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**REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION
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Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe, CEPAL,
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, ECLAC

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACS	Association of Caribbean States
ADC	Andean Development Corporation
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CDCC	Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FTAA	Free Trade Area of the Americas
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
ILO	International Labour Organisation
ILPES	Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning
IMF	International Monetary Fund
LAIA	Latin American Integration Association
OAS	Organization of American States
OIJ	Ibero-American Youth Organization
OLADE	Latin American Energy Organization
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
SELA	Latin American Economic 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
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

INTRODUCTION

This report on the activities of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) covers the two-year period since the last session of the Commission in April 2000. It reviews the work carried out within the framework of the programme of work of the ECLAC system, which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES).

Some changes have been made in the presentation of the report, which consists of three sections.

Part I (i) describes the activities and meetings of subsidiary bodies, namely, the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Regional Council for Planning of ILPES, the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development and the Ad hoc working group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI). A brief description is provided of the activities carried out by each entity and the decisions and agreements adopted.

The report also includes a summary of the following meetings: the eighteenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) - technical and ministerial segments; the tenth meeting of the CDCC Monitoring Committee; the eighth meeting of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the thirtieth, thirty-first, thirty second and thirty-third meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference; the first meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; the twentieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of ILPES; the open-ended meeting of the ECLAC sessional Ad hoc Committee on Population and Development and the sixth meeting of the Ad hoc working group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI).

Part I (ii) reports on the preparatory and follow-up activities to the world conferences on economic and social issues, namely, the World Summit on Sustainable Development; the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, the Special Session of the General Assembly in 2001 for Follow-up to the World Summit for Children; the International Conference on Financing for Development and the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

Part I (iii) reviews the inter-agency activities centred on ties of collaboration, coordination and consultation between ECLAC and specialized agencies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations during the biennium.

Part II A of the report begins with an account of the institutional multidisciplinary activities carried out by the substantive divisions of ECLAC under the coordination of the Office of the Executive Secretary, which gave rise to a process based on participation and discussion and which has helped to promote an integral approach to economic and social development in the countries of the region. This section contains three subdivisions: the first relates to the preparation of ECLAC documents for the meetings of the

Commission or other specific agencies; the second reports on the commemorative acts organized to mark the centenary of Raúl Prebisch's birth, the Conference entitled "Toward a New Paradigm: Social Capital and Poverty Reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean" and the public launching of the study and the intergovernmental meeting on a standardized methodology for comparing defence spending in Argentina and Chile and the third presents some of the outputs resulting from interdivisional work, namely documents, meetings, training and technical cooperation with respect to natural disasters.

Part II B contains a brief outline of the overall direction and the salient aspects of the work carried out within the scope of the 12 substantive ECLAC subprogrammes which include, not only those done at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, but also those assigned to the subregional headquarters in Mexico and the Caribbean, the national offices in Buenos Aires, Brasilia, Montevideo and Bogota, and the liaison office in Washington, D. C.. This outline is followed by figures with numeric information on ECLAC documents and publications.

Structurally, this section follows the presentation of the programme as set out in the medium-term plan for the United Nations for the period 1998-2001, although it differs from the structure adopted in the draft programme of work for the 2004-2005 biennium, which will be examined by the Commission at the twenty-ninth session.

In this report, a summary of training activities conducted by ILPES (Administrative management, subprogramme 6) has been added, together with a chart displaying data and figures for the courses provided at three levels (international, subregional and national). Training courses were also conducted in specific fields relating to the 11 remaining substantive subprogrammes and these were organized through the organization's web page on the Internet. The programme of ECLAC and ILPES courses delivered in the 2000-2001 biennium is available at the ECLAC web site (<http://www.cepal.cl/capacitación>), as well as at the ILPES subsite.

The detailed list of outputs which appeared in former activity reports has been dispensed with, since each substantive subprogramme keeps its interest links updated by category at its corresponding Internet subsite (www.cepal.cl); publications are listed in the publications catalogue 2001 (LC/G.2137) which is available both in printed version and on the Internet, as well as through the ECLAC Library information service web site.

Part II C relates to cooperation activities, which in former activities reports were classified by organization and receiving member country. In this report, however, the subdivisions are as follows: (i) New environment for cooperation, in which consideration is given to new priorities defined for cooperation and project topics, changes in the relationship with donors and new operational modalities; and (ii) technical cooperation activities among developing countries (TCDC), which reports on the role of TCDC in the ECLAC system and selected projects with TCDC modalities and (iii) technical cooperation projects at ECLAC. Figures and boxes are presented for each of these subdivisions for purposes of illustration.

Lastly, part III sets out the main diffusion activities implemented by the Documents and Publications Division, the Library; the CEPAL Review (which presents an overview of the articles published in the Review itself and in *Notas de Población*); the Information Services Unit and the Internet Development and Coordination Unit.

I. ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES, PREPARATIONS AND FOLLOW-UP FOR WORLD CONFERENCES AND INTER-AGENCY ACTIVITIES

- (i) Activities of subsidiary bodies and meetings

Eighteenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)

The eighteenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee comprised two segments, both of which took place in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago: the technical meeting held on 30 March, and the ministerial meeting held on 1 April 2000. The focus at these two meetings was on the advances achieved in implementing the programme of work for the 1998-1999 biennium and on the programme of work for the remainder of the biennium 2000-2001.

The ministerial meeting endorsed the proposed programme of work for the 2002-2003 biennium, which was subsequently adopted by the twenty-eighth session of the Commission. To mark the Committee's twenty-fifth anniversary, the Ministers requested the CDCC secretariat to prepare a document reviewing the objectives, structure and mechanisms of the Committee and identifying possible improvements, which would place it in a better position to meet the challenges of the new millenium.

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

At its tenth meeting held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago on 6 and 7 March 2001, the Monitoring Committee reviewed the activities carried out by the CDCC secretariat between May 1999 and February 2001 and considered the secretariat document containing a review of the objectives, structure and mechanisms of CDCC.¹ The Monitoring Committee made a few amendments to the document proposed by the secretariat and advised that the Office of the Legal Counsel of the United Nations should be consulted before the document was presented to CDCC.

Thirtieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

At their thirtieth meeting, held on 7 February 2000 in Lima, Peru, the Presiding Officers agreed to propose to the Conference that the Presiding Officers should be appointed on the basis of rotation of functions, geographic representation and efficient performance so as to facilitate the participation of all member countries.²

Eighth Meeting of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

The eighth meeting of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Lima, Peru from 8 to 10 February 2000 to review the activities carried out by the ECLAC secretariat and the Presiding Officers since the seventh meeting of the Regional Conference, the overall status of gender equity in the region at the beginning of the twenty-first century and, in particular, the

¹ A Review of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) Incorporating a Review of its Constituent Declaration and Rules of Procedure (LC/CAR/G.634).

² Report of the thirtieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1335(MDM.30/3)).

extent to which this is related to respect for human rights.³ The Conference adopted the Lima Consensus as the region's contribution to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"; it also adopted resolutions relating to the granting of observer status to associate members of the regional economic commissions and non-governmental organizations at the above-mentioned special session of the General Assembly, and to the establishment and periodic update of a homogeneous data base of the programmes and projects conducted in the region by organizations or bodies within the United Nations system.

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

The Presiding Officers held their thirty-first meeting in Santiago, Chile, from 13 to 15 September 2000. On that occasion, they agreed to urge the Secretariat to continue to consolidate the subprogramme of work so as to support the agenda of the national machineries for women and to promote gender mainstreaming in public policies.⁴

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

The Presiding Officers held their thirty-second meeting in San José, Costa Rica on 19 and 20 April 2001 and agreed to approach the national statistical institutes in each country to request their assistance in proposing the establishment, under the Statistical Conference of the Americas, of a special working group on gender statistics in all spheres, not just the social sphere; they also recommended that the efforts underway to develop gender indicators should be given due attention at the forthcoming meeting of that Conference.⁵

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

The thirty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, from 9 to 11 October 2001. In view of the need to harmonize the regional processes in follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001, with the ten-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, the Presiding Officers agreed to recommend that the ninth meeting of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean should be postponed to 2004 to fit in with the global process. They also decided to hold their thirty-fourth meeting in the second half of 2002, since the twenty-ninth session of the Commission was scheduled to take place in the first half of 2002.⁶

³ Report of the Eighth Meeting of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/G.2087(CRM.8/6)).

⁴ Report of the Thirty-first Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, (LC/L.1468(MDM.31/4)).

⁵ Report of the Thirty-second Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, (LC/L.1536(MDM.32/3)).

⁶ Report of the Thirty-third Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, (LC/L.1654(MDM.33/4)).

First meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

At its twenty-eighth session, the Commission proposed the establishment of a Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean as one of its subsidiary bodies. The relevant decision on this matter was adopted by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 2000/7 and is based on the consideration that, in statistical matters, the Commission had systematically collaborated with other bodies to promote coordination between developed countries, international organizations and national statistical offices in its member States; in particular, since 1994, it had co-hosted the Joint OAS/ECLAC Meeting on Statistical Matters; the Council was also mindful of the decision taken by the Organization of American States (OAS) to discontinue the Inter-American Statistical Conference, whose Permanent Executive Committee was the counterpart of ECLAC in this respect, and of the fact that OAS member countries had been advised to vest their efforts in the area of statistical harmonization in a single entity within the framework of ECLAC.

Accordingly, the first meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Santiago, Chile, from 9 to 11 May 2001. The Conference adopted the Programme of work,⁷ which is a comprehensive compendium of the international regional cooperation activities to be carried out during the biennium by all Governments of ECLAC member States and institutions which are in a position to organize, and participate in, statistical cooperation activities.

The Programme of international statistical work is based on the use of flexible institutional forms that can be adapted to take advantage of government capacity; in terms of the conceptual and methodological content, it is designed to promote, support and develop the areas or characteristics that the Conference considers essential for overcoming the current phase of regional, statistical development. It includes four subprogrammes: (i) Adaptation and production of basic statistics within the framework of a regional strategy for the implementation of the System of National Accounts 1993 (1993 SNA); (ii) Environmental statistics and statistics on science, technology and innovation; (iii) Statistics and indicators on social variables and well-being, and (iv) Dissemination of statistical information.

The Conference contemplated, among other things, the adoption of measures for the construction of gender indicators, these being indispensable for the design of policies wherein gender equity is identified as a prerequisite for development. This is a significant step forward towards releasing the synergy between the different subsidiary organs of the Commission and mainstreaming the gender perspective in the programme of work of ECLAC, since it implies harmonizes sex-disaggregated statistics and promoting cooperation between national women's organizations and the relevant statistical institutes.

Twentieth 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 twentieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning was held in Montevideo, Uruguay on 9 March 2000. At that meeting, the Presiding Officers considered the report of the Institute's activities for the period July 1998-December 1999 and the proposed programme of work for the year 2000.⁸ The Presiding Officers devoted one meeting to the analysis and exchange of national

⁷ Programme of international statistical work for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1474/Rev.1).

⁸ Informe de actividades julio 1998-diciembre 1999 y programa de trabajo 2000. Santiago: ILPES, 2000.

experiences relating to basic planning functions: future long-term scenarios, coordination of plans and policies and evaluation of public administration. Six resolutions were adopted.

Open-ended Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development

The open-ended meeting of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development, originally planned for late 2000, was rescheduled for the end of 2001, mainly owing to financial constraints affecting its preparation and implementation. The meeting took place in Santiago, Chile, on 4 and 5 December 2001.

The principal item on the agenda was the review of progress achieved in fulfilling the goals of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in countries of the region through use of an appropriate system of indicators. The Ad Hoc Committee agreed to adopt a basic system of indicators proposed by the Secretariat⁹ and requested that a revised version be submitted at its next meeting. It was also agreed that the system of indicators should be implemented in 2004 so that it would be possible to assess fulfilment of the goals of the Programme of Action one decade after the International Conference.

In addition to issues of sociodemographic vulnerability and indicators, the ECLAC secretariat was also requested to include in the agenda of the next meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee a study on population ageing in the region, the need for training human resources on population issues, and the presentation of a report on the activities carried out by the secretariat in other priority areas: the 2000 round of censuses, demographic situation, international migration, and spatial distribution of the population and internal migration.

Sixth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI)

The sixth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group was held in Santiago, Chile, on 30 and 31 August 2000 to determine the priorities for the Programme of work of the ECLAC system for the 2002-2003 biennium, as adopted at the twenty-eighth session. The various subprogrammes were introduced by the heads of division and chief officers in charge of their implementation, who drew attention to the most important issues. Participants were then invited to discuss the establishment of priorities, following which certain activities were assigned a different emphasis in the programme of work.¹⁰

In the course of the general discussions, participants pointed out that conditions for setting priorities were much more favourable than at previous meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group, when budgetary constraints sometimes hampered the implementation of some of the activities projected in the relevant programmes of work. Several delegations urged the secretariat to adapt the applied methodology in its studies by creating a separate category for small countries; others wished to see the problem of natural disasters accorded higher priority in the programme of work of the secretariat. In addition, it was reiterated that the programme of work should reflect the spirit of the resolution on social equity, development and citizenship, with reference to the undertaking made by countries at the twenty-eighth

⁹ Proposal on indicators for follow-up to the goals of the International Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.1705-P).

¹⁰ Report of the sixth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group established pursuant to resolution 553(XXVI).

session. In turn, the secretariat reported on the progress made since the previous meeting in modernizing internal management procedures.

Notwithstanding continuing efforts to modernize, no significant changes had occurred in the second half of the biennium to warrant convening the Ad Hoc Group. Thus, and bearing in mind that any further work in that area could be handled at the twenty-ninth session; hence, the Chairman of the Group, in consultation with the ECLAC secretariat, decided that it was unnecessary to hold a meeting in 2001.

(ii) Activities of preparation and follow-up to the world conferences on economic and social issues

Meetings preparatory to the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Regional preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development began with discussions on the priority issues for Latin America and the Caribbean at the Regional Consultative Meeting on Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, which was held from 19 to 21 January 2000 in Santiago, Chile. This meeting was organized jointly by ECLAC, the Sustainable Development Division in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Organization of American States (OAS).

Subsequently, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 55/199, ECLAC, in conjunction with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), DESA and UNDP, supported Latin American and Caribbean countries in the regional preparations for the ten-year review of progress achieved in pursuing the goals contained in Agenda 21 and the agreements of the United Nations Conference on the Environment, with a view to the effective implementation of a regional platform for action in the future. This preparatory process included the holding of four subregional meetings for the formulation of proposals that would reflect the peculiarities of each subregion, and one regional conference. The subregional meetings were held as follows: Cono Sur: Santiago, Chile, 14 and 15 June 2001; Caribbean: Havana, Cuba, 28 and 29 June 2001; Andean Area: Quito, Ecuador, 2 and 3 July 2001; Meso-America: San Salvador, El Salvador, 16 and 17 July 2001. The Regional Preparatory Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the World Summit on Sustainable Development was held on 23 and 24 October 2001 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The ECLAC secretariat contributed to the intergovernmental discussions during the Conference by co-hosting with UNDP a high-level panel on financing for sustainable development, in which regional economic authorities participated. For this purpose, it prepared a discussion paper entitled *Financing for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/G.2146(CONF.90/4)). In collaboration with UNEP, it also prepared another document entitled *The sustainability of development in Latin America and the Caribbean: challenges and opportunities* (LC/G.2145(CONF.90/3)).

At the end of the Conference, the countries in the region adopted *the Rio de Janeiro Platform of Action on the road to Johannesburg 2002*, in which they reaffirmed previously adopted principles and agreements, identified obstacles encountered and lessons learned during the past decade and made other commitments for confronting outstanding challenges and exploring new forms of cooperation for speeding up the transition towards sustainable development.

International Conference on Population and Development

The ECLAC secretariat has continued to pursue activities relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, oriented fundamentally towards providing support to the national systems (especially in the countries of Central America) and preparing a regional system of indicators for the follow-up of goals set at the Conference.

In this connection, ECLAC, in conjunction with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) organized the Subregional workshop for Central America and Panama on indicators for the follow-up of the goals of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. This workshop was held in Managua, Nicaragua, on 26 and 27 February 2001 and was attended by representatives of the six countries of the subregion, together with Mexico and Peru.

A survey was also carried out on the institutional mechanisms for the follow-up of the goals of the International Conference on Population and Development, and 19 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean took part. The results were presented in the document entitled *Mechanisms of follow-up to the Programme of Action on Population and Development in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/L.1567-P).

The secretariat reviewed the document presented to the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development in April 2000 and amended it for use in providing technical assistance to countries, as a source of more practical indicators, for identifying available sources and for reflecting the diverse demographic situation of the countries. The outcome of this study was the document entitled *Proposed indicators for the follow-up of the goals of the International Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/L.1705-P), which was presented at the Open-ended meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee held in Santiago, Chile, on 4 and 5 December 2001. In line with the preparation of the document, a system based on the Redatam computer software was developed to view national indicators for the whole of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Second Regional Conference in Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development

To enable member States to evaluate the progress achieved in fulfilling the commitments made at the World Summit on Social Development and to make preparations for their participation in the special session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the outcome of that Summit, the ECLAC secretariat convened the second Regional Conference in Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, which was held in Santiago, Chile, from 15 to 17 May 2000.

The secretariat presented a document entitled *The Equity Gap: a second appraisal* (LC/G.2096). The main tenet of the document is that the results of the intense process of change which the countries in the region have been undergoing, characterized by advances in the democratic pluralism and governance and by far-reaching economic reforms, have not been satisfactory in terms of the central issues raised at the Summit. In view of this assessment, a series of analyses and proposals were presented on the qualitative aspects of growth, such as the relationship between growth and poverty, employment trends, and wages and productivity; social policy reform; sectoral activities in terms of education, health, social insurance, housing and labour policies, and the status of integration in societies in the region.

The Conference adopted the Santiago Declaration, in which the representatives of member countries pointed to the contribution of the World Summit for Social Development to the reinforcement of many social policies applied in the countries in the region during the last five-year period, and

reaffirmed their commitment to take the steps necessary for the achievement of the objectives established in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and in the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development.

United Nations Conference on Human Settlements

The Latin American and Caribbean Regional Conference preparatory to the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda was held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, from 25 to 27 October 2000 under the auspices of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (UNCHS) and ECLAC.

The participants considered the ECLAC document entitled *From rapid urbanization to the consolidation of human settlements in Latin America and the Caribbean: a territorial perspective* (LC/G.2116 (CONF.88/3)) and a study prepared by UNCHS entitled *Review of the implementation of the Habitat agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean* (DDR/2). In addition, two panels were held to consider the two main issues set out in the world campaigns of the Habitat Agenda in the light of the regional reality, namely, good urban governance and security of tenure.

The Regional Conference adopted the Santiago Declaration on Human Settlements, which reaffirms the validity and relevance of the Regional Plan of Action adopted in 1995 during the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting Preparatory to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II). This declaration is an important instrument for continuing to move forward towards regional cooperation and the development of consensus on urban issues. ECLAC was requested to pursue its work on the design of indicators for implementing the Regional Plan of Action and the analysis of new challenges with a view to keeping it up-to-date and current as an instrument for the adoption of specific actions.

Special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for Follow-up to the World Summit for Children

At the tenth Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government (Panama City, 17 and 18 November 2000), the ECLAC secretariat, the Secretariat for Ibero-American Cooperation (SECIB) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) were requested to prepare a study on the situation of children and adolescents as a contribution to the adoption of a common approach by the member countries of that forum at the discussions at the special session of the General Assembly of the United Nations for Follow-up to the World Summit for children.

In this context, ECLAC, SECIB and UNICEF, in conjunction with the Government of Peru in its capacity as Secretariat Pro Tempore of the Ibero-American Summit, coordinated an initiative in which various organizations of the United Nations system, the Ibero-American and the Inter-American system took part and which culminated in the publication of a document entitled *Building equity from the beginning: the children and adolescents of Ibero-America* (LC/G.2144), which was presented by ECLAC at the third Ibero-American Conference of Ministers and High-level Authorities on Issues relating to Children and Adolescents (Lima, Peru, 29-30 October 2001).

Preparatory activities for the International Conference on Financing for Development

At the request of the Preparatory Committee of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the ECLAC secretariat convened the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Consultation

on Financing for Development, which was held in Bogota, Colombia, on 9 and 10 November 2000. The discussions at the consultation were centred on the most crucial issues for the region, namely: (i) External crisis prevention and management: systemic aspects and national policy; (ii) access to external financing for development; (iii) external constraints and debt overhang and the decisive role of trade as a factor in financing for development, and (iv) national aspects of financing for development.

In order to contribute to intergovernmental discussions, the secretariat prepared a document entitled *Growth with stability: financing for development in the new international context* (LC/G.2117(CONF.89/3) and organized four panel discussions with the participation of high-level experts from Governments, organizations, international specialized agencies and academic institutions. At the end of the consultation, the national Governments of the region adopted, as its contribution to the preparatory process for the world conference, the Bogota Declaration containing agreements on the mobilization of resources for financing.¹¹

Since the Consultation, the Secretariat has developed other activities that have contributed to the regional preparatory process for the International Conference. On 29 and 30 November 2001, a regional meeting of experts was held jointly by ECLAC and UNDP at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, to discuss with representatives of Governments in the region, experts from international organizations and academics, proposals on four critical areas of financing for development. (i) Emergency financing programmes: private participation and strengthening the provision of external liquidity; (ii) The challenges of regulation and financial supervision in promoting external stability; (iii) the role of regional and subregional financial institutions in external crisis prevention and management; and (iv) multilateral development banking and promoting access to long-term external financing. Furthermore, ECLAC coordinated one meeting held in Mexico City on 14 and 15 January 2002 and attended by experts from the five regions represented by the United Nations regional commissions.

In the context of the Regional Preparatory Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 23-24 October 2001), ECLAC, with support from UNDP, organized a panel on financing for sustainable development and prepared for that forum a document entitled *Financing for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/G.2146(CONF.90/4)).

In addition, ECLAC, in conjunction with the Banco del Desarrollo de Chile, the Latin American Association of Development Financing Institutions (ALIDE) and the Inter-American Development Bank, organized the First Colloquium on Development Banks, in Santiago, Chile, on 27 August 2001. This forum was attended by experts from the region, United States and Europe, who discussed the role played by development banking in financing investment projects.

World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

In support of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, ECLAC prepared a study entitled *Ethnic and Racial Discrimination and xenophobia in Latin America and the Caribbean* (HR/SANT/SEM.5/2000/BP.2/2),¹² which was presented at the Regional Seminar of Experts for Latin

¹¹ Report of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Consultation on Financing for Development (LC/G.2132 (CONF.89/4)).

¹² This study is incorporated in the document entitled *General trends, priorities and obstacles in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance* (HR/SANT/SEM.5/2000/BP/2) produced by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

America and the Caribbean on economic, social and legal measures to combat racism with particular reference to vulnerable groups. The seminar was held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, from 25 to 27 October 2000 in preparation for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

(iii) Inter-agency activities¹³

During the current biennium, ECLAC expanded and strengthened collaboration and coordination with bodies and specialized agencies in the United Nations system, as well as with other regional intergovernmental organizations. The former included the other regional commissions and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), UNDP, UNEP, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNFPA, the International Labour Organization (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Pan-American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); the second group includes the development banks, the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) and the Secretariat for Ibero-American Cooperation (SECIB).

