEL), World Bank and the European Commission. During the Summit, this was reflected in the side events that ECLAC held in conjunction with various organizations: Measuring ICT for Development (organized with 10 other international agencies and whose results were presented to the plenary session of the Summit by the ECLAC Executive Secretary); Building Regional Alliances for the Information Society: Regional Dimensions and the Global Perspective (organized by ECLAC and the other four regional commissions); and the Interagency E-government Initiative (jointly organized with the World Bank, IDB, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), OAS, and the Development Gateway).

World Summit on Sustainable Development

During the thirtieth session of the Commission, ECLAC decided to set up a regional forum for the implementation of the decisions adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and requested that the Executive Secretary call a meeting of the forum with due consideration for the biennial cycle of application of the Economic and Social Council's Commission on Sustainable Development.

The first regional forum for the implementation of the decisions adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development was held on 19 and 20 January 2006 as part of the preparations for the fourteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development. The aim of the forum was to study the current situation and prospects for cooperation in the region in terms of the three key issues to be discussed by the Commission at its next session: energy for sustainable development, industrial development and air pollution/atmosphere and climate change.

At the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, which was held in New York from 11 to 22 April 2005, prior to the establishment of the regional forum for the implementation of the decisions adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the ECLAC secretariat took advantage of the various intergovernmental meetings to promote debate and the formulation of regional inputs on measures to speed up implementation and mobilize action to overcome obstacles and constraints in the core themes of the next session of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

As part of the thirteenth Regional Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean (MINURVI) and the ninth Ibero-American Forum of Housing and Urban Development Ministers and High-level Authorities (San José, Costa Rica, 25-28 October 2004), ECLAC organized a panel discussion on the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Human Settlements. During the panel discussion, ministers and high-level authorities of the housing and urban development sector, United Nations representatives, local authorities and relevant non-governmental organizations discussed policy priorities in terms of human settlements. ECLAC presented a document on sustainable development and human settlements: responses to the challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean. The document proposed priority action lines for the region. Participants at the meeting adopted the Declaration of San José, which included the results of the discussion as presented at the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (New York, 11-22 April 2005). In addition to ECLAC, the following organizations also took part in the panel discussion: United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), Federation of Municipalities of Central America (FEMICA) and Habitat International Coalition (HIC).

The technical secretariat of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean requested that ECLAC and UNDP organize a special session on financing for sustainable development as part of the Forum's fifteenth meeting (Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, 31 October to 4 November 2005). The aims of the meeting were: (i) to analyse the financing of environmentally sustainable development in the region, with a view to improving coordination between environmental and economic policies (particularly fiscal and sectoral policies) and (ii) to promote cooperation between the region's environmental authorities in terms of financing and economic instruments for environmental management.

Second World Assembly on Ageing

The ECLAC secretariat continued follow-up to the Regional Strategy for the implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, adopted at the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing (Santiago, Chile, 19-21 November 2003).

The ECLAC secretariat collaborated with PAHO/WHO, UNFPA, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, the Ministry of Social and Community Development of Trinidad and Tobago and the University of the West Indies in convening the Caribbean Symposium on Population Ageing, which was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, on 9 and 10 November 2004 and consisted of an intergovernmental forum, and an academic meeting organized by ECLAC on 8 November. The intergovernmental forum provided representatives from 17 countries with the opportunity to: consolidate a subregional position on follow-up to the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing; share good practices and lessons learned, while identifying technical and financial assistance needs; set up a Caribbean forum to strengthen national mechanisms; and develop a research agenda to guide the various actors involved in how to approach the issue of ageing and to facilitate the design of instruments for monitoring how the subregion follows up on the Regional Strategy.

The Meeting of Experts on Ageing - Second Central American and Caribbean Forum on Policies for Older Persons was held (San Salvador, El Salvador, 10-12 November 2004) to review the progress made in the subregion since the Central American Forum in 2000. Participants included representatives of relevant policy-making institutions from Central America, Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries, Mexico and Panama, as well as experts from international organizations, academia and civil society organizations. The meeting presented the progress achieved in formulating and implementing ageing policies in the region, and reviewed achievements in terms of economic security, health and enabling environments. Participants also discussed possible indicators and a research agenda. The meeting was organized by ECLAC, UNFPA, PAHO and IDB, in coordination with the technical support committee for programmes for older persons within the Salvadoran National Secretariat of Family Affairs.

ECLAC and the National Office of Policies for Older People within the Argentine Ministry of Social Development organized, in conjunction with UNFPA, PAHO, ILO and IDB, a governmental and expert meeting on ageing in South American countries (Buenos Aires, Argentina, 14-16 November 2005). At the meeting, representatives of government institutions and experts from international organizations, academia and civil society organizations analysed progress made by South American countries in implementing the Regional Strategy. The meeting served to: share successful intervention experiences in economic security, health and enabling environments; analyse proposals from various international organizations for the follow up to the 2002 Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing; and disseminate the results of research on issues relating to intergenerational transfers and public policy. The meeting also resulted in the establishment of exchange mechanisms for South American countries to share information on policies and research.

International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

ECLAC continued to collaborate with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, which is the United Nations focal point for following up application of the agreements adopted at the International Meeting for the 10-Year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (Mauritius, January 2005), and with other agencies such as the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and

Small Island Developing States; UNDP; UNEP; CARICOM secretariat; Association of Caribbean States (ACS); and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

This was one of the main themes of the twenty-first session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), which was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, on 16 and 17 January 2006.

E. Activities of subsidiary bodies



Twenty-third session of the Committee of the Whole

The twenty-third session of the Committee of the Whole took place in New York on 16 February 2005. The items on the provisional agenda included: (i) Economic and social overview of Latin America and the Caribbean; (ii) Inter-agency report on progress towards the Millennium Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean; (iii) Activities carried out by the ECLAC secretariat in conjunction with United Nations Headquarters entities, General Assembly committees and Economic and Social Council commissions; and (iv) Consideration of the request submitted by the Federal Republic of Germany for admission as a State member of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Executive Secretary of ECLAC presented the first three items of the agenda, which gave rise to discussions among delegations on each point. The Executive Secretary also provided additional information on the activities and plans of the ECLAC secretariat in various areas.

Under item 4 of the agenda, a note received from the Government of Germany requesting admission as a State member of the Commission was read out. One of the delegations subsequently presented a draft resolution in which the Committee of the Whole recommended that the request should be approved. Several delegations then made statements in full support of the request, and the resolution was approved by acclamation. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 2005/41 of 26 July 2005, reaffirmed the admission of Germany as a State member of ECLAC.

Twenty-first session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)

The twenty-first session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, on 16 and 17 January 2006. The participants examined the progress made in implementing the programme of work for the 2004-2005 biennium and considered the proposed programme of work of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean for the 2008-2009 biennium.

Twelfth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee

The twelfth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, on 12 May 2005.

The participants examined the progress made in the implementation, up to 30 April 2005, of the programme of work for the 2004-2005 biennium and considered the draft programme of work for the 2006-2007 biennium. Delegates also discussed preparations for the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly and follow-up to the agreements adopted at the International Meeting for the 10-Year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (Mauritius, January 2005) and the Brussels Programme of Action for the least developed countries. The participants also considered recent developments relating to the proposal for securing international recognition of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development.

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

The third meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC was held in Santiago, Chile, on 24 and 25 May 2004. On that occasion, the Executive Committee was given a progress report on the activities of the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean for the period July 2003 to June 2005 and on the preparations for the third meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.

The Executive Committee agreed to consider the following substantive issues: (i) Training policy; (ii) National information systems and the role of national statistical offices; and (iii) The Millennium Development Goals and their implications for national statistical systems. The Executive Committee also decided to entrust the delegations of Chile, Spain and Paraguay with the task of submitting a proposal regarding item (i) to the secretariat and the delegation of Mexico with the task of submitting a proposal regarding item (ii). The secretariat was instructed to identify the countries that would prepare the proposal regarding item (iii).

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

The fourth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC was held in Dallas, United States, on 30 November and 1 December 2004.

The meeting included a round-table discussion on strategic guidelines for the third meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas and on establishment of a medium-term plan of action. The Executive Committee examined progress in the preparation of substantive issues to be discussed at the Statistical Conference on the basis of proposals that various delegations were instructed to prepare at the previous meeting of the Committee. The Committee also considered the secretariat's progress report on activities in the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, July 2003-June 2005, and on the follow-up to the third meeting of the Executive Committee.

Third meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC

The third meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC was held in Santiago, Chile, from 1 to 3 June 2005.

The work of the Conference was conducted in plenary sessions, at which the following issues were analysed in depth: (a) Follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals: challenges and opportunities for national statistical systems; (b) Development of national statistical systems and the responsibilities of national statistical offices; and (c) Human resources training and education: towards a

strategic vision. The participants considered the activities report as well as the proposed programme of statistical work for the next biennium.

The Conference adopted three resolutions. The first resolution approved the Executive Committee's initiative to provide the Statistical Conference with a strategic plan and received the document entitled "Strategic Plan 2005-2015" (LC/L.2293(CEA.2005/3)) as a draft presented by the secretariat. The resolution also requested that the Executive Committee should present a revised version of the strategic plan to the fourth meeting of the Statistical Conference. The second resolution approved the adoption of the programme of regional statistical work for Latin America and the Caribbean, July 2005-June 2007, including the input provided by the participating delegations. These contributions are included in the final report of the meeting. Lastly, the third resolution endorsed the election of the following countries to serve on the Executive Committee of the Conference for the period 2005-2007: Mexico (Chairperson); Colombia, Chile, Jamaica, Spain and the United States (members).

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

The fifth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC was held in Mexico City, on 14 and 15 November 2005.

On that occasion, the Executive Committee examined the proposed strategic plan 2005-2015 of the Statistical Conference with a view to its final adoption; defined the terms of reference of the working groups; and reviewed the programme of regional statistical work for Latin America and the Caribbean, July 2005-June 2007 and its follow-up modalities. The Committee also studied the project relating to regional public goods funded by IDB. The Committee reviewed the preparations for the thirty-seventh session of the United Nations Statistical Commission (2006) and selected the substantive issues to be discussed at the fourth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas (2007).

Thirty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

The thirty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Mexico City on 9 June 2004. The meeting concentrated on reviewing the main organizational aspects of the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico City, 10-12 June 2004).

Discussions consisted mainly of an overview of the activities of the Presiding Officers and of the ECLAC secretariat since the thirty-fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers, review of documentation for the ninth session of the Regional Conference, and an analysis of a possible draft declaration to be adopted by the Regional Conference.

Ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

The ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Mexico City from 10 to 12 June 2004 and examined the activities carried out by the ECLAC secretariat and the Presiding Officers since the eighth session of the Regional Conference. The ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean also considered the following strategically important issues for the region: (i) poverty, economic autonomy and gender equity, and (ii) empowerment, political participation and institution-building. The Conference elected new

Presiding Officers from Mexico (Chairperson), Argentina, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras, Netherlands Antilles, Paraguay, Puerto Rico, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (Vice-Chairpersons) and Ecuador (Rapporteur).

The participants in the meeting adopted the Mexico City Consensus in which they reaffirmed the region's commitment to the principles, goals and actions contained in the Platform for Action for the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995), the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994), the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, 1995), the Programme of Action of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Durban, 2001) and the Millennium Declaration (New York, 2000).

Thirty-seventh meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

The thirty-seventh meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, on 29 and 30 November 2004. The new Presiding Officers concentrated on the region's participation in forthcoming United Nations activities relating to the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, the coordination segment for the 2005 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council on the review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of the Council's agreed conclusions 1997/2 ("Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system") and the follow-up of the third Millennium Development Goal ("Promote gender equality and empower women") and its relationship to the other Goals.

Thirty-eighth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

The thirty-eighth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, on 7 and 8 September 2005. The secretariat presented reports on the activities carried out in the region and by the ECLAC secretariat since the thirty-seventh meeting of the Presiding Officers and on the ECLAC/GTZ project "Labour policies with a gender perspective". The meeting also presented the conclusions of the regional report on monitoring implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean, which was coordinated by ECLAC with the support of other United Nations agencies in the region.

In terms of substantive issues, two panels of experts were held on the technical aspects of social protection from the gender perspective, including the programmes for poverty alleviation and unpaid work of women. The meeting was also attended by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, who pledged to continue to cooperate closely with ECLAC in the pursuit of advances at the bilateral and regional levels towards the promotion of the economic, social and cultural rights of women.

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

The twenty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) was held in Havana, Cuba, on 29 June 2005. The meeting reviewed the report of activities for the 2004-2005 period and the draft programme of work for 2006-2007. At the end of the meeting, the States members adopted several

resolutions, including one approving the ILPES programme of work for the 2006-2007 biennium and recommending that the Institute incorporates planning issues more explicitly as part of its activities. Suggestions were therefore put forward to set up a network to exchange experiences; carry out activities involving reflection, research and training; and create opportunities for horizontal cooperation in relation to economic and social planning at the global and territorial levels.

F. Inter-agency activities



During the biennium ECLAC continued to expand and strengthen its collaboration and coordination with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and with other intergovernmental organizations both within and outside the region.

Both the monitoring of regional progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and the regional preparations for and the follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits have served as a catalyst for strengthening inter-agency activities throughout the biennium. Since both processes have already been described in the preceding sections, this section will merely touch upon some of the most important features of the Commission's cooperation with other institutions.

ECLAC was responsible for coordinating the inter-agency document entitled *The Millennium Development Goals: A Latin American and Caribbean Perspective*, which was discussed in the previous chapter. The secretariat expects this document, which establishes a shared vision of the region's advances and challenges, to lay the foundations for increased inter-agency cooperation in the future.

Given the need to strengthen relations with the Bretton Woods institutions on key development issues for the region, ECLAC and IMF agreed to hold a round table seminar on building prosperity in Latin America and the Caribbean: macroeconomic and reform priorities (Santiago, Chile, 30 May 2005). The purpose of the seminar was to exchange viewpoints on matters relating to macroeconomic policy and the formulation of growth-oriented strategies in the region. Discussions focused on the following issues that remain pending on the public policy agenda: moderate and volatile growth; low rate of investment in the region compared with other emerging economies; and unemployment and growing informality in the labour market. The seminar concluded that it would be beneficial to encourage an open discussion on these issues among the most senior authorities of ECLAC and IMF and political leaders, legislators and experts, as well as senior officials of the World Bank and IDB.

During the biennium, ECLAC increased its collaboration with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). In the second half of 2004, ECLAC and OECD produced the document *Environmental Performance Reviews – Chile*, published in May 2005 as part of a pilot experiment in the region under the OECD environmental performance review programme. The programme includes systematic and independent assessments of all OECD member countries and some non-members, with a view to promoting sustainable development, with emphasis on the application of national and international environmental policy and on the integration of economic, social and environmental variables into the decision-making process.

Throughout the process, ECLAC provided professional and logistical support to OECD and the experts from countries carrying out the peer review (Canada, France, Mexico and the United States). ECLAC also hosted the meeting of the OECD Working Party on Environmental Performance, which carried out the review of Chile. At the meeting, which was held in Santiago, Chile, from 24 to 26 January 2005, representatives from OECD member countries and Chile approved the findings and recommendations contained in the report.

ECLAC, along with the European Commission, UNDP and IDB, is a member of the Steering Committee of the Regional Programme for social cohesion in Latin America (EUROSociAL). The aim of this four-year programme, which was officially launched by the European Commission in 2005, is to increase the degree of social cohesion of Latin American countries by acting on the public policies of education, health, the administration of justice, taxation and employment to convert them into genuine vectors for social cohesion. The Steering Committee provides strategic guidance to the programme. This inter-agency collaboration is one of the many regional integration and social cohesion projects developed as part of the alliance between ECLAC and the European Union.

ECLAC has continued to collaborate with OAS and IDB within the Tripartite Committee, which provides technical support for the process of establishing the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). ECLAC has also continued to participate in the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG), which aims to increase coordination in the implementation and the follow up to mandates of the Summits of the Americas.

ECLAC has likewise continued to collaborate with subregional integration bodies, particularly the Central American Integration System (SICA), Association of Caribbean States (ACS), Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and the Andean Community.

ECLAC remained active in the Inter-Agency Group on Ageing, which was set up in 2002 to provide integrated support to countries for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. The Group, which is made up of ECLAC, UNFPA, PAHO/WHO, ILO, IDB, the World Bank and the United Nations Programme on Ageing, played an important role in convening the Central American and South American follow-up meetings to the Plan of Action.

In September 2004, ECLAC and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) became joint coordinators for the Inter-Agency Group on Rural Development. Other members include representatives of the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The Inter-Agency Group assisted the Government of Guatemala in defining a rural development strategy and strengthening coordination in the context of the local inter-agency group supporting the strategy. In 2005, the Inter-Agency Group also helped to strengthen the *Mesa de seguridad alimentaria y desarrollo rural* (an inter-institutional working group for food security and rural development in Ecuador). The Group initiated a joint reflection process led by ECLAC to redefine the concept of “rural”, with a view to facilitating the standardization of the relevant statistics and indicators. Common efforts were made to obtain basic statistics in order to analyse trends in agricultural and rural development.

As far as energy is concerned, ECLAC consolidated the strategic alliance with the Andean Community, the Andean Development Corporation and the Initiative for the Integration of Regional Infrastructure in South America (IIRSA) and also participated in the activities of the inter-agency working group UN-ENERGY. ECLAC has also consolidated its collaboration with IDB, IMF, the World Bank and

OECD within the framework of the Regional seminar on fiscal policy, held every year by ECLAC with the collaboration of the Ministry of Finance of Chile. Cooperation with subregional development banks was strengthened by the signing of an agreement on the organization of training courses.

Bilateral collaboration between ECLAC and United Nations agencies was diversified during the biennium covered by this report. ECLAC and the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) have worked with tourism departments, national statistical offices and central banks in the region to create and strengthen basic statistics in the tourism sector. In October 2005, the technical cooperation agreement between ECLAC and UNWTO was extended to include the calculation of basic indicators in the economic analysis of tourism, in the light of the importance of tourists for the region's economy (especially in Caribbean countries).

ECLAC increased its collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP) through the implementation of activities arranged under the memorandum of understanding currently in force. Two studies were carried out during the biennium: one on hunger and inequality in Andean countries (2004), and another entitled "Hunger and Malnutrition in the Countries of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS)" (2005). In January 2005, a project was launched to measure the social and economic costs of hunger and malnutrition. The theoretical framework and specific methodology were developed, with pilot projects being implemented in Chile and Peru. The methodology began to be applied in Central American countries from August 2005.

ECLAC continued to work closely with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in the framework of their cooperation agreement. The organizations held two high-level courses (November 2004 and December 2005) for regional negotiators and policymakers in the area of economic development as applied to intellectual property. In conjunction with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), ECLAC continued to implement the "Interregional partnership for promoting trade as an engine of growth through knowledge management and information and communications technologies", financed through the United Nations Development Account (UNDA). ECLAC and UNCTAD also organized a workshop on facilitating trade and transport in Latin America: current situation and prospects (Santiago, Chile, 29 and 30 November 2005), which examined regional progress in trade facilitation and the instruments that can be used to implement such experiences.

In February 2005, ECLAC and the International Labour Organization (ILO) signed a letter of understanding aimed at promoting cooperation activities in terms of joint research and mutual contributions to the ECLAC *Social Panorama of Latin America* and the ILO *Labour Overview*, as well as training activities and joint projects.

In May 2005, ECLAC and UNICEF concluded a cooperation agreement with a view to disseminating information on the importance of the promotion and application of children's rights on the regional agenda and at the national level, in the framework of the Millennium Development Goals. They also agreed to publish a quarterly bulletin in English and Spanish (entitled *Challenges* and *Desafíos*, respectively), which is available in electronic and printed versions.

In September 2005, ECLAC and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) concluded a Framework Cooperation Agreement in the field of environmental information and statistics. The main aim of the Agreement is to increase countries' capacity for producing and systematizing environmental statistics and to create a shared free-access regional database of regional statistics.

Efforts were made during the reporting period to establish closer links with academic institutions, non-governmental organizations and other civil-society entities in the context of the Commission's programme of work.