At the request of the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, the ECLAC secretariat has pursued its efforts to work in coordination with United Nations agencies in Latin America and the Caribbean. To this end, ECLAC convened the second United Nations Inter-Agency coordination meeting for the Latin American and Caribbean region in Santiago, which was held in Santiago, Chile, on 15 May 2000;¹⁴ and the United Nations Inter-Agency coordination meeting for the Caribbean subregion, which was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago on 8 and 9 March 2001. ECLAC also organized the first United Nations Inter-agency technical coordination meeting on regional statistical information, which took place in Santiago, Chile on 8 May 2001.¹⁵

In addition, ECLAC developed an information system on United Nations world conferences and summits in order to disseminate the contributions and activities in this area by the different agencies and organizations in the region. The system was presented to the agencies at a meeting organized for this purpose in Santiago, Chile, on 31 October 2001.¹⁶

During the biennium, the regional preparatory processes and follow-up to the United Nations world conferences and summits were conducive to further collaboration between ECLAC and other bodies within the United Nations system. In the case of the preparatory process of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, ECLAC worked with UNEP, the Department for Economic and Social Affairs and UNDP. In preparation for the International Conference on Financing for Development, it collaborated with UNDP, UNCTAD and the other regional commissions. As mentioned in the previous section, ECLAC coordinated the Interregional Conference on Financing for Development, which took place on 14 and 15 January 2002 in Mexico City, and which was organized jointly by the five United Nations

¹³ The Commission's relations with most of these agencies and organizations are reviewed in greater detail in the sections of this report on the substantive subprogrammes, so that this section refers only to the most significant facts relating to cooperation with other bodies.

¹⁴ Information note on the second United Nations Inter-agency Coordination Meeting for the Latin American and Caribbean region (LC/R.1993).

¹⁵ Briefing note on the first United Nations Inter-agency Technical Coordination Meeting on Regional Statistical Information (LC/R.2055).

¹⁶ The system may be accessed through the Internet (<http://www.eclac.cl/summits/>).

regional commissions. It should be pointed out that during this process, ECLAC also forged closer cooperation ties with IDB and the subregional development banks: the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the Andean Development Corporation (CAF).

Reference has already been made to the study on the situation of children and adolescence prepared jointly by ECLAC, the Secretariat for Iberoamerican Cooperation and UNICEF in response to a request formulated at the tenth Ibero-American Summit.¹⁷ Indeed, several other organizations in the United Nations system, the Ibero-American system and the Inter-American system participated in this initiative, including UNFPA, ILO, PAHO, UNDP, UNESCO, the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture, the Ibero-American Youth Organization (IYO), OAS and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA).

During the current biennium, ECLAC has continued to cooperate with OAS, mainly within the framework of the Summit of the Americas, and with the subregional integration bodies, in particular with the secretariats of the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the Association of Caribbean States (ACS). In the case of SICA, in addition to collaboration in traditional areas, there have been new activities within the framework of the Puebla-Panama Plan. The ACS Council of Ministers granted ECLAC the status of “founding observer” in recognition of its work to promote the process of integration in the Caribbean and consolidation of the Caribbean’s presence within the hemisphere and in the world.

ECLAC and IDB continued to collaborate during the period. In addition to the information provided under each substantive subprogramme, the two organizations carried out several activities during the annual meeting of the IDB Board of Governors, held in Santiago, Chile, in March 2001.

ECLAC has also maintained contacts with other intergovernmental forums, such as the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action (Rio Group), the Latin American Parliament and the technical secretariats of the ministries for the environment, mining, energy, transport and housing and urban development of the countries in the region.

During the period under consideration, efforts were continued to establish closer ties with academic institutions, non-governmental organizations and other civil society organizations, in the context of the ECLAC programme of work. In particular, support was given for the establishment of the Teaching and Research Network of Brazilian Universities on the Economy in Latin America and the Caribbean (REDEAL). The first initiative under this programme was a seminar held in Rio de Janeiro from 10 to 14 July 2001 by the ECLAC Office in Brasilia and the Federal Council of Economists in Brazil (COFECON), and in which seventy academics from forty Brazilian universities participated. ECLAC has continued to support the network, which facilitates the exchange of information on research projects and undergraduate and postgraduate course programmes relating to Latin American economies. ECLAC also collaborated with Michigan State University in the United States in organizing the conference entitled: “Toward a New Paradigm: Social Capital and Poverty Reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean”, which was held in Santiago, Chile, from 24 to 26 September 2001. During the biennium, a number of non-governmental organizations also participated in the regional preparatory processes and follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits.

¹⁷ Building Equity from the Beginning: the Children and Adolescents of Ibero-America (LC/G.2144).

II. SUBSTANTIVE ACTIVITIES

A. MULTIDISCIPLINARY ACTIVITIES

Multidisciplinary activities are coordinated by the ECLAC secretariat. They involve different spheres of action of the institution and the participation of different substantive divisions. These tasks generate a process of participation and debate which helps to reinforce the integrated approach to the economic and social development issues in each of the subprogrammes.

In the period under review, the following institutional documents were prepared with inputs from all the substantive areas of ECLAC:

(i) The document that will be presented at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission, to be held in Brasilia, Brazil, in May 2002, entitled *Globalization and development*. This document sets out an approach to the challenge of globalization in the region. It comprises two sections: an analysis that weighs up the economic, social and political effects of globalization; and a series of proposals. It is argued that globalization offers major opportunities, but also poses risks associated with internal heterogeneities and asymmetries at the international level. These risks must be addressed within the framework of globalization, which will require appropriate institutional frameworks that can reconcile economic stability with social cohesion. An emphasis is placed on the need to promote public measures at the global, regional and country levels. On the basis of this three-way complementarity, the document proposes a national agenda on globalization, with economic, social and environmental strategies for the national and local levels. Within the regional framework, new dimensions of economic integration are discussed in relation to macroeconomic coordination, common regulatory policies and the convergence of the current processes. With respect to the position of Latin America and the Caribbean on the global agenda, the book examines issues such as trade, financing and intellectual property, together with other questions not formerly included on that agenda, such as fiscal management, labour migration and social aspects.

(ii) The document *A decade of light and shadows* was completed in the first quarter of 2000. This was an interdivisional task coordinated by the Office of the Executive Secretary, incorporating material from several of the substantive divisions of ECLAC, which participated in the process of defining the contents of the document and its successive versions. The study encompasses the following subjects: an examination of the global and regional context over the decade; an analysis of the connections between the external and domestic scenario (liberalization and transformation of external trade and trade policy, specialization trends, competitiveness and trade integration efforts; external financial instability and its management, trends in foreign direct investment and international migration of labour); determinants of macroeconomic trends; transformations in domestic production (changes in sectoral structure, the structure of corporate agents, productivity trends and the debate on production development policies); changes in social structures (population, poverty, gender, social security reforms and trends in education and culture); arenas for the external and domestic dimensions of sustainable development and restructuring within countries (urbanization, internal migration and decentralization).

(iii) In the course of 2000 and the first semester of 2001, the ECLAC secretariat prepared the document *Growth with stability: financing for development in the new international context*, which was presented at the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Consultation on Financing for Development held in Bogota, Colombia, in October 2000. This document forms part of the background material prepared for the International Conference on Financing for Development. It comprises the following

chapters: financing for development in the 1990s; promoting stability of capital flows for development financing, and the connection with efforts to preserve and administer credit; trade linkages and access to the international capital market; and mobilizing domestic resources to provide financing for development. The secretariat also provided background material for the Declaration of Santiago and for the decision on the International Conference on Financing for Development, which were approved in August 2001 at the fifteenth Summit Meeting of Heads of State and Government of the Rio Group. Work was also carried out on the organization of a technical meeting on some aspects of an agenda for financing for development, which was held jointly with UNDP in November 2001.

The following multidisciplinary activities were conducted under the coordination of the secretariat, with the participation of a number of the substantive units of ECLAC:

(i) Four commemorative events were held to mark the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Raúl Prebisch. In April, a gathering was held in his honour, which included a round table meeting on the influence of Raúl Prebisch on economic and political thought in the region. In August 2001, the Raul Prebisch Lecture Series was inaugurated with an address entitled “The roots of globalization” by Celso Furtado, and two seminars were conducted: “Development theory at the threshold of the twenty-first century” (Santiago, Chile, 28 and 29 August 2001) and “Development theory in the new century” (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 31 August to 1 September 2001), with interventions by prominent figures from academic and political spheres. In addition, issue 75 of the CEPAL Review (LC/G.2150-P) carried a homage to Raul Prebisch with a series of articles by distinguished social sciences experts associated with current thinking on Latin America.

(ii) Cooperation links were forged with Michigan State University, with the signing of an agreement between the two institutions. This yielded its first fruits with the regional conference “In search of a new paradigm; social capital and poverty reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean” (Santiago, Chile, 24 to 26 September 2001), which centred on the relationship between social capital and the quest for solutions to the problems of poverty and inequality in the region.

Four workshops were conducted on the subjects of social capital and urban and rural poverty, gender, environment and natural resources. These culminated in a plenary session on policy instruments, in which over 60 experts from all over the world took part. The documents presented to the Conference were brought together in the form of a book which is due to be published shortly.

(iii) A process that began in 1999, when the governments of Argentina and Chile requested ECLAC to prepare a technical study to compare defence expenditure, culminated in the official delivery of the pioneering document *A common standardized methodology for the measurement of defence spending* (LC/L.1624-P, in English and Spanish). The study was presented publicly and an inter-governmental meeting was held on standardized methodology for the comparison of defence spending and its application in Argentina and Chile (Santiago, Chile, 29 and 30 November 2001).

Interdivisional work was stepped up within ECLAC in the period under review, as reflected in the inputs to the twelve substantive subprogrammes. The following are some of the main activities conducted:

(i) With respect to publications, the Economic Development Division, with the collaboration of the Statistics and Economic Projections Division, the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters in Mexico and Port of Spain and the ECLAC offices in Argentina and Brazil, published the 2000 and 2001 issues of the report *Preliminary overview of the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/G.2123-P and

LC/G.2153-P, respectively). The Social Development Division and the Statistics and Economic Projections Division published the 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 editions of the report *Social panorama of Latin America* (LC/G.2068-P and LC/G.2138-P, respectively). Lastly, the Transport Unit and the International Trade and Integration Division published the FAL Bulletin, which covers topics of interest concerning the facilitation of trade and transport in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(ii) With respect to meetings organized by the ECLAC system, the Division of International Trade and Integration, jointly with the Women and Development Unit, convened an expert meeting on globalization, technological change and gender equity (São Paulo, Brazil, 5 and 6 November 2001). The Agricultural Development Unit of the Division of Production, Productivity and Management and the Division of International Trade and Integration convened a seminar/workshop on government, institutions and firms in international competitiveness in Latin America (Santiago, Chile, 3 and 4 December 2001).

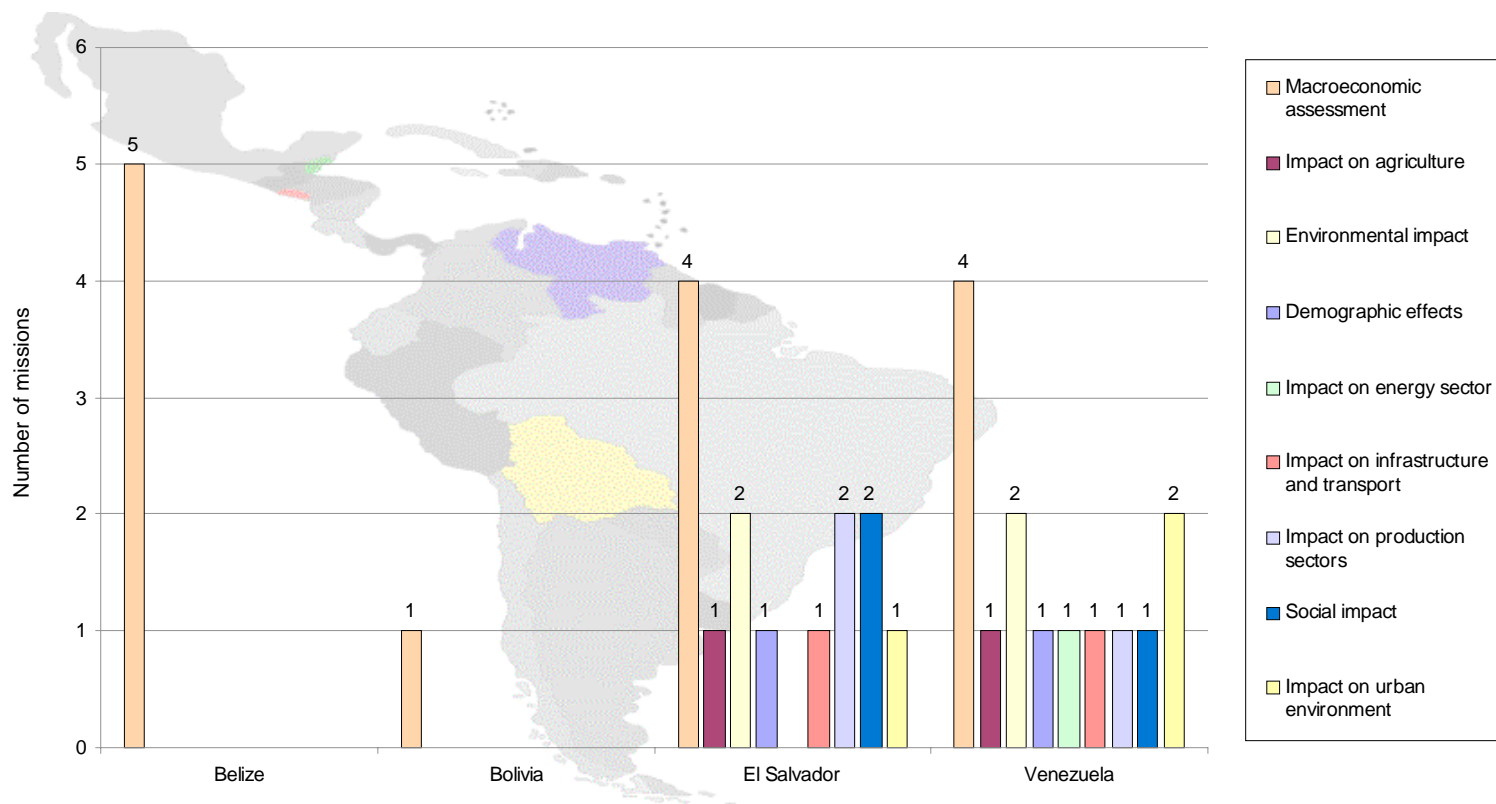
(iii) With regard to training, collaboration increased between the substantive divisions of ECLAC on international, regional and national courses organized by the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES). This involved the Special Studies Unit, the Division of Production, Productivity and Management, the Economic Development Division, the Environment and Human Settlements Division, the Transport Unit, CELADE - Population Division of ECLAC, and the Division of Statistics and Economic Projections.

(iv) The ECLAC system—under the leadership of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters in Mexico and its focal point for the issue, and with the cooperation of several substantive divisions—has continued to provide support and technical cooperation to countries of the region that have been hit by natural disasters. During the biennium, a number of consultancy activities were conducted: evaluation of the socioeconomic and environmental impact of the floods of December 1999 in Venezuela; training of government staff in Belize on disaster impact analysis; evaluation of the social, economic and environmental effects of the earthquakes that hit El Salvador in February 2001 and, lastly, evaluation of the impact of the drought that affected Central America in 2001.

As well as describing the changes in the living conditions of the population, the alteration of the economic environment and the environmental damage in countries affected by disasters, these tasks have served as a tool for governments in their dealings with the international community to obtain the cooperation and financing needed to carry out their reconstruction plans. An example of this was the meeting of the Regional Advisory Group for Central America held in Madrid in early March 2001 to define the cooperation required by El Salvador in the wake of the two earthquakes.

In addition, progress is underway on an updated version of the methodology for assessing the impact of disasters. This was presented in 1991 in the form of a manual for estimating the socioeconomic effects of natural disasters, and the new version is scheduled to be published in early 2002.

ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF NATURAL DISASTERS 2000-2001



B. SUBPROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

SUBPROGRAMME 1: LINKAGES WITH THE WORLD ECONOMY, COMPETITIVENESS AND PRODUCTIVE SPECIALIZATION

This subprogramme, which is carried out by the Division of International Trade and Integration (previously the International Trade and Development Finance Division) has the following general objectives: (i) to provide governments in the region with analytical information and empirical studies on the main trends in the international economy and the associated challenges and opportunities for the international integration of their economies; (ii) to carry out comparative analyses of the experiences of export development, within and outside the region, in order to consider the variables affecting export capacity with a view to mobilizing the other sectors of the economy, and to recommend policy actions; and (iii) to contribute to the analysis of trade policies and trends in the regulatory framework of international trade, with a view to maximizing the range of possible action and to strengthen regional bargaining power.

The objectives were attained by means of various activities and specific outputs. In particular, there were the two editions of the annual publication on international trade, trade policy and regional integration entitled *Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy*. The 1999-2000 edition has ten chapters, containing a review of the issues referred to over the 1990s, a rigorous analysis of various issues relating to market access, multilateral negotiations and the negotiating interests of the countries in the region. The 2000-2001 edition, consisting of six chapters and a CD-ROM with statistical information, covered a larger number of more topical issues, including the effects of the contraction of the leading world economies and international trade on the countries of the region.

There were also 15 studies on the various topics comprising the agenda for trade and trade policy: export diversification in the Latin American and Caribbean countries; notes on methodology for the measurement of intra-firm trade; comparative analysis of the shared production system of Mexico and Brazil; a detailed account and assessment of the negotiations in the World Trade Organization (WTO); issues for negotiation relating to trade in services and structural changes of various service sectors in the region; analysis of the changes in the trade policies of some countries; a review of the debate on living modified organisms and their impact on trade in the region; interregional relations, in particular between the countries of the region and those of Asia and the Pacific, and the economies in transition. There was also an extensive revision of the bibliography on trade, trade liberalization and globalization from a gender perspective.

Two expert meetings were organized, which brought together the resources of divisions with common interests. One was with the Women and Development Unit of the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Commission, and the other with the Agricultural Development Unit of the Division of Production, Productivity and Management. The first took place in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on 5 and 6 November 2001, and benefited from the active participation of various academics and representatives of women's groups in Latin America which reviewed an agenda for research and policies on globalization, technological change and gender. The second was held in Santiago, Chile, on 3 and 4 December 2001, and focused on the different visions of international competitiveness, and on the influence of governments, enterprises and multilateral institutions on the capacity of enterprises and nations of the region for participating in the global economy.

During the biennium a cooperation effort was begun with the Transport Unit in the framework of the Special Programme on Trade Facilitation, by means of regular collaboration on this subject in its quarterly bulletin. Working contacts were also strengthened with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and WTO, as well as with other regional commissions. A joint workshop was organized with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Bangkok, Thailand, in February 2000 on the expansion of trade and investment relations between the countries of Latin America and those of Asia and the Pacific, and a project is being prepared for closer cooperation between the two commissions with regard to small and medium-sized enterprises. The analytical and training activities were continued.

SUBPROGRAMME 2: INTEGRATION, OPEN REGIONALISM AND REGIONAL COOPERATION

The main objective of this subprogramme, which comes under the Division of International Trade and Integration, is to contribute to the analysis of conceptual and practical problems that regional integration poses for countries in the region as they press ahead with the implementation of existing integration schemes or move forward towards the conclusion of future agreements. To this end, the Division monitors intraregional trade and investment flows, examines regulatory and institutional aspects of regional integration and assesses the processes of negotiation and implications of the various regional and subregional integration agreements.

The Division prepared a chapter on developments in the integration process within the framework of the subregional agreements in Latin America and the Caribbean as its contribution to the annual publication *Latin America and the Caribbean in the world economy*. Other chapters of this document contain original studies on regional integration and open regionalism: the 1999-2000 edition includes a review of protectionist policies applied by individual countries and integration agreements as well as a section on the concept and practice of open regionalism in Latin America and Asia and the Pacific. The 2000-2001 edition examines the coordination of macro-economic policies in the context of integration schemes. In addition, the Division produced monographs on the following six topics: the agricultural sector; trade facilitation under integration schemes in South America; trade protection regulations and competition policies in the hemisphere; bilateral and multilateral trade relations; small and medium-sized enterprises and electronic commerce, and a comparative study of integration experiences in Latin America and in Asia and the Pacific.

Under this subprogramme, a meeting of experts, organized jointly with the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA) and the Latin American Economic System (SELA), was held in Santiago, Chile, on 14 March 2001 to consider the cooperation mechanism between the three agencies and its effectiveness in the context of the negotiations currently underway between the various regional and subregional integration agreements.

Within the framework of the IDB/ECLAC/OAS Tripartite Committee which provides technical support to the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), further assistance was given to the negotiating groups on services, subsidies, and countervailing duties, antidumping and competition policy, with inputs prepared under the programme of work of the ECLAC system for 2000-2001. With support from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), a workshop was held in Barbados on the questionnaire on measures affecting trade in services and this included preparation of an instruction manual in English. Documents on antidumping and competition policy were distributed as a contribution to the respective groups, and these elicited highly favourable comments.

At the request of the Secretariat of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), a comprehensive report was prepared on trends relating to trade, trade policy and integration agreements of its 25 member countries and on the activities of the Association in these areas for presentation at the fourth ordinary meeting of the ACS Ministerial Council, held on Margarita Island, Venezuela, on 13 and 14 December 2000.

Several studies by officers in the Division were incorporated in external publications and various training and technical assistance activities were conducted in areas relating to regional integration.

SUBPROGRAMME 3: INDUSTRIAL, TECHNOLOGICAL AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

During the 2000-2001 biennium, the Division of Production, Productivity and Management, which is responsible for this subprogramme, concentrated on three areas of activity. The first relates to National Innovation Systems and recent changes arising from structural reforms. The second concerns micro- and macroeconomic aspects of the link between education and improvements in productivity and international competitiveness. Lastly, the third activity is postgraduate training on issues concerning the structure and behaviour of Latin American economies and their relationship with innovation, productivity and international competitiveness. The Division also holds an annual Summer School, specially designed for university students registered in master's and doctoral programmes in Latin America and other regions in the world and who are interested in preparing theses on Latin American issues.

Each subject area was handled by a specialized unit:

The Joint ECLAC/UNIDO Industrial and Technological Development Unit produces research studies in three basic areas: analysis of the production dynamic of countries in the region, policy proposals for improving their microeconomic and sectoral performance, and the preparation and update of computer software for analysing the dynamic of their industrial structure and their international competitiveness. There are three main groups of activities: support for micro, small and medium-sized businesses, human resource training and the development of natural resource-based industrial clusters.

The Agricultural Development Unit works in three priority areas. The first relates to structural changes, productive restructuring, employment and different agents operating in agriculture. The second line of research encompasses linkages with the global economy and the competitiveness of this production sector. The third area relates to the socio-economic conditions of the rural population with special emphasis on poverty and possible ways of overcoming it.

The Unit on Investment and Corporate Strategies constantly monitors foreign direct investment trends in countries of the region and prepares an annual report entitled *Foreign investment in Latin America and the Caribbean*. As a complement to this and support for the preparation of the annual report, the Unit maintains the Information Centre on investments and corporate strategies with interactive databases containing data relating to the presence of foreign corporations in the region.

SUBPROGRAMME 4: MACROECONOMIC EQUILIBRIA, INVESTMENT AND FINANCING

This subprogramme covers the analytical work undertaken by the Economic Development Division, together with the activities relating to saving, investment and financing carried out by the Special Studies Unit of the Office of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC.

Economic Development Division

During the biennium 2000-2001, the Economic Development Division carried out a series of activities in two main areas: (i) monitoring the regional situation and analysing national macroeconomic policies, with the aim of periodically supplying the regional and international communities with a timely and analytical view of the state of the economies in the region, accompanied by an assessment of the main regional trends and an identification of future challenges; and (ii) assessing the effects of the structural changes and institutional reforms implemented over the last fifteen years on patterns of economic growth and social equity in the countries of the region. Other significant components of these research and technical assistance activities have been fiscal policy, its decentralization and the enhancement of public finances.