II. Substantive activities

A. Subprogramme activities

ECLAC programme performance for the 2004-2005 biennium

ECLAC programme performance for the 2004-2005 biennium is summarized in two tables showing the results achieved in terms of final outputs, and is described in more detail under each subprogramme.

Table II.1 deals with substantive activities: publications, meetings of experts and intergovernmental meetings, technical material (databases, computer software) and information services and material (booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits). Table II.2 covers operational or technical cooperation activities (technical assistance missions, training courses, seminars and workshops and field projects).

Table II.1 shows that the overall rate of implementation of the mandated outputs was 94%.

Of the total of the scheduled products, only 6% were not completed and it was decided to terminate them for various reasons, in some cases because they were no longer relevant owing to unforeseen changes in the region and specific requests made by the end users.

Of the total activities planned for the 2004-2005 biennium, 1% was not completed within this period and was carried over to the 2006-2007 period. Most of the outputs in question were being revised and edited.

The operational activities listed in table II.2, which are financed for the most part with extrabudgetary resources, include 622 technical assistance missions carried out in countries of the region, the organization of 157 training courses attended by 4,112 participants and the continuation of 26 projects financed with extrabudgetary funds.

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

Table II.1.
**SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE AT THE OUTPUT LEVEL,
 OF SUBPROGRAMMES LISTED IN THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET
 FOR THE 2004-2005 BIENNIUM, SUBSTANTIVE ACTIVITIES**

Subprogramme	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation	66	0	2	10	77	0	0	1	99	99
Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development	26	1	0	5	31	0	1	0	96	97
Macroeconomic policies and growth	47	0	0	1	48	0	0	0	100	100
Social development and equity	27	3	0	14	37	0	0	7	77	84
Mainstreaming the gender perspective into the regional development process	31	5	0	0	31	0	3	2	86	86
Population and development	28	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	100	100
Planning of public administration	19	6	0	3	25	0	1	2	88	89
Environment and human settlements	19	0	1	18	38	0	0	0	100	100
Natural resources and infrastructure	47	3	0	0	49	1	0	0	100	100
Statistics and economic projections	50	3	0	4	57	0	0	0	100	100
Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America	53	0	0	14	64	3	0	0	100	100
Subregional activities in the Caribbean	103	7	7	11	116	5	0	7	94	95
Total	516	28	10	80	601	9	5	19	96	96

^a Implementation rate: Mandated outputs include: (implemented+reformulated+added by secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).

Total outputs include: (implemented+reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by secretariat).

^b From previous biennium.

Table II. 1

Programmed: Outputs that appear in the proposed programme budget for the 2004-2005 biennium, including those financed with extrabudgetary resources.

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

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

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

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

(i) Outputs are terminated either by a legislative decision or at the discretion of programme managers as set out in rule 106.2(b) of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation. Programme managers may exercise their discretion to terminate outputs in the following circumstances:

- In cases where it is evident that a certain output duplicates another intended for the same users;
- In cases of changing circumstances which render a specific subject matter obsolete or irrelevant; and
- In cases where resources were not made available on time during the biennium and it was not deemed appropriate to postpone the output to the next biennium because it would lose its relevance or effectiveness.

In each of the above cases, adequate explanations should be provided. In the event that the terminated output falls under a subprogramme designated as a priority in General Assembly resolution 53/206, an explanation should be given as to why it was not possible to reformulate or postpone the output or to redeploy resources from lower-priority activities.

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

(i) Added by legislation: Outputs added by a legislative decision of the specialized body that oversees the programme of work subsequent to the adoption by the General Assembly of the 2004-2005 programme budget.

(ii) Added at the initiative of the secretariat: Outputs added in response to general legislation for programmatic reasons.

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

Implementation rates: The percentage of the programme described in the budget for the 2004-2005 biennium that was implemented. This ratio is represented by the number of outputs completed as planned, expressed as a percentage of the total number of outputs provided for in the programme budget.

Rate of implementation: Mandated outputs = (programmed+carried over+added by legislation): (Implemented+reformulated)-(added by the secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).

Rate of implementation: Total outputs = (programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by programme managers): (Implemented and reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by the secretariat).

Table II.2
**SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE AT THE OUTPUT LEVEL,
 OF SUBPROGRAMMES LISTED IN THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET
 FOR THE 2004-2005 BIENNIUM, OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

	Advisory services		Training			Field projects		
	Requests received	Requests implemented	Number of missions	Number of courses	Number of participants	Continuing from 2002-2003	New	Implemented
Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation	10	11	29	3	95	0	0	0
Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development	24	24	52	6	187	0	4	5
Macroeconomic policies and growth	3	3	4	0	0	0	0	0
Social development and equity	8	8	11	23	120	0	2	2
Mainstreaming the gender perspective into the regional development process	11	11	8	11	0	3	0	3
Population and development	50	50	25	5	77	0	0	0
Planning of public administration	18	18	50	28	893	0	0	0
Environment and human settlements	37	37	34	10	423	3	6	9
Natural resources and infrastructure	56	56	56	9	473	0	0	0
Statistics and economic projections	27	27	26	24	530	0	0	0
Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America	347	347	304	26	965	0	0	3
Subregional activities in the Caribbean	48	48	23	12	349	4	0	4
Total	639	640	622	157	4 112	10	12	26

Table II.2

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

Requests received: The number of requests for technical assistance received from ECLAC member countries during the 2004-2005 biennium.

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

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

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

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

Continuing from 2002-2003: The number of projects initiated in the the 2002-2003 biennium whose implementation was continued in 2004-2005.

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

Subprogramme 1

Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation

This subprogramme includes the activities conducted by the Division of International Trade and Integration, the ECLAC office in Washington, D.C. and the ECLAC office in Brasilia.

During the 2004-2005 biennium, the Division of International Trade and Integration of ECLAC concentrated on the following subject areas: (i) trade and regional integration trends; (ii) international trade regulations, regional integration and trade policies; (iii) analysis of specific markets of interest to the region; and (iv) trade facilitation.

The Division carried out analytical and empirical studies and formulated policy recommendations with a view to cooperating with the Governments of the region in their efforts to improve their linkages with the international economy, in response to the challenges posed by changes in the global economy and to encourage Governments to seize the opportunities offered by such changes.

Within the framework of these activities, the Division, working in conjunction with other organizations, implemented the research project. "Comparative Study on East Asian and Latin American Information Technology (IT) Industries". The outcome of the project was the publication of a book detailing 13 national case studies (7 in Latin America and 6 in Asia).

The Division was also responsible for the production of *Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy, 2004. Trends 2005* (LC/G.2283-P); this contained a chapter devoted to the analysis of current trends in world trade since the emergence of the People's Republic of China as a force to be reckoned with in this sphere. The regional cooperation activities included a meeting convened to analyse the strategic economic relationship between Latin America and China and, in particular, the role of chambers of commerce. It was attended by business leaders from Brazil, Peru and Chile and by representatives of the Government of China. This meeting was a concrete step towards the development of a Latin American platform for relations with China and Asia as a whole, thanks to the agreement reached by the presidents of the chambers of commerce of the participating countries.

In addition, multilateral, subregional and hemispheric trade negotiations taking place in various forums were monitored and special support was given to countries in the region in the negotiation and implementation of trade agreements, especially those involving the United States.

The cooperation activities included the organization of three regional meetings on the implementation of free trade agreements in the Andean area and Central America. The main objective of the meetings was to strengthen technical cooperation efforts being made by countries in the region. With respect to the implementation of trade agreements, the cases of Mexico and Chile were studied as part of a project financed by the Government of Japan.

The Division also launched a database which provides regional users with information relating to all cases being processed under the WTO Dispute Settlement Body and the regional dispute settlement mechanisms of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), North American Free Trade Area, Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Andean Community and Central American Common Market (CACM). In order to verify and discuss the partial results of this project, a workshop was held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, and attended by experts from the Andean Community, MERCOSUR, Central America, Brazil, Chile and Argentina.

The Division also set up a database with information on trade among 33 Latin American and Caribbean countries, 15 from the European Union and other selected countries. This has been rated by the United Nations Statistics Division as one of the best applications of the Commodity Trade Database (COMTRADE).

The Division continued to implement the project on the application of information and communication technologies to trade facilitation. In this connection, an international seminar was held on trade facilitation and transport: current situation and outlook (Santiago, Chile, 29 and 30 November 2005), which was attended by experts and representatives from all the countries of South America and from UNCTAD.

Since 2004, the incorporation of the Transport Unit into the Division has made it possible to develop the area of trade facilitation and transport, which is especially important for strengthening competitiveness both nationally and regionally. The Unit's achievements include the updating of the region's maritime profile and the transport website and the compilation of information on the advances made in implementing the single window facility for foreign trade in Latin America and Asia. Progress was also made in assessing rules of origin in the countries through the Competitive Analysis of Nations (CAN) in order to simplify and rationalize the use of this system.

During the biennium, the Division published a number of documents in the ECLAC *Comercio internacional series* as well as several studies on competition and quarterly information notes on capital flows.

The ECLAC office in Washington, D.C. prepared several documents, including the annual publication *Access of Latin American and Caribbean Exports to the U.S. Market*, which analyses the measures relating to market access and contains a section devoted to the Bioterrorism Act adopted by the United States and the new security requirements for maritime transport.

In conjunction with IDB and OAS, the office also published "A Comparative Guide to the Chile-United States Free Trade Agreement and the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement" in order to facilitate access to information and the analysis of trade agreements.

In terms of cooperation activities, the office participated in the Committee on Trade Capacity Building within the framework of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA-DR) and the proposed free trade agreement between the Andean countries and the United States. In this context, workshops were held in Colombia, Peru and Ecuador on the new port and maritime security measures and their implications for agro-food exports. Steps were also taken to enable government officials to participate in various ECLAC courses and seminars.

In addition, the ECLAC office in Washington, D.C. organized the following two seminars to strengthen the trade capacity of countries under the FTAA Hemispheric Cooperation Program, a project financed by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA): (i) Seminar on financing policies of small and medium-sized enterprises and trade openness and (ii) Seminar on port and maritime security and the impact of security measures and the Bioterrorism Act on agricultural exports.

These outputs were obtained through fulfilment of the programmatic commitments corresponding to this subprogramme in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2004-2005 biennium.

Figure II.1 shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2004-2005 biennium.

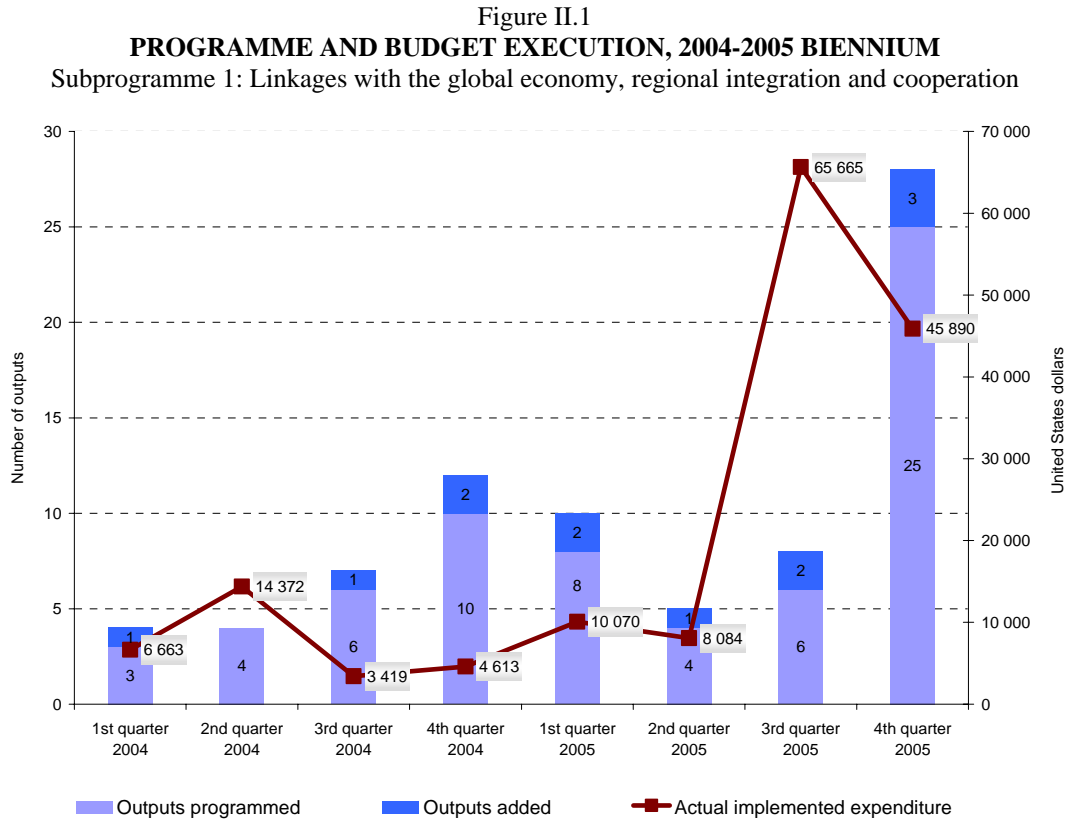


Table II.3 provides an overview of the outputs generated under subprogramme 1.

Table II.3
SUMMARY OF ACTUAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE UNDER SUBPROGRAMME 1 FOR THE 2004-2005 BIENNIUM: SUBSTANTIVE AND OPERATIONAL OUTPUTS

Subprogramme	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation	70	0	4	18	91	0	0	1	99	99

^a Implementation rates: Mandated outputs = (implemented+reformulated-added by the secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).
Total outputs = (implemented+reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by the secretariat).

^b From the previous biennium.

Subprogramme 2

Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development

During the 2004-2005 biennium, the objective of the subprogramme was to support countries of the region in the design and implementation of productive development policies. The Division of Production, Productivity and Management, working in close collaboration with other divisions, was responsible for activities in the following four subject areas: (i) analysis of production trends in the region; (ii) policy design aimed at improving the business environment; (iii) strengthening the key agents of industrial and agricultural development (transnational firms, national conglomerates and small and medium-sized enterprises); and (iv) fostering development and adapting and incorporating new technologies, in particular information technologies and biotechnologies.

With respect to the first subject area, the Division continued to offer the annual Summer School on Latin American Economies to postgraduate students from countries of different degrees of development. This School, which lasts three months full time, was very highly rated in the assessment surveys. The Division improved and updated the Competitive Analysis of Nations (CAN) software and the Industrial Performance Analysis Programme (PADI) software, which contain information on export and industrial production patterns. In addition, the Division developed a methodology that was used by 11 international organizations to agree on and harmonize a set of key indicators for the household and business surveys on information and communication technologies.

With respect to the second subject area, the Division participated in the development of an information system on agriculture and rural life for the follow-up and evaluation of AGRO 2015 Plan. This initiative, which was supported by IICA, PAHO, FAO, UNESCO and ILO, received special recognition at the Fourth Summit of the Americas, held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, on 4 and 5 November 2005.

In conjunction with the Brazilian Micro and Small Business Support Service (SEBRAE), the Division organized the Latin American workshop on local productive systems (Brasilia, August 2004), which was attended by more than 50 professionals and technical experts from countries in the region. As a result of this workshop, a 400-hour postgraduate specialization course was held during ten months of 2005 for development project managers of local productive clusters.

Under the third subject area, the Division produced several documents, which were disseminated widely on the Internet through the ECLAC portal. The annual publication *Foreign Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean*, which studies foreign investment in the countries of the region, was downloaded 200,000 times since March 2005. In virtual dialogues maintained with ECLAC officials, users rated this document as extremely useful. For the first time in 2004, this document was published in Portuguese as well as in English and Spanish.

In 2005, activities were carried out to support the formulation and implementation of policies designed to strengthen the business environment, especially with respect to small and medium-sized enterprises in Recife, Brazil, and Atuntaqui, Ecuador. The Division, in conjunction with the Government of Argentina, also organized an observatory on the dynamics of employment, which has served to design policies geared to sectors and regions as well as small businesses.

Lastly, in relation to the fourth subject area, the Division, in collaboration with WIPO, organized two regional courses on technological management and intellectual property in Latin America and the Caribbean. At the request of the Government of Panama, it supported the design of a strategic plan for the development of science and technology in that country, which is scheduled for implementation in 2006.

The Division acted as technical secretariat for the Regional Preparatory Ministerial Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, organized by the Government of Brazil in June 2005. At that meeting, the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean adopted the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC 2007). At the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Tunis in November 2005, it was agreed, and explicitly recognized by the countries of the region, that ECLAC, like the other regional commissions, would play an important role in the follow-up of regional plans for the information society.

These outputs were obtained through fulfilment of the programmatic commitments corresponding to this subprogramme in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2004-2005 biennium.

Figure II.2 shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2004-2005 biennium.

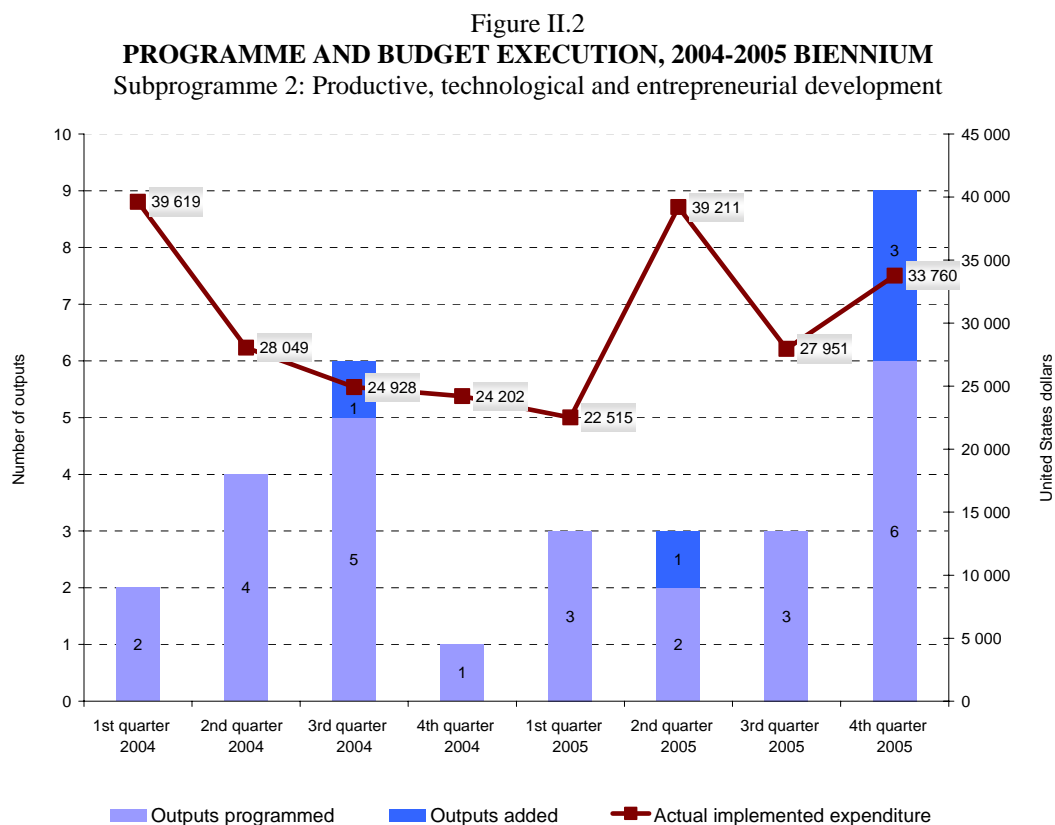


Table II.4 provides an overview of the outputs generated under subprogramme 2.

Table II.4
**SUMMARY OF ACTUAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE UNDER SUBPROGRAMME 2 FOR THE
 2004-2005 BIENNIUM: SUBSTANTIVE AND OPERATIONAL OUTPUTS**

Subprogramme	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development	48	1	1	18	48	0	1	1	96	97

^a Implementation rates: Mandated outputs = (implemented+reformulated+added by the secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).
 Total outputs = (implemented+reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by the secretariat).

^b From the previous biennium.

Subprogramme 3 Macroeconomic policies and growth

During the 2004-2005 biennium, the Economic Development Division, which is responsible for this subprogramme, focused on two subject areas: (i) overall and sectoral analysis of the performance of the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean, and (ii) analysis of development strategies and economic and social policies in the region. In this connection, a systematic appraisal of the implementation of economic policies and reforms was carried out together with an assessment of their impact on the economies of the region. In addition, substantive support was provided to Governments in the formulation of those policies and reforms.

In relation to these activities, the Division considered the implications of the proposed free trade area of the Americas for national macroeconomic policies and their regional coordination. It also offered to assist countries of the region with their analyses and proposals through a systematic follow-up of changes in their fiscal, monetary and exchange-rate policies; of labour-market trends; and structural reforms under way. Lastly, the Division presented economic reports based on comparable information, which are the most up-to-date source of information available in the region. It continued to provide support to the countries of the region in the formulation of economic policy proposals, follow-up of results and expansion of information systems, in order to enhance decision-making in the public and private sectors.

In terms of projects, the Division has been coordinating the regional project “Integration of Young People into the Labour Market”, which is financed by the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and which seeks to put forward public-policy proposals geared to improving conditions for access by young men and women to productive employment. Several activities have been conducted as part of the project including the seminar on analyses, challenges and proposals for youth employment (Santiago, Chile, 6 and 7 July 2005), in which consultants of the five countries under review (Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Paraguay and Peru) presented their main findings.

The Division has continued to work on the project Macroeconomic Dialogue Network (REDIMA). The second phase of the project (REDIMA II) has been launched with financial support from the European Union. This Network is an important forum for discussion and the exchange of experiences between high-level government officials on macroeconomic issues linked to the integration process. Under the REDIMA II project, several meetings were held and a number of documents were published and are available to readers on the ECLAC website.³

The flagship publication *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2004-2005* (LC/G.2279-P), produced by the Division, analyses the main aspects of the regional economy and the situation of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. It includes a statistical appendix presented in electronic form and containing detailed information. The Division also published the annual *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean*, which presents a regional overview including sectoral analyses and growth projections for the following year as well as individual country reports for the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Economic Development Division has continued to publish working documents in the *Macroeconomía del desarrollo series* and produced valuable studies in the above-mentioned areas, which have been financed under extrabudgetary projects.

³ <http://www.eclac.cl/redima/>.

These outputs were obtained through fulfilment of the programmatic commitments corresponding to this subprogramme in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2004-2005 biennium.

Figure II.3 shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2004-2005 biennium.

Figure II.3
PROGRAMME AND BUDGET EXECUTION, 2004-2005 BIENNIUM
Subprogramme 3: Macroeconomic policies and growth

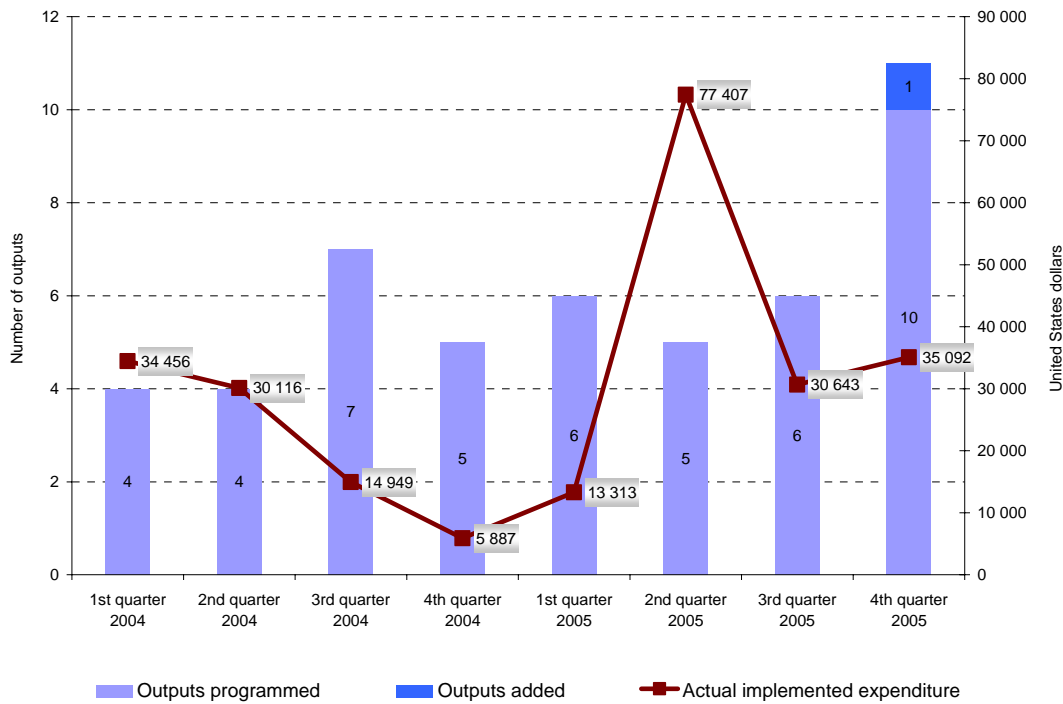


Table II.5 provides an overview of the outputs generated under subprogramme 3.

Table II.5
SUMMARY OF ACTUAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE UNDER SUBPROGRAMME 3 FOR THE 2004-2005 BIENNIUM: SUBSTANTIVE AND OPERATIONAL OUTPUTS

Subprogramme	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Macroeconomic policies and growth	50	0	0	1	51	0	0	0	100	100

^a Implementation rates: Mandated outputs = (implemented+reformulated-added by the secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).

Total outputs = (implemented+reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by the secretariat).

^b From the previous biennium.

Subprogramme 4 Social development and equity

During the 2004-2005 biennium, the Social Development Division, which is responsible for this subprogramme, concentrated on the following areas: (i) formulation, management and evaluation of social policies, programmes and projects; (ii) assessment of the social situation of the population and vulnerable groups, with emphasis on poverty and equity; (iii) analysis of the social impact of economic changes and structural reforms on socio-economic stratification in the region; and (iv) promotion and consolidation of human rights in the context of governance and democracy, and consideration of their effect on the social and political dynamic of the region.

During the biennium, the main objective was to continue to support countries of the region in their ongoing evaluation of the social situation, formulation and implementation of social policies and programmes, and the promotion of equity and rights-based development, democracy and peace.

The main activities carried out under the subprogramme consisted in improving the exchange and compilation of social information on the region, producing social assessments to assist in the formulation of national social policies and programmes, supporting Governments with respect to the systems of management, monitoring and evaluation of social policies and programmes and promoting human rights, democracy and peace.

The biennium saw the consolidation of the project “Latin American and Caribbean Network of Social Institutions” (RISALC), which in its new phase formed a virtual network of 1,055 social institutions from 41 countries and territories in the region. The purpose of the network is to facilitate the exchange of good practices, improve the capacity of national social institutions in terms of the analysis and assessment of policies and programmes and share experiences in the area of social policy. Within this framework, representatives of public and private institutions from the different Spanish-speaking countries in the region participated in five virtual forums on issues relating to street people, violence against children and adolescents in the region, arrangements for assisting the poor, early childhood education and the family. In addition, eight virtual corridors have been set up for obtaining access to other social institutions in the region.

The project “Experiences in social innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean” was launched with the support of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The main objective of the project was to identify, analyse, disseminate and recognize innovative experiences observed in Latin America and the Caribbean in the areas of education, health, food security, nutrition, rural development, income generation, social responsibility, volunteer programmes and youth programmes. Within the framework of the project, an Innovation Fair and the prize-giving ceremony for the 2004-2005 cycle were held (Santiago, Chile, 10 and 11 November 2005).

With respect to publications, the document *Financing and Management of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean. Preliminary Version* (LC/G.2249(SES.30/14)) was prepared jointly by ECLAC and UNESCO and presented at a special session of the thirtieth session of the Commission (San Juan, Puerto Rico, 28 June-2 July 2004) and at the seventeenth regional seminar on the fiscal covenant (Santiago, Chile, 24-27 January 2005). Governments recommended that ECLAC and UNESCO pursue their joint collaboration in order to forge closer links between education and finance authorities on the basis of the proposals put forward. The 2004 and 2005 editions of the *Social Panorama of Latin America* were also published. They cover, among other issues, the poverty dynamic and income distribution; demographic changes in recent decades in the region and their implications for health; the socio-economic

situation of Latin American youth; changes in household structure and the role of families; recent trends in social spending in countries in the region; and health policy reforms. On the basis of the knowledge acquired over 14 consecutive years of producing the *Social Panorama*, the technical team of the Division has continued to participate in, and provide substantive support for, the design and dissemination of methodologies, the harmonization of objectives and training for the follow-up of the Millennium Development Goals by the organizations within the United Nations system and the competent agencies in the countries, with a significant impact at the regional level.

The report *La juventud en Iberoamérica. Tendencias y urgencias* (LC/L.2180-P) was prepared under an agreement signed with the Ibero-American Youth Organization (OIJ). Containing a detailed multisectoral assessment of the situation of young people in the region, the report was presented at the twelfth meeting of the Ibero-American Conference of Youth Ministers (Guadalajara, Mexico, November 2004) and subsequently launched simultaneously in most of the countries of the region (16 November 2004).

The document *Pobreza, hambre y seguridad alimentaria en Centroamérica y Panamá* (LC/L.2134-P) was published in 2004. The second phase of the agreement signed by ECLAC and the World Food Programme (WFP) was initiated with the publication of the analytical paper “Hambre y desigualdad en los países andinos”, presented at the Forum on hunger in the countries of the Andean region, held in Quito, Ecuador, on 22 and 23 November 2004. The year 2005 saw the start-up of the third phase of the agreement with the preparation of studies on the cost of hunger and the cost-effectiveness and costs and benefits of reducing undernutrition in the region. These studies considered the cases of Chile and Peru and assessed the situation of undernutrition in the Caribbean Basin. Requests have been received for these studies to be repeated in the Central American countries. Other documents were prepared and regional meetings of experts held on these topics. During the biennium, over 25 documents were published in the *Políticas sociales series*, most of which refer to social policy and equity.

Technical cooperation was provided to the National Education Development Fund of Brazil in the form of training modules in management, supervision and evaluation of social programmes conducted throughout 2005. In conjunction with the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters in Mexico and the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, various collaboration activities ranging from humanitarian assistance to development were carried out with the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), to support the transition efforts.

These outputs were obtained through fulfilment of the programmatic commitments corresponding to this subprogramme in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2004-2005 biennium.

Figure II.4 shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2004-2005 biennium.

Figure II.4
PROGRAMME AND BUDGET EXECUTION, 2004-2005 BIENNIUM
 Subprogramme 4: Social Development and equity

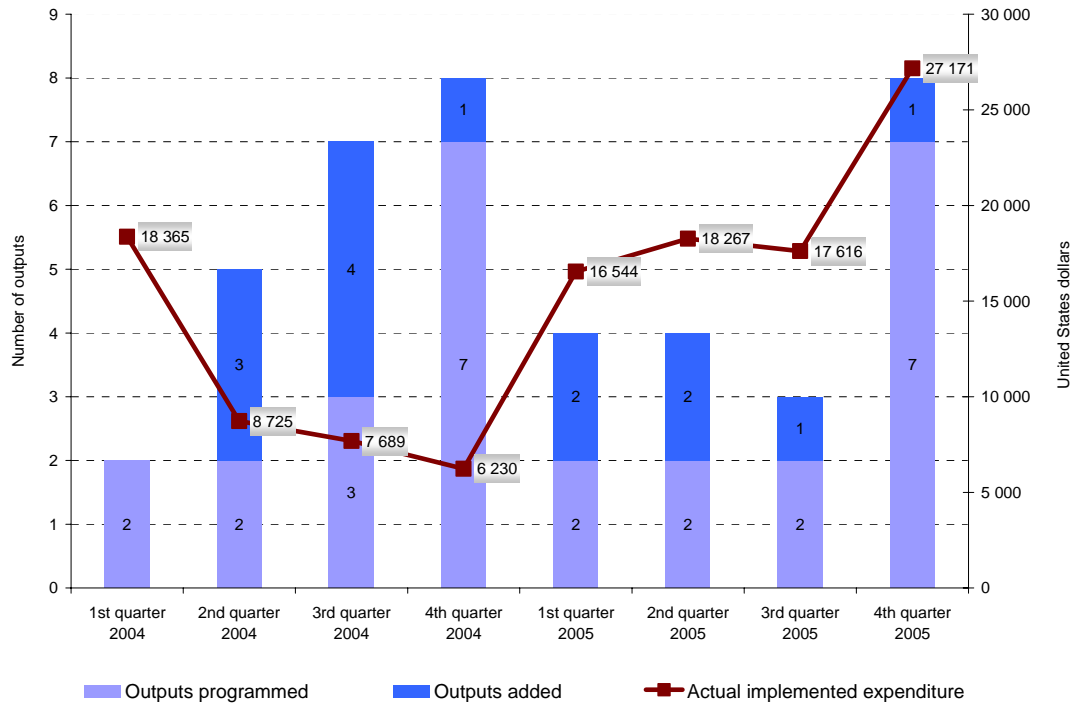


Table II.6 provides an overview of the outputs generated under subprogramme 4.

Table II.6
**SUMMARY OF ACTUAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE UNDER SUBPROGRAMME 4 FOR THE
 2004-2005 BIENNIUM: SUBSTANTIVE AND OPERATIONAL OUTPUTS**

Subprogramme	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Social development and equity	49	3	0	26	44	0	0	8	85	90

^a Implementation rates: Mandated outputs = (implemented+reformulated-added by the secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).

Total outputs = (implemented+reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by the secretariat).

^b From the previous biennium.

Subprogramme 5

Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development

During the 2004-2005 biennium, the Women and Development Unit, which is responsible for the execution of this subprogramme, focused on its principal objective of supporting Latin American and Caribbean countries in their efforts to mainstream the gender perspective in public policies and consolidate the role of institutions that seek to reduce gender inequality in the various spheres of development. To that end, the Unit continued to support the activities of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and its Presiding Officers and stepped up activities of technical cooperation for development in the design of public policies aimed at achieving gender equality in the operation of markets, institutions and society as a whole.

The Unit has based its work on the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean and the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, and has paid special attention to the Millennium Development Goals and the new measures and initiatives recommended in the Mexico City Consensus, adopted at the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico City, 10-12 June 2004).

During this period, the Women and Development Unit made significant achievements at the technical level and in terms of cooperation with countries in the region. As regards cooperation, the main achievements concerned the consultation processes on economic labour policies. In Argentina, gender mainstreaming led to the creation of the Gender and Health Unit within the Ministry of Health and the Environment and the adoption of provincial agreements and standards for incorporating the gender perspective in employment policies at the local level. These initiatives appear as viable models that remain part of the agenda of the parties involved. Studies on the status of women in the financial sphere in Chile, Uruguay and Costa Rica have generated a positive response in business circles, but above all have opened up communication channels between the women's movement, national offices for women and the private financial sector, whereby solutions can be proposed and opportunities created for new interpretations and analyses concerning the integration of women with higher levels of education into the workforce.

Newly established subregional networks focused specifically on the issues of political culture and reform of electoral systems (Mexico, Honduras); poverty, gender and race (Brazil); and social policies, gender and poverty (Ecuador). A regional network of women experts was set up to deal with the area of governance and new virtual communication networks were established between ministers and authorities of gender machineries and between the latter and civil society, thanks to the incentive provided by the project for the use of new technologies. Opportunities for dialogue between the State and society, such as the first National Conference on Policies for Women, held in Brasilia in July 2004, have facilitated the dissemination of new knowledge and proposals.

In all of these activities, special importance was attached to activities for reinforcing the capacities of government offices for women and ministries and sectoral institutions that deal with gender policies in order to strengthen the relations between civil society and Governments. ECLAC continued to consolidate its role as inter-agency focal point for gender equity activities carried out in the region by organizations in the United Nations system.

In addition to the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Conference (Santiago, Chile, 29-30 November 2004 and Mar del Plata, Argentina, 7-8 September 2005), the Unit

carried out activities and implemented projects which resulted in the publication of more than 26 documents in the *Mujer y desarrollo series*, organized various meetings and seminars on specific issues, participated in numerous seminars and training courses and provided technical assistance to various countries of the region.

In addition to providing information on publications, meetings and other activities held during the biennium, the Unit's Internet portal (www.eclac.cl/mujer) provides access to a database of gender statistics with 34 country profiles based on a minimum set of indicators as well as a series of comparative socio-economic indicators for the region.

These outputs were obtained through fulfilment of the programmatic commitments corresponding to this subprogramme in the programme of work of the ECLAC system, the support of three extrabudgetary projects and the proposed programme budget for the 2004-2005 biennium.

Figure II.5 shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2004-2005 biennium.

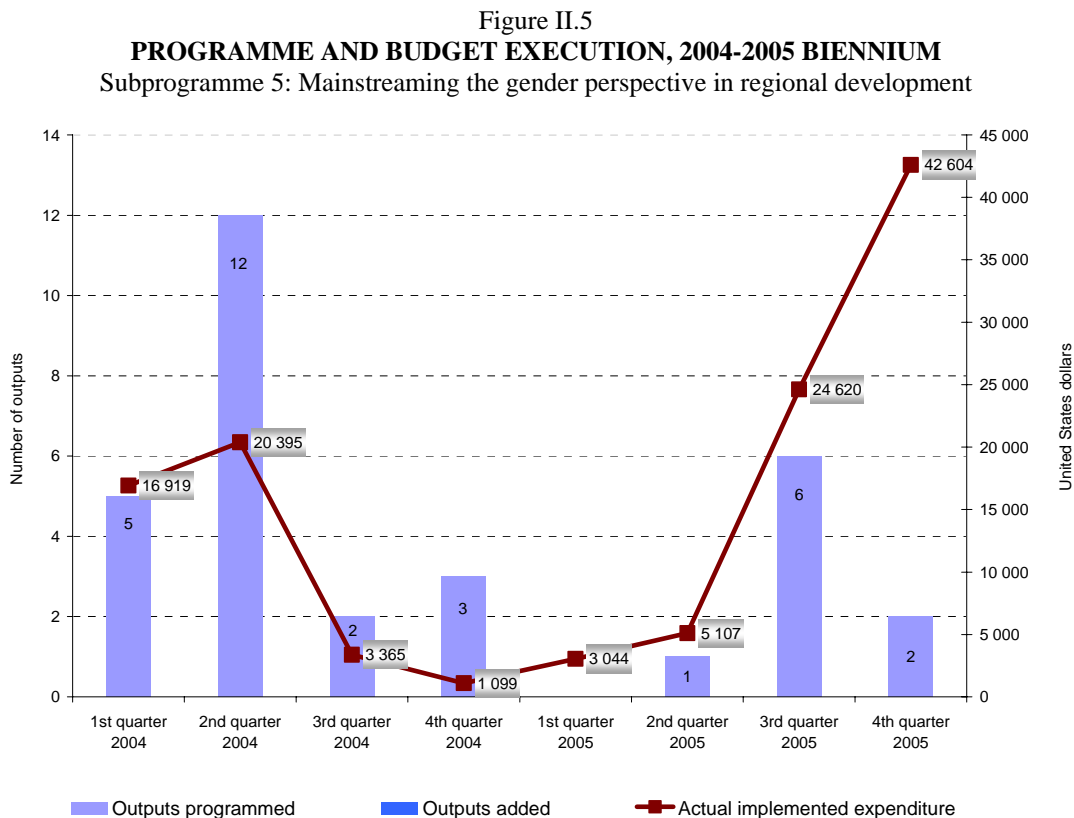


Table II.7 provides an overview of the outputs generated under subprogramme 5.

Table II.7
**SUMMARY OF ACTUAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE UNDER SUBPROGRAMME 11 FOR THE
 2004-2005 BIENNIUM: SUBSTANTIVE AND OPERATIONAL OUTPUTS**

Subprogramme	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development	53	5	0	3	53	0	3	2	91	92

^a Implementation rates: Mandated outputs = (implemented+reformulated+added by the secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).

Total outputs = (implemented+reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by the secretariat).

^b From the previous biennium.

Subprogramme 6 Population and development

During the 2004-2005 biennium, the work carried out by the Population Division (CELADE), which is responsible for the execution of this subprogramme, focused on the following areas: (i) technical cooperation and training in population and development; (ii) demographic analysis and population projections; (iii) activities relating to the development, adaptation and use of methodologies for generating and disseminating information on population, and (iv) incorporation of sociodemographic variables into development policies and programmes.