In accordance with the objectives of the subprogramme, two editions of the *Economic Survey* were published (1999-2000 and 2000-2001) and two editions of the *Preliminary Overview* (2000 and 2001). The publication of these documents was possible owing to the updating of a short-term data base, and gave rise to the preparation of two situation reports (1999 and 2000) at the request of the Office of the Secretary General for submission to the Economic and Social Council. The Division also published in the ECLAC series, in articles in the CEPAL Review and in external publications a set of papers on the following issues: (i) economic policies in the integration processes; (ii) the financial sector and capital accounts liberalization; (iii) integration and exclusion from the labour market; (iv) long-term investment and financing; and (v) globalization and economic policy. This last issue is very prominent in the regional debate.

The numerous seminars and meetings organized by the Division include the seminars "Open regionalism and macroeconomic coordination" (Santiago, Chile, 8 and 9 November 2001) and "The financial sector in Latin America in a globalized economy" (Santiago, Chile, 4 December 2001).

In the area of technical cooperation, assistance was provided to the governments of the region with regard to fiscal policy. The Division also participated in missions to evaluate natural disasters and supported various technical assistance activities, at the request of the Executive Secretary of ECLAC. It also conducted various training activities, providing classes on policies for development in open economies.

During the biennium, the Division completed two important projects: "Decentralization and promotion of economic development in Latin America" (GER/98/S111) and "Growth, employment and equity: Latin America and the Caribbean in the 1990s" (NET/96/S34), which gave rise to a large number of regional, national and international publications and seminars. Two new projects were also started: one on the impact of the euro in Latin America,¹⁸ in which connection a study was prepared and various

¹⁸ "Analysis of the effects of creation of the euro on financial relations in Latin America and Europe" (FRA/99/S140).

seminars organized; and another on the coordination of macroeconomic policy, implemented with the support of the European Union. The latter project began with various meetings, the inauguration of an electronic conference and a debate on technical documents, and the establishment of a network of subregional networks of economists to promote macroeconomic dialogue. The Division played an active role in other interdisciplinary projects such as the project ECLAC/GTZ GER/98/S024 on institutional requirements for market-led development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the ECLAC/UNU WIDER agreement on the volatility of capital flows to developing countries since the Asian crisis.

Special Studies Unit

The Special Studies Unit, which is under the Office of the Executive Secretary, collaborated in preparing and coordinating the final version of the document *Growth with stability. Financing for development in the new international context* (LC/G.2117(CONF.89/3)) and a draft submitted to the meeting of the Rio Group on financing for development. It also participated in the following activities: (i) preparation for the International Conference on Financing for Development which will take place in March 2002; (ii) provision of inputs and coordination of the document *América Latina y el Caribe frente a la globalización* which will be submitted to the next session of the Commission; and (iii) organization of a technical meeting on some aspects of an agenda on financing for development, held on 29 and 30 November 2001 (see the first section of this activities report).

The Unit was mainly concerned with issues of financing for development, such as financing policies, pension systems and experiences of reform, financing systems in the health sector, access to financing for low-income housing and saving, and macroeconomics and equity. In this context, the activities included a study in the area of strengthening regional institutions for external financing in the region, and the organization of a regional seminar entitled "Aspects of financing for development in the context of financial globalization", held in Santiago, Chile, on 7 September 2000. They also included the publication of a book entitled *Ensayos sobre el financiamiento de la seguridad social en salud. Los casos de: Estados Unidos - Canadá - Argentina - Chile - Colombia*. A significant number of these activities were financed with extrabudgetary resources.

The main activities of technical cooperation projects executed with extrabudgetary resources were in the following areas: (i) the joint ECLAC/GTZ project "Pension funds and old-age provision (GER/98/S010); (ii) the joint ECLAC/GTZ project "Reform of health-care financing systems in Latin America and the Caribbean" (GER/98/S041); (iii) the joint ECLAC/Netherlands project "Financial policies to increase saving and promote equity" (NET/97/S108); (iv) the IDB/ECLAC agreement "Projected fiscal liabilities arising from pension reform in Latin America and the Caribbean" (IDB/99/S120); (v) the joint ECLAC/FLAR/ADC project "The challenges of the development banks and payments in the Andean and Latin American community in the perspective of the new international financial architecture" (FLR/99/S142); (vi) the joint ECLAC/IDB project "Regional aspects of financing for development" (IDB/00/059); (vii) the ECLAC/Government of Japan technical cooperation project "Reforms of pensions in Chile: the AFP system" (JPN/00/005); and (viii) the ECLAC/Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP) agreement "The role of international financing in the development of economic and social infrastructure in Latin America" (ROK/01/018). The execution of these projects led to the publication of more than 25 documents in the *Financiamiento del desarrollo* series, the holding of meetings and subject seminars, as well as the provision of technical assistance to various countries in the region. With regard to training, the Unit collaborated with ILPES in providing classes on reforms to social security systems, income distribution and financing of housing and social security (see the section on the TCDC activities of ECLAC in this report).

SUBPROGRAMME 5: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EQUITY

During the 2000-2001 biennium, the Social Development Division, which is responsible for this subprogramme, concentrated on social needs related to the current processes of globalization and economic development, with a view to ensuring that both of these processes had positive effects on the conditions of employment and on the level of wellbeing of the population of Latin America and the Caribbean.

In this context, the first objective of the subprogramme is to accompany and support the countries of the region which are reforming their social policies. For these purposes, technical assistance was provided to four governments of the region that requested it: Argentina, Mexico, Paraguay and the Dominican Republic. In Paraguay, the integrated system for formulation, appraisal and oversight of social projects was designed and implemented. Studies were published on these issues, meetings were organized, training was provided and a regional project is being carried out on improvement of the institutional framework for social policy and the establishment of a social authority (NET/00/087) in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and Chile, with the financial support of the government of the Netherlands.

In order to attain the second objective of the subprogramme, the 2000-2001 edition of the *Social Panorama of Latin America* was prepared, in a joint effort with the Statistics and Economic Projections Division of ECLAC. The document contains an analysis of the situation with regard to poverty, income distribution, employment and social spending; the social agenda issue is policies for the family. In this same framework, the Division participated in the regional conference "Social Capital and Poverty Reduction in Latin America and the Caribbean: Toward a New Paradigm" (Santiago, Chile, 24-26 September 2001).

With a view to evaluating progress in complying with the agreements reached at the World Summit for Social Development, an active role was played in organizing and holding the Second Regional Conference in Follow-up to the Summit (Santiago, Chile, 15-17 May 2000) and in the preparation of the position paper *The equity gap: a second assessment*.

The Division also participated in the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September 2001) and, earlier, in the Regional Conference of the Americas in preparation for that Conference (Santiago, Chile, 5-7 December 2000), where a document was presented entitled "Tendencias generales, prioridades y obstáculos en la lucha contra el racismo, la discriminación racial, la xenofobia y las formas conexas de intolerancia, América Latina y el Caribe".

The third objective of the subprogramme was to ensure an adequate follow-up to the situations, policies and programmes designed to check the growing inequality in income distribution and the difficulties facing the development model in generating an adequate number of employment positions, especially for the more highly-qualified sector. For those purposes, and in the framework of the project "Development and social equity in Latin America and the Caribbean (Phase I)", two technical meetings were held on social stratification and mobility in Latin America. At the meetings, a number of comparative documents on those subjects were presented and discussed, with data from various countries of the region.

The subprogramme's fourth objective was to analyze the social, economic, institutional and cultural effects of the cultivation, traffic and consumption of drugs and to propose integrated and

intrasectoral strategies to deal with them. In this context, technical assistance was provided to the Government of Chile, and a joint ECLAC/FAO/UNDCP (United Nations Drug Control Programme) project is being managed and negotiated with a view to assessing the experience of alternative development for cocaine culture in the area of Chapare, Bolivia.

An additional objective was included in the subprogramme: to promote and consolidate an approach to development based on human rights. The Human Rights Unit was created for this purpose in the Social Development Division, in conjunction with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and it began its activities in November 2001.

SUBPROGRAMME 6: ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

During the biennium, the Latin American and Caribbean Institute of Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), in response to the guidelines provided by the intergovernmental forums that orient its work and the permanent contacts it maintains with the authorities of its member countries, carried out various activities relating to research, advisory services, training and technical meetings on the central issues of strategic management and reform of the State, regulation of public services, development and land-use management, national systems of public investment and in general on basic planning functions.

The most noteworthy events included the twentieth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Council for Planning of ILPES in Montevideo, Uruguay (9 March 2000). During the meeting the government representatives considered in particular the activities carried out by the Institute and expressed their approval of the annual work programme.

ILPES organized 15 international and national seminars, including one on basic planning functions for the English-speaking Caribbean countries (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 5 and 6 October 2000), held in conjunction with the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, and another on basic planning functions and successful experiences (Havana, Cuba, 16 and 17 November 2000), in close collaboration with the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Planning of the Republic of Cuba. They also included the fifth Interparliamentary Conference on Mining and Energy in Latin America (CIME 2001) (Santiago, Chile, 18-20 July 2001) and the Fourth European-Latin American Dialogue for Sustainable Development of the Energy Sector (Santiago, Chile, 20 July 2001), organized jointly with the Energy and Mining Commission of the Chamber of Deputies of the Republic of Chile and the Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division of ECLAC. An international seminar was organized on national systems of public investment in Latin America and the Caribbean, (Santiago, Chile, 5 and 6 November 2001), where an overall assessment was made of major legal, operational, methodological, financial and institutional changes that have taken place in the national systems of public investment in the region. Officials from the Institute also participated in more than 30 international and national seminars, and reports were presented on most of those occasions.

In the area of technical cooperation, the Institute provided advisory services to regional organizations and to various countries in the region. The second phase took place of a project with the Andean Development Corporation (ADC) in the field of provision and regulation of public services, consisting of a review of the experiences of countries such as Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Peru and Venezuela. Cooperation activities were also initiated in connection with the processes of decentralization and deconcentration of public administration. Activities also took place in the context of the CORFO/CONAF/ECLAC/ILPES technical cooperation agreement, including an analysis of territorial competitiveness with a view to preparing a study of an ecotourism cluster as a possible alternative to production development for the region of Aysén. The two latter technical cooperation experiences could be applied in the future to other countries in the region. ILPES also participated in the follow-up and assessment of the Alvorada project of the Office of the President of the Republic and the Ministry of Health of Brazil, which has the main objective of assessing the impact of the basic sanitation measures applied in 2,185 of the poorest municipalities of the country. At the end of 2001 a new agreement was signed between the IDB and ILPES to support the Government of Venezuela, through the Ministry of Planning and Development, in preparing an overall review of the current functioning of the national system of public investment and a plan for strengthening with a corresponding plan of action.

In the context of the technical areas of ILPES, thirty-two documents were prepared, including fifteen issues of the *Gestión Pública* series, four of the *Manuales* series, three of the *Seminarios y Conferencias* series and two of the *Cuadernos del ILPES* series. Articles were also published in internal and external reviews. Two

brochures were prepared, one institutional and the other on training, and four ILPES Bulletins. Lastly, six multimedia CD-ROMs were prepared with digital documentation on some of the international courses and seminars organized by the Institute and a project data bank.

With regard to training, during the biennium 2000-2001, the Institute organized training activities on issues associated with its areas of work for State and private sector officials and the teaching staff of universities and academic centres in the region. These activities were conducted mainly through international, subregional and national training courses for a duration of from one to five weeks.

ILPES has the comparative advantage of working in very specialized areas that are not generally covered in such depth in the programmes of academic centres of Latin America and the Caribbean, and which offer a combination of theory and practice by systematizing the experiences of the governments of the member countries of ECLAC and the Institute.

During the 2000-2001 biennium, 14 international courses were held, six subregional courses and six national courses which had 904 participants from the different countries of the region and provided a total of 2,800 teaching hours. The annex contains statistical information on these courses. There was also a distance international course on solid household waste and environmental impact, in Spanish and Portuguese versions, with the collaboration of various universities in the region.

The courses held in the framework of the Agreement signed with the Ministry of Planning and Cooperation of Chile included 18 on project preparation and appraisal, eight on project administration and control, five on project identification and formulation and two on project appraisal, with a total of close to one thousand participants.

The training activities were still geared to strengthening the offices concerned with public policy formation through systematization and comparative analysis of the economic reforms and the main aspects of State management in the countries of the region. Cooperation activities were also continued to strengthen mechanisms for programming public investment and for creation and improvement of project banks. In this context emphasis was given to training to improve institutional capacity to support sustainable development, and local and regional development, with particular attention given to territorial competitiveness and the promotion of production clusters.

Training activities were also held to improve the mechanisms for regulation and provision of infrastructure services, maintaining close contact with the regulatory bodies of the countries in the region. Training was also carried out in connection with social security issues and the reform of health services, with the participation of technical personnel from both ILPES and ECLAC.

As usual, the Institute provided support for other teaching activities conducted by various academic centres in the countries of the region.

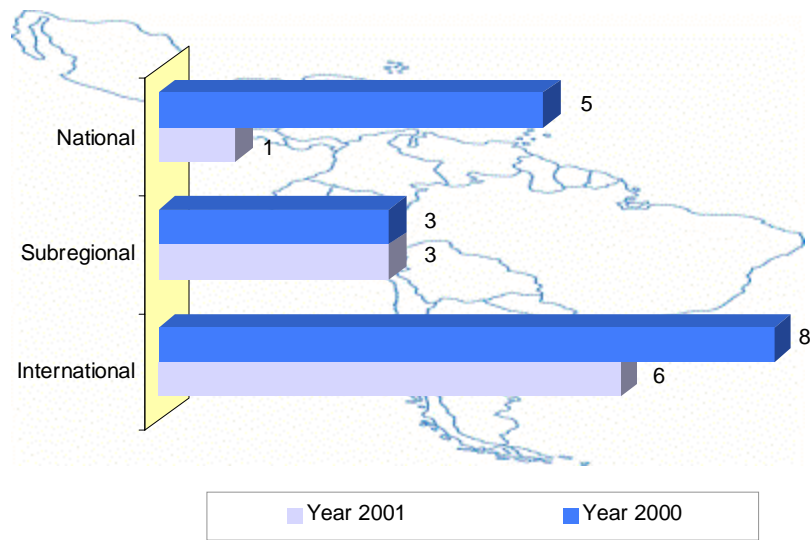
The ILPES Internet web site (which can be accessed from either of its two addresses: www.eclac.cl/ilpes or www.ilpes.cl) contains detailed information on the training activities of the Institute. Summarized information is also available on the various annual courses, as well as their corresponding brochures and application forms in electronic format. The use of this tool has led to an increase in the number of persons interested in ILPES courses and to more interaction with the applicants, as their questions and concerns could be dealt with promptly.

Annex
COURSES PROVIDED BY ILPES, IN THREE CATEGORIES, DURING THE 2000-2001 BIENNIUM

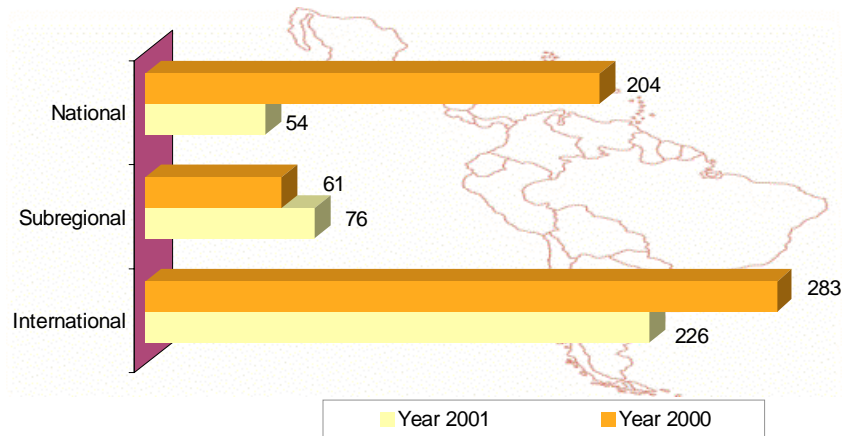
Course	Duration		Place		Teaching hours	No. of participants
INTERNATIONAL COURSES						
FIRST INTERNATIONAL COURSE ON TRANSPORT POLICY AND PREPARATION AND EVALUATION OF TRANSPORT PROJECTS	05/05/2000	02/06/2000	SANTIAGO	CHILE	160	31
FIRST COURSE ON POLICIES AND INSTRUMENTS FOR FISCAL DECENTRALIZATION IN LATIN AMERICA	05/06/2000	16/06/2000	SANTIAGO	CHILE	80	42
FIRST COURSE ON REFORM AND SUSTAINABLE FINANCING OF THE HEALTH SECTOR	19/06/2000	30/06/2000	SANTIAGO	CHILE	80	52
SECOND COURSE/SEMINAR ON THE PROVISION AND REGULATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES	04/09/2000	15/09/2000	SANTIAGO	CHILE	80	35
FIRST COURSE/SEMINAR ON FORECASTING METHODS AND STRATEGIES FOR MACROECONOMIC POLICIES	25/09/2000	29/09/2000	SANTIAGO	CHILE	40	25
THIRD COURSE ON THE STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT	29/09/2000	03/11/2000	SANTIAGO	CHILE	200	27
FIRST COURSE ON PUBLIC POLICIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	03/11/2000	01/12/2000	SANTIAGO	CHILE	160	46
EIGHTH COURSE ON ECONOMIC REFORMS AND STRATEGIC STATE MANAGEMENT	03/11/2000	01/12/2000	SANTIAGO	CHILE	160	25
SECOND COURSE ON REFORM AND SUSTAINABLE FINANCING OF THE HEALTH SECTOR	16/04/2001	27/04/2001	SANTIAGO	CHILE	80	41
THIRD COURSE/SEMINAR ON THE PROVISION AND REGULATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES	03/09/2001	14/09/2001	SANTIAGO	CHILE	80	32
FIRST COURSE/SEMINAR ON THE FINANCING OF SOCIAL SECURITY	24/09/2001	28/09/2001	SANTIAGO	CHILE	40	36
SEVENTH COURSE ON THE PREPARATION AND APPRAISAL OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	01/10/2001	26/10/2001	SANTIAGO	CHILE	160	25
NINTH COURSE ON ECONOMIC REFORMS AND STRATEGIC STATE MANAGEMENT	02/11/2001	30/11/2001	SANTIAGO	CHILE	160	61
FOURTH COURSE ON THE STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT	05/11/2001	07/12/2001	SANTIAGO	CHILE	200	31
SUBTORAL INTERNATIONAL COURSES: 14 SUBTORAL TEACHING HOURS: 1,680 SUBTOTAL PARTICIPANTS: 509						

Course	Duration		Place		Teaching hours	Total participants
SUBREGIONAL COURSES						
COURSE ON THE PREPARATION AND APPRAISAL OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	05/06/2000	15/06/2000	SANTA CRUZ	BOLIVIA	80	14
COURSE ON THE PREPARATION AND APPRAISAL OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	10/07/2000	21/07/2000	CARTAGENA	COLOMBIA	80	17
COURSE ON THE PREPARATION AND APPRAISAL OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	07/08/2000	18/08/2000	LA ANTIGUA	GUATEMALA	80	30
COURSE ON THE PREPARATION AND APPRAISAL OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	16/07/2001	27/07/2001	SANTA CRUZ	BOLIVIA	80	29
COURSE ON THE LOGICAL FRAMEWORK AND PROBLEM-SOLVING	13/08/2001	24/08/2001	CARTAGENA	COLOMBIA	80	22
COURSE ON THE MANAGEMENT OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	20/08/2001	31/08/2001	LA ANTIGUA	GUATEMALA	80	25
SUBTOTAL SUBREGIONAL COURSES: 6	SUBTOTAL TEACHING HOURS: 480		SUBTOTAL PARTICIPANTES: 137			
NATIONAL COURSES						
COURSE ON THE STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT	27/03/2000	14/04/2000	IBAGUE	COLOMBIA	120	46
COURSE ON THE STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT	22/05/2000	09/06/2000	TANDIL	ARGENTINA	120	28
COURSE ON THE STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT	08/08/2000	25/08/2000	SANTA CRUZ	BOLIVIA	120	38
COURSE ON THE STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT	28/08/2000	15/09/2000	VALLEDUPAR	COLOMBIA	120	55
COURSE ON THE PREPARATION AND APPRAISAL OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	28/08/2000	08/09/2000	MEDELLÍN	COLOMBIA	80	37
COURSE ON THE STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT	26/03/2001	06/04/2001	CALI	COLOMBIA	80	54
SUBTOTAL NATIONAL COURSES: 6	SUBTOTAL TEACHING HOURS: 640		SUBTOTAL PARTICIPANTS: 258			
TOTAL COURSES: 26	TOTAL TEACHING HOURS 2,800		TOTAL PARTICIPANTS: 904			

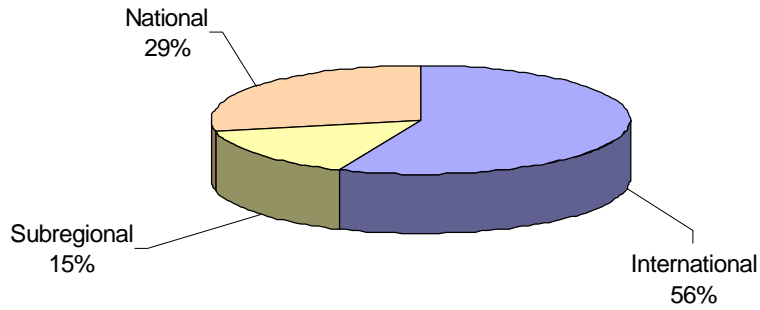
**NUMBER OF COURSES PROVIDED BY ILPES,
IN THREE CATEGORIES**



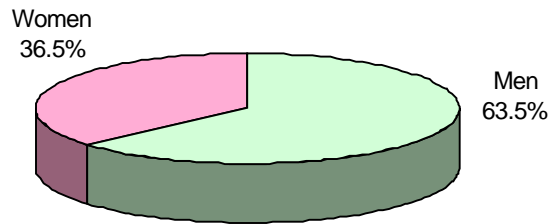
**NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
TRAINED BY ILPES, IN THREE CATEGORIES**



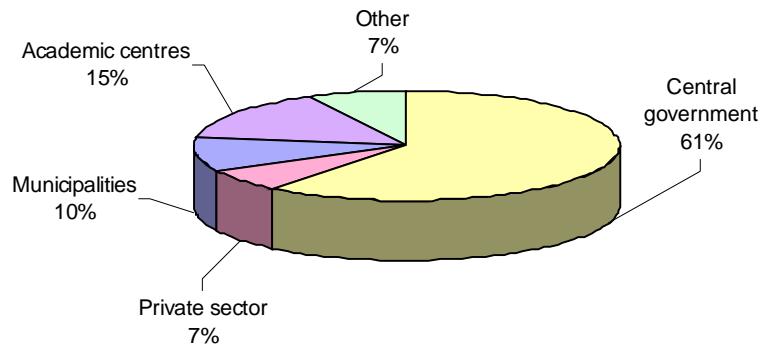
**PARTICIPANTS (%) IN THE THREE TYPES OF COURSE
2000-2001 BIENNIUM**