With the aim of serving as technical support body for countries in the region to facilitate and coordinate their interactions and the exchange of experiences in the field of population and development, and to assess progress in the implementation of the objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994), comparative studies were carried out at the subregional and regional levels on policies applied in various countries for the achievement of the goals and for the development of methodologies, procedures and systems of indicators necessary for monitoring implementation of the Programme's objectives.

The Population Division also provided support to countries in the region in addressing the dynamic of demographic changes from the perspective of human rights as a part of their development strategies. This is in keeping with the need, on the one hand, to extend to other spheres the advances already secured in the conceptualization and application of reproductive rights and, on the other, with the need to incorporate a rights-based approach to the consideration of issues such as international migration, ageing, gender equity, conflict and emergency situations, bioethics and the survival of cultural minorities, in the light of the globalization of individual and collective rights.

The activities carried out by the Population Division included the Meeting of Experts on Ageing - Second Central American and Caribbean Forum on Policies for Older Persons (San Salvador, El Salvador, 10-12 November 2004) and the governmental and expert meeting on ageing in South American countries (Buenos Aires, Argentina, 14-16 November 2005). Both meetings were organized in conjunction with PAHO, UNFPA, IDB and ILO, with the first being coordinated by the technical support committee for programmes for older persons within the Salvadoran National Secretariat of Family Affairs and the second by the Ministry for Human Development and the Family, Argentina. These meetings are part of the follow-up to the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, adopted at the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing (Santiago, Chile, November 2003). A seminar on ageing and development was organized with the Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, November 2004).

In accordance with the resolutions adopted by the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development during the thirtieth session of the Commission (San Juan, Puerto Rico, 28 June-2 July 2004), the subprogramme worked on the systematization of information on international migration flows in the context of advances in regional and subregional integration processes. The expert workshop on international migration and regional integration and cooperation processes in the Americas was held in Santiago, Chile, on 6 and 7 December 2004. The aim of the workshop was to discuss the relationship between international migration and regional integration and cooperation processes, and how they interact and overlap with the human rights of migrant workers and their families. A document summarizing the proceedings of the workshop on international migration and regional integration and cooperation processes was published in September 2005. CELADE also worked with the Subregional

Headquarters for the Caribbean to organize an expert meeting on international migration in the Caribbean (14 and 15 September 2005). Other international migration activities included an expert meeting on international migration and development (Mexico City, 30 November to 2 December 2005), which was jointly organized with the National Population Council (Mexico), UNFPA, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and ECLAC in preparation for the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development to be held as part of the United Nations General Assembly in New York (September 2006).

Another significant activity was the international seminar on indigenous peoples and Afrodescendants in Latin America and the Caribbean: relevance of sociodemographic information to policies and programmes, organized by CELADE and the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, with sponsorship from the Government of France and UNFPA and cooperation from the French Centre for Population and Development (CEPED) (Santiago, Chile, 27-29 April 2005).

In terms of statistics and census data, REDATAM software (Retrieval of data for small areas by microcomputer) is being used by all countries in Latin America, many in the Caribbean and even several African and Asian countries. During the biennium, CELADE launched REDATAM+SP, a new version that has enabled the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Panama, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago to put their censuses on the ECLAC website for online processing. This constitutes an innovation in access to microdata from censuses and other data sources. There has also been a constant effort to provide training in the form of various workshops on the use of REDATAM. Also, new databases based on the 2000 round of population censuses were made available. They contained estimates and projections for population, international migration, internal migration, urbanization and territorial distribution of population.

The Population Division continued to produce its periodic publications: *Demographic Bulletin*, *Notas de población* (selected articles on population issues in Latin America) and *REDATAM informa*, and also published a number of studies in the ECLAC *Población y desarrollo series*.

These outputs were obtained through fulfilment of the programmatic commitments corresponding to this subprogramme in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.

Figure II.6 shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2004-2005 biennium.

Figure II.6
PROGRAMME AND BUDGET EXECUTION, 2004-2005 BIENNIUM
 Subprogramme 6: Population and development

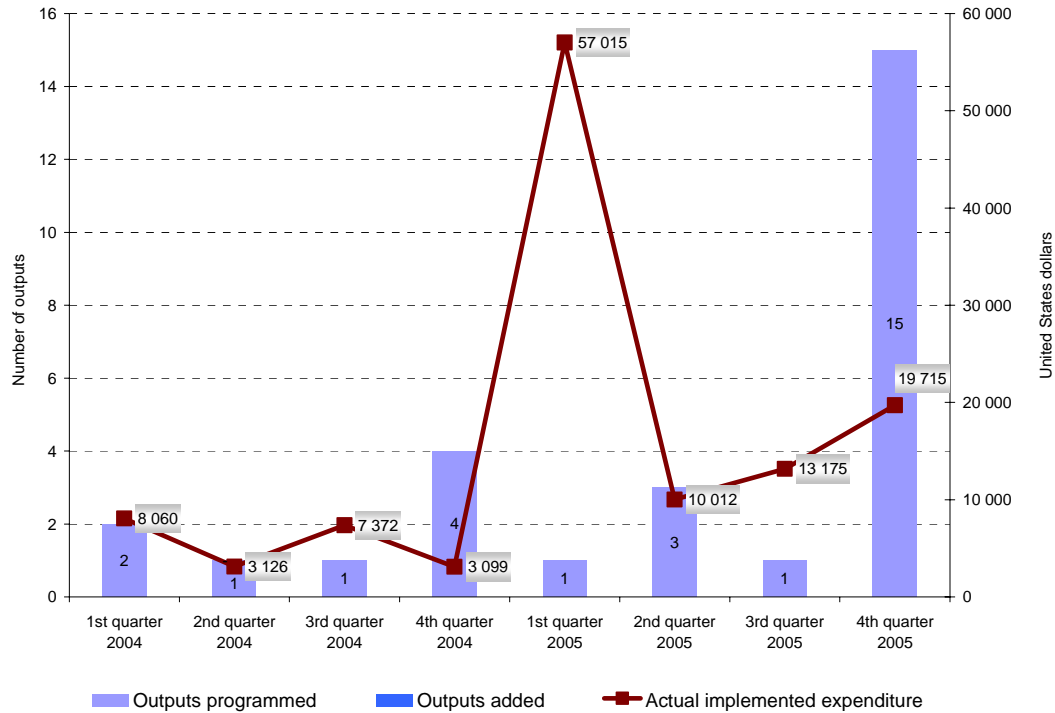


Table II.8 provides an overview of the outputs generated under subprogramme 6.

Table II.8
**SUMMARY OF ACTUAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE UNDER SUBPROGRAMME 6 FOR THE
 2004-2005 BIENNIUM: SUBSTANTIVE AND OPERATIONAL OUTPUTS**

Subprogramme	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Reformulated	Postponed	Terminated	Mandated	Total
Population and development	83	0	0	0	83	0	0	0	100	100

^a Implementation rates: Mandated outputs = (implemented+reformulated+added by the secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).

Total outputs = (implemented+reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by the secretariat).

^b From the previous biennium.

Subprogramme 7 Planning of public administration

During the 2004-2005 biennium, the work carried out by the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), which is responsible for the execution of this subprogramme, focused on the following areas: (i) public administration; (ii) decentralization, land-use planning and management of territorial development; (iii) investment projects and planning; and (iv) cooperation between planning agencies in Latin America and the Caribbean.

ILPES organized several intergovernmental meetings, technical seminars and national, subregional and international courses, in addition to producing technical documents and teaching materials and carrying out technical assistance missions. The Twenty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) was held in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on 29 June 2004, while the twenty-third meeting was held in Havana, Cuba, on 29 June 2005.

The various national and international seminars and meetings organized by ILPES included the sixteenth and seventeenth regional seminars on fiscal policy, organized by the Office of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC with sponsorship from IMF, OECD, World Bank and IDB, and support from the Ministry of Finance of Chile. The sixteenth seminar was held from 26 to 29 January 2004 and the seventeenth seminar took place from 24 to 27 January 2005, and they were attended by a total of 437 participants. Another international forum held was "National Visions Matter: Lessons of Success", organized in conjunction with the World Bank and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) in Santiago, Chile, from 25 to 27 July 2004. A workshop on the role of the legislature in the budget process in Latin America was also organized jointly with the World Bank, IDB, IMF, OECD and ECLAC (Santiago, Chile, 11 and 12 July 2004).

With regard to training, the Institute organized 28 international courses attended by 883 participants from 18 countries from within the region and beyond. ILPES also held 15 short courses at the national and subnational levels, which were attended by a total of 481 participants. The first distance-learning course on local and regional development was organized for 60 participants from 22 Latin American and Caribbean countries.

In the area of technical cooperation, ILPES continued to provide assistance to different governmental bodies in the countries of the region. For instance, the Institute assisted the Association of Honduran Municipalities to formulate a local economic development policy as part of an institutional development plan. Also worth mentioning are the technical assistance missions to several countries in the context of the ECLAC/ILPES agreement concluded with the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) on the programme "Modernization of the State, Public Administration and Local and Regional Economical Development".

Publications included the ILPES institutional document *Panorama de la gestión pública* and 19 other documents that were widely disseminated: six editions of the *Gestión pública series*, eight of the *Manuales series*, one edition of the *Seminarios y conferencias series* and four ILPES Bulletins. Documents and materials from the various courses, seminars and conferences were released on 13 CD-ROMs, and six newsletters were sent out on project and programme assessment.

Lastly, the Institute kept its website constantly updated (<http://www.ilpes.cl>), with a view to disseminating relevant information on its activities —especially training and research— to government organizations, academic institutions and private-sector bodies in the countries of the region.

These outputs were obtained through fulfilment of the programmatic commitments corresponding to this subprogramme in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

Figure II.7 shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2004-2005 biennium.

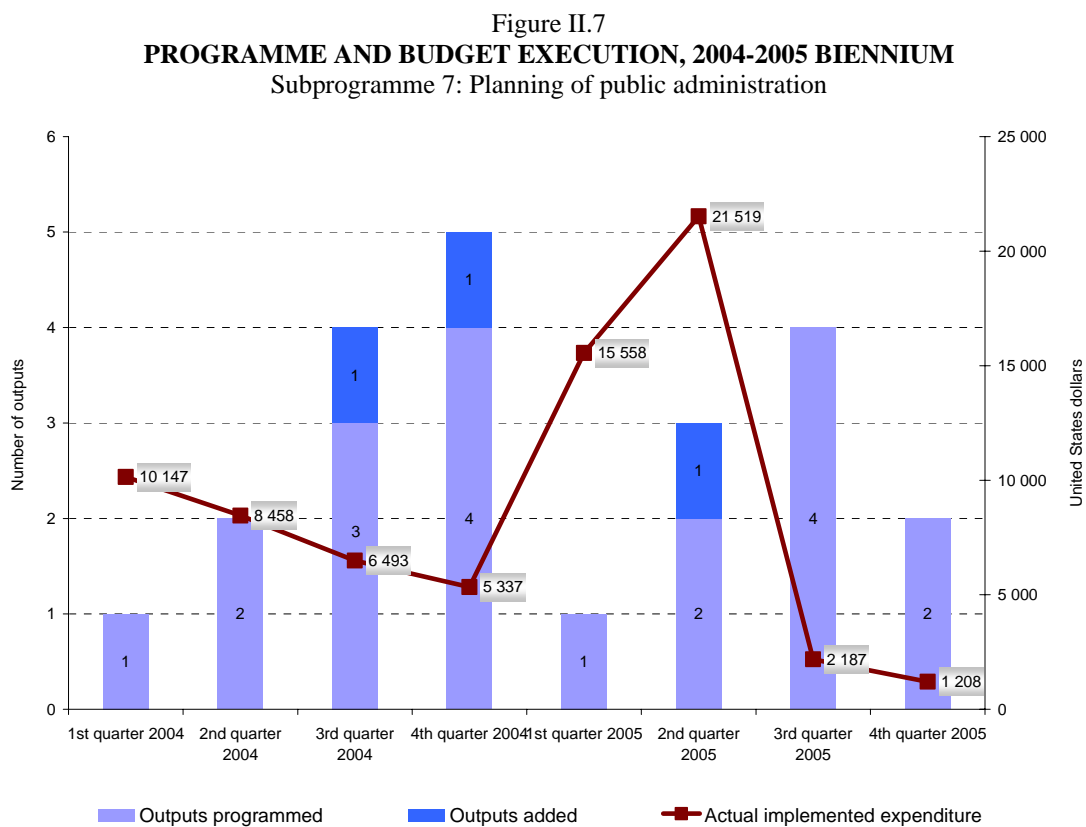


Table II.9 provides an overview of the outputs generated under subprogramme 7.

Table II.9
**SUMMARY OF ACTUAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE UNDER SUBPROGRAMME 7 FOR THE
 2004-2005 BIENNIUM: SUBSTANTIVE AND OPERATIONAL OUTPUTS**

Subprogramme	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat
Planning of public administration	59	6	2	7	64	0	1	2	95	96

^a Implementation rates: Mandated outputs = (implemented+reformulated+added by the secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).

Total outputs = (implemented+reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by the secretariat).

^b From the previous biennium.

ILPES training activities during 2004-2005

The Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) has continued to support the region's Governments in public administration through research, assistance and, in particular, training. Since the end of 2002, ILPES has been the main training body of ECLAC and, as such, contributes to the dissemination of documents of the ECLAC system, especially institutional studies.

The training courses organized by ILPES continue to be based around specific subjects that are not usually taught at academic centres in Latin America and the Caribbean; they combine theory with practice through the systematization, comparison and sharing of country experiences.

A total of 40 international training courses were carried out within the region and beyond (Germany, Spain, United States, Palestine, Sweden, France and Italy) (see table II.10 and figure II.8). This amounted to almost 4,000 hours of teaching imparted to around 1,500 participants.

In terms of gender distribution, 44.1% of participants were women and 55.9% were men (see figure II.9). In terms of employment background, most participants were from the public sector (68.1%), with 16.9% from academia, 4.8% from the private sector and 10.1% "other" (see figure II.10).

Within the technical specializations of ILPES, some new courses were added in order to respond to the priorities and interests of Governments in the region. These included the two courses organized in association with the University of Alcalá de Henares on managing and valuing the environment and natural resources: one held in Madrid, Spain, and the other in Santiago, Chile.

The first two international courses on decentralization and fiscal federalism in Latin America were held in Santiago, Chile, one in 2004 the other in 2005. Other international courses included one on the strategic management of local and regional development and two on local development and territorial competitiveness, with the latter being organized in conjunction with the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECI).

Many courses were delivered with the technical support of various ECLAC divisions, sections and units, including the Office of the Executive Secretary, Economic Development Division, Social Development Division, Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, Division of Production, Productivity and Management, Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division and the Special Studies Unit. Officials from these departments taught subjects, delivered lectures or directed workshops and seminars.

Table II.10
INTERNATIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL COURSES ORGANIZED BY ILPES/ECLAC DURING THE 2004-2005 BIENNIUM

Course	Date	Place	Country	Teaching hours	Number of participants			Type of institution				Joint organizers
					Women	Men	Total	Public	Private	Academic	Other	
COURSES PROVIDED BY ILPES DURING 2004												
1. Use of socio-economic indicators in the evaluation of the impact of projects and programmes to combat poverty	3-14 May	Santa Cruz	Bolivia	80	13	23	36	21	3	8	4	ILPES/AECI Alcalá University
2. Strategic management of local and regional development	24 May 11 June	San Salvador	El Salvador	120	14	16	30	15	8	1	6	ILPES/GTZ
3. Local development and territorial competitiveness	7-18 June	La Antigua	Guatemala	80	8	18	26	13	5	7	1	ILPES/AECI
4. Logical framework, follow-up and assessment	5-16 July	Cartagena de Indias	Colombia	80	19	19	38	20	5	7	6	ILPES/AECI/ Alcalá University
5. Decentralization and fiscal federalism in Latin America	2-13 August	Santiago	Chile	80	11	14	25	7	2	12	4	ILPES/ World Bank/ GTZ
6. Management of project implementation	16-27 August	La Antigua	Guatemala	80	17	21	38	22	1	10	5	ILPES/AECI Alcalá University
7. Financing of social security	6-10 Sep.	Santiago	Chile	40	15	12	27	21	1	3	2	ILPES/ECLAC
8. Tax estimates	20-24 Oct.	Buenos Aires	Argentina	40	11	19	30	28	-	1	1	ILPES / Argentine Public Budget and Financial Administration Association (ASAP)
9. Preparation and appraisal of public investment projects	27 Sep. - 22 Oct.	Santiago	Chile	160	8	14	22	17	3	1	1	ILPES/AECI/ Alcalá University
10. Strategic management of local and regional development	18 Oct. - 19 Nov.	Santiago	Chile	200	22	15	37	24	2	8	3	ILPES
11. Economic reforms and strategic State management	8 Nov. - 3 Dec.	Santiago	Chile	160	11	19	30	21	-	4	5	ILPES/ World Bank/GTZ/ International Public Budget Association (ASIP)
12. Managing and valuing the environment and natural resources	15-26 Nov.	Madrid	Spain	80	9	16	25	12	2	5	6	ILPES/AECI Alcalá University
SUBTOTAL				1200	158	206	364	221	32	67	44	
COURSES PROVIDED BY ILPES DURING 2005												
1. Manual on Government Finance Statistics 2001	9-13 May	Santiago	Chile	40	13	19	32	30	0	1	1	ILPES / Budget. Affairs Bureau (Chile)/IMF
2. Tax estimates	9-13 May	Santo Domingo	Dominican Republic	40	12	9	21	20	0	0	1	ILPES/Min. of Finance (Dom. Rep.)
3. Management of project implementation	16-27 May	Santa Cruz de la Sierra	Bolivia	80	13	17	30	23	1	3	3	ILPES/AECI/ Alcalá University
4. Local development and territorial competitiveness	6-17 June	La Antigua	Guatemala	80	11	21	32	26	0	3	3	ILPES/AECI
5. Budget policies and results-based public administration	4-15 July	La Antigua	Guatemala	80	13	18	31	29	0	1	1	ILPES/AECI
6. Use of socio-economic indicators in the evaluation of the impact of projects and programmes to combat poverty	4-15 July	Cartagena de Indias	Colombia	80	12	22	34	26	4	3	1	ILPES/AECI/ Alcalá University
7. Budget and control of public administration	22-26 August	San José	Costa Rica	40	19	13	32	32	0	0	0	ILPES

Table II.10 (continued)

Course	Date	Place	Country	Teaching hours	Number of participants			Type of institution				Joint organizers
					Women	Men	Total	Public	Private	Academic	Other	
8. Public policies and results-based management	10-13 August	Caucaia	Brazil	32	20	10	30	27	0	2	1	ILPES/ECLAC/ Municipality of Caucaia
9. Local development and territorial competitiveness	25 July - 12 August	Atuntaqui	Ecuador	120	9	28	37	20	5	1	11	ILPES/GTZ
10. Logical framework, follow-up and assessment	29 August - 9 Sep.	La Antigua	Guatemala	80	17	18	35	21	2	7	5	ILPES/AECI/ Alcalá University
11. Tax estimates	26-30 Sep.	Buenos Aires	Argentina	40	12	27	39	37	0	0	2	ILPES/ASAP
12. Preparation and appraisal of public investment projects	3-28 Oct.	Santiago	Chile	160	9	23	32	18	2	11	1	ILPES/AECI/ Alcalá University
13. Strategic management of local and regional development	17 Oct. - 18 Nov.	Santiago	Chile	200	7	21	28	17	2	3	6	ILPES
14. Macroeconomic policies and public finances	7-18 Nov.	Santiago	Chile	80	6	12	18	13	0	5	0	ILPES/ECLAC/GTZ
15. Managing and valuing the environment and natural resources	14-25 Nov.	Santiago	Chile	80	19	37	56	29	1	14	12	ILPES/AECI/ Alcalá University
16. Budget policies and results-based public administration	21 Nov. - 2 Dec.	Santiago	Chile	80	14	18	32	31	0	0	1	ILPES/GTZ
SUBTOTAL				1312	206	313	519	399	17	54	49	
COURSES PROVIDED BY ECLAC WITH THE SUPPORT OF ILPES IN 2004												
1. Urban poverty and substandard living conditions: strategies and programmes for neighbourhood improvement	19-23 April	Lima	Peru	40	16	31	47	43	1	1	2	ECLAC/Min. Housing and Urban Dev. (Peru)
2. Urban poverty and substandard living conditions: strategies and programmes for neighbourhood improvement	24-28 May	Managua	Nicaragua	40	27	26	53	33	10	9	1	ECLAC/University of Engineering (Nicaragua) GTZ/Assoc. of Nicaraguan Municipalities
3. Workshop on the Project Life Cycle: Identification, preparation and design	7-11 June	Georgetown	Guyana	40	14	7	21	19	-	2	-	ECLAC/ILPES Min. Foreign Trade (Guyana)
4. Municipal environmental management	14-25 June	San Salvador	El Salvador	40	8	37	45	37	4	3	1	ECLAC/SIDA/World Bank
5. Use of green economic and financing instruments for sustainable development and implementation of environmental policies	28 June - 2 July	Havana	Cuba	40	19	17	36	29	-	1	6	ECLAC/World Bank/ SIDA
6. Summer school on Latin American economies	6 July - 30 Sep.	Santiago	Chile	360	11	16	27	-	-	27	-	ECLAC
7. Sustainable development indicators for Latin American and Caribbean	30 August - 3 Sep.	Buenos Aires	Argentina	40	40	26	66	55	5	4	2	ECLAC/World Bank/ SIDA
8. Regional specialization course in human settlements	27 Sep. - 20 Oct.	Santiago	Chile	160	17	14	31	20	2	4	5	ECLAC/Fac. of Arch. and Town Planning, Uni. of Chile/ University Development Corporation/Min. Housing and Urban Dev. (Chile)
9. Implementation of the principle of access to information, citizen participation and environmental justice for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean.	11-13 Oct.	Asunción	Paraguay	24	18	16	34	21	5	3	5	ECLAC/World Bank/ SIDA / IDEA
SUBTOTAL				784	170	190	360	96	12	54	12	

Table II.10 (conclusion)

Course	Date	Place	Country	Teaching hours	Number of participants			Type of institution				Joint organizers
					Women	Men	Total	Public	Private	Academic	Other	
COURSES PROVIDED BY ECLAC WITH THE SUPPORT OF ILPES IN 2005												
1. Urban poverty and substandard living conditions: challenges and programmatic bases for a sustainable urban agenda	18-20 January	Santiago	Chile	40	23	9	32	31	0	1	0	ECLAC/Min. Housing and Urban Dev. (Chile)
2. Environmental economics and development policies	15-18 March	Oaxaca	Mexico	40	18	20	38	29	0	4	5	ECLAC/National Statistics Inst. (Mexico)/SIDA/World Bank
3. Multilateral negotiations, international trade and sustainable development. Current challenges for Latin America and the Caribbean	4-8 April	Panama City	Panama	40	30	29	59	57	0	1	1	ECLAC/UNEP/SIDA/
4. Regional workshop on environmental law	2-6 May	San Salvador	El Salvador	40	15	22	37	33	1	0	3	ECLAC/ Min. of Env. and Nat. Res. (El Salvador)/SIDA/World Bank
5. Management methodologies for territorial development	8-10 June	Bogotá	Colombia	40	22	26	48	21	1	8	18	ECLAC/Min. Environ., Housing and Territorial Dev. (Colombia)/SIDA/World Bank
6. Summer school on Latin American economies	6 July - 30 Sep.	Santiago	Chile	360	14	17	31	0	0	31	0	ECLAC
SUBTOTAL				560	122	123	245	171	2	45	27	
OVERALL TOTAL				3856	656	832	1488	887	63	220	132	

Figure II.8
PARTICIPANTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, BIENNIUM 2004-2005
(Percentages)

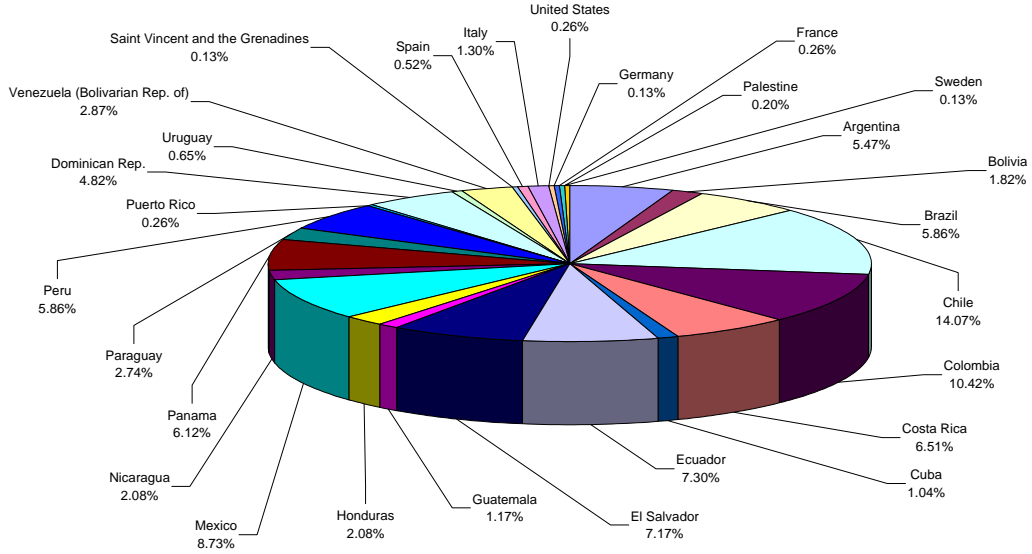


Figure II.9
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS IN ILPES/ECLAC COURSES, BY GENDER, BIENNIUM 2004-2005
(Percentages)

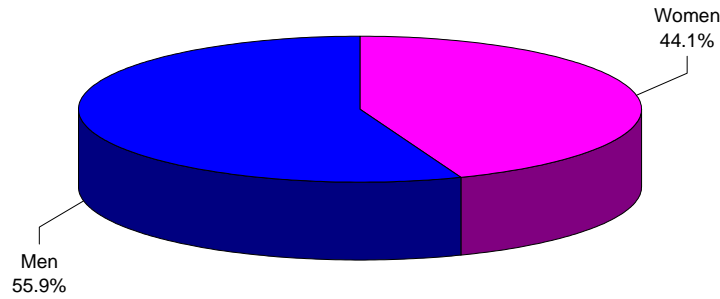


Figure II.10
EMPLOYMENT BACKGROUND OF PARTICIPANTS IN ILPES/ECLAC COURSES, BIENNIUM 2004-2005
(Percentages)

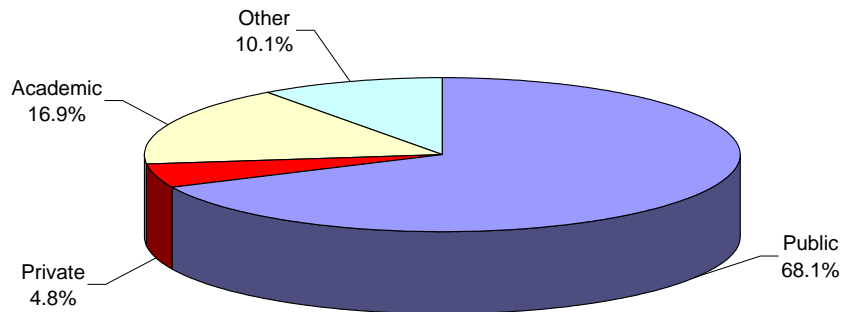


Table II.11
**NATIONAL AND SUBNATIONAL COURSES PROVIDED BY ILPES DURING
 THE 2004-2005 BIENNIUM ^a**

Course	Place	Date	Number of participants
Course on logical framework	Caracas, Venezuela (Bol. Rep. of)	17-20 June 2004	30
Course on project monitoring and assessment	Caracas, Venezuela (Bol. Rep. of)	15-17 July 2004	30
Course on institutional analysis	Caracas, Venezuela (Bol. Rep. of)	19-21 August 2004	30
Course on project management	Caracas, Venezuela (Bol. Rep. of)	2-4 September 2004	30
Course on local economic development and territorial competitiveness	Guatemala City	10 and 11 June 2004	24
Course on management control and results assessment	Coyhaique, Chile	1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 16 October 2004	20
ILPES/ECLAC/Chilean Economic Development Agency course-seminar on the logical framework and programme follow-up	Santiago, Chile	3-5 August 2004	48
ILPES/ECLAC/Chilean Economic Development Agency course-seminar on economic regional development, competitiveness and productive development	Santiago, Chile	4-6 October 2004	30
Course on new public administration: problems and challenges of transition	Coyhaique, Chile	16 November 2004	30
Course on public works concession projects	San José, Costa Rica	23-26 November 2004	40
Course on strategic management of local and regional development	Junín, Argentina	22-26 November 2004; 7-15 March 2005; and 12-15 April 2005	35
ILPES/ECLAC/Chilean Economic Development Agency course/seminar on the logical framework and programme follow-up	Viña del Mar, Chile	17-19 January 2005	29
Course-seminar on budget and control of public administration	San José, Costa Rica	25-31 August 2005	35
Course-seminar on budget policies and results-based public administration	Brasilia, Brazil	24-27 October 2005	34
Course on strategic management of local and regional development	San Martín de los Andes, Argentina	28-30 September 2005; 21 November - 1 December 2005	36
Total			481

^a These courses are not included in previous figures or tables.

Subprogramme 8 Environment and human settlements

During the 2004-2005 biennium, the work carried out by the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, which is responsible for the execution of this subprogramme, focused on the following areas: (i) assessment of advances in sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean; (ii) follow-up to public policies and international and regional agreements on sustainable development; (iii) analysis of the relationship between the economy and the environment, and (iv) land-use development and development of human settlements.

During 2005, a wide consensus was reached on how to collect the data and information needed to define methodologies and sustainable development indicators used by countries in the region. In this regard, the Division went online with a set of databases and georeferenced indicators from all the region's countries to reflect the social, economic, environmental and institutional dimensions of sustainable development. This information is also available on request to those unable to access the data on the Internet, and is supplemented by the study of sustainable development trends through the identification of sustainable development syndromes on the basis of a comprehensive and systematic analysis.

In the interests of integrating regional efforts to exchange knowledge and experience on human settlements at the sectoral level, the third Regional Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean (MINURVI) was held in Quito, Ecuador, in November 2004, while the fourth Meeting was held in Santiago, Chile, in November 2005.

During the biennium, the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division organized various workshops and seminars including the workshop on sustainable development indicators for Latin America and the Caribbean (Río de Janeiro, Brazil, 24-28 October 2005), which was organized in the context of the cooperation agreement between the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the World Bank Institute and ECLAC. Another meeting held was the Regional Workshop "Towards lower GHG economies: mainstreaming sustainability in carbon markets and in investment environments" (Santiago, Chile, 13 and 14 September 2005), which was organized with the financial support of the Governments of Germany (through GTZ), United Kingdom and Canada, and the assistance of the Governments of Argentina, Chile, Mexico and Peru. The aims of the workshop were to reflect on issues that needed to be analysed by the region's countries prior to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and to promote the clean development mechanism.

In terms of training, more than 15 courses were provided to government officials and professionals in the area of economy and the environment, including the course on public policies for sustainable development, which was held in Mexico City, from 8 to 19 November 2004. As part of the project "Urban Poverty: an Action Oriented Strategy for Urban Governments and Institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean", participants took part in the first distance-learning course on strategies to overcome urban poverty and substandard living conditions —a sustainable urban agenda (5 September to 25 November 2005). This initiative is part of commitments to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, especially in terms of improving living conditions in human settlements, the aims of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Human Settlements and the agreements and commitments undertaken at the Ibero-American Forum of Housing and Urban Development Ministers and High-level Authorities.

The Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division published seven books as *Libros de la CEPAL* Nos. 75 to 82. The Division continued to produce its publications under the following three ECLAC series: *Medio ambiente y desarrollo*, *Seminarios y conferencias* and *Manuales*.

These outputs were obtained through fulfilment of the commitments contained in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the 2004-2005 biennium. The main features of programme execution are summarized below.

Figure II.11 shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2004-2005 biennium.

Figure II.11
PROGRAMME AND BUDGET EXECUTION, 2004-2005 BIENNIUM
Subprogramme 8: Environment and human settlements

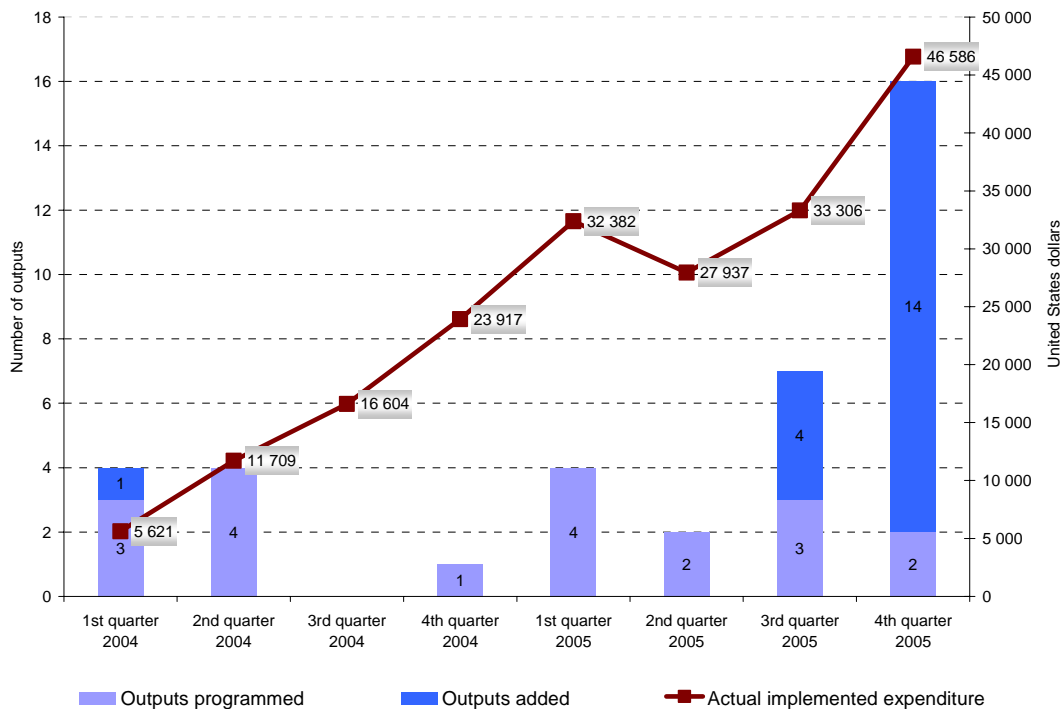


Table II.12 provides an overview of the outputs generated under subprogramme 8.

Table II.12
SUMMARY OF ACTUAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE UNDER SUBPROGRAMME 8 FOR THE 2004-2005 BIENNIUM: SUBSTANTIVE AND OPERATIONAL OUTPUTS

Subprogramme	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat
Environment and human settlements	61	0	11	28	100	0	0	0	100	100

^a Implementation rates: Mandated outputs = (implemented+reformulated-added by the secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).

Total outputs = (implemented+reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by the secretariat).

^b From the previous biennium.

Subprogramme 9 Natural resources and infrastructure

During the 2004-2005 biennium, activities under this subprogramme were carried out by the Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division, which is also responsible for the activities of ECLAC in the area of transport. Activities were conducted in areas relating to (i) the participation of the private sector and regulation of the provision of public services; (ii) sustainable management of natural resources; (iii) natural resources and infrastructure in linkages with the global economy and regional integration processes; (iv) national and international legal instruments governing natural resources and infrastructure; and (v) sustainability, efficiency and equity in land transport systems.

The work of the Division has been focused on the sustainable exploitation of natural resources and the provision of increasingly efficient infrastructure services, as well as on the Initiative for Regional Infrastructure Integration in South America (IIRSA). ECLAC was actively involved in designing the guidelines for the Amazon Hub and in providing technical assistance to standardize regulations on the provision of infrastructure services, particularly intermodal transport, port infrastructure and maritime services.

In the area of the sustainable management of natural resources, priority was given to the process of energy integration, especially within the Andean Community and MERCOSUR. Sustainable development in the energy sector was therefore approached from a perspective of interconnecting and complementing available sources in order to guarantee efficient usage and, above all, a reliable supply.

During the 2004-2005 biennium, several workshops were organized in association with regional bodies such as the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), Regional Electrical Integration Commission (CIER), Regional Association of Oil and Natural Gas Companies (ARPEL) and the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA). The workshops resulted in the conclusion of a cooperation agreement to boost energy integration and the sustainable development of energy resources. Special attention was given to promoting renewable energy in the Caribbean (Jamaica) and in the Andean Community. In the latter, the Andean Programme for energization through renewable sources was set up as part of the technical cooperation provided to the region's countries for their participation in the International Conference for Renewable Energies (Bonn 2004).

The issue of the impact of mining on the environment gave rise to a line of action on mining environmental liabilities, which involved an exchange of experiences and horizontal cooperation between countries of the region. Greater emphasis was also placed on corporate responsibility and local community relations, as well as on the equitable distribution of income from the exploitation of mining and energy resources.

During the biennium, technical cooperation missions were carried out to more than 12 countries. The assistance provided related to public policies and regulation of infrastructure services; water, mining and energy resources; and infrastructure and natural disaster prevention. Special mention should be made of the support provided by the Latin American Parliament and other regional intergovernmental and private organizations. Training was also provided to specific national and subregional bodies.

In terms of publications, the Division published over 20 editions of the *FAL Bulletin* (Bulletin on the facilitation of trade and transport in Latin America and the Caribbean), with each issue devoted to a specific subject: land and water-borne freight transport, ports, urban transport, facilitation of trade and transport in Latin America and the Caribbean, the cruise-ship industry in South America, urban transport

planning, traffic congestion, traffic technology, highway concessions, border crossings in MERCOSUR countries, maritime ports and e-commerce platforms. A book was also published on the situation and proposals in terms of renewable energy sources in Latin America and the Caribbean, and was presented at the International Conference for Renewable Energies, Bonn 2004. Over 30 documents were published in the *Recursos naturales e infraestructura series*, along with 3 Circulars of the Network for Cooperation in Integrated Water Resources Management for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean. The electronic document Maritime Profile of Latin America and the Caribbean and the international transport database (<http://www.cepal.cl/transporte/perfil/index.htm>) were also kept up to date.

These outputs were obtained through fulfilment of the programmatic commitments corresponding to this subprogramme in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

Figure II.12 shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2004-2005 biennium.

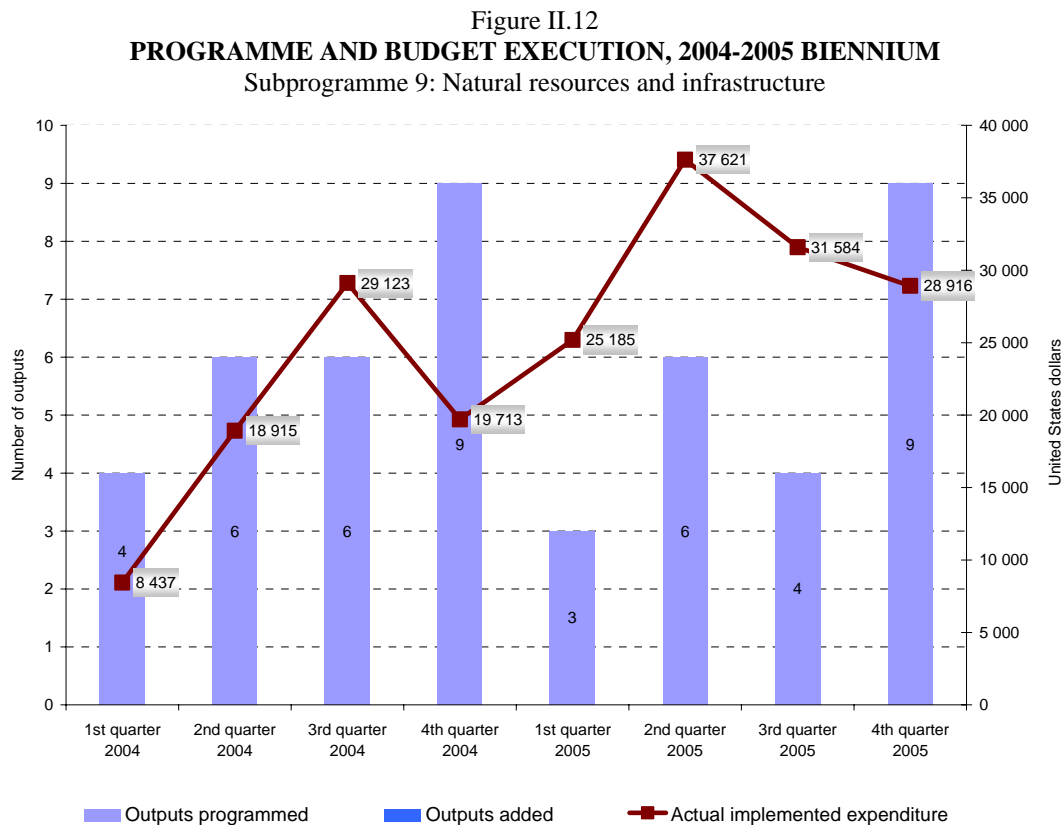


Table II.13 provides an overview of the outputs generated under subprogramme 9.