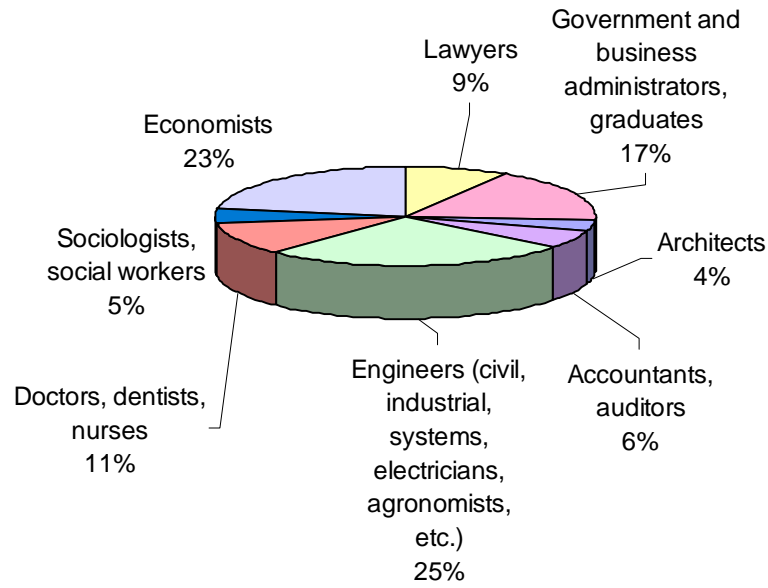
**PARTICIPANTS BY GENDER (%) IN THE THREE TYPES OF COURSE
2000-2001 BIENNIUM**



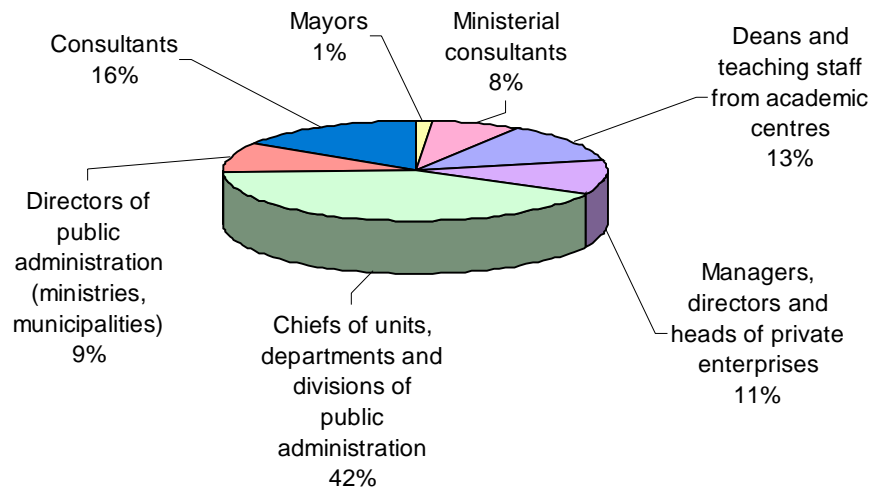
**AREA OF EMPLOYMENT (%) OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE THREE TYPES OF COURSE
2000-2001 BIENNIUM**



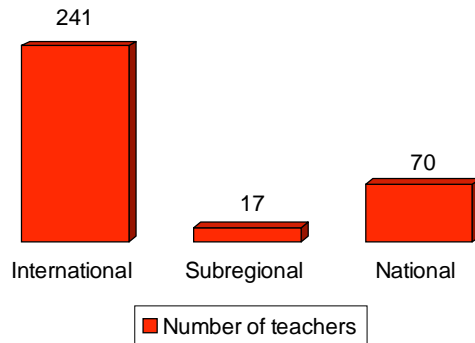
**MOST COMMON PROFESSIONS (%) OF PARTICIPANTS
IN THE THREE TYPES OF COURSE
2000-2001 BIENNIUM**



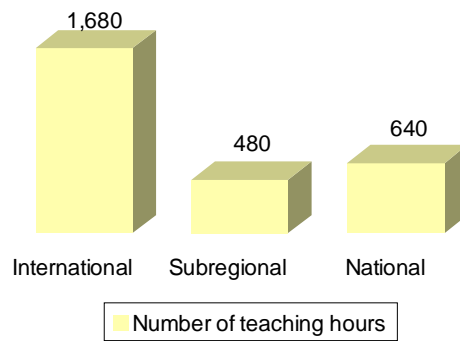
**MOST COMMON INSTITUTIONAL POSTS (%) OF PARTICIPANTS
IN THE THREE TYPES OF COURSE
2000-2001 BIENNIUM**



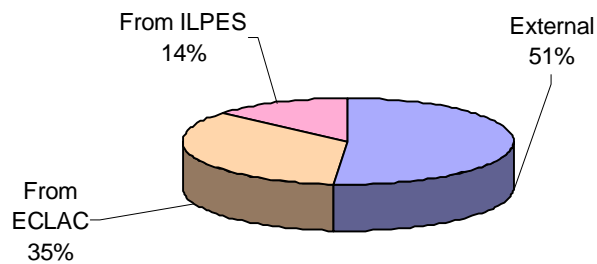
TOTAL NUMBER OF TEACHERS PARTICIPATING IN THE THREE TYPES OF COURSE 2000-2001 BIENNIUM



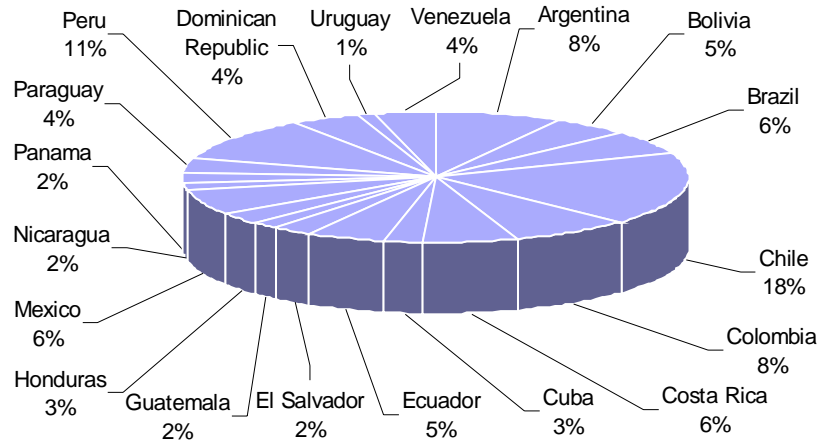
NUMBER OF TEACHING HOURS PROVIDED IN THE THREE TYPES OF COURSE 2000-2001 BIENNIUM



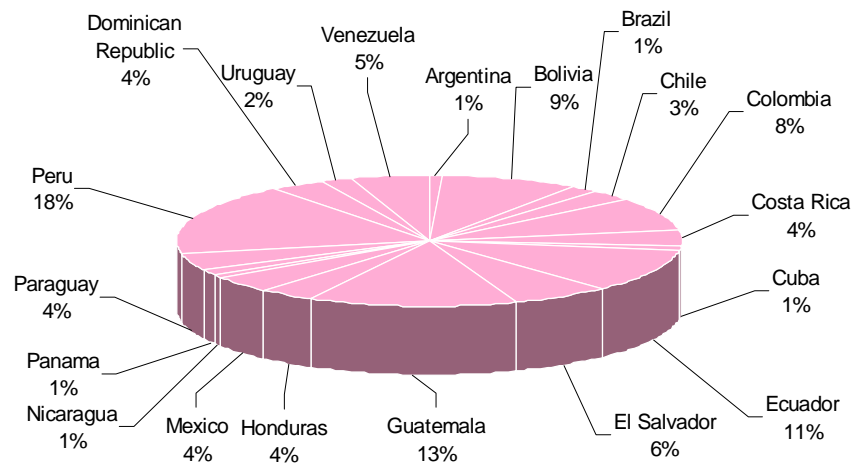
TEACHERS PARTICIPATING IN THE COURSES, BY CATEGORY (%) 2000-2001 BIENNIUM



**NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS (%) IN INTERNATIONAL COURSES
BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN,
2000-2001 BIENNIUM**



**NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS (%) IN SUBREGIONAL COURSES,
BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN,
2000-2001 BIENNIUM**



SUBPROGRAMME 7: ENVIRONMENTAL AND LAND RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY

The activities of this subprogramme comprise those conducted by the Environment and Human Settlements Division and the Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division, including the activities of ECLAC in the area of transport.

Environment and Human Settlements Division

In the biennium 2000-2001, the activities of the Environment and Human Settlements Division revolved mainly around two regional meetings in preparation for world summits: the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Conference for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, which was held in Santiago, Chile, from 25 to 27 October 2000; and the Regional Preparatory Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, which took place on 23 and 24 October, 2001, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. ECLAC played a major role —chiefly through the Environment and Human Settlements Division— at the two meetings, both in technical terms (preparation of a variety of documents, presentations and panels) and in aspects of the organization. A particularly important feature of the preparations for the second Conference, among others, was the inclusion by ECLAC of a new thematic area which was of great interest to the countries —financing for sustainable development— by means of a research project executed by the Division with financing from UNDP.¹⁹

The Division has organized or collaborated in the organization of expert meetings on ecotourism (jointly with the Division of Production, Productivity and Management of ECLAC) and on trade, intellectual property and biological and genetic resources in Latin America (jointly with Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano). In October 2001 the Division took part in the Regional Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean (MINURVI) and in November organized a seminar on transgenic agricultural products, jointly with the ECLAC Division of Production, Productivity and Management.

The documents that have been produced during the biennium cover the same subjects as the meetings organized by the Division, as well as other lines of research on land use planning, regulatory and institutional frameworks governing environmental matters, economic aspects associated with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the application of economic tools for environmental management, trade and the environment, and sustainable development indicators.

In the area of technical cooperation, ECLAC-ILPES organized a course on public policies for sustainable development, with the support of the World Bank, IDB, UNEP and UNDP, which was conducted with 46 participants from 19 Latin American and Caribbean countries. Substantive support was also provided for the Regional Diploma on Human Settlements organized by the University of Chile and IDB. In the sphere of consultancy services, a significant number of missions were conducted to the countries of the region, including the Division's participation in socioeconomic and environmental assessments of natural disasters.

¹⁹ “Financing for environmental development” project (RLA/01/001).

Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division

The following are the main activities carried out during the 2000-2001 biennium:

In the area of energy, the Division continued to carry forward the OLADE/ECLAC/GTZ project denominated “Energy and development in Latin America and the Caribbean”, of which the most notable activity was the publication of a guide to the formulation of energy policy. In addition, the ECLAC/European Commission project “Promotion of energy efficiency in Latin America and the Caribbean” moved into its second phase. Within the framework of this project, the third Europe-Latin American Parliamentary Dialogue on the Promotion of Energy Efficiency was held in Brussels, Belgium, in September 2000.

With regard to water resources, consultancy services were provided to a number of the region’s governments on water-related utilities, legislation and the establishment of basin agencies. In particular, support was provided to the government of Mexico for assessing the establishment of 25 basin councils. The Division worked actively with the Global Water Partnership (GWP) at both the regional and world levels. A number of training activities were conducted in the areas of regulation and public services, integrated water resource management and management procedures for sustainable development.

With respect to mining, an intensive schedule of consultancy activity was undertaken with Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela on the subject of small-scale mining and legal reforms to mining laws, codes and regulations. The Division also contributed to the organization and running of the fourth Europe-Latin American dialogue for the Sustainable Development of the Energy Sector and the fifth Interparliamentary Conference on Mining and Energy in Latin America (Santiago, Chile, 18 to 20 July, 2001), and to the workshops in preparation for the Conference of Ministers of Mining of the Americas, which were held at the ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, from 19 to 22 June 2001.

With respect to the implementation in the region of the multilateral agreements on natural resources, the Division contributed to the international efforts underway on climate change and its link with the recurrence and intensity of phenomena such as El Niño-La Niña, through proposals aimed at optimizing the different international instruments in prevention and response strategies. To this effect, the Division participated in forums encompassing a variety of disciplines, such as the Sixth International Conference on Southern Hemisphere Meteorology and Oceanography (Santiago, Chile, 3 to 7 April 2000).

In addition, technical input was provided to the countries for the implementation and negotiation of international instruments in the areas of biodiversity, fisheries, sea-beds and climate change.

Transport Unit

The traditional task of the Transport Unit has been to conduct analyses and propose practical solutions to the region’s transport problems, in order to enhance the efficiency of transport systems and foster social harmony. During the biennium 2000-2001 a number of proposals were developed, such as: (i) to open domestic coastal shipping to foreign vessels; and (ii) to introduce carefully specified measures to alleviate urban traffic congestion, the cost of which is equivalent to a minimum of 6.5% of regional GDP. Four workshops were conducted on this subject (in Guatemala, Guayaquil, Lima and Santiago) within the framework of the project “Charging for use of road space in Latin American cities”, which enjoys financial support from the government of Germany.

A study was prepared on the adaptation of transport systems to the growing number of technological and social changes and other types of transformations, in order to help small and medium-sized automotive transport firms learn of advances in the area of telematics that may enhance their competitiveness. Another study examined the effects of these changes on urban public transport and, in particular, on the viability of different modal systems. A third project researched best practices in intermodal transport in highly competitive markets, such as mining export, in which it is essential to maximize the efficiency of transport systems.

A number of infrastructure concessions in the transport sector were assessed using a methodology developed by the Unit, which serves to separate and identify the benefits gained by users, the operator and the government. The first case examined was a Chilean highway tunnel, in which it was concluded that the project's implementation under a licence-based regime was likely to generate a negative social impact. A second study concerned a number of suburban highways in Argentina, which proved to be beneficial for users, the operator and the government; and a third examined a suburban highway in Colombia. In addition, a study was conducted of two railways on the Santiago-Valparaiso route, one built in the nineteenth century and the other planned by the private sector at the end of the twentieth. In addition, the Division published a broad study of the profound institutional changes in the region's transport sector during the last quarter of the twentieth century.

The Maritime Profile of Latin America and the Caribbean, which is published entirely in electronic format (<http://www.cepal.cl/transporte/perfil/index.htm>), and the international transport database (BTI) were both updated regularly. The FAL Bulletin was published monthly, in two languages, with each issue devoted to a specific subject. The subjects addressed included the tourism cruise market in South America, the work of ECLAC in the sphere of infrastructure integration in South America, traffic congestion, State control of Caribbean ports, rail privatization in the region and an overview of the region's transport sector during the previous year. The Transport Unit prepares four editions of the FAL Bulletin each year, jointly with the International Trade Unit.

Two expert meetings were organized, one on maritime transport in the Caribbean (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, September 2000), and the other on road/rail competition and complementarity in freight transport (Santiago, Chile, November 2001). The Division's consultancy activities include the organization, jointly with ILPES, of a four-week course on transport policy (May 2001, for 35 participants), and the presentation of a course on port modernization which was given in many of the region's countries and in the Republic of Georgia.

SUBPROGRAMME 8: POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

During the 2000-2001 biennium, the Population Division – Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) carried out activities in the following areas: (i) Technical cooperation and regional training in population and development; (ii) Demographic analysis and population projections; (iii) Information on population; and (iv) Integration of sociodemographic elements in policies, programmes and development projects.

In the field of technical cooperation and regional training in population and development, work was carried out in three substantive areas within the framework of the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development: youth, population and development (the subject of in-depth discussions at the twenty-eighth session, which resulted in the publication of a number of studies); formulation of a system of indicators for monitoring implementation of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development; and demographic vulnerability (these last two issues will be dealt with at the twenty-ninth session). In this connection, three meetings of experts were held: one to consider the 2000-2001 census results and their use in the formulation of social policies; the other, for the sociodemographic analysis of social vulnerability in the region; and the last, to examine the advances made in the application of the recommendations of the above-mentioned Regional Plan of Action (Santiago, Chile, 8 May 2001, 20 and 21 June 2001 and 4 and 5 December 2001, respectively). CELADE continued to produce its periodic publications (Demographic Bulletin, Notas de Población and REDATAM Informa Update) and to pursue its operational activities in the area of technical assistance (to 15 countries in the region) as well as training (to 21 university centres and non-governmental organizations including the holding of four data-processing workshops). Lastly, during the biennium nine cooperation agreements were concluded and six others initiated, the most noteworthy being the ECLAC/CELADE-IDB agreement on the dissemination and use of data from the 2000 round of censuses.

With respect to demographic activities and population projections, further work was carried out on population estimates and projections by sex, age and urban/rural context, employment status based on monitoring of demographic variables. In the preparation of these publications, every effort was made to secure optimal census results so as to monitor the population dynamic as well as the implementation of analyses applied to specific social subgroups and sectors.

In terms of information on population, a high priority was given to the development and update of the REDATAM software for windows (retrieval of data for small areas by microcomputer), used in conjunction with geographic information systems, for the generation of tools that promote the use and dissemination of census data from the 2000 round, mainly as support for administrative decentralization. By the end of the biennium, the fourth generation of software, REDATAM+4 version 100 Upgrade, was made available for download free of charge from the ECLAC web site.

Lastly, with respect to the incorporation of sociodemographic data in policies, programmes and development projects, in-depth studies have been carried out, especially on sociodemographic vulnerability, patterns of population distribution, international migration and ageing. It is important to draw attention to the organization of the Symposium on International Migration in the Americas, which was held from 4 to 6 September 2000 in San José, Costa Rica, with the collaboration of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Governments of the United States and Costa Rica; the overall objective was for the 500 participants—including government representatives (public policy makers), experts (research fellows from universities and academic centres), experts from international organizations and representatives of civil society organizations—to share experiences in international migration in the hemisphere.

SUBPROGRAMME 9: STATISTICS AND ECONOMIC PROJECTIONS

During the biennium 2000-2001, the Statistics and Economic Projections Division conducted activities in the following areas: (i) Statistical data banks; (ii) Dissemination of statistics and regional indicators; (iii) National accounts and economic development; (iv) Technical cooperation with member States and with regional statistical organizations; (v) Evaluation and prospective analysis of the development process in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and (vi) Statistics and quantitative analysis of social trends in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Under subject area (i), further efforts were made to expand and strengthen the Division's data bank system mainly with respect to statistics on current economic trends, household surveys, foreign trade and national accounting. The publication of the Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean and of reports containing short-term indicators also came under this heading.

Work on national accounts and economic development proceeded with the Division providing support to countries in the application of the System of National Accounts (1993 SNA). Workshops were conducted on quarterly national accounts, on the tourism satellite account and on the use of national accounts. Countries also received support with the generation of basic statistics for implementation of 1993 SNA; this included the preparation of reports on statistical systems in the region, external-sector statistics and international trade in services. In this respect, intensive work was done in the area of transfer of methodologies for preparing economic statistics and national accounting.

An important development in terms of technical cooperation with member States was the establishment of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. The first meeting of this body was held in Santiago, Chile, from 9 to 11 May 2001. One outcome of this meeting was the adoption of the Programme of International Statistical Work for Latin America and the Caribbean, June 2001-June 2003. As regards cooperation with regional statistical bodies, the first United Nations Inter-Agency Technical Coordination Meeting on Regional Statistical Information was held on 8 May 2001. Workshops and meetings of experts were also held to complete the first phase of the project on harmonization of price indices in the Mercosur countries together with Chile and Bolivia. In response to requests from different countries, technical assistance was provided in the production of economic and social statistics and prospective studies.

The activities of evaluation and prospective analysis of the countries of the region included the organization of two seminars to consider the methodologies used in the development of leading indicators, surveys of expectations and opinion surveys. Medium-term studies were also prepared on, inter alia, dollarization in Ecuador and the development of a medium- and long-term model for Argentina. Lastly, quarterly forecasts were presented on the economic outlook for countries in the region, in particular in terms of gross domestic product, balance of payments and inflation.

In the area of social statistics, ECLAC carried out a set of activities designed to strengthen the statistical capacity of countries in order to create integrated systems of household surveys within the framework of the Programme for the Improvement of Surveys and the Measurement of Living Conditions in Latin America and the Caribbean (MECOVI) sponsored jointly by ECLAC, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the World Bank. Under this programme, four regional workshops were conducted to consider different methodologies for measuring social indicators and poverty. Four reports were prepared on estimates of income distribution, poverty, employment and other social indicators.

SUBPROGRAMME 10: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA

The programme of work for the 2000-2001 biennium of the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico had the objective of providing governments, private sectors and academics with useful instruments for decision-making, by analysing economic and social trends in the ten countries of the subregion. Emphasis was also given to the review of structural reform policies, trends in foreign direct investment, social marginalization, the wider participation of women, economic integration and sectoral competitiveness.

With regard to changing production patterns, it was planned to analyze agricultural institutions, international trade in agricultural products, manufacturing development, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, and the regulatory frameworks for energy, mainly the hydrocarbons subsector.

The main analysis activities carried out in the biennium include: (i) a review of the economic situation of the ten countries served by the subregional headquarters (Cuba, Haiti, the Central American isthmus, Mexico and the Dominican Republic); (ii) the mobilization of resources to assess the economic, environmental and social consequences of natural disasters and to present the results to the respective governments and donor groups;²⁰ (iii) the study *Desarrollo económico y social en la República Dominicana: los últimos 20 años y perspectivas para el siglo XXI*; (iv) the dissemination of the second and expanded edition of *The Cuban economy: structural reforms and economic performance in the 1990s*, with the support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA); and (v) cooperation in the activities of the Panama-Puebla Plan, in particular the review of compatibility between the regional proposal for transformation and modernization of Central America and the "Mexico" chapter of the Plan, and support for the Meso-American initiatives and the 17 projects approved by the Presidents.

The most significant advisory services included support for the preparatory work for the meeting of the Regional Consultative Group for Central America which was held in Madrid, Spain, on 8 and 9 March 2001. Cooperation was extended to the Consultative Group for Smaller Economies in the negotiations for the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). Some countries of the subregion received advisory services relating to fiscal policy, competitiveness policies, priorities in the electric power industry and harmonization of the hydrocarbons markets.

The projects financed by multilateral cooperation included various activities with the countries of the subregion. The contribution of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) served to finance the assessment of damage caused by the floods in Venezuela; in El Salvador it provided support for the human development report, agricultural training activities and collaboration in the programme on violence in a society in transition, and in Mexico support for the Mexican Institute for International Cooperation in project management and multilateral cooperation.

The United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP) financed various studies on reproductive education and responsible paternity in each of the countries of the Central American isthmus and seminars for national and regional experts.

The contribution of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) was used to continue the advisory services and analyses on the harmonization and integration of the hydrocarbons market in the Central American isthmus and to conduct a study on natural disasters and economic development. The

²⁰ Reports were prepared on the effects of the floods in Venezuela, Hurricane Keith in Belize and the earthquakes in El Salvador.

study on the maquila industry with the Institute for the Integration of Latin America and the Caribbean (INTAL) and the IDB was concluded.

With the collaboration of the Government of Germany, the research was continued on natural gas and hydrocarbons in Central America, and studies and seminars were conducted in Guatemala and El Salvador relating to the development of land markets.

In addition to the activities mentioned, the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico carried out the following activities in the six subject areas included in the programme of work.

With regard to saving, investment and economic growth, research was conducted on economic reform, public administration and foreign investment in Central America. The compendium "Istmo Centroamericano: medio siglo de estadísticas macroeconómicas. 1950-2000" was published and a study was prepared on employment and growth.

In agricultural modernization, priority was given to the analyses of modernization in the export sector (sugar, bananas and coffee), the rural institutional framework and the system of land tenure. Agricultural policies were also considered in the context of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the sustainability of natural resources.

In the area of industrial competitiveness, there was research into the policies of the Central American countries with regard to competitiveness, business development, and small and medium-sized enterprises, the latter area receiving support from German cooperation resources. Training activities were conducted for the computer software entitled Module for the Analysis of Growth of International Commerce (MAGIC) and the development of the manufacturing sector in Central America was analyzed.