Table II.13
**SUMMARY OF ACTUAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE UNDER SUBPROGRAMME 9
 FOR THE 2004-2005 BIENNIUM: SUBSTANTIVE AND OPERATIONAL OUTPUTS**

Subprogramme	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat
Natural resources and infrastructure	112	3	0	0	114	1	0	0	100	100

^a Implementation rates:

Mandated outputs = (implemented+reformulated-added by the secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).

Total outputs = (implemented+reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by the secretariat).

^b From the previous biennium.

Subprogramme 10

Statistics and economic projections

During the 2004-2005 biennium, activities under this subprogramme were carried out by the Statistics and Economic Projections Division. The subprogramme of work encompasses five subject areas: (i) statistical data banks and the dissemination of statistics and regional indicators; (ii) economic statistics and the System of National Accounts (SNA); (iii) technical cooperation with member States and with regional and international statistical organizations; (iv) evaluation and prospective analysis of the economic development process in countries of the region; and (v) statistics and quantitative analysis of social processes.

With a view to strengthening the statistical capacity of the region's countries and ECLAC, the following meetings were held during the biennium in question: the third meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC (Santiago, Chile, from 1 to 3 June 2005) and the fifth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico City, Mexico, 14 and 15 November 2005). At those meetings, participants reflected on the strategic lines for regional statistical development and adopted the revised draft strategic plan 2005-2015, and defined the Programme of regional statistical work for Latin America and the Caribbean, July 2005-June 2007, which incorporates recommendations made by the Executive Committee with a view to better reflecting adaptations to changes in the process of regional and international statistical development.

In terms of projects and programmes, the fourteenth regional workshop on the programme for the improvement of surveys and the measurement of living conditions in Latin America and the Caribbean (MECOVI) was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 17 to 19 November 2004. The main theme was the analysis of methodology and implications of data entry in household surveys.

The Division also contributed towards achieving the aims of the Network for Macroeconomic Dialogue (REDIMA) through its statistics and models for macroeconomic coordination and activities aimed at the improvement, extension and harmonization of the production of basic statistics, and macrostatistical schemes and prices.

Regional statistical activities consisted in updating and extending the data banks of statistics and on enhancing user access. During the biennium, statistical systems were developed and updated using online databases: <http://www.eclac.cl/badestat/>) such as the Database on Social Statistics and Indicators (BADEINSO) and the Database of Environmental Statistics and Indicators for Latin America and the Caribbean (BADEIMA) developed by the Network of Institutions and Experts on Social and Environmental Statistics (REDESA). The Division also continued to update the Balance-of-Payments Data Bank (BADEPAG), which provides a summary of economic transactions between a given economy and the rest of the world. Work also progressed on International Statistical Classifications incorporated in the ECLAC Foreign Trade Data Bank for Latin America and the Caribbean (BADECCEL).

The Division published the 2004 edition of the *Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean*, which contains a selection of the main statistical series on the economic and social development of the region's countries. In addition, various documents were published under the three series: *Estudios estadísticos y prospectivos*, *Methodological Documents* and *Monographs*. The Division also collaborated with the Economic Development Division, the Division of International Trade and Integration and the Social Development Division on the following ECLAC publications: *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2004-2005*; *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin*

America and the Caribbean 2004; Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy 2004. Trends 2005; Foreign Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean 2004 and the Social Panorama of Latin America 2004.

These outputs were obtained through fulfilment of the programmatic commitments corresponding to this subprogramme in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

Figure II.13 shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2004-2005 biennium.

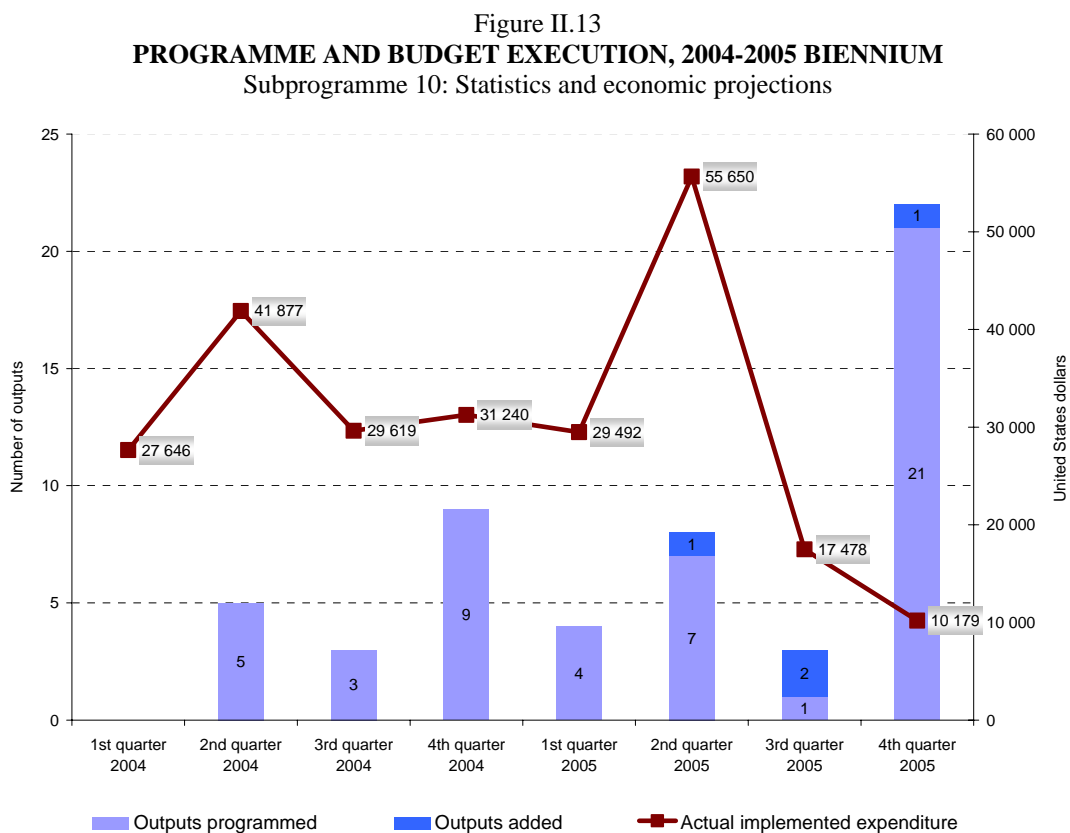


Table II.14 provides an overview of the outputs generated under subprogramme 10.

Table II.14
**SUMMARY OF ACTUAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE UNDER SUBPROGRAMME 10
 FOR THE 2004-2005 BIENNIUM: SUBSTANTIVE AND OPERATIONAL OUTPUTS**

Subprogramme	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat
Statistics and economic projections	82	3	0	23	108	0	0	0	100	100

^a Implementation rates: Mandated outputs = (implemented+reformulated-added by the secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).

Total outputs = (implemented+reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by the secretariat).

^b From the previous biennium.

Subprogramme 11

Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America

The work of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters in Mexico during the 2004-2005 biennium focused on providing analyses, training and technical assistance to the countries of the subregion. The aims of its activities were to help build analytical and policy formulation capabilities as a means of strengthening economic growth and employment, furthering the countries' social development, reducing poverty, maximizing the benefits and mitigating the adverse effects of globalization, enhancing regional integration and addressing challenges in the field of energy. For specific publications and further information on the types of services provided, see: <http://www.eclac.cl/mexico>.

Support was provided to the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) and the Haitian authorities in the preparation of a study on long-term development and poverty-reduction strategies. ECLAC also participated in 8 of the 19 sectoral tables of the Haiti Interim Cooperation Framework for the short-term programme of action being pursued in collaboration with the Government and donors. In response to a request made to that effect, ECLAC also carried out a disaster evaluation of the impact of Hurricane Jeanne in December 2004.

ECLAC helped to strengthen the trade-related and analytical capacities of member States in the subregion. Research was conducted on the impact of the Dominican Republic – Central America – United States Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA-DR); agriculture and associated priorities for public investment; lessons learned from the Mexican experience with the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in the areas of agriculture and the environment; opportunities and challenges for trade relations with China; international competitiveness and the impact of the expiration of the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing. In cooperation with UNDP, technical assistance was provided to the Governments of Nicaragua and Panama in connection with the use of a general equilibrium model to analyse the impact on economic growth and poverty of these countries' trade agreements with the United States.

In 2005 a project was launched in order to contribute to the national trade capacity building strategies developed by the countries during the previous biennium as part of the Program to Strengthen Trade Related Capacities in the Americas. This project has included training on intellectual property, studies on fiscal impact in 13 member States and seminars on selected issues. For further information on this project, see: <http://www.eclac.cl/mexico/capacidadescomerciales/index.htm>.

ECLAC has facilitated the sharing of experiences and best practices through the provision of advisory services and the organization of regional workshops with the Central American member States under a framework project being executed in conjunction with the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). The Honduran Government availed itself of technical assistance provided by ECLAC to review its competition laws. The Commission also facilitated a horizontal transfer of experience with Mexican authorities on this issue and has provided the Government of El Salvador with technical assistance in the implementation and promotion of a new competition law. For further information on this project, see: <http://www.eclac.cl/mexico/competencia/index.htm>.

ECLAC has undertaken a new study on the impact of macroeconomic policies, exchange rates and external shocks in terms of poverty and inequality in Costa Rica, El Salvador and Honduras and on the effects of volatility in economic growth on employment, real income, public social expenditure and income distribution in Central America. A joint publication prepared by ECLAC with the National Social Development Institute (INDESOL) (Instituto Nacional de Desarrollo Social de Mexico) and the Mexico office of the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO), with the sponsorship of the German

Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), has provided new analyses of social protection gaps and their relationship to the formal sector of the labour market, the legal guarantees of economic, social and cultural rights, the link between targeted and universal social policies and the socio-economic factors that influence the participation of poor Mexican women. The ECLAC Subregional Headquarters in Mexico has also worked to strengthen member States' national capabilities for the development of computable general equilibrium (CGE) models and social account matrices (SAM) that can be used to analyse the likely impact of trade agreements such as CAFTA-DR and the progress made towards fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals.

ECLAC has expanded its analysis of oil supplies, prices, margins and the level of competition in national oil markets to respond to the urgent demand in this area. The Subregional Headquarters in Mexico contributed to the preparation of technical background papers for the definition of the emergency energy plan approved by the subregion's Energy Ministers in 2004. In addition, the subprogramme provided support for the definition of projects for inclusion in the Meso-American Initiative for Energy Interconnection, which forms part of the Puebla-Panama Plan. Technical cooperation services were provided to review the regulatory formula for setting the prices of oil imports in Panama; to evaluate competition levels in the national oil markets of Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Guatemala; to define the scope of a study on reforming the national oil sector in Honduras; and to collect data to support the definition of a new electricity rate based on marginal costs in Cuba.

The eight member States of the Puebla-Panama Plan received technical backstopping and advisory services from ECLAC in connection with sectoral initiatives in the fields of tourism, transportation and infrastructure, energy, telecommunications, competitiveness and productive integration, sustainable development, human development and disaster prevention and mitigation.

ECLAC has executed a technical cooperation project on capacity building in macroeconomic policy analysis for the central banks of the five Central American countries, the Dominican Republic and the Central American Monetary Council (CAMC).

Under this subprogramme ECLAC continued to perform its duties as a focal point for issues related to disasters. Member States' capacity to evaluate and respond to natural disasters based on the disaster assessment methodology that has been developed was strengthened. Training activities were carried out at the national level, and 10 disaster evaluations were conducted at the request of member States.⁴ In addition, ECLAC assisted with the evaluation of the impact of the earthquake and tsunami that hit Indonesia and India in late 2004. The findings of that initiative were used to prepare reconstruction programmes and to negotiate with international lenders and donors.

Cooperation with ESCAP, UNDP and the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) in Asia has led to the preparation of 10 case studies using the above-mentioned disaster assessment methodology and to the participation of ECLAC in the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (Kobe, Japan, 18-22 January 2005). The Havana Consensus issued by the Tenth Meeting of the Special Committee on Natural Disasters of the Association of Caribbean States (Havana, Cuba, May-June 2005) recognized ECLAC for

⁴ These evaluations included assessments in Mexico (floods in Guanajuato, floods in five states, Hurricane Emily in four states), the Dominican Republic (Hurricane Jeanne), Haiti (Hurricane Jeanne), Guatemala (Hurricane Stan) and El Salvador (volcanic eruption and Hurricane Stan). In addition, the Subregional Headquarters in Mexico provided inputs for evaluations in Jamaica (Hurricane Ivan), the Cayman Islands (Hurricane Jeanne) and the Bahamas (Hurricane Frances) that were submitted by the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean.

its work in providing rapid quantifications of losses and their effects during the 2004 hurricane season and other important events of 2005.

ECLAC has initiated a three-year technical cooperation project with the Technical Secretariat of the Presidency of the Dominican Republic in order to strengthen the country's institutional capacities and contribute to medium- and long-term development within the framework of that secretariat's present administration plan. Cooperation activities include an analysis of economic trends and policies, the formulation of long-term scenarios for the economy, and the design of long-term policy instruments and measures for building capacities related to the implementation of national household surveys

Technical cooperation was also provided to the National Statistical Office of Cuba to strengthen the system of national statistics through account restructuring, training for personnel and modernization of infrastructure. A collaborative research project was finalized with Cuba's Economic Research Institute and UNDP with the publication of a book that provides a variety of recently compiled social data.

During the 2004-2005 biennium, a series of studies, documents and technical material was published, including annual reports on economic trends in the 10 countries of the subregion. In addition, the Subregional Headquarters in Mexico prepared inputs for the *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean* and for the inter-agency publication entitled *The Millennium Development Goals: A Latin American and Caribbean Perspective*. Progress was also made in updating and improving relevant databases and their accessibility. The Agricultural Information System (SIAGRO), which is now available on the Internet, had over 11,000 hits in its first 16 months of operation. (see: <http://websie.eclac.cl/sisgen/siagro.asp>).

Training activities in the form of workshops, seminars and courses have benefited over 1,000 participants from approximately 30 countries, including all 10 member States in the subregion and five other member States of ECLAC. Experts from 14 other countries, mostly in Asia, received training in the ECLAC disaster assessment methodology in coordination with ESCAP.

In summary, the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters in Mexico has worked to respond to the needs and requests of member States in connection with various items on the development agenda of the subregion.

These outputs were obtained through fulfilment of the programmatic commitments corresponding to this subprogramme in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.

Figure II.14 shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2004-2005 biennium.

Figure II.14
PROGRAMME AND BUDGET EXECUTION, 2004-2005 BIENNIUM
Subprogramme 11: Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America

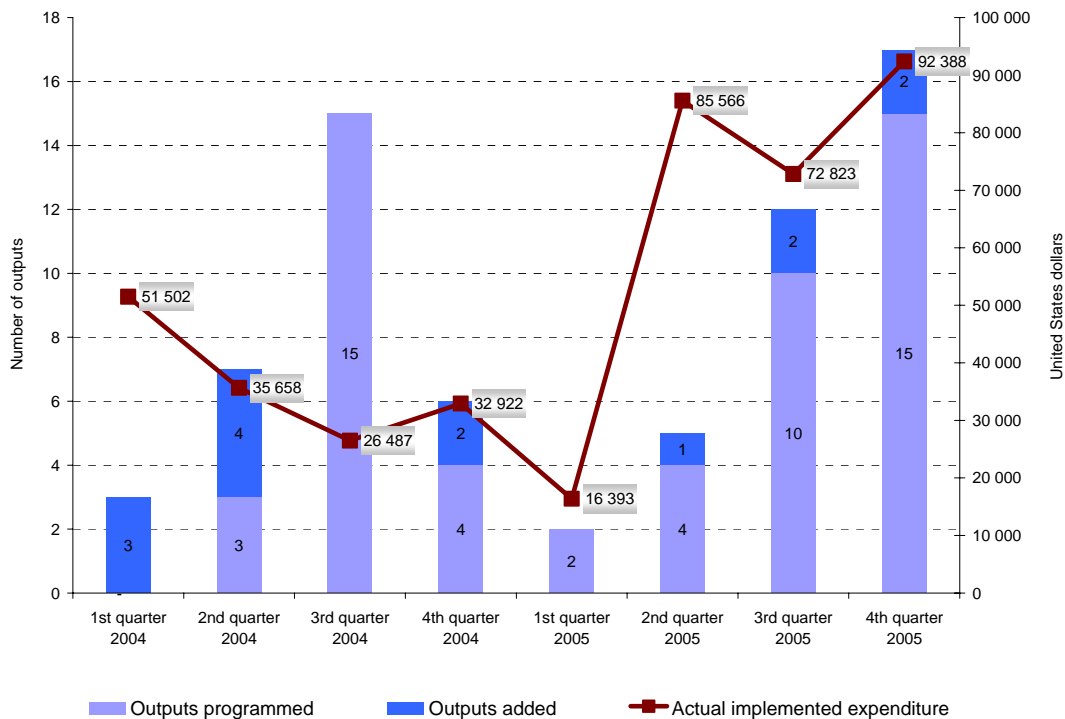


Table II.15 provides an overview of the outputs generated under subprogramme 11.

Table II.15
SUMMARY OF ACTUAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE UNDER SUBPROGRAMME 11
FOR THE 2004-2005 BIENNIUM: SUBSTANTIVE AND OPERATIONAL OUTPUTS

Subprogramme	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat
Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America	408	0	0	41	405	3	0	0	100	100

^a Implementation rates: Mandated outputs = (implemented+reformulated+added by the secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).

Total outputs = (implemented+reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by the secretariat).

^b From the previous biennium.

Subprogramme 12 Subregional activities in the Caribbean

During the 2004-2005 biennium, the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, which also serves as the Secretariat of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), focused on the analysis of issues of special significance for economic and social development in the Caribbean subregion. Its main areas of activity were: (i) Macroeconomic policies and economic development; (ii) Linkages with the international economy, integration and cooperation; (iii) Statistics and information management for development; and (iv) Sustainable development in the Caribbean.

There was a substantial increase in the amount of technical assistance provided under this subprogramme to member States and to regional and subregional institutions during this biennium. Member and associate member States received substantive support in their preparations for participation in global conferences such as the recent International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States; the World Summit on the Information Society, which was preceded by a forum on the establishment of a Caribbean information society; and the Caribbean Symposium on Population Ageing. Support was also provided in the development of strategies aimed at reducing poverty and HIV/AIDS levels in member States and in work on issues related to the World Summit for Social Development. In June 2004, support was furnished for the establishment of the Caribbean Water Partnership (CWP), which focuses on providing member States with tools and information related to water resources management in the region.

Under this subprogramme, training workshops were organized in the area of social and trade statistics and natural disaster impact assessments. The participants in these sessions included experts from associate member States. In all, 124 persons received training in the use of the ECLAC methodology for the assessment of the impacts of natural disasters. These workshops were successful in imparting new knowledge to public- and private-sector officials in the Caribbean.

Efforts focused on the development of programmes to strengthen the capacities of public institutions in member States with regard to the formulation and implementation of evidenced-based policies and programmes for promoting growth. In this regard, following a series of meetings aimed at implementing social statistics databases and the programme on the development of a social vulnerability index in the Caribbean, it was decided that training workshops would be a more effective means of achieving these objectives. To date, 45 persons from 13 member States, six United Nations agencies and four regional and subregional institutions have participated in training exercises in the use of the Caribbean Social Statistics Database (CSSD) and the development of a social vulnerability index geared towards the formulation of social policy for small island developing States in the Caribbean.

A large number of substantive documents were completed and distributed to Governments and researchers. In addition, five intergovernmental conferences and nine expert group meetings were convened. Overall, the documents and meetings made important contributions to the development of the position to be adopted by the Caribbean subregion at international meetings and other forums. In addition, reports on the disaster assessment missions undertaken in the Bahamas, the Cayman Islands, Grenada, Haiti and Jamaica (2004) and Guyana (2005) were published and are available on the subprogramme's website (see: <http://www.eclac.cl/portofspain/>).

A study entitled "The impact of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) on the member States of the OECS use of Chapter 7" was presented at the Forty-first Meeting of the Authority of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), held in St. Kitts and Nevis in May 2005. This

analysis led the OECS Governments to convene a high-level policy forum for OECS trade ministers to identify and amend specific provisions of chapter seven of the revised Treaty of Chaguaramas. Proposals arising out of that forum were then presented at the Twenty-sixth Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) (Saint Lucia, 3-6 July 2005). The document constituted an important input for the CARICOM Governments' subsequent decision to form a task force to look at the particular needs of OECS economies and the issue of special and differential treatment for OECS economies. The above-mentioned document on the CARICOM Single Market and Economy has given rise to a public debate on regional issues through the press and television media. Special studies were also prepared at the request of the Governments of Belize, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and Netherlands Antilles on issues related to the convergence of their economies vis-à-vis other Caribbean countries.

Since January 2004, this subprogramme has contributed to the formulation of policies and programmes in the area of migration (particularly in relation to the brain drain in the health sector) by intergovernmental bodies such as CARICOM, the University of the West Indies, the University of Guyana (July 2004), the Regional Nursing Body (2004, 2005) and the Commonwealth Secretariat (2005)

In order to improve the timeliness and enhance the success of the activities conducted under this subprogramme, the following databases were constructed: the Caribbean Trade Statistics Database (CARIBTRADE), the Caribbean Social Statistics Database, the Database on Selected Statistical Indicators of Caribbean Countries, the Caribbean Digital Library, a bibliographic database and a database on women and development in the Caribbean. Work has also begun on the development of gender indicators and science and technology indicators.

These outputs were obtained through fulfilment of the programmatic commitments corresponding to this subprogramme in the programme of work of the ECLAC system and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.

Figure II.15 shows the quarterly progress of programme implementation vis-à-vis budget execution during the 2004-2005 biennium.

Figure II.15
PROGRAMME AND BUDGET EXECUTION, 2004-2005 BIENNIUM
 Subprogramme 12: Subregional activities in the Caribbean

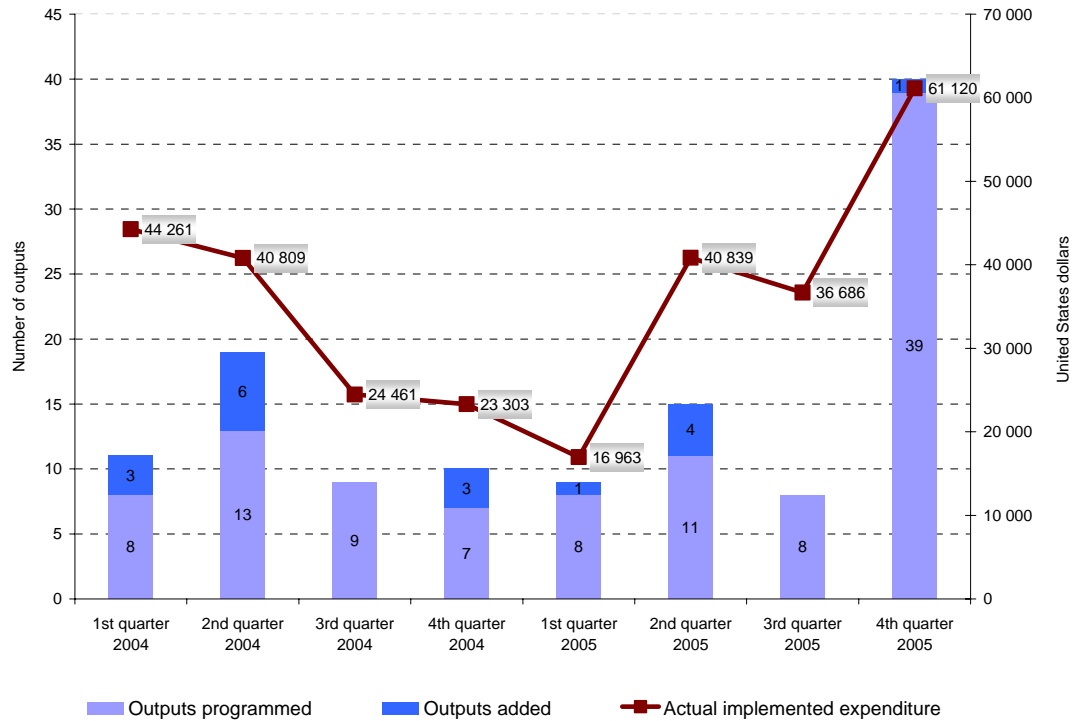


Table II.16 provides an overview of the outputs generated under subprogramme 12.

Table II.16
SUMMARY OF ACTUAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE UNDER SUBPROGRAMME 12
FOR THE 2004-2005 BIENNIUM: SUBSTANTIVE AND OPERATIONAL OUTPUTS

Subprogramme	Planned		Additions by		Implementation		Departures from programmed commitments		Implementation rates ^a	
	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat	Implemented	Subprogramme	Programmed	Carried over ^b	Legislation	Secretariat
Subregional activities in Caribbean	157	7	7	24	156	5	0	7	96	96

^a Implementation rates: Mandated outputs = (implemented+reformulated+added by the secretariat)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation).

Total outputs = (implemented+reformulated)/(programmed+carried over+added by legislation+added by the secretariat).

^b From the previous biennium.

B. Cooperation activities



Overview and general trends of international cooperation

During the 2004-2005 biennium, the aggregate global flow of official development assistance (ODA) continued to follow the upward trend observed in the previous biennium. According to preliminary figures released by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the total amount of such assistance stood at US\$ 78.568 billion in 2004 and just under US\$ 90 billion in 2005, record figures in both nominal and real terms.

Latin America and the Caribbean receive less multilateral assistance than other regions, especially in comparison with Africa. In 2002, the region received 10% of total net bilateral ODA from the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and only 7% of multilateral ODA.

The total amount of net ODA received by the region in 2003 stood at US\$ 6.133 billion. More than half of these resources are concentrated in four countries: Bolivia (18%), Nicaragua (15%), Colombia (14%) and Peru (9%). Haiti also recorded a significant increase in ODA resources following the events of 2004.

ECLAC, like the other regional economic commissions, also plays a fundamental role in the technical cooperation activities carried out by the regional bodies in the United Nations system. In the light of their characteristics and spheres of competence, these regional bodies deal with issues which, by their very nature, constitute “regional public goods” that benefit a specific set of clearly identifiable nations and that belong to an intermediate sphere between the national and the global levels.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, the main spheres of action in this regard are the harmonization and creation of discussion and coordination networks covering macroeconomic policy, productive development policy, the design and implementation of fiscal policies, measures focusing on sustainable development and the rational and integrated use of natural resources, regional cooperation in statistical matters, action plans on issues of population and population ageing, the further advancement of women and gender equity in public policies and specific initiatives relating to energy and regional integration, and support for the generation of social cohesion covenants. Equally important are the activities carried out by ECLAC at the subregional level (Central America and the Caribbean) through its Subregional Headquarters in Mexico and its Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean.



Cooperation activities during the 2004-2005 biennium

The ECLAC technical cooperation programme is carried out with substantive and financial support from various member countries or other countries interested in collaborating with ECLAC, organizations in the United Nations system, multilateral organizations, academic centres, foundations, non-State institutions and non-governmental organizations.

ECLAC has once again opted for a multisectoral and multi-year approach to the implementation of programmes in which several of its divisions are participating and whose duration can extend beyond one biennium. The Commission prefers to implement programmes of this nature instead of specific projects with a more limited time frame. Thus, it has addressed the issue of development from a

multidimensional and multi-year perspective, which is more in keeping with the way in which these problems arise in the real world.

In implementing its projects and programmes, ECLAC has collaborated with national agencies and subnational organizations, as well as with subregional, regional and international institutions concerned with the pursuit of excellence, including universities, research centres and civil society organizations.

During the biennium, ECLAC implemented more than 180 technical cooperation projects financed with extrabudgetary resources. Total estimated expenditure for the period was US\$ 18,588,325. As in previous bienniums, these extra-budgetary resources were essentially of bilateral origin, with 64.6% of expenditure incurred in the period financed by these donors. Multilateral organizations contributed 18.7% of expenditure and projects financed by the United Nations system accounted for 16.7%.

The expenditure covered by multilateral sources of financing expanded from 26.7% to 37% of total, owing mainly to the sizable increase in European Commission contributions, which exceeded US\$ 1 million in net terms, thus raising that donor's percentage share from 1.2% to 6.8%.

Some of the technical cooperation projects implemented by ECLAC were financed with resources from the United Nations Development Account, whose share of expenditure increased from 5.8% to us\$ 8.9%. this increase also coincides with the simultaneous implementation of projects in the third tranche (2002-2003) and those in the fourth tranche (2004-2005), owing to a late implementation in the previous biennium. the United Nations Development Account is an important source of financing for the regional commissions, since it enables them to address the issue of development from the perspective of the united nations system. in addition, the account has been used increasingly to promote joint actions by the different United Nations agencies, programmes and funds —thereby increasing the synergy and potential of such actions— and to fulfil the mandates of member countries in this respect.

The Government of Germany was the main contributor of bilateral financing, maintaining the same percentage share as in the previous biennium (close to 13%). This reflects the stable and long-standing relationship between ECLAC and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. Indeed, the Government of Germany has been financing two-year multidimensional programmes instead of specific projects.

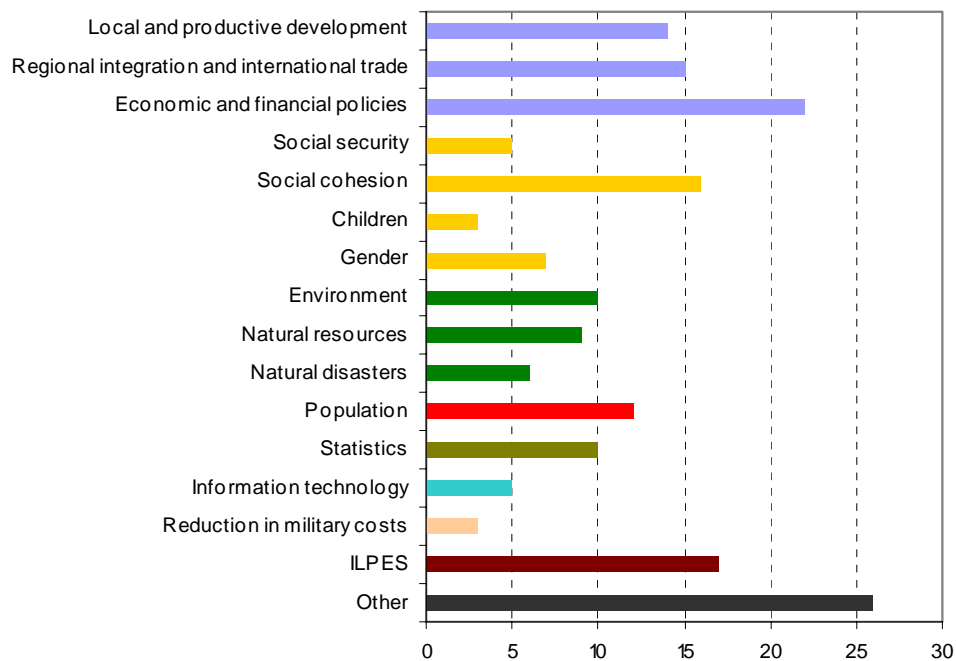
The period 2004-2005 has seen a significant increase in the contributions of the Government of Canada, which increased from 0.1% in the 2002-2003 biennium to 4.7% in the current period. Similarly, the contributions of the Government of France expanded from 0.7% to 1.4%. These increases helped to offset the sharp reduction observed in other bilateral sources of financing.

Most Latin American and Caribbean countries have significantly increased their contributions, mainly on account of the numerous requests for assistance in specific areas that ECLAC has been receiving from member countries and to the willingness of these countries to defray directly the cost of such activities. In addition, the contributions to ILPES remained the same as in the previous biennium and the difference observed was attributable to savings made by the Institute.

The contribution of universities, foundations and private bilateral organizations increased from 3.2% to 8.2% in the 2004-2005 biennium. The Kellogg Foundation financed 47.9% of this total, mainly through the project “Experiences in social innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean”, which was designed to identify successful initiatives in social development. Under this project, an annual prize was

organized in recognition of innovative initiatives geared to reducing poverty and disseminating the model and results in the countries of the region. This programme is being implemented in annual cycles—with a scheduled duration up to the year 2008—and is an excellent opportunity for disseminating ECLAC activities in the most remote areas of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Figure II.16
**NUMBER OF PROJECTS BEING IMPLEMENTED BY ECLAC
 DURING THE 2004-2005 BIENNIUM, BY SUBJECT AREA**



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of official data to August 2005.

The 180 projects implemented during the 2004-2005 biennium cover a broad range of issues and were classified in 3 major areas (economic, social and environmental), irrespective of the ECLAC Division responsible for their implementation. The economic area, which encompasses issues on local and productive development, regional integration and international trade, and economic and financial policies, accounts for 28.3% of projects. The social area (gender mainstreaming, child protection, social cohesion and social protection policies) accounts for 17.2%, while the environmental area (environment, natural resources and natural disaster assessment) represents 13.9%. ILPES is responsible for 9.4% of projects and these are geared to training in fiscal management and planning.

The numerous activities carried out as part of projects were important components of South-South cooperation. They included comparative studies that have enabled countries to broaden their awareness of the international experiences of countries with a similar or higher level of development; the promotion of exchanges of experiences, best practices and new methodologies through training seminars and workshops; and the establishment and expansion of formal and informal networks of government representatives and experts to facilitate more ongoing, long-term contacts. Most of these activities are centred on the incorporation of specific elements of South-South cooperation in the

implementation of technical cooperation projects assigned to the different ECLAC divisions, units and offices.

Technical assistance missions

Section II.A of this report reviews the tasks carried out under each of the ECLAC subprogrammes, including those that involve technical assistance to the countries of the region. The present subsection contains a detailed, albeit succinct, account of the cooperation activities relating to the technical assistance missions carried out by ECLAC officials, regional advisors, experts and consultants during the biennium.

A total of 1,564 technical cooperation missions were conducted in 41 Latin American and Caribbean countries in 2004-2005 (see map II.1). A wide array of issues were addressed, including: processing and analysis of information gathered in population and housing censuses; international trade and treaty negotiations, natural resource regulations and policies; environmental indicators and policies; State modernization and planning; improvement of household surveys and economic and social statistics; assessment of natural disasters; and gender mainstreaming in government policies and programmes (see maps II.2, II.3 and II.4) These missions were conducted at the request of Governments of member States and were coordinated with related activities or programmes carried out by other international organizations and by national entities operating at different levels (subregional, national and local).

Technical assistance either consists specifically of workshops or courses, or else almost invariably involves a training component. In a large and growing number of cases, however, such missions are taking the form of substantive collaboration with national authorities, professionals and technical experts.

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

Map II.1



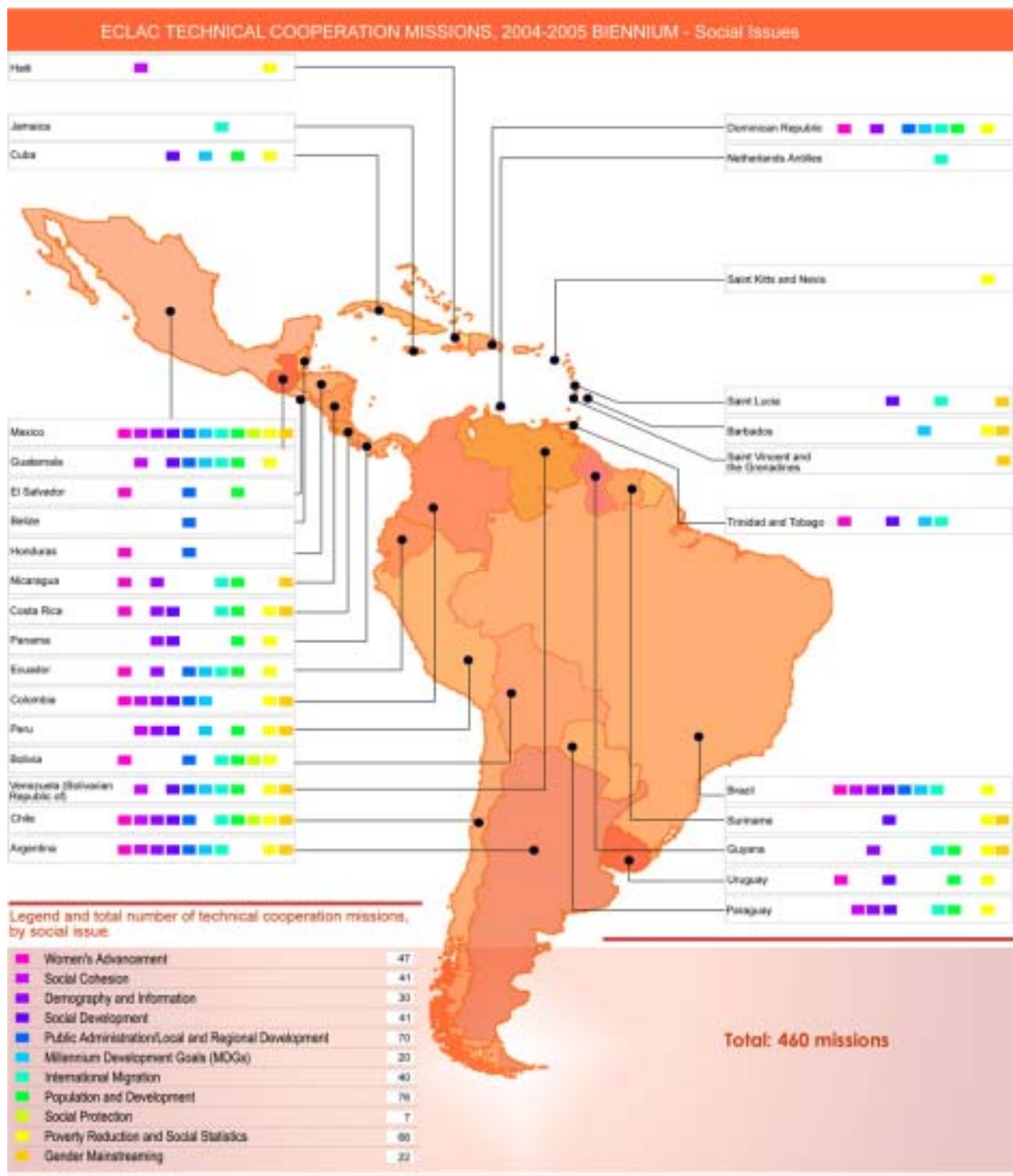
Note: The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries

Map II.2



Note: The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries

Map II.3



Note: The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries

Map II.4



Note: The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries

III. Dissemination and communications

A. Documents and Publications Division



The Documents and Publications Division worked intensively during the 2004-2005 biennium, processing more than 800 documents, including 18 ECLAC books, 4 Cuadernos de la CEPAL, 16 issues of the *CEPAL Review* in Spanish and English and 2 in French, more than 20 co-publications, over 55 conference documents, 21 documents for the thirty-first session of the Commission and a vast number of documents in the Series and other categories.