The activities relating to labour markets, gender and equity included the preparation of reports on the vulnerability of marginalized young persons and on housing in El Salvador. The subregional headquarters also extended cooperation and participated in forums relating to the situation of women and gender policies.

In the area of international trade, economic integration and regional cooperation, a study was completed on the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the development of the economy in Mexico; the fiscal effects of trade liberalization in the cases of Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic were analyzed; trends in the integration of Central America were considered and a study was conducted on tourism activities. A contribution was made to training for participants in multilateral trade negotiations and economic integration processes.

Lastly, with regard to energy integration, reports were published on the institutional framework of the Central American Committee for Cooperation on Hydrocarbons, a diagnostic review of the oil industry, statistics on hydrocarbons in the Central American isthmus and an analysis of regulatory frameworks in that sector. The subregional headquarters also took an active role in meetings of those responsible for the hydrocarbons subsector and in advisory services in that field to public and intergovernmental bodies.

SUBPROGRAMME 11: SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

During the 2000-2001 biennium, the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, secretariat of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), stepped up its efforts to provide technical support in operational and sectoral areas with a view to achieving sustained growth in the economies of member States and associate members of the Caribbean subregion. This involved the implementation of a number of activities relating to regional and hemispheric integration.

A key event was the commemoration of the Silver Jubilee of the CDCC, celebrated during its eighteenth session; another landmark was the tenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the CDCC (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 6-7 March 2001). The Constituent Declaration and Functions and Rules of Procedure of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee were to be the subject of a comprehensive review at the nineteenth session of the CDCC in January 2002.

Considerable efforts were devoted to technical cooperation in relation to subregional developments and to issues which may have serious implications for the Caribbean. In response to requests for assistance, briefs were prepared to guide discussions on many global topics. Among these activities were the preparation of studies, upon request, on intraregional migration, physical planning and land management, disaster assessments, financial and informatics services, tourism development, preparation of strategic development plans and the field of family law and domestic violence. In addition, valuable activities were carried out through the execution of seven extrabudgetary projects with support from UNDP and the Government of the Netherlands.

In the area of economic development, a special meeting of experts was convened to consider growth, employment and equity and the impact of economic reforms in Latin America and the Caribbean (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 27 October 2000). Research papers were prepared on the economic trends in the countries of the subregion, on global economic developments, globalization and its implications for the Caribbean and on privatization and its impact on Caribbean economies. In an effort to document subregional developmental progress, the subregional headquarters prepared a research paper providing an analysis of economic and social development in Barbados: a model for Small Island Developing States. In light of the new focus on gender mainstreaming, a review was prepared on macroeconomic policies in the Caribbean as they relate to gender equity and development. Economic development activities were supported by the preparation of science and technology indicators aimed at guiding technological developments in the subregion. Work continued on the strengthening of small and medium-sized enterprises with the preparation of studies on the applications of new technologies in selected productive areas as well as a paper on bioprospecting and biodiversity.

With regard to developments at the hemispheric level and the new round of trade negotiations, a research paper considered issues relating to the progress made by Caribbean countries with respect to the World Trade Organization (WTO) built-in agenda on services and intellectual property rights. This paper was supported by studies on the implications of trade, investment and financial issues for the Caribbean as well as on the recent developments in intra-CDCC trade. The needs of the non-independent countries were taken into account in a special study on the implications of the development of trading links between the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) member countries. On the subject of regional integration, the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean continued to lend support to the activities of the Consultative Group on smaller economies, set up by the Summit of the Americas within the context of the process leading to the establishment of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). Technical papers were prepared for this committee as well as a paper reviewing the

special and differential treatment in the FTAA. In addition, the work of the secretariats of CARICOM, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) continued to receive assistance on a number of issues that relate to the trading arrangements of countries within the subregion. A regional seminar was held to consider issues relating to maritime transport and its costs to Caribbean countries aimed at providing solutions to interregional trading arrangements (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 14-15 September 2000).

Social development activities centered around the monitoring of the implementation of the activities relating to the implementation of programmes of action adopted at the *International Conference on Population and Development*, the *World Summit for Social Development* and the *Fourth World Conference on Women*. To date, meetings of experts were convened to review the positions taken by CDCC member States at the Special Sessions of the United Nations General Assembly. A number of papers prepared on intraregional migration were discussed at a regional meeting on migration convened by the subregional headquarters (Port of Spain, 9-10 November 2000). Expert group meetings were also convened to look at issues such as domestic violence, gender mainstreaming and social policy developments in the subregion. Issues relating to poverty and the disabled, socialization of the male youth in the Caribbean as well as to equality and non-discrimination in the Caribbean were discussed in papers prepared by the subregional headquarters. In collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the subregional headquarters also prepared a study on education and its impact on poverty in Caribbean countries.

On the subject of sustainable development, the subregional headquarters has responded to requests from Caribbean governments for technical support in improving their capacity to make assessments of the impact of natural disasters on their economies. To this end, the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat, in collaboration with the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico, convened a special three-day regional training workshop on the use of the ECLAC methodology for assessing the macroeconomic, social and environmental impacts of natural disasters in Latin America and the Caribbean as well as two national training workshops, at the request of governments. In addition, a training kit has been developed to assist in the implementation of the national training workshops. A document on the *Caribbean perspectives on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS/POA)* was presented to the Subregional Preparatory Meeting of the Caribbean for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002), held in Havana, Cuba in June 2001. This work is supported by the database of projects and programmes for small-island developing States in the Caribbean.

The subregional headquarters continues to provide assistance to member States of the subregion in promoting the intensive use of new information technologies. To this end, the Caribbean Digital Library and a web site have been developed to provide information on publications, meetings and other activities. In keeping with the increasing demand for information, the secretariat continued to collect and collate relevant information on economic, social and environmental development issues in the subregion.

In an effort to ensure that the subregions' issues are taken into account at the international forums, the secretariat continued its drive to maintain direct contact with representatives of various ministries and departments in all CDCC member countries. This included regular briefings of regional Ambassadors of member States to the United Nations and other international institutions with a view to keeping them abreast of developments within the secretariat and also on other matters of mutual interest. In addition, the secretariat, upon request, prepared a number of technical reports for member governments aimed at providing them with information to guide their policy-making decisions.

SUBPROGRAMME 12: MAINSTREAMING THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE
INTO THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

During the biennium 2000-2001, the Women and Development Unit carried its work forward in two spheres: follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001, and to the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women; and the mainstreaming of the gender perspective in public policy and in the work of the ECLAC system.

Regarding follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action and to the Platform for Action, the Unit's activities were focused on the organization and running of the eighth Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Lima, Peru, 8 to 10 February, 2000). On this occasion the countries approved the Lima Consensus and agreed to coordinate it with the Unit's other international activities, chiefly follow-up to the new measures and initiatives that were recommended at the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (New York, 5 to 9 June 2000), the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and follow-up to the Millennium Declaration (resolution 55/2, 13 September 2000).

With respect to its second sphere of action, the Unit broadened and diversified its activities aimed at mainstreaming the gender perspective in its work with the countries and within the ECLAC system. Three types of activities merit particular attention:

(i) *gender mainstreaming activities*, which included cooperation with new interlocutors, such as sectoral ministries (health, tourism, labour and economy), national statistical institutes and poverty eradication programmes. This led to a number of conceptual and methodological innovations, which were made possible chiefly by three extra-budgetary projects: "Institutionalization of the gender perspective within ECLAC and sectoral ministries" (GER/99/S064), "Making gender indicators available for policy-making" (ITA/00/072) and "Changes in pension systems and their impact on efforts to overcome inequalities between men and women" (NET/00/071). The Unit thus not only increased the number of technical assistance activities for the countries, but also significantly diversified its relations with sectoral agencies involved in gender equity policies.

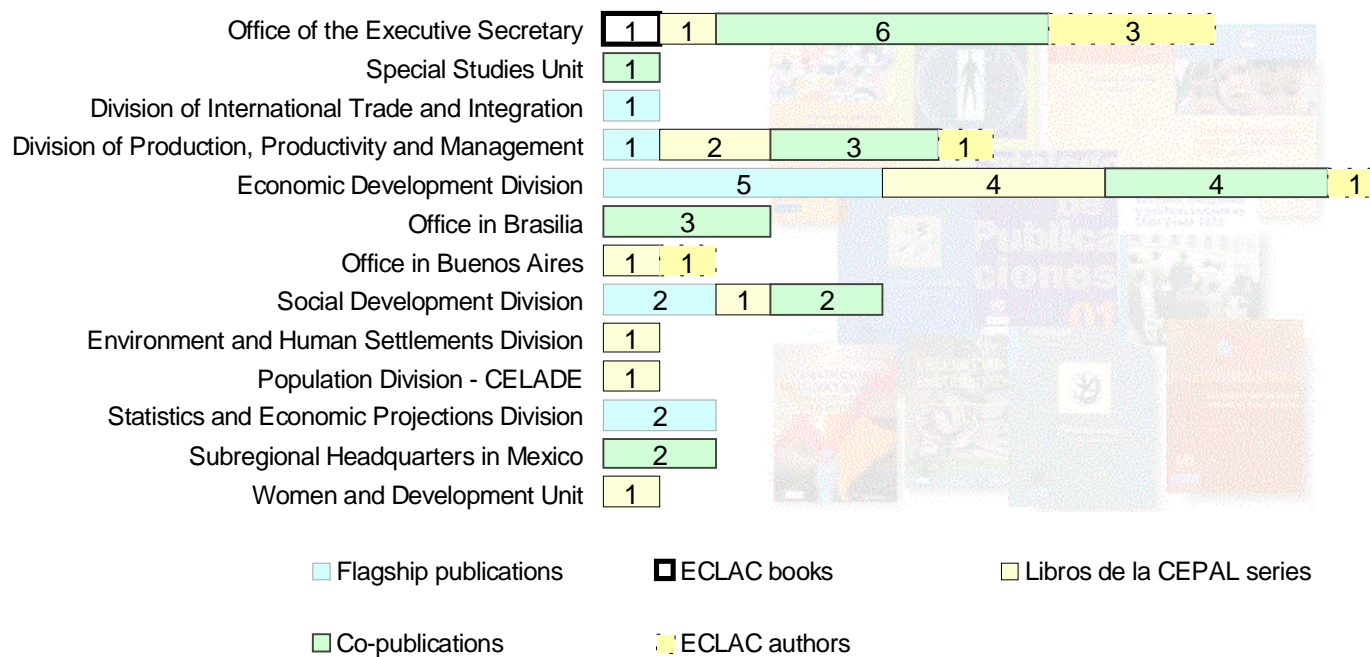
(ii) *research for development activities*, which increasingly encompassed economic issues such as labour policy, pensions policy, budgets, health accounts, trade and globalization, without neglecting human rights and social equity concerns, particularly poverty eradication. In this sphere, attention was turned to institutional changes at the state level and the need to coordinate gender equity-oriented efforts with the overall enterprise to achieve equity and governance. In addition, an intensive programme of technical cooperation was begun with universities in the respective countries, such as the University of Sao Paulo (Brazil), Misiones University (Argentina) and the University of Chile; and

(iii) activities directed at the *design of tools for public policy formulation*, which took place mainly within the framework of the gender indicators project mentioned above. These activities sought not only to systematize the statistical information available, but also to assist governments in improving the process of compilation, analysis and dissemination of data for constructing gender indicators. This was carried out jointly with the Statistics and Economic Projections Division of ECLAC, and involved two of the Commission's subsidiary bodies: the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Statistical Conference of the Americas.

NUMBER OF BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE ECLAC SYSTEM IN 2000-2001
(Preliminary figures)



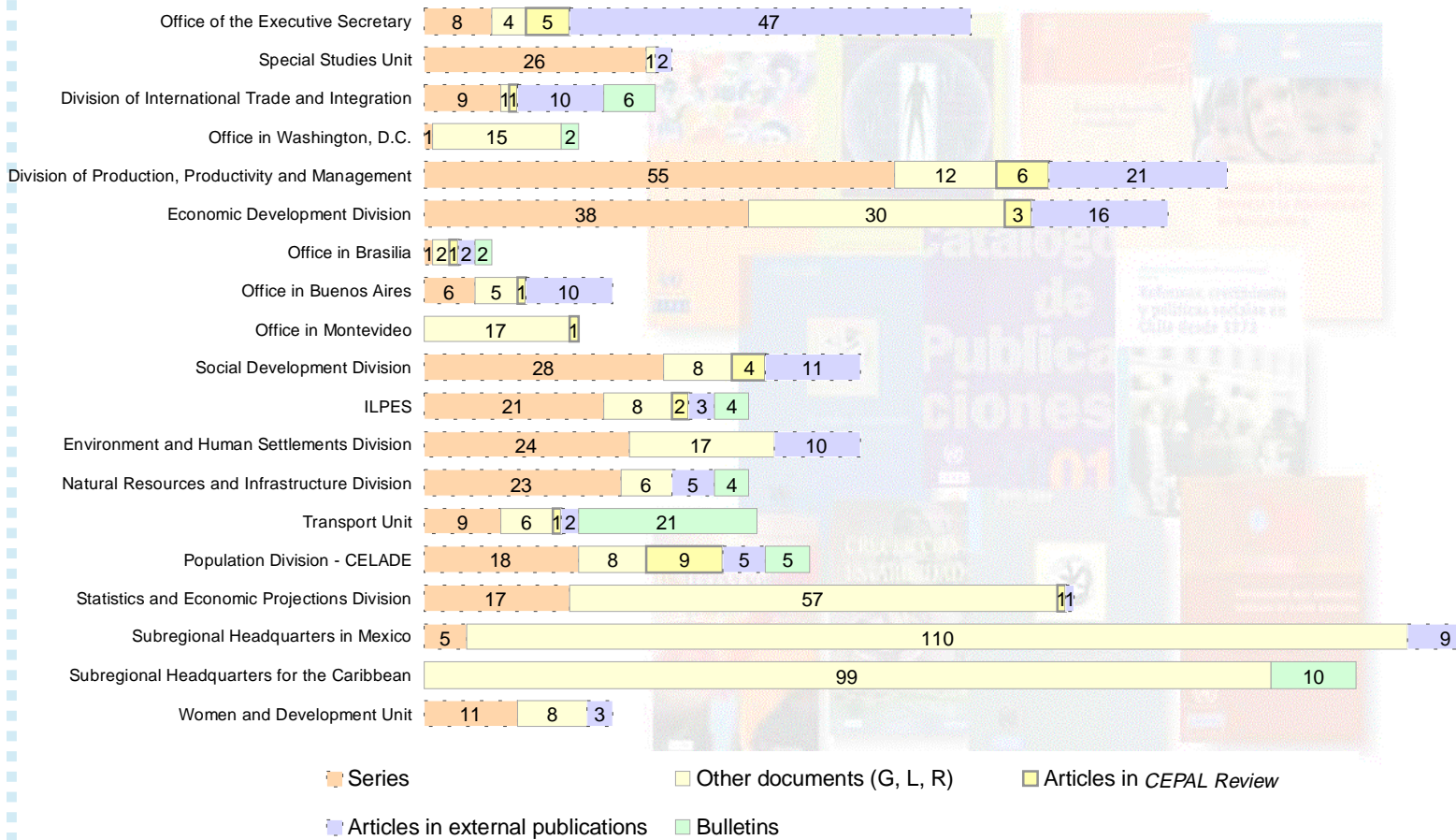
Division, Unit, Subregional or National Office



NUMBER OF OTHER ECLAC PUBLICATIONS IN 2000-2001 (Preliminary figures)



Division, Unit, Subregional or National Office



C. COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

(i) Main shifts in international cooperation trends

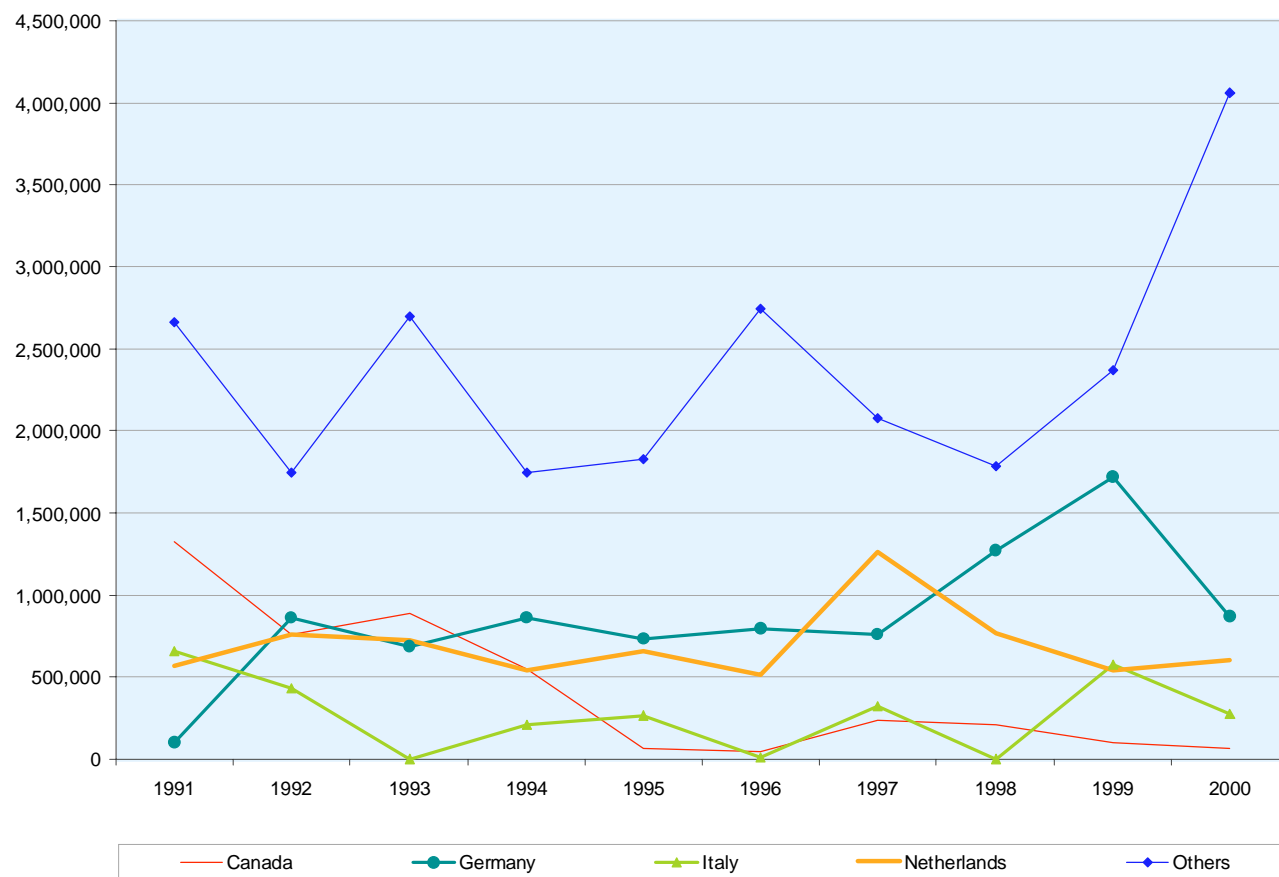
In order to arrive at an accurate picture of world-level international cooperation in the new millennium, it is necessary to examine the main trends and forces for change within international cooperation and define their impact on the action of ECLAC in this sphere.

First, since the mid-1990s the list of donors of technical cooperation has extended to include a number of new countries which have the distinction of belonging to the developing world. This trend is particularly apparent in Latin America, where certain countries are beginning to act as donors, using two main modalities. The first consists in financing international cooperation projects involving external donor contributions in third countries by mobilizing the resources of the country or international agency responsible for project execution. This new form of resource mobilization differs from the usual system of matching funds, corresponding instead to a new type of triangular arrangement whereby the country contributes, jointly with external donors, to the establishment of technical cooperation funds. The second cooperation modality involves joint financial contribution by a number of the region's countries to projects or programmes in other countries or subregions that have some bearing on the donors' regional position. From the point of view of ECLAC, these shifts have considerably altered the composition of the organization's extra-budgetary funds (see annex 1, 2, 3 and 4).

Second, international donors —both countries and multilateral agencies— tend increasingly to afford priority to programmes which are broader in scope and involve larger volumes of funds, or to projects that have several phases of implementation. In either case, this significantly alters the modalities of project design and operation, as donors prefer to avoid funding isolated initiatives, however important their objectives may be. The tendency to opt for larger-scale projects has also led to projects being executed increasingly at the country level. This preference for using national or local agents does not necessarily mean that international executing agencies are being displaced or excluded; instead, it has become possible to establish a clear profile of the comparative technical advantages of each. The increasingly national focus advocated by ECLAC for cooperation projects does not imply any lessening of its own role in executing development projects. On the contrary, the organization has gained recognition as an executor of national projects with obvious benefits for the country concerned in terms of the Commission's regional experience with best practices in its fields of technical expertise.

As a result, nowadays donors tend to attach importance to their cooperation projects or programmes being viewed as joint undertakings with the agencies or bodies that receive the technical cooperation funds. In particular, in dialogues between ECLAC and its donors, the donors' technical teams have become increasingly involved in forums that are held to programme cooperation. Clearly, donors no longer limit themselves to having a sort of final supervision of the use to which their resources are put, but are seeking an involvement in the project at the design level, and forums for programming cooperation have served as a channel for them to achieve this.

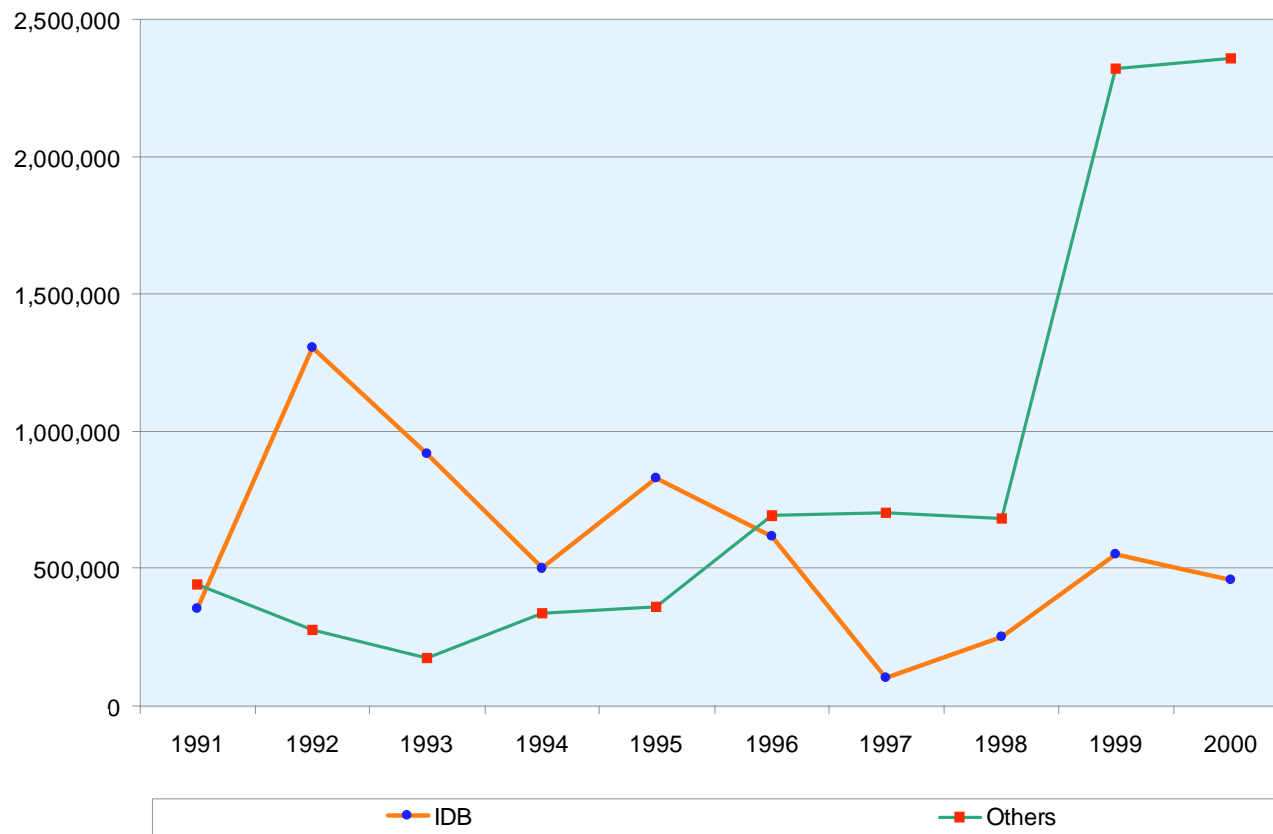
ANNEX 1 EXTRABUDGETARY CONTRIBUTIONS BY GOVERNMENTS TO ECLAC TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES, IN DOLLARS, 1991-2000



Source: ECLAC, Financial Services Section.



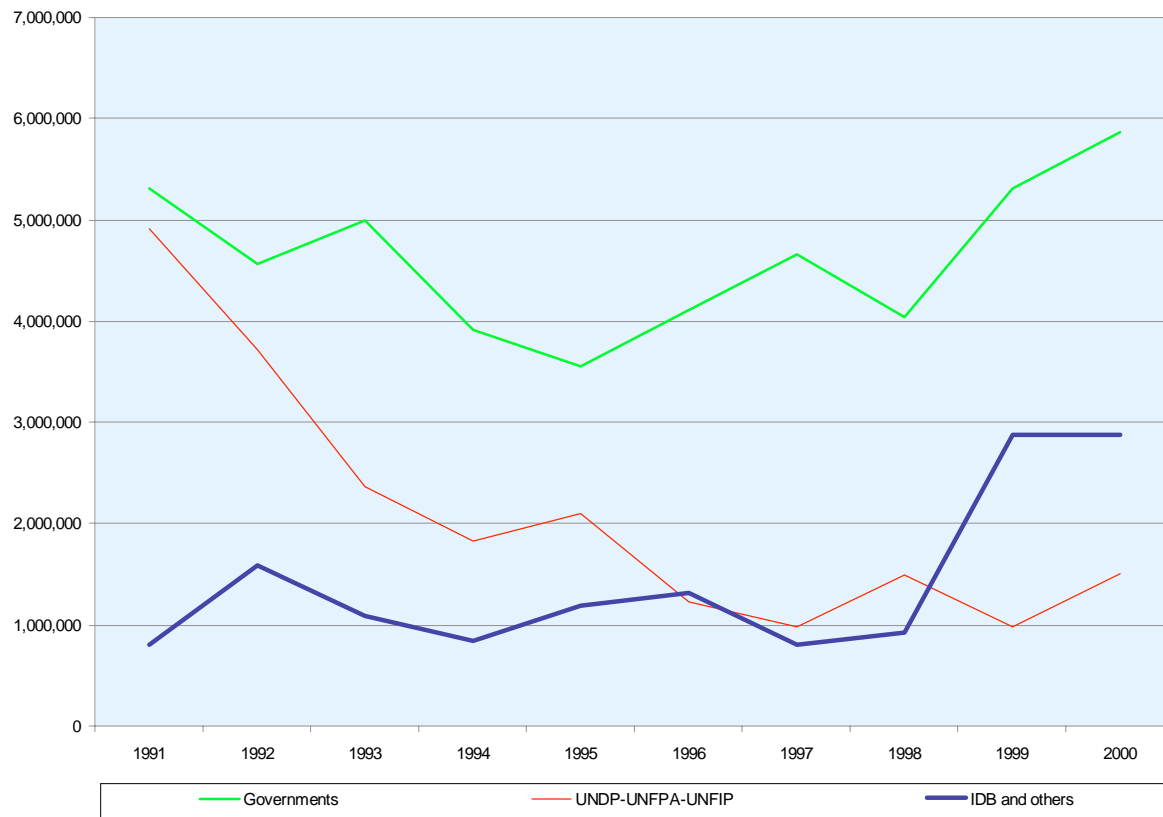
ANNEX 2 EXTRABUDGETARY CONTRIBUTIONS BY IDB AND OTHERS TO ECLAC TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES IN DOLLARS, 1991-2000



Source: ECLAC, Financial Services Section.



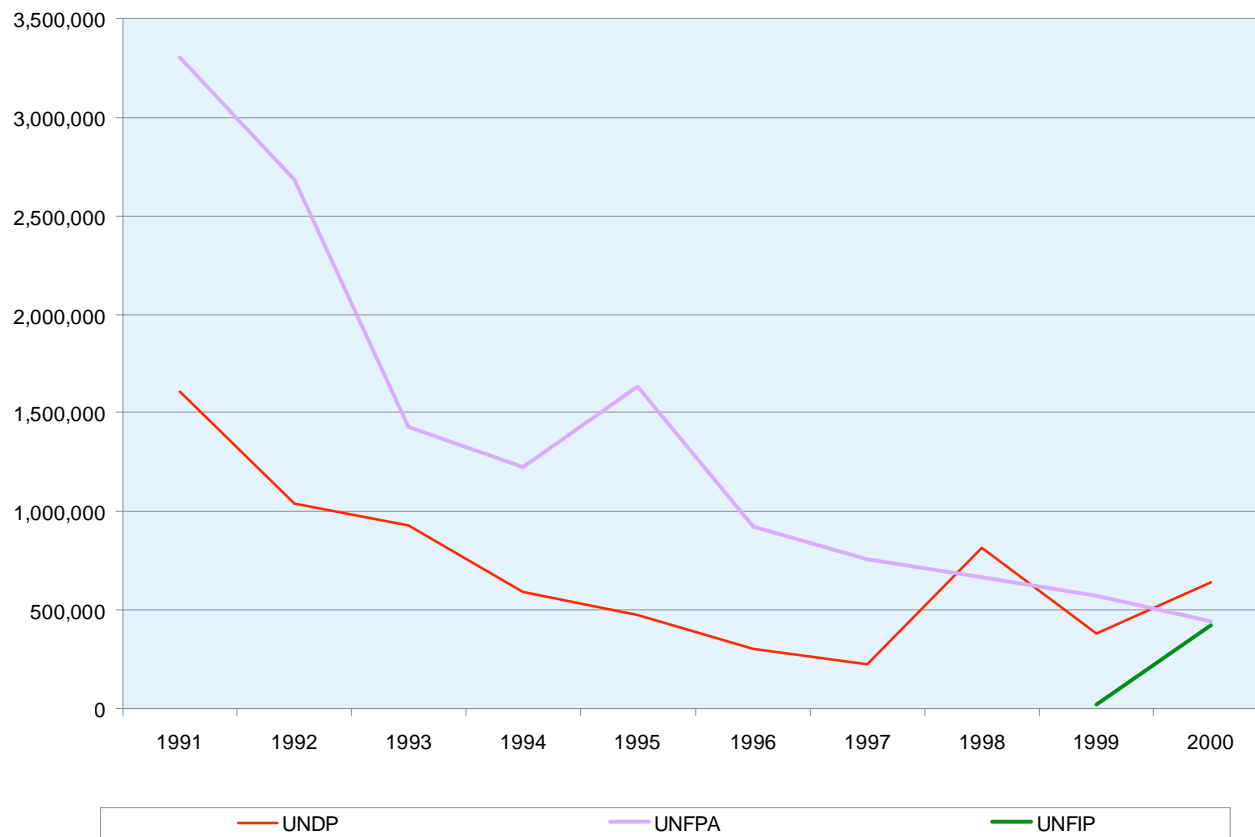
ANNEX 3 EXTRABUDGETARY CONTRIBUTIONS BY VARIOUS DONORS TO ECLAC TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES IN DOLLARS, 1991-2000



Source: ECLAC, Financial Services Section.



ANNEX 4 EXTRABUDGETARY CONTRIBUTIONS BY UNDP, UNFPA AND UNFIP TO ECLAC TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES IN DOLLARS, 1991-2000



Source: ECLAC, Financial Services Section.

A gradual change has also come about in the issues addressed by cooperation projects. Donors' political priorities have always had a bearing on their cooperation activities and on the ways in which they channel the corresponding funds. Nowadays, however, they tend increasingly to focus on two cross-cutting dimensions. The first of these is poverty eradication. This has become a core issue within an integrated framework of social policies, which increasingly pinpoint different types of discrimination as causes of poverty. The second dimension that is emerging as a priority on donors' agendas is the set of issues that revolve around the consolidation of democracy from a perspective of citizenship. These two dimensions have increased the political substance of international cooperation, as they bring it into more direct contact with issues that have a bearing on debates and opinions within civil society in the countries. The fact that the donors themselves are working more closely with their own non-governmental organizations builds on this trend and adds a new degree of proactivity, which gives political weight to projects and programmes.

An important feature of the dialogue involving the donors and agents of cooperation is that strategic communication and flows of information among them have increased and improved. It is now inconceivable for cooperation initiatives to take place without other donors having access to full and detailed information about them. This does not necessarily mean, however, that donors and agencies will immediately begin to coordinate better to implement the portfolio of development projects that mobilize international cooperation resources within the countries. Much ground remains to be covered in this respect, as the coordination exercises promoted by the United Nations have demonstrated, but the fact that more information is circulating among donors is undoubtedly an important step in the right direction. Today, a donor mobilizing resources for development cooperation in a destination country is unlikely to be able to act in isolation.

(ii) Technical cooperation missions

Section II B contains a brief account of the main tasks carried out under the twelve substantive ECLAC subprogrammes and lists the various technical cooperation activities carried out at the request of Governments of member countries in the region under each subprogramme during the biennium. These activities were conducted jointly with international agencies and public- and private-sector bodies at the regional, subregional, national and local levels.

The research and training activities (most of which fall under subprogramme 6, Administrative management and are illustrated with data and charts) cover, together with the technical cooperation missions, a very broad spectrum of issues. They have also entailed frequent country visits by ECLAC officials and numerous technical cooperation missions.

A total of 743 technical cooperation missions have been conducted either as part of the programme of work of the ECLAC system or on various emerging issues; the missions were financed with resources from the regular budget and with extrabudgetary resources. Detailed information on each mission may be found at the corresponding specialized Internet site for each substantive division (www.cepal.cl).

(iii) ECLAC activities in support of technical cooperation among developing countries²¹(a) Institutional framework

In accordance with the general recommendations, applicable to the United Nations system, of the 1978 Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and the new directions for TCDC endorsed by the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) in its decision 9/2 in 1995, the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the rest of the ECLAC system, which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute of Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), are carrying out a variety of activities designed to promote and support technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC) at the subregional, regional and interregional levels. More specifically, these activities respond to mandates conferred on the secretariat by the members of the Commission and are reviewed periodically by the member States at sessions of the Commission, whose institutional structure includes a sessional committee responsible for monitoring such matters. The Committee was set up pursuant to ECLAC resolution 387(XVIII) adopted at the eighteenth session of the Commission in La Paz, Bolivia, in 1979.

Ever since its establishment in 1948, ECLAC has been deeply involved in promoting and strengthening regional economic cooperation and integration. Technical cooperation among developing countries, however, refers to the more precise concept of cooperation which is a multidimensional process. It can be bilateral or multilateral in scope, and subregional, regional or interregional in character. It should be organized by and between Governments which can, for this purpose, promote the participation of public organizations and, within the framework of the policies laid down by Governments, that of private organizations and individuals. The main strategic thrust of TCDC is to assist developing countries in achieving their economic and social development objectives. As a regional body of the United Nations, ECLAC is guided in its activities in this field by the resolutions adopted by Governments in the global and regional forums of the Organization and by the guidelines emanating from other regional forums and bodies. Together they form an institutional framework that allows ECLAC to support and strengthen on-going TCDC activities and promote new initiatives at the different levels.²² In recent years, the actions of Governments in the region have made it possible to establish an institutional structure for technical cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean that provides the necessary basis for the consolidation of TCDC as a dimension of growing importance in the activities of Governments

²¹ This chapter has been prepared as a working background for the sessional committee at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission to be held in Brasilia, Brazil in 2002, and describes the main promotional and support activities carried out by the ECLAC system since the preceding session, at which resolution 583(XXVIII) on TCDC was adopted.

²² In the United Nations system the general framework for TCDC is provided by the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, adopted by the General Assembly in 1978, in which it requests the organizations of the United Nations system to act as catalysts in promoting TCDC activities, which, essentially, are carried out at the initiative of developing countries themselves. Furthermore, the policy and operational recommendations on the cooperation framework for TCDC were provided in the report on New directions for technical cooperation among developing countries which was approved by the ninth session of the High-level Committee and endorsed by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session (resolution 50/119). The cooperation framework identifies two broad categories of activities that will be considered high-priority: (i) support for the goals of sustainable human development through projects that relate to poverty alleviation, the environment, production and employment, trade and investment, and macroeconomic management; and (ii) policy formulation and coordination, strengthening TCDC management and support for information activities.

and other national agents. This section of the report describes the work done and the initiatives taken in this regard during the biennium.

At the twenty-eighth session of the Commission held in Mexico City, the Committee approved a draft resolution²³ on technical cooperation among developing countries and regions. In the resolution, which served as a guide to the secretariat in its activities during the following biennium, the Commission members specified a number of areas in which the ECLAC system could help to promote TCDC in the region. During the biennium, ECLAC maintained contacts and pursued negotiations with the bilateral and multilateral donors who had consistently contributed extrabudgetary funding for technical cooperation projects. Such negotiations are especially vital for the TCDC activities the ECLAC system undertakes, since most of them are subject to extrabudgetary resources.

(b) TCDC activities in selected projects

The diversity of situations in which the developing countries have actually managed their own TCDC activities is a fundamental factor to be taken into account in the planning, execution and follow-up of activities and projects aimed at intensifying the use of TCDC as an instrument for the economic and social development of the developing member countries. Most of TCDC activities are carried out as components of specific technical cooperation projects implemented with extrabudgetary funds from various sources inside and outside the United Nations system; a substantial proportion of them receive support from developed countries. The TCDC elements incorporated into such projects serve one or more of the following objectives: (i) to strengthen co-operation networks and support national TCDC focal points; (ii) to hold seminars and technical meetings to facilitate an interchange of experiences of interest to the countries; (iii) to prepare studies and reports specifically designed to identify cooperation opportunities; and (iv) to facilitate the provision of horizontal cooperation services by local experts or consultants associated with projects.

During the biennium, ECLAC continued to carry out various types of activities to support and promote TCDC in the region in accordance with the recommendations of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the new directions strategy, and the mandates of its member States taking into account the co-operation framework for the period 2000-2001 in the context of its biennial programme of work. Most of these activities involved the incorporation of specific TCDC elements in technical cooperation projects organized by ECLAC divisions and units (see the relevant sections of this report).

(c) Strategic guidelines for TCDC

The ECLAC secretariat has formulated a number of suggestions on ways of overcoming deficiencies in the economic sphere and lags in the social sphere in order to advance simultaneously towards sustained economic growth and greater social equity. In that line of reasoning, intraregional cooperation should be intensified in a wide range of areas in which it could further the strategy of economic growth with social equity.

As ECLAC sees it, TCDC is a prime mechanism for mobilizing cooperation in areas of key importance to the strategy, such as technology diffusion and transfer; the quest for new markets; exchange of experience in educational innovations that contribute to a shift in production patterns; trade negotiation with economic blocs; and international competitiveness in general. In order to make full use of the development potential of TCDC, some cooperation criteria should be set that take into account the

²³ This was subsequently adopted in plenary meeting as resolution 583(XXVIII).

features of the development scenario as projected to the present decade. Among the most important of these features are the institutional changes the countries of the region are now undergoing and the emergence of new actors in the area of cooperation.

In this regard, a first cooperation criteria is concerned with the reformulation of the role of the State in the development process; which entails both a thorough redimensioning of the State apparatus and a substantial improvement in the State's regulatory capacity. Another criterion relates to enhancement of the role of local government, an increasingly prominent item in State policy. At the institutional level, this means adopting and implementing policies that favour greater decentralization of public decision-making and more precise targeting of social investment. In this regard, there is an evident and steady increase in emphasis on the local dimension in the actions of both public and private agents. A third strategic criterion has to do with the greater importance which the private sector—including the business community and non-governmental organizations—is assuming in the process of economic and social modernization. The fourth and last of the strategic criteria that should inform future TCDC policies is greater attention to social programmes as a high-priority area for intraregional cooperation. Put into practice, this criterion would make TCDC a more effective tool for overcoming poverty, which appears to be an endemic feature of the development experience in the region.

In order to move forward with the strategic guidelines, it is useful to draw up an inventory of lessons drawn over the last decades from experience with the operational set-up for TCDC in the region. The first point is that the diversity of situations in which countries have already taken part in TCDC activities attests to the validity of TCDC as an instrument for development in the region and is a fundamental factor to be taken into account at the planning, execution and follow-up phases of TCDC activities and projects. This diversity of situations extends from the relatively more developed (or pivotal) countries, which have become providers of a wide range of TCDC offers, to those which are clearly on the demand side as regards TCDC. This diversity is clearly reflected in the various policies that have emerged, according to the recognized priority given to TCDC in the national development effort in the profound differences as regards the institutional status of the national TCDC focal points, in the importance and influence of the institutions which have the greatest weight and the legal and material means to effect "autonomous" exchanges of TCDC; and in the capacity of countries to manage TCDC as a relatively complete process, and not just as isolated exchanges.

Another lesson is that the public sector must have access to selective information for identifying the most appropriate human and financial resources for TCDC operations if it is to cope with the intensity and diversity of current demands and changes. The design, establishment and operation of project banks for rationalizing public investment have aroused great interest because of their low cost and the progress made in the application of computer programmes. These databases can make an appreciable contribution to the proper organization of the operational sectors of the public administration, especially through the introduction of the time dimension as an essential parameter of government action in medium- and long-term projects. Such information systems open up interesting prospects for TCDC, provided that they are designed and operated in such a way as to incorporate cooperation projects which use various forms of TCDC in their execution, as a subsystem which is parallel to, but interconnected with, the operational routines of the banks, which have so far dealt mainly with matters directly related with public investment projects.

A further lesson is that the establishment and consolidation of cooperation networks in the region can be important investments for the future of TCDC. Cooperation networks are a noteworthy feature of the region's institutional infrastructure for the promotion of cooperation. Many of them were established thanks to the initiative and dedication of groups of specialists in different countries and are virtually a

model for direct action in the area of TCDC. These networks place the sectoral technical bodies of each country in direct contact with each other and enable them to operate with great flexibility. They are suitable channels for technical participation, stimulate the exchange of information, and can develop into very expeditious instruments of exchange and cooperation. These advantages militate in favour of a much more active and important role for such networks in TCDC activities in the region, operating side by side with the official bodies of the countries. ECLAC has vigorously stimulated the formation of such regional and subregional networks in fields of action where the participation of public and government agencies in specific sectors is an essential element for ensuring the success of cooperation processes.

Another point —and one that cannot be overemphasized— is the crucial role of the integrated national focal point for technical cooperation. These initiatives have been particularly strong in those countries that have progressed furthest in consolidating their national focal points for TCDC and experience shows consistently that TCDC must be handled as an integral part of a national technical cooperation policy. When such a policy exists, the setting-up of specialized TCDC units within the sectoral institutions is an effective step towards strengthening a national network capable of linking and channelling inter- subregional and regional TCDC activities both to and from the country. The interest displayed in setting up these units shows the importance that the institutions attach to TCDC as a means of strengthening their own technical capacities, and a national cooperation policy should be the real force for achieving greater coordination among sectoral focal points.

Finally, there are lessons to be learned on the more problematic side of TCDC, which may call for remedial actions on the part of all actors and agencies concerned. Some of the "obstacles" identified by the experience of ECLAC, are: (i) the uneven or insufficient knowledge and information that government and private bodies have of their country's potential for TCDC, together with various misconceptions regarding the viability of certain forms of TCDC; (ii) the tendency to favour the use of traditional forms of technical cooperation over TCDC in the execution of projects; (iii) the weak functioning —usually due to lack of an integrated national cooperation policy— of the national TCDC focal points, which are essential for the full utilization of this form of cooperation; (iv) the chronic shortage of resources for TCDC, aggravated by complicated administrative procedures of the financing agencies; and (v) slow action within the United Nations system, which have meant that TCDC is still marginal to the mainstream of the system's activities.