The Publications Committee oversaw a restructuring process, which was marked by a better presentation of proposals for new books, *cuadernos* and co-publications and a new schedule for periodical publications. In addition, a new, more efficient and rapid means of processing project publications was created on the basis of the new bibliographic category “Project documents”. This allows the author divisions to publish their documents electronically using a pre-established template and to print a minimum number of copies at the outset with the option of printing more copies later on request.

During the biennium, the Editorial and Translation Services Section worked to modernize and improve various aspects of its work, including the upgrading of computerized systems for the control of the flow of documents, the administration of its terminology database and the preparation and use of specialized memories to speed up the translation process. Progress has been made in translating several of the websites that made up the ECLAC portal with a view to extending the dissemination of the analytical work and research projects carried out by the Commission.

Another achievement of the period is that practically all new documents —with the exception of trade co-publications and some special feature periodicals— have been published in digital form. This has largely been thanks to the introduction of the InDesign programme and the training provided to the pre-press staff who will be using it.

The preparation of two editions of the publication *The Millennium Development Goals: A Latin American and Caribbean Perspective* in two languages and in full colour occupied a significant part of the Division’s resources in 2005. The Division succeeded in closing the gap between the Spanish and English editions for the main launch of the document in Santiago, Chile, and dispatched documents for each subsequent launch in other parts of the region. Despite the tight deadline, the second version was processed and dispatched to United Nations Headquarters in New York, also in both languages, in time for its launch in September 2005.

The constant effort to cut back on costs has borne fruit during the biennium, especially in the area of distribution. Thanks to the graphic redesign of the *Statistical Yearbook* and the use of a lighter weight paper, this publication was reduced by 250 pages, resulting in US\$ 18,000 in savings for freight and printing. In addition, thanks to the use of the competitive services of Correos de Chile, TNT and DHL,

general shipment costs were reduced and ECLAC saved some US\$ 150,000 under this heading. The cost of dispatch of the Kellogg Project leaflets, originally estimated at more than US\$ 100,000, was slashed to slightly under US\$ 10,000 for the 2004 competition and similar savings were achieved in 2005.

In general, the Documents and Publications Division made an effort to introduce appropriate technology to satisfy the growing demand for rapid and comprehensive information. In particular, plans are being made for the implementation of a new monitoring system in the Documents and Publications Control Unit and a new database system in the Distribution Unit.

B. ECLAC library



The ECLAC Library and modernization of the United Nations

The United Nations libraries have continued with the reform and modernization process promoted by the Secretary-General and initiated in 2003 with the establishment of the Steering Committee for the Modernization and Integrated Management of United Nations Libraries. The ECLAC Library has participated actively in the deliberative bodies that have met to define new mechanisms for strengthening cooperation and coordination between libraries. This has gradually contributed to optimization of resources, improvement of the exchange of information and integration of services.

With the participation of the ECLAC Library in the United Nations System Electronic Information Acquisition Consortium (UNSEIAC), access to specialized information resources has been substantially upgraded.

In accordance with United Nations recommendations on the development of its multilingual websites, the Library has completed the redesign and incorporation of the French and Portuguese versions on its Internet website, bringing to four the number of languages in which its services are provided (Spanish, English, French and Portuguese) and facilitating access to information.

The adoption of the United Nations Bibliographic Information System (UNBIS) thesaurus has ensured the automatic generation of descriptors in English and French, based on the information in Spanish entered in the Library's databases.

During this period, the structure and contents of the Intranet page of the Library were reviewed, culminating in a new design aimed at facilitating the identification of information and available services. In addition, the bibliographies of the Executive Secretaries were produced and incorporated both on Intranet and on the ECLAC website. A system, based on the Library's online catalogue and available through Intranet, was set up for prompt access to the bibliographies of ECLAC staff..

The ECLAC Library and the United Nations Official Document System (ODS)

In accordance with General Assembly resolution A/RES/58/270, which defines the Official Document System (ODS) of the United Nations as an archival and retrieval system of official documents, the Library has continued the programme of digitization of official ECLAC documents. Thanks to the identification of new procedures for entering information and the definition of new operating routines and

work flows, considerable volumes of new material were incorporated during the biennium. The automatic conversion of descriptors into English, through the use of standardized tools developed by the Library, has expedited the entry of documents into the System. In addition, the installation of ODS for public access on the Internet has meant a wider dissemination and ready access to these ECLAC documents.

Figure III.1
REFERENCE SERVICE

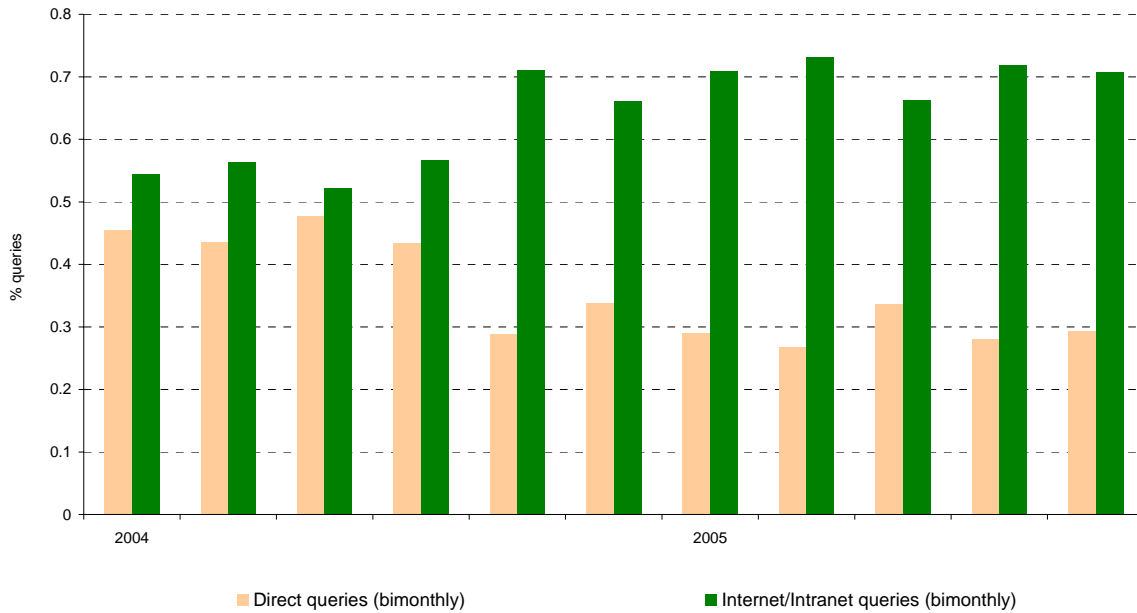


Figure III.2
LANGUAGES IN DATABASES

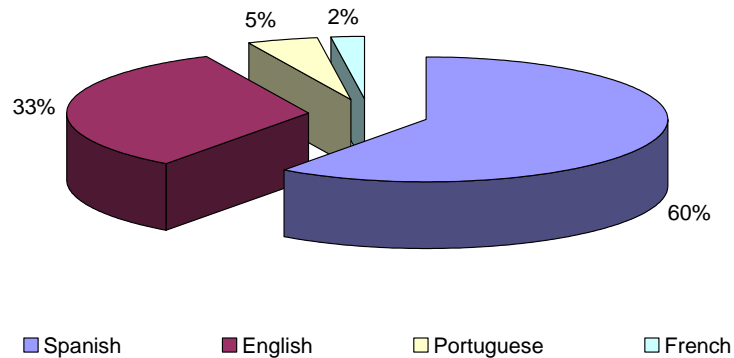


Figure III.3
SERIAL PUBLICATIONS

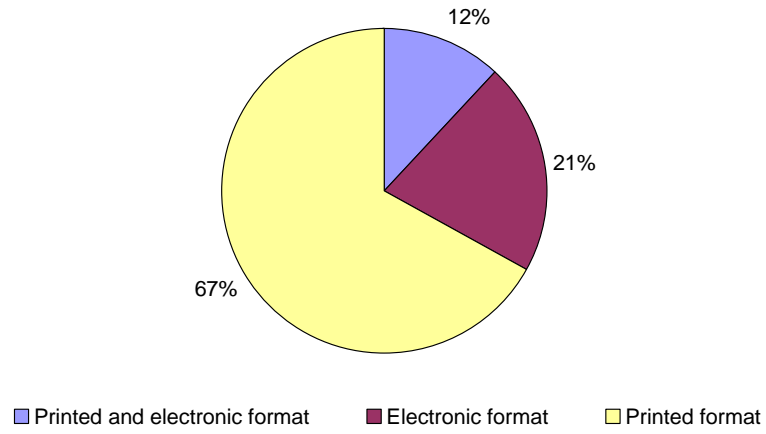
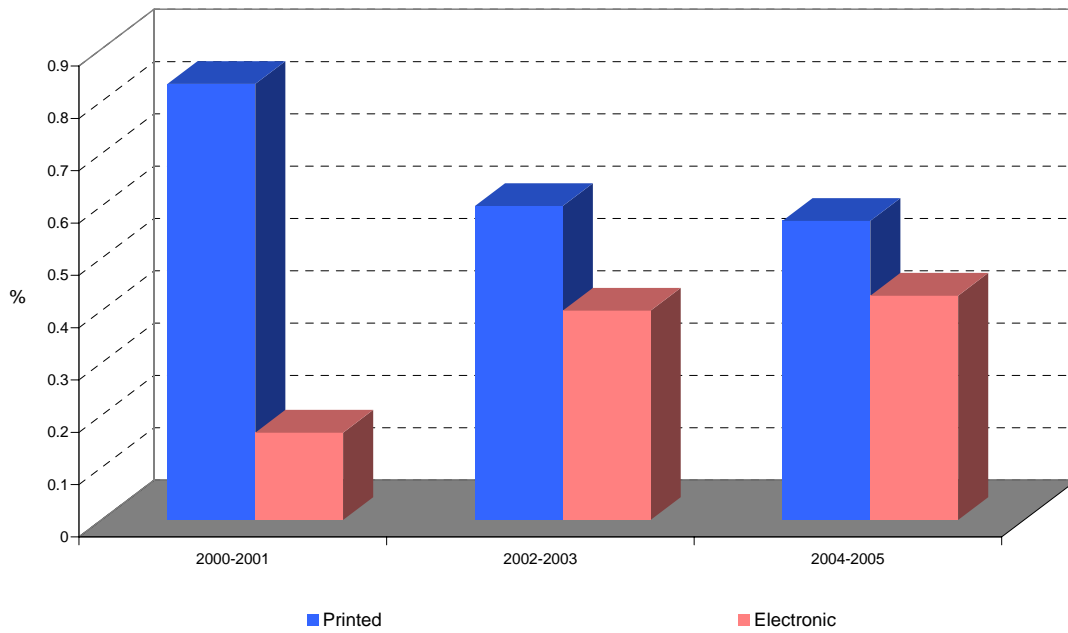
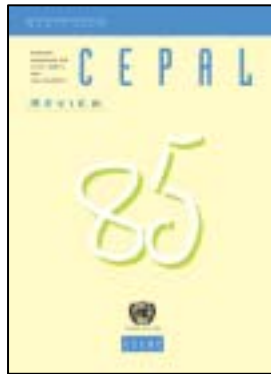


Figure III.4
PURCHASE OF PUBLICATIONS



C. CEPAL Review



The *CEPAL Review* is a four-monthly publication in Spanish and English, launched in 1976 as a contribution to the study of economic and social development issues in Latin America and the Caribbean. It contains articles written by experts in economics and other social sciences from both within and outside the United Nations. The *Review* is distributed to individual subscribers as well as to universities, research institutes and other international organizations.

In the 2004-2005 biennium, issues 82 to 87 of the *CEPAL Review* were published, as well as a special edition in French. The articles covered the development options available to countries of the region (seven articles), structural features of these countries (ten articles), processes of integration into the world economy (nine articles), macroeconomic, fiscal and financial policies (ten articles), policies for restructuring production (seven articles), social policies (eleven articles), policies and problems relating to employment, income distribution and poverty (seven articles) and political aspects of development (six articles).

For the first time, a special issue of the *CEPAL Review* was published in French in June 2005. It contains a selection of articles published in recent years, together with two new articles by French researchers, written specially for this issue.

For the seventh consecutive year, the full text of the *Review* in Spanish was published on the ECLAC web page simultaneously with the appearance of the printed version (<http://www.cepal.cl/publicaciones/>). The articles published on the Internet in 2004 were downloaded by 100,000 readers. For the fourth year, the full text of the *Review* in English was published on the ECLAC website.

The circulation has no doubt been boosted by the press releases produced by the Information Services Unit on the main articles appearing in each issue of the *Review* and the notices sent out by e-mail to registered users on the appearance of the most recent issue of the *CEPAL Review* on the website.

The *Review* encourages ECLAC experts to publish some of the working documents from the ECLAC series that might appeal to a wider readership as articles. Approximately one third of the articles are penned by ECLAC authors. The editors of the *Review* also seek out contributions from researchers and policymakers all over the world.

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

D. Information Services Unit



The activities of this Unit consist in implementing the Commission's policy with regard to information and communications. During the 2004-2005 biennium, the Unit worked extensively to disseminate the institution's views on the most important processes in economic and social development in the region. Specific information products were designed for the Office of the Executive Secretary and for the divisions on the basis of their needs.

The main tasks carried out by the Unit included the preparation of communication strategies, the dissemination of activities and publications, the production of information materials, the management of the Internet portal, contact with the media and the production of articles expressing the views of the Executive Secretary and the ECLAC secretariat for publication in newspapers in the region, commenting on activities of the Commission and the United Nations. Interviews with ECLAC technical experts were arranged at the request of journalists who use the Commission as a source of economic information on the region, which considerably raises the profile of ECLAC. The Unit also organized visits to the ECLAC building and gave talks to students and the general public.

Also worth mentioning are the dissemination campaigns organized to raise the profile of the flagship publications: the *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean*, the *Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean*, the *Social Panorama of Latin America*, *Foreign Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean* and *Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy*. This includes organizing press conferences, preparing information documents and arranging interviews. The collection of press clippings has reached record levels thanks to the new search systems. The Unit has also collaborated in disseminating and promoting the *CEPAL Review*.

The Unit continued to publish *ECLAC Notes*, a newsletter distributed by electronic and regular mail to more than 8,000 opinion makers. A special issue was produced on hurricane Katrina and its impact in the region. The Unit was also responsible for updating the ECLAC home page, the Press Centre page and the page of the Office of the Executive Secretary. Thanks to the new approach, the home page can be updated more frequently and is more dynamic. During the biennium, the Unit increased its production of audiovisual material.

In connection with the production of the inter-agency document *The Millennium Development Goals: A Latin American and Caribbean Perspective*, the Unit, in conjunction with the other organizations in the region, carried out an intensive communications campaign, which included the launch of the document in cities such as Brasilia, Havana, Madrid, Mar del Plata, Mexico City, Panama City, Santiago (Chile) and Washington D.C., among others.

The main activities of the biennium included the dissemination of information on some meetings in which ECLAC participated, the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico City, 10-12 June 2004); the Regional Preparatory Ministerial Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (Rio de Janeiro, 8-10 June 2005); the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (Tunis, 16-18 November 2005); and the Thirtieth Session of ECLAC (San Juan, Puerto Rico, 28 June-2 July 2004). The Unit also held a workshop with Latin American journalists with a view to disseminating

the approach and the activities of the region in the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Tunis.

The Unit played an active part in organizing the ECLAC/Kellogg Competition “Experiences in social innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean”, participating in the launch and prize-giving ceremony of the first phase as well as in the second official announcement. Arrangements were made for 15 journalists from different countries in the region to attend the Social Innovation Fair, held as part of the prize-giving ceremony.

The Unit continued to collaborate with the United Nations Secretariat and its Department of Public Information for the purpose of communication activities in Chile and also worked with the organizations of the United Nations system present in the country (Inter-Agency Communications Working Group). In addition, it collaborated with other organizations in the launch and presentation of various documents in Chile.

E. Internet Development and Coordination Unit



In the 2004-2006 biennium, the ECLAC Internet portal consolidated its role as the main electronic medium disseminating the views of ECLAC on economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean. More than 35 websites make up the portal, and they provide a wide selection of contents, including data, statistics, documents, publications and press materials on a daily basis.

Under the management of the Internet Development and Coordination Unit, the ECLAC portal incorporated new Internet technologies and procedures for administering the contents with a view to facilitating speedy access to the knowledge and information provided by the Commission. Improvements were introduced in the decentralized content administration system, which allows online operations through the Internet. A network of focal points use this system to administer and update the websites under their responsibility on a permanent basis. This decentralized management system means that new sites can be created and maintained in an easier and more flexible way.

In the 2004-2005 biennium, more than 15 new sites were created including those of the *CEPAL Review*, the Network of social institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean (RISALC), the Information Society project, the Macroeconomic Dialogue Network (REDIMA) and the site of the macroeconomic cooperation projects, which encompass projects implemented with the support of various donors. Among the many other sites are those of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Network of Institutions and Experts on Social and Environmental Statistics (REDESA) and the online databases.

Many of these initiatives promote the creation of networks and interactivity with professionals and government authorities linked to development issues. Some examples in this regard are the citizens' survey on violence against boy children, girl children and adolescents, the competition on experiences in social innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean and the virtual dialogue of ministers and authorities in the region as part of the project “Capacity-building of national machineries for governance with a gender perspective in Latin America and the Caribbean”. Also in connection with relations with users, the

ECLAC website provided services for the online evaluation of some of its main publications and documents.

With respect to other technical matters and in order to improve navigation, the ECLAC portal has incorporated the new service “United Nations Google Search Appliance” (UNGSA), which is a Google-based search engine that facilitates searches since it indexes its contents and enables searches within the ECLAC portal as well as in the United Nations website in New York.

Similarly, in order to improve access to publications, the Analysis and Research section has been upgraded to reflect the official structure of the main categories of the United Nations Bibliographic Information System (UNBIS) thesaurus. This new structure includes geographical descriptors that enable publications to be grouped by country. The same occurred for the site of the *CEPAL Review* and the site relating to cooperation with other organizations and governments. In this way, official ECLAC documents, cooperation projects and articles of the *Review* on Internet include both thematic and geographic descriptors by country and region.

The statistics on user access and downloads of the full text of documents increased significantly compared with the previous biennium. In the 2002-2003 biennium, 5,041,861 users visited the ECLAC portal and 10,635,951 downloads were recorded. In terms of users, the figures for the 2004-2005 biennium are expected to be 4.2 million higher, since 9.2 million users are estimated to have visited the site up to the end of December 2005. Downloads are expected to be 8 million higher, since 18 million were up to the end of December 2005. The following figures show the increase in users and downloads based on the figures projected to December 2005.

Figure III.5
ANNUAL VISITORS TO THE WEB PORTAL

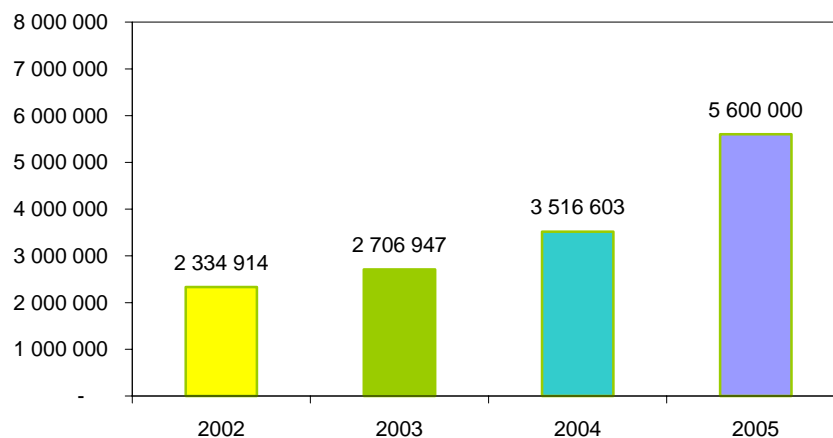


Figure III. 6
ANNUAL DOCUMENT DOWNLOADS