Annex 5

ECLAC PROJECTS WITH TCDC ELEMENTS

No.	Project Title	Project Objectives	TCDC Activities	Network/Forum	Country Involved
1	CELADE Regional Population Project 2000 – 2003	Foster and strengthen the capabilities of the Latin American and Caribbean countries in the design, monitoring and evaluation of population-related policies and programmes aimed at improving the quality of life, particularly of the most vulnerable groups	- Sharing of information and experiences through the CELADE web page on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the ICPD and the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development, in co-ordination with the Population Information Network (POPIN) - Identification of existing training facilities and emerging needs for human resources in the field of population and promotion of TCDC programmes	Support to the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development	All member countries in the region
2	Implementing economic instruments in environmental management in Latin America and Caribbean	Support governments in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of their current environmental management systems by means of economic incentives to improve performance and achieve their environmental quality targets at the lowest possible expense	Establish technical and financial mechanisms for the exchange of experiences (South-South) among countries of the region and a list of national experts that can provide technical assistance to the countries that request it	Provide programming support for the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Peru
3	Empowerment of indigenous women: the role of bilingual literacy in gender equality and reproductive health	Support national strategies for the alleviation of extreme poverty, by means of developing skills for education in reproductive health	Advisory services were provided for the sharing and exchange of knowledge and experiences in connection with the design strategy for the bilingual literacy method		Guatemala, Paraguay and Peru

No.	Project Title	Project Objectives	TCDC Activities	Network/Forum	Country Involved
4	Improvement of surveys on living conditions in Latin America and the Caribbean	Generate adequate and high-quality information on the living conditions of the inhabitants of the region, with regard to content, scope, reliability, current relevance and political significance. This information is needed for designing, monitoring and assessing the policies, programmes and projects intended to mitigate poverty and achieve a higher degree of social equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintaining, improving and updating a regional data base and national data bases that are easy to use, well documented and offering comprehensive access, with new and existing household surveys, for estimating the poverty indices and social indicators for all the countries of the region, and to facilitate the use of the survey results. - The experiences obtained will be shared and transmitted by means of the regional activities component 	Provide inputs for the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela
5	Dissemination and use of the 2000 round of censuses	Promote ease of access to the results of the population censuses with a view to encouraging their extensive use in support of social and economic development in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean	A study will be conducted on the creation of data bases, comparability of census information, and the media used to disseminate the data, so that the countries can establish data bases from the information collected in the 2000 census round.	Establish a system that allows easy and rapid access to the census data bases and relatively comparable results between the countries	Belize, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Panama, Mexico and Nicaragua
6	Promoting energy efficiency in Latin America	Promote energy efficiency in Latin America by strengthening the institutional machinery and regulatory frameworks	Encourage the exchange of experiences on the existing regulation methods in the countries of the region for preventing and dismantling practices that distort free competition in the energy sector, and on the institutional framework and mechanisms for protecting consumers' interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support the Interparliamentary Conference on Mining and Energy in Latin America - Support for the European-Latin American Dialogue for Sustainable Development of the Energy Sector - Support the Interamerican Association of Large-scale Consumers and Energy Users 	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela

No.	Project Title	Project Objectives	TCDC Activities	Network/Forum	Country Involved
7	Introduction of road maintenance concepts in Latin America and the Caribbean	Introduce new concepts of financing and organization in road maintenance	Exchange of information concerning financing and reforms of management in the road maintenance sector	Support for the International Road Federation	Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru and Uruguay
8	Common standardized methodology for the measurement of defence spending	Study and propose a common standardized methodology for the measurement of the defence spending of Argentina and Chile with a view to making progress towards a regional proposal	Formulation of a common standardized methodology for the measurement of defence spending	Provide inputs for the Argentine/Chilean Standing Committee on Security	Argentina and Chile
9	Making gender indicators available for policy-making	Strengthen institutional capacities for the use of gender indicators in policy formulation	Create a network of user-friendly web sites that would offer access to a wide range of gender indicators and the exchange of views and experiences	Continuous support to the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Suriname and Uruguay
10	Changes in pension systems and their effects in overcoming the inequalities between men and women	Formulate policy recommendations that contribute to closing the gender gap in the area of pension system	Create networks between social agents (labour unions, women's organizations, women's NGOs) with the capacity to influence public pension (and other social security) policies in favour of gender equality	Continuous support to the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	Bolivia, Brazil and Colombia
11	Deeper analysis and dissemination of "The Fiscal Covenant. Strengths, Weaknesses, Challenges"	Review and identify methods for implementing initiatives for modernization and change of public spending management models in countries with the best practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Train government employees in fiscal policy matters - Exchange of experiences - Dissemination of the publication <i>The Fiscal Covenant</i> 	Support for the regional seminar on fiscal policy	Argentina, Chile and Guatemala

No.	Project Title	Project Objectives	TCDC Activities	Network/Forum	Country Involved
12	Liberalization of trade in agricultural products: regional integration and multilateral negotiations	- Measure the degree of trade complementarity in agricultural and agroindustrial products among the countries of Mercosur and the Andean Community - Identify the negotiating interests of the countries and groups of countries in the areas of subregional, hemispheric, interregional and multilateral negotiation	Exchange of views and experiences on the relations of the Central American and Caribbean countries with the sub-regional integration schemes –Mercosur and the Andean Community– and NAFTA.	Collaborate with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and with the Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA)	Central American and Caribbean countries
13	Indicators for assessing the socio-economic impact of desertification/land degradation processes	Provide governments with reliable analyses on desertification processes from an economic and social perspective as input for developing appropriate public policies	Activities will be carried out in the framework of the South-South cooperation model, for the exchange of data and experiences of other countries in desertification control	- Support for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification - Collaborate with the International NGO Network on Desertification (RIOD) and the <i>Movimiento Agroecológico Latino Americano (MAELA)</i>	Argentina, Brazil and Chile
14	Policies to improve technical and professional training in Latin America and the Caribbean	Improve vocational training systems which strengthen the economy and increase productivity and employment	Prepare six case studies of successful adaptation of vocational training programs to new requirements arising from: i) introduction of new technologies; ii) production chains; iii) out-sourcing of service areas; and iv) the shift to a service economy	Provide inputs for the existing network of the Inter-American Research and Documentation Centre on Vocational Training (CINTERFOR/ILO: www.cinterfor.org.uy) to disseminate information on successful experiences	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, Guatemala and Mexico

No.	Project Title	Project Objectives	TCDC Activities	Network/Forum	Country Involved
15	Small and medium-sized enterprises in Latin America and production linkages	Improve the linkages of small and medium-sized industrial enterprises with the processes of growth in the region by identifying their problems and potential	Reproduce successful national experiences in other countries in the areas of competitiveness, employment and microcredit policies	Assist the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST)	Argentina, Barbados, Chile, Granada, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua and Dominican Republic
16	Programme on harmonization and integration of the hydrocarbons market for the Central American isthmus	Establish favourable conditions for a more efficient and competitive regional hydrocarbons market	Facilitate the exchange of experiences in the following areas: a) plan of action to facilitate harmonization and integration of the regional hydrocarbons market; b) harmonized drafts of laws and regulations and the harmonization of technical and environmental standards; c) convergence of pricing, fiscal and customs policies for hydrocarbons	Establishment and continuous support for the Central American Committee for Cooperation on Hydrocarbons (CCHAC)	Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama
17	Support for competitiveness in micro-, small-scale and medium-sized enterprises in Central America	- Dissemination of successful experiences of micro-, small-scale and medium-sized enterprises - Consolidate proposals for programmes and practices for private organizations	Document eight successful cases (two per country) of micro, small-scale and medium-sized enterprises in Central America in the sector of production/manufacturing with the characteristics of a high level of industrial competitiveness in order to develop instruments to encourage support programmes for such enterprises	Support for the Federation of Industrial Chambers and Associations in Central America (FECAICA) and SIECA	El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua
18	Improve damage assessment methodology to promote natural-disaster mitigation and risk-reduction awareness and preparedness in Latin America and the Caribbean	Strengthen legal and institutional capacity and promote regional cooperation in Central America in order to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters	Organize sub-regional workshops focused on horizontal co-operation on public policies to reduce vulnerability, and on damage assessment in relation to natural disasters	- Collaborate with the Latin American Economic System in the framework of the regional mechanism for technical cooperation for emergencies arising from natural disasters - Support the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA)	Central America, Belize, El Salvador, Haïti, Panama, Dominican Republic and Venezuela

No.	Project Title	Project Objectives	TCDC Activities	Network/Forum	Country Involved
19	Updating and strengthening of the Mexican strategy for cooperation for development with emphasis on TCDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct a national study on a legal framework to establish a fund to finance horizontal cooperation activities - Develop a methodology for the follow-up and appraisal of technical cooperation programmes and projects executed by Mexico 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support for the TCDC focal point - Conduct a national study on a legal framework to establish a fund to finance horizontal cooperation activities - Compile successful national experiences with TCDC - Develop a methodology for the follow-up and appraisal of TCDC programmes and projects 	Strengthen the Mexican Institute for International Cooperation in its cooperation network.	Mexico
20	Development of social statistical data bases and a methodological approach to a social vulnerability index for small island developing states	Improve social conditions in member countries of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) by strengthening the capacity of policy makers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen cooperation networks - Hold workshops to facilitate the exchange of experiences - Facilitate TCDC 	Continuous support for CDCC	Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Saint Lucia have already agreed to participate and other Caribbean states are invited.
21	Support for data processing for the 2000 round of Caribbean population censuses and development of REDATAM applications	Build capacity at the national and subregional levels for census data processing for the population censuses of small countries and territories in the Caribbean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish co-operation networks - Facilitate TCDC services 	Continuous support for CDCC	Haiti, Saint Lucia, Suriname and other small (English and Dutch speaking) countries and territories of the Caribbean
22	Development of a marine –based tourism strategy in the Caribbean countries	Strengthen the capacity of Eastern Caribbean governments to promote sustainable marine-based tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare national case studies to be used in identifying co-operation opportunities - Identify inter-country linkages and interdependence 		Countries of the Eastern Caribbean
23	Support for the development of trade in the Caribbean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide policy makers, trade negotiators, researchers and business people with up-to-date and detailed information on trade, both within the Caribbean subregion and between the Caribbean subregion and the rest of the world - Develop trade among CDCC countries and increase the capacity of Caribbean countries to participate and benefit from trade liberalization 	Facilitate the provision of TCDC services by local experts or consultants associated with the project	Make efforts to establish a subregional network of statistical institutions in the Caribbean	Aruba, Netherlands Antilles, and selected non-independent Caribbean countries

No.	Project Title	Project Objectives	TCDC Activities	Network/Forum	Country Involved
24	Urban management strategies and tools for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Strengthen the capacity of local governments to implement methods of land-use management and urban management, with special reference to urban poverty	Four municipal case studies were prepared to promote the TCDC cooperation programme		Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia and El Salvador
25	Enhancing the economic and social development policy capabilities of the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean	Enhance the ability of professionals, experts, policy makers, governments and research institutions; strengthen their analytical and applied skills in support of economic and social policy formulation	- Strengthen co-operation networks - Organize workshops to facilitate the exchange of experiences	- There are two functioning networks on macroeconomic policy coordination: one in the Central American countries and another in the Andean Community	All the regional member countries
26	Reproductive education and responsible fatherhood in the Central American isthmus	Formulate a policy framework for reproductive education and harmonization of demographic policies and increase awareness of responsible fatherhood	- Ten case studies were conducted to facilitate cooperation with the programmes		Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama
27	Reform of health-care financing systems in Latin America	Provide governments with policy options based on experiences in the financing of health care systems, with emphasis on privately financed subsystems	Facilitate the exchange of experiences on: a) institutional designs for enhancing solidarity and competition; b) financing and provision of a basic health package; and c) methodology for risk taking		Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Mexico and Venezuela
28	A natural resource-cluster development strategy: Its growth, distribution and environmental implications	Improve the know-how and expertise of key actors at both the state and private sector levels to design and implement cluster development strategies	- The project website was launched for the exchange of views and experiences - Provide advisory services financed by other countries of the region	Establish a network of high-level representatives of public, private and academic institutions	Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Chile and Colombia

No.	Project Title	Project Objectives	TCDC Activities	Network/Forum	Country Involved
29	Pension and Retirement Funds	Prepare recommendations on reforms to the pension system in Latin America that are socially equitable and financially viable, to be taken into account by governments when reforming or adapting their pension systems	Technical assistance for Brazil and Venezuela. Four seminars were held on reforms to pension systems in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Venezuela, and a seminar and a seminar on international experience on coverage and solidarity in the new pension systems.		Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico and Venezuela
30	Energy and development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Improve the formulation and application of energy policies that support sustainable development, while promoting debate on criteria for the formulation of such policies at the regional level	-Technical assistance to Barbados, Honduras and Jamaica in areas relating to energy economics and policy - Subregional workshops on energy policy were held for: (i) the Andean Community and Mexico; (ii) MERCOSUR; (iii) the Central American isthmus; and (iv) the Caribbean	The Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE)	Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela

Type of TCDC Activities:

1. Strengthening of cooperation networks and support for national TCDC focal points;
2. Holding of workshops and technical meetings to facilitate an exchange of experiences between interested countries;
3. Preparing studies and reports specifically designed to identify co-operation opportunities; and
4. To facilitate the provision of horizontal co-operation services by local experts or consultants associated with the projects.

(iv) Technical cooperation projects conducted in conjunction with development agencies

During the period under review, the Project Management Unit in the Programme Planning and Operations Division (DPPO) continued to support the Commission's substantive activities by implementing a number of technical cooperation projects with extrabudgetary financing.

Technical cooperation projects are of course, formulated in response to applications from Governments in Latin America and the Caribbean; nevertheless, it should be pointed out that the ECLAC secretariat has used the opportunity provided by such projects to strengthen and expand the scope of some activities undertaken within the framework of the Programme of Work of the ECLAC System for the biennium 2000-2001.

The following boxes present a selection of the most important technical cooperation projects in this category. In choosing them, we have taken into account factors such as the relevance of the issues, their scope and expected impact.

Box 1

**Project entitled: A NATURAL RESOURCE-CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY:
ITS GROWTH, DISTRIBUTIVE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Being implemented by the Division of Production, Productivity and Management

Start-up date: April 1997

Completion date: July 2002

The project objectives are as follows: (i) to study ways of generating higher value added activities through the development of natural resources. The main focus of the study is on the extent of interaction between firms and between firms and institutions in a given locality and for specific sectors. According to modern literature on clusters, a firm's capacity for learning, adaptation and innovation as well as its ability to update its competitive advantages are determined by the quality of the interaction in specialized clusters of firms and institutions; and (ii) to contribute to the design of policies for stepping up the process of incorporation of new economic activities in locations where natural resources are being developed by improving the quality of interaction between firms as well as between firms and institutions.

Countries and sectors studied:

Argentina (fisheries, leather and footwear, forestry, dairy products)	Uruguay (fisheries, dairy products)
Chile (ecotourism, fisheries, mining, leather and footwear, forestry, dairy products)	Paraguay (forestry)
Colombia (mining, petroleum, forestry, dairy products)	Costa Rica (ecotourism)
Brazil (ecotourism, bauxite, melon, forestry)	Peru (mining, fisheries)
Bolivia (mining)	Mexico (fruit, dairy products, leather and footwear, forestry)
Venezuela (petroleum)	

The main activities carried out included the following: (i) the preparation of 35 case studies on production clusters in various sectors. The sectors and resources studied were mining, petroleum, forestry, fisheries, ecotourism, dairy products, fruit production and the leather and footwear industry; and (ii) the organization of meetings, congresses and seminars within and outside the region. The material used was drawn from a wide range of courses organized by different ECLAC divisions and by the Latin American and Caribbean Economic and Social Planning Institute (ILPES), in particular the international courses on Strategic Management of Local and Regional Development.

Technical cooperation has also been, or will be, provided to the following entities: the National Forestry Corporation (CONAF) of Chile in ecotourism clusters in the Aisén region in Chile; to the Ministry of Foreign Trade of Colombia with respect to its regional policy for export promotion; to local development organizations in the province of Río Negro in Argentina; to the chambers of footwear manufacturers in Chile and Argentina; to the government of Pichincha in Ecuador (scheduled for 2002); and to the government of the Valparaíso region in Chile (also in 2002).

A technical assistance project, developed through the Office of Local and Regional Development Management of ILPES, led to a proposal for an Integrated Land Development Programme for the establishment of a network of ecotourism companies in the zone. This Programme was approved and will be started in 2002. A collaboration agreement has also been concluded for the design of a support policy for the mining cluster in the region of Antofagasta, Chile.

Box 1 (concluded)

Within the framework of technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC), representatives of the ecotourism cluster in Bonito, Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil, visited a similar cluster in Monteverde, Costa Rica. In the same way, representatives of the mining cluster in Antofagasta, Chile, visited Sudbury, Canada, to study the experience of the Sudbury Regional Development Corporation.

After five years of experience with the programme on natural resource clusters, it has been demonstrated that the local and sectoral levels are the most appropriate for the design and application of productive development policies. It is crucial for firms in the natural resource cluster to strengthen their capacity for learning and innovation. This calls for optimal operation of market forces, which, in turn, is dependent on active intervention on the part of local institutions. These two elements, the operation of market forces and the capacity of local institutions, are still very fragile in Latin America, which hinders to the development of clusters.

During the period, the following studies were published: (i) M. Dirven (compiler), *Apertura económica y (des)encadenamientos productivos. Reflexiones sobre el complejo lácteo en América Latina*, ECLAC, Santiago, 2001; and (ii) R. Buitelaar (compiler) *Aglomeraciones mineras y desarrollo local*, ECLAC, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Editorial Alfaomega, Bogotá, 2001.

The external financing for this project came mainly from the following donors: Government of the Netherlands, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Government of Canada and the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), of the German Government. Other donors were the government of the region of Antofagasta (Chile), the Production Development Corporation (CORFO) (Chile), the Government of Colombia and the Government of Chile.

Officials from the following ECLAC Divisions participated in the project: the Division of Production, Productivity and Management, the Environment and Human Settlements Division and the Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division. The Office of Local and Regional Development Management of ILPES also participated.

Box 2

Project entitled: SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS

Being implemented by the Joint ECLAC-UNIDO Unit on Industrial and Technological Development in the Division of Production, Productivity and Management

Start-up date: June 1997

Completion date: December 2002

The project objectives are as follows: (i) to support national and local governments and business partnerships in defining and implementing development policies for the development of networks and coordinated systems for small and medium-sized industrial enterprises; and (ii) to expand, systematize and make available to users information on the current situation, future trends and support policies for small and medium-sized industrial enterprises in countries of the region.

Technical assistance was provided to the Governments of Argentina, the Eastern Caribbean States, the Netherlands Antilles, member States of the Andean Community and to public and private national or local institutions in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

The research findings were presented in the following outputs: 12 documents on the situation of small and medium-sized industrial enterprises and development policies in 14 countries in the region: Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela; 10 case studies (in Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Mexico) on experiences with production coordination in which the small and medium-sized enterprises had important functions in various industries: aeronautics (suppliers), footwear, electronic data processing equipment, engineering, garments, chemicals, software and wine production; six documents on innovation in small and medium-sized enterprises in the biotechnology, wine production, and printing and publication sectors, (in Brazil, Chile and Mexico, respectively); two documents on the dynamic of job creation in small and medium-sized enterprises in Argentina; three documents on support policies for small and medium-sized enterprises in Brazil, Chile and Mexico in 1995-2000; one document on small and medium-sized enterprises in the digital economy in Chile; one document on real service centres for small and medium-sized enterprises in Italy and their applicability to Latin America; one document on micro-credit, with information relating to Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador and Peru; and two documents that set out an analytical framework for studying small and medium-sized enterprises.

Similarly, a data and policy base relating to small and medium-sized industrial enterprises has been developed for Latin America and the Caribbean with information on European countries for conducting comparative studies. The base will be incorporated into a software for analysis of businesses of this kind.

Within three years, the project has produced an up-to-date description of small and medium-sized industrial enterprises and support policies in Latin America and the Caribbean, on the basis of which the impact of economic reforms on these companies can be evaluated. In addition, research and technical assistance have been focused on key areas identified for the design of development policies with a view to identifying the elements conducive to production clusters and business partnerships, job creation policies through small and medium-sized enterprises and credit policies geared towards smaller businesses.

External financing has been provided by the following donors: the Government of the Netherlands, the Government of Italy and the Government of Germany, through the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ).

Professional support from ECLAC was provided by two officials from the Joint ECLAC/UNIDO Industrial and Technological Development Unit and one official from the ECLAC Office in Buenos Aires.

Box 3

**Project entitled: POLICIES TO IMPROVE TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Being implemented by the Division of Production, Productivity and Management

Start-up date: November 1996 (Phase 1)

Completion date: September 2002 (Phase 2)

The project objectives are as follows: (i) to prepare practical recommendations for improving training systems for strengthening the economy and enhancing productivity and employment; (ii) to prepare recommendations for job training with a view to overcoming inequity in selected countries of Latin America; and (iii) to ensure that these recommendations are known and accepted by the agents involved.

Countries and economic and social sectors studied:

Argentina (electronics, youth)	Brazil (automobile, computing, outsourcing, ethnic groups)
Chile (graphics, tourism, outsourcing of work, home-based work)	Mexico (electronics, agribusiness, in-bond processing, growth industries)
Dominican Republic (small and medium-sized enterprises, growth industries, in-bond processing)	Guatemala (small and medium-sized enterprises, agribusiness, in-bond processing)
El Salvador (in-bond processing, growth industries)	Jamaica (in-bond processing, growth industries)
Uruguay (growth industries)	

The following are some of the main activities carried out: (i) 56 case studies on successful training experiences in the above-mentioned sectors and countries; (ii) six regional summary reports on selected sectors or social groups; (iii) two books published and one being prepared in collaboration with the Inter-American Research and Documentation Center on Vocational Training/International Labour Organization (CINTERFOR/ILO); (iv) eight workshops for disseminating the results prepared in collaboration with local organizations; and (v) one regional and one international seminar held and another regional seminar being prepared.

Technical cooperation agreements were signed with CINTERFOR/ILO, the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Mining and Energy of Chile and the Foundation for Economic and Social Development (FUNDES Internacional); a collaboration agreement is to be signed with the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI) and Fundación Chile.

Technical assistance was provided to the Government of the Municipality of Santo André (São Paulo, Brazil), in collaboration with the Brazilian Centre for Analysis and Planning (Brazil) and ILO; the Chamber of Industry of the Dominican Republic and the vocational training management organizations of Chile, Mexico and Peru.

Studies were carried out as follows: (i) with the government of the Municipality of Santo André (São Paulo, Brazil), on the formulation of vocational training strategies that incorporate gender and race variables; (ii) with the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance of Chile, project studies to promote the inclusion of temporary work in this country's labour bill and (iii) partnership arrangements with OEI geared towards advising the Mercosur secretariat on training strategies.

During this period the following books were published: *Formación y empresa*, *Formación para el trabajo: ¿Pública o privada?*, and *Formación para el trabajo en la nueva economía* (being published). In addition, 52 documents for restricted distribution or in the ECLAC Desarrollo productivo series were published. External financing came mainly from the Government of Germany, through the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ). This source of financing was supplemented with funds from FUNDES Internacional.

Box 4

**Project on “GROWTH, EMPLOYMENT AND EQUITY:
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN IN THE 1990s”**

Implemented by the Economic Development Division

Start-up date: December 1996

Completion date: May 2000

The objective of the project was to examine the impact of the economic reforms implemented in the region. A feature that set the project apart from other comparable studies was the fact that it specifically addressed the interaction of macroeconomic and microeconomic processes. It was based on the hypothesis that, in order to enhance understanding of the impact of reforms, it is necessary to disaggregate the regional figures to examine the differences between countries and between firms. The sum of the different patterns generates the aggregate trends that have been observed and measured, but it is essential to grasp the underlying tendencies in order to design economic policy measures capable of improving performance in the future.

The research work comprised five modules of analysis —political and social reform, investment, technological innovation, employment, and income distribution— in nine countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Mexico and Peru. The project generated 70 documents, which were published as part of the title series *Reformas economicas*. In addition, a comparative study was published in eight of the nine countries, as well as nine thematic books.

The results of the project demonstrated that, although the majority of the countries achieved a reduction in their rates of inflation, the reforms may have worsened problems in other areas, especially employment. One of the most significant parts of the project was sectoral and microeconomic analysis, as this singled out the reforms that had generated the greatest impact. Trade liberalization and privatization stimulated market restructuring, bringing in new actors and investments, especially from external sources. Increased competition between imports and these new actors in the domestic market spurred modernization on a broad front, mainly in sectors characterized by rapid technological change, such as telecommunications. Large firms, especially the subsidiaries of transnational corporations, were the largest investors and the leading integrators of new technologies. Small firms displayed a mixed performance in the countries, but continued to produce mainly for the domestic markets. In consequence, they performed better when macroeconomic conditions were favourable.

The project concluded that the reforms had a positive impact in a number of aspects, but were not sufficient to promote dynamic and stable economic growth in the region. In addition, problems such as unemployment and inequality remained unresolved unless the reforms were accompanied by policies to stimulate competitiveness, job creation and more equitable income distribution.

External financing was provided by the following international donors: Netherlands Ministry for Development Cooperation; International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada; the Ford Foundation and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

Economists from several of the substantive divisions of ECLAC worked on the project, from both headquarters in Santiago and the Commission’s subregional headquarters and national offices.

Box 5

Project on PENSION FUNDS AND RETIREMENT

Executed by the Special Studies Unit of the Office of the Executive Secretary
(financed by the Government of Germany through the German Agency for
Technical Cooperation (GTZ))

Start-up date: August 1998

Completion date: December 2001

In many countries of the region, rapid population ageing and financial crises in the pension system—which worsened in the wake of the Latin American external debt crisis—prompted major pensions reforms. In general, the reforms have sought to engage the private sector more extensively in the administration of pension systems, on the assumption that this will bring about improvements in the key aspects of coverage, solvency and efficiency, and reduce the financial burden on the State. None of these experiences, however, have been conclusive enough to generate policy proposals aimed at safeguarding the interests of lower income groups and avoiding poverty in old age.

The project prepared policy recommendations in four key areas that are essential for designing reforms and for achieving the objectives of a pension system with private-sector participation, based on the experience of ECLAC in the area of pension reform, and on the implementation of reforms in six countries of the region (Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico and Venezuela). These four areas are:

- (a) Policies directed at increasing the coverage of pension systems, especially among lower income groups and in the informal sector.
- (b) Policies directed at reducing the cost of participating in pension schemes of which a significant stake is privately administered.
- (c) Means of channelling pension fund resources more effectively towards financing for real investment, as a way to improve the quality of pensions in the future; and
- (d) Alternative means of designing reforms, in order to reduce the impact on public finances.

The project provided technical assistance at the request of governments and was able to generate a positive impact on the design of reforms in several of the region's countries. Given that pension system reform figures on the political agenda of almost all the countries, the results of the studies generated broad debate in national and regional forums. The Latin American experience has also aroused considerable interest among policy-makers, experts, international associations working in the field of social security and other international agencies (such as ILO and the World Bank) and academics from other regions, as it provides an input for the debate in countries that are in the process of reforming their schemes, such as the members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and a number of Eastern European transition economies.

In order to follow up this widespread interest, ECLAC and IDB have pooled their efforts in order to continue analysing aspects of fiscal responsibility in pension systems and in the reform of social security systems in Latin America and the Caribbean.

This project was financed by the Government of Germany, through the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ).

Box 6

**Project on REFORM OF FINANCING FOR HEALTH SYSTEMS
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

(Implemented by the Special Studies Unit of the Office of the Executive Secretary)

Start-up date: January 1998

Completion date: July 2002

Despite the efforts deployed by the countries of the region to finance the provision of health services, it is estimated that 25% of Latin America's population lacks access to a formal health system. This is due to the fact that the health sector of most Latin American countries has several subsystems serving different population groups differentiated by income level and nature of employment, which generates serious problems of efficiency and equity, to the detriment of the poor sectors of the population. Through this project, ECLAC provides assistance to the region's economic and health authorities in designing their health system reforms, in particular insurance and financing schemes.

The project documents are designed to aid the preparation of policy reform proposals. Their recommendations emphasize the need to arrive at an appropriate combination of solidarity, efficiency and universality—three elements which are essential for a successful reform. ECLAC has conducted 22 national studies, which examine and present policy suggestions for the health sector. The methodology consists of defining, jointly with the country's authorities, priority issues and terms of reference for the tasks, which have been implemented by local consultants. In addition, studies have been conducted on the experience of countries outside the region (Canada and the United States), in order to broaden the range of alternatives under discussion for reforming health systems. Once completed, these studies are discussed at national and regional workshops, with the participation of government and private-sector representatives and academics, in order to devise recommendations for health system reforms. This mechanism facilitates the acceptance and dissemination of the recommendations, which are then used by governments for preparing proposals.

The conclusions and recommendations of the project have been widely welcomed. This has enabled ECLAC to provide technical assistance and participate in the debate on reforms in a number of countries, including Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Mexico and Venezuela. The experience gained has also been used in numerous courses and teaching activities directed at staff and policy-makers in health-related areas, some of which have been conducted jointly with the World Bank and the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES). It has thus been possible to establish a network of experts in the region to facilitate technical support to the countries.

The outputs of the project have aroused interest outside the region and have been presented in international forums such as the London School of Economics and Political Science and the Second World Conference of the International Health Economics Association, entitled "Private and Public Choice in Health and Health Care". The Latin American experiences offer valuable lessons to other countries that are considering or have embarked upon reform to their health systems.

Demand for these studies and for technical assistance missions is likely to increase as health system reform moves up government agendas.

Box 7

**Project on “SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EQUITY IN LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN” (Phases I and II)**

Implemented by the Social Development Division

Financed by the Government of Germany through the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ)

Start-up date: June 1999

Completion date: 2004

Since the early 1990s ECLAC has advocated the pursuit of productive transformation jointly with the quest for equity, by means of market mechanisms, a significant role for the State in underpinning these, and an appropriate blend of economic and social policies. The objective of this project —equity— lies at the heart of the ECLAC philosophy of using applied research to develop public policy recommendations in the economic and social spheres, on issues that are essential to redressing the inequality and inequity that prevail in the region.

This is a cross-divisional project conducted from an interdisciplinary perspective. It acts as a hub for many of the activities conducted by ECLAC and seeks to generate synergies with other projects within the institution.

In its preparatory phase (Equity I), the project generated major outputs (publications and meetings) and inputs for the documents presented at the ECLAC sessions in Mexico (2000) and Brasilia (2002). The current phase of the project (Equity II) is devoted to analysing a number of determinants of equity, such as:

(i) The impact of macroeconomic aspects on funding for social policy (particularly social security systems —health and pensions— and social protection);

(ii) Labour market features, the growing numbers of women present in that market and the generation of high-quality employment policies;

(iii) Post-debt crisis changes in **social stratification** in Latin America and their impact on social mobility. It is necessary to analyse how changes in the social actors —particularly as a result of the weakening of the trade unions— affect governance, on the one hand, and social policies, on the other, as policy design requires a detailed knowledge of the social “map”;

(iv) **Gender** factors are also associated with the achievement of equity and the design of social policies, given that the redefinition of men’s and women’s roles and the integration of women into the labour market affect the distribution of social protection responsibilities among the family, society and the State; and

(v) In many of the Latin American countries, **ethnic factors** carry particular weight and constitute key issues on the political agenda. Progress must therefore be made in developing policy recommendations aimed at eradicating ethnic discrimination, and widening the concept of citizenship.

The work involved in the project will build the capacity of ECLAC to provide technical assistance to governments that request it. This activity is being expanded, thanks to the support of an expert from the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), which works directly with the project and helps to build linkages between this and other GTZ-financed project in the region.

The project is funded by the Government of Germany, through GTZ.

Box 8

THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY**Project on FINANCING FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT and
WORKSHOP ON NATIONAL STRATEGY STUDIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

Implemented by the Environment and Human Settlements Division

Financed by the World Bank, the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), the Andean Development Corporation (ADC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

*Start-up date: March 2001**Completion date: July 2002*

ECLAC provides technical assistance to the countries of the region, to enable them to participate fully in the follow-up to and discussion of the multilateral commitments on environmental issues. For example:

- The Regional Seminar on Climate Change: National Strategic Studies took place at the ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, on 20 and 21 March 2001. This was a joint initiative organized by ECLAC and the World Bank, with the support of Governments of Switzerland, through the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), and Germany, through the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), and the Andean Development Corporation (ADC). The purpose of the seminar was to encourage dialogue between the public and private sectors in order to identify opportunities to reduce the costs that the industrialized countries must assume in order to comply with the greenhouse gas reduction targets they undertook in the Kyoto Protocol, which further developed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The engagement of the developing countries makes it possible to significantly reduce the costs of mitigating emissions, by means of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). This opens up new business opportunities for the region's private sectors and therefore new possibilities of attracting investments associated with clean production and technological innovation.
- The seminar was attended by representatives of governments and the private sector from 13 of the region's countries, as well as international investors interested in the opportunities associated with CDM. The seminar's dual public-private format and its results were positively rated by the participants. This joint ECLAC-World Bank initiative contributes to the creation of financial mechanisms that will facilitate the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol, and helps to consolidate efforts to optimize the contribution of CDM to Latin American and Caribbean development priorities.
- As part of the preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to take place in South Africa in 2002, ECLAC, jointly with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), organized the Regional Preparatory Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the World Summit, which was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 23 and 24 October 2001. As well as its contribution to the organizational aspects and to the preparation of the meeting's main document "The sustainability of development in Latin America and the Caribbean: challenges and opportunities", the principal contribution of ECLAC referred to one of the most significant issues of sustainable development: financing. Within the framework of a project funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), ECLAC presented a document at the meeting, entitled "Financing for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean", which addresses the existing problems, challenges and opportunities surrounding sustainable development issues, based on analyses of regional financial flows and case studies conducted in a number of countries. This is a pioneering effort in the region and has yet to come to grips with information gaps and considerable technical difficulties, but it must be carried forward if the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean are to move towards an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable form of development.

Box 9

Project "URBAN MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES AND TOOLS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN"

Implemented by the Environment and Human Settlements Division
(Financed by the Government of Italy)

Start-up date: September 1999

Completion date: March 2003

Latin America and the Caribbean is the developing world's most urbanized region: 38 million people live in cities and 127 million in rural areas, with urbanization levels reaching 75% in 2000. Cities today suffer enormous lags in infrastructure, institutions, and the productive base, as well as severe inequality in the distribution of goods and services among residents. The "urbanization of poverty" is a phenomenon specific to the region, given that most of the poor in Asia and Africa still live in the countryside.

In this context, the project aims to strengthen the capacity of local governments to address the issue of land-use management and urban management with a focus on urban poverty, with the following specific objectives: (i) to develop specific instruments and tools in the areas of services management, coordination of methods for alleviating urban poverty (housing and environmental conditions, land availability and employment) and rehabilitation of city centres; and (ii) to develop training and education programmes for use by municipalities in the implementation of systems and models.

Thus far, the project has completed the following case studies in the selected cities, in coordination with their mayors: (a) **San Salvador**: (i) systems of district management and administration with community participation as an option for restoring city centres; (ii) structural patterns ranging from informal employment, service activities and accessibility; and municipal decentralization as a framework for ways and means of joint public/private management, (b) **Manizales**: (i) design of participatory ways to monitor and follow up urban development plans; (ii) joint municipal/community management for resolving conflicts relating to investment priorities and participatory budgets; (iii) establishment of urban observatories as quantitative reference mechanisms for city growth and development; (iv) preparation of a set of performance and development indicators for functionality and quality of life at the local level; and (v) instruments for adjusting development plans, (c) **Quilmes**: (i) establishment of a programme for administrative decentralization at the municipal level; (ii) use of centres for community participation as hubs for the development of community efforts aimed at social and economic development; (iii) organization of participation processes linked to the municipality; (iv) political openness towards members of the public, creating new local facilities for social participation that complement the traditional mechanisms of representative democracy, and (d) **Caranavi**: (i) design and organization of programmes and instruments for furthering municipal participation in land development for productive purposes; (ii) analysis of the demands and requirements of municipal management for the development of productive processes at the local level; (iii) analysis of dynamic endogenous factors of development; (iv) generation of employment and the formation of networks of associations for productive development; and (v) services to rural areas as a springboard for boosting rural outputs. Further case studies are underway in three other countries —Chile, Ecuador and the Dominican Republic— with a focus on: (i) management and municipal services; (ii) coordinated action for reducing urban poverty; and (iii) rehabilitation of central areas of medium-sized cities.

As a complement to the introduction of new instruments and systems of urban management, a series of training programmes are being organized for municipal staff, in order to ensure the sustainability of results and maximize impacts. The project has had a significant impact thus far. Municipal organization is being restructured in terms of responsibilities and financing processes and municipal staff have in fact adopted a new management "culture". A complete set of models and systems have been published for use in in-house training courses conducted by other municipalities in the region.

Box 10

**Project on ENERGY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Implemented by the Division of Natural Resources and Infrastructure
Financed by the Government of Germany and implemented by ECLAC,
the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE)
and the German Agency for Technical cooperation (GTZ)

Start-up date: October 1998

Completion date: August 2001

The energy supply problems facing the Latin American countries have highlighted the importance of implementing long-term energy policies that are compatible with wider economic and social development policy. This project was a joint undertaking between the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) and ECLAC, and comprised three phases: the first created a frame of reference for the design of energy policies in the region; the second helped to build upon this tool on the basis of work carried out in several areas and to consolidate it as a point of reference for the third phase, which was more operational, involving the application of concepts and the facilitation of technical assistance to governments of the region, to help them to integrate sustainable development proposals into their energy policies.

The analysis and formulation of proposals were carried out using a participatory strategy that involved actors from the public and private sectors and, where possible, the business community, in order to ensure policy viability by bringing together the interests of the different parties. In addition, through specific studies on natural gas-based integration projects, these actors were included in relevant political forums in the specific area of the studies and other related spheres, such as electricity generation and socioeconomic and environmental activities. This made it possible to broaden the scope of measures taken in relation to energy issues, from the level of technology and supply systems to the economic, social and environmental dimensions. The countries thus accepted as valid many of the proposals that were widely discussed at national, subregional and regional workshops, such as the thirty-first meeting of the energy ministers of the OLADE member countries, which is held annually.

The concepts of sustainable development involve objectives within a process, rather than a final destination: the project thus advanced from aspects related to modernization (such as regulatory frameworks) to the privatization of assets and free trade. This made for a gradual shift in the perspective of energy policy in relation to development, to develop a multidimensional vision of problems in terms of space, time and ethical principles. The shift in spatial perspective helped to identify territorial situations that require to be addressed on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with the cultural, political and socioeconomic features of each country, bearing in mind their endowment of natural resources and the need to protect the local and global environment. The time perspective has led to an understanding of the need to identify long-term objectives and address them appropriately in relation to issues that are urgent now. At the ethical level, attention has been drawn to the fact that development is ultimately for the benefit of people. In this context, the message transmitted to the recipients of cooperation emphasizes the need to strike a balance in policy decisions, in the sense that the development process will be viable providing that it does not favour any one dimension over others, or any particular region over others, and does not neglect the environment or attend only to the needs of present generations to the detriment of opportunities for future generations.

Box 11

WATER FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY: FROM VISION TO ACTION

Implemented by the Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division

Financed by the Global Water Partnership, the World Bank, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Wallingford Institute

*Start-up date: February 2001**Completion date: January 2004*

South America, which is the richest region of the world in terms of water resources, suffers serious deficiencies with regard to water supplies for the population. Indeed, the regional report on water for the twenty-first century, presented at the second World Water Forum (The Hague, 2000), presents some revealing figures: 20% of the population still has no access to the water supply and over 30% do not have sanitation services; there is widespread contamination of water resources, which constitutes a high risk for the health of the population and for environmental conservation; conflicts over water are increasing and there is a general lack of preparation for natural disasters and extreme hydrological events. All the studies agree that one of the great weaknesses of the region, as far as making progress in resolving these problems is concerned, is the absence of integrated and effective governance of the water sector, which refers to the capacity of a society to mobilize its energies coherently for the sustainable development of its water resources. In response to this situation, the Global Water Partnership's South American Technical Advisory Committee (SAMTAC), whose Secretariat was established by means of a project with ECLAC, coordinates activities for:

- creating a solid and consistent current of opinion with regard to water problems, that can help build consensus and bring together the direct stakeholders and government bodies, and also academic institutions and communication media, experts and politicians, as the water issue has to be dealt with step by step, at all levels, and taking into account both the present and the future;
- helping to bring together the different experiences;
- promoting new forums for discussion, and in particular listening to the voice of the general public, which experiences on a daily basis the weaknesses of water policies in the region.

SAMTAC is organizing a series of national workshops where the different stakeholders can discuss a plan of action to promote the integrated management of water resources, as well as other relevant subjects, always using a "bottom up" approach through regional expert workshops. In order to raise public awareness of the importance of integrated water resources management, information materials are distributed, and are available electronically through its web site. SAMTAC has also participated in related events in the region, such as the fourth Inter-American Dialogue on Water Management organized by the Organization of American States (OAS) in Foz de Iguazú, Brazil (September 2001) and in a session on the conflict between water for food versus water for nature at the third Water Meeting organized by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in Santiago, Chile, and is collaborating with IDB on holding a day on governance and financing for water during the meeting of the Board of Governors of IDB in Fortaleza, Brazil, in March 2002. In 2002 the main effort will be focused on preparing the regional contribution to the dialogues on governance, water for food versus water for nature, and climate change at the third World Water Forum which will take place in March 2003 in Japan.

Box 12

REGIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME ON THE USE OF DEMOGRAPHIC DATA IN THE PREPARATION, IMPLEMENTATION AND ASSESSMENT OF SOCIAL PROJECTS

Implemented by the Population Division (CELADE)

Financed by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Government of the Netherlands

*Start-up date: January 1998**Completion date: February 2001*

ECLAC, through the Population Division (CELADE), has been collaborating for several years with IDB on the use of demographic data and analysis in the formulation and assessment of projects for investment in social sectors. This cooperation activity has made it possible to carry out work that has great practical impact and is an integral part of the main activities of ECLAC, and which would have been very difficult to carry out with traditional technical assistance methods by means of the individual efforts of the cooperating institutions. Until the first half of the year 2000, the activities carried out have made it possible to improve the technical capacity of experts and national institutions in the production and processing of basic demographic data and of the relevant data bases, strengthen the capacity for project analysis and assessment, as well as to develop, adapt and apply methods for estimating demographic indicators for small areas; and to assist the authorities in taking demographic variables into account in economic and social development policies. Specifically, during the biennium, there was cooperation with seven national projects on health, social policies, censuses and surveys, and the social emergency and community development funds in four countries of high priority for ECLAC and IDB: Bolivia, Nicaragua, Peru and Suriname. There was also a significant number of activities at the regional level that focused on some socioeconomic problems associated with population ageing and the population and housing censuses. Lastly, these cooperation activities increased the potential for obtaining loans from the IDB for financing new censuses in various countries of the region, including Bolivia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Suriname.

As of the mid-2000s and until the end of 2001 (the project is still being implemented), the IDB/CELADE collaboration has focused on supporting the dissemination and use of the 2000 round of censuses, which began to take place in various countries of the region. Work started on generating the data bases in the new (and improved) version of the programme for retrieval of data for small areas by microcomputer (REDATAM) with the statistical and census offices of Brazil, Costa Rica, Mexico and Panama, with the expectation that other countries that carried out their censuses at a later date would also benefit. In addition to the association of ECLAC with IDB, there was cooperation from the Government of the Netherlands, for the purpose of strengthening this line of work in the countries of the Caribbean. In this connection, the technical cooperation initiated in Saint Lucia for processing census data with the new computer scanning technology, was moved to Anguila and the next application was planned for the first half of 2002 in Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent, the British Virgin Islands and Guyana. One noteworthy result is that the cooperation provided has meant that the Statistical Office of Saint Lucia is the first in the Latin American and Caribbean region to allow the processing of census data (for 1990) in a totally open manner, through the Internet. This will probably establish the pattern for the dissemination of census data for the rest of the decade in most of the region.

Box 13

MECOVI Project (PROGRAMME FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF SURVEYS AND THE MEASUREMENT OF LIVING CONDITIONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN)

Implemented by the Statistics and Economic Projections Division

Financed by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

*Start-up date: April 1997**Completion date: June 2002*

The MECOVI Project was created as a means to formalize the technical support provided by ECLAC for the programme "Improvement of Surveys and the Measurement of Living Conditions in Latin America and the Caribbean", which began in 1996 and is co-sponsored by IDB, the World Bank and ECLAC. The objective of this programme is to build the capacity of the region's countries to conduct and interpret household surveys that are aimed at improving living conditions, as information from these surveys is needed to design, monitor and evaluate policies, programmes and projects intended to alleviate poverty and achieve a better degree of social equity. It comprises two main components: (a) activities at the level of the participating countries; and (b) activities at the regional level.^{a/} Most of the activities in which ECLAC participates concern the regional sphere and include methodological workshops, training courses and the development of a database of household surveys.

The statistical offices of all the countries of the region have benefited from the exchange of information during the discussions and analysis at the regional workshops and from the outputs of the database of household surveys. Some of the project's accomplishments to date are:

- Over 200 survey producers and users from almost all the Latin American and Caribbean countries have been trained to generate and interpret statistical information on social matters, and participate in technical meetings to exchange knowledge with users from other countries of the region.
- Seven countries have made substantial improvements to their household survey system and possess up-to-date databases of the whole region; in this respect, ECLAC provides them with technical support to formulate and implement their own national projects.
- An information bank containing 160 databases of household surveys from countries of the region. Sixty-seven of these surveys have a uniform format and standardized documentation based on the work carried out by ECLAC.
- A CD-ROM containing the most recent databases, corresponding to the years 1995-1998 and 1999, which has been distributed to the countries of the region.

At its most recent meeting (March 2001), the Steering Committee stressed the importance of the work carried out during the first four years of the MECOVI Programme, and pledged to continue to support the coordination and monitoring tasks of the three co-sponsoring institutions, and to assist in raising funds in order to incorporate new countries and sustain the regional activities. In particular, ECLAC is responsible for supporting the Programme by obtaining the new resources needed to continue with both the regional workshops and the data bank.

^{a/} The national project counterparts are the statistical offices of the participating countries, which are currently: Argentina, Bolivia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru. Other countries have expressed an interest in joining the Programme, including Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Honduras, Panama and Venezuela. Of these, Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Honduras conducted a number of activities in the period 2000-2001.

Box 14

**Project on “RATIONAL USE OF HYDROCARBONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
IN CENTRA AMERICA”**

Implemented by the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico
(Funded by the Government of Germany)

Start-up date: November 1999

Completion date: August 2002

Since the mid 1980s, the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean have been undergoing the most significant transformation of their energy sector since the heyday of nationalization. Decentralization, privatization and liberalization have had powerful repercussions for energy policies and have created high expectations of business development and growth. In many cases, however, sustainable use of resources is neither guaranteed nor assessed. In the rush towards new growth opportunities, ecological considerations have been left aside, and previous studies have focused mainly on efficiency and financing.

The project is aimed at national institutions, primarily at the decision-makers and political representatives of national governments, who are responsible for formulating and implementing energy, transport and environmental policy. It focuses on the sustainable development of the hydrocarbon sector, particularly on reducing environmental impacts and increasing energy efficiency in the supply and consumption of petroleum products. The project builds on previous GTZ-ECLAC projects which laid the foundations for a sustainable use of hydrocarbons (crude oil, petroleum products and natural gas) in selected areas of the six countries of the Central America Isthmus (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama). Efficiency continues to be an issue and the project is also addressing the reduction of negative environmental impacts generated by the use and handling of hydrocarbons.

Within the framework of the project, ad-hoc groups for special subjects have been created in order to engage the relevant authorities in the project. Some of these groups have begun working, such as the LPG group in Nicaragua. A participatory methodology involving the national energy organizations has been adopted in the course of the project's implementation. In this context, ECLAC has prepared an informative document on the project for all the institutions that will participate in the National Follow-up Committee. By July 2001, a review had been conducted of each country's recent environmental legislation and the regulatory model had been updated. The regulatory model sets out the requirements for approaching the issue of environmental management in the subsector, including the general structure, the administrative and legal regimes, technical procedures and regulations.

The project has already had an impact, given that the counterparts in each country are actively reviewing their existing regulations and procedures. Also, the project has used a methodology to enable all six countries to reach a consensus on the annual work plan (which is agreed upon at the Annual Meeting on Hydrocarbon Supply for Central America, organized by the countries' Directors General), to participate in the activities and to keep informed of ongoing progress which, in itself, has heightened their interest in carrying the activities forward in step with each other. The project has generated an annual report on hydrocarbon supply in Central America, as requested by the Directors General as part of the project activities.

The project will undertake a study on the use of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), compressed natural gas (CNG), and electricity for the Central American domestic transport sectors. It will also generate proposals for recovering vapours released during the storage, processing and distribution of petroleum products, and design a system for handling lubricants and mixed substances containing oil. A diagnosis of conditions at sea and safety precautions at import facilities is also to be prepared.

Box 15

**Project "REPRODUCTIVE EDUCATION AND RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD
IN THE CENTRAL AMERICAN ISTHMUS"**

(Funded by the United Nations Fund for International Partnership (UNFIP))

Implemented by the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico

Start-up date: September 1999

Completion date: September 2002

The Central American Isthmus is still one of the regions of the world with the highest rates of population growth, although four countries within this region are among the poorest in the Western Hemisphere. Policies to reduce fertility cannot be sound or effective unless they are based on a modification of cultural patterns that prevail mainly in rural and urban working class areas. The Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development emphasizes the need "to encourage and enable men to take responsibility for their sexual and reproductive behaviour and their social and family roles".

In this context, the project seeks to develop an integrated regional policy framework for reproductive education and responsible fatherhood, and to harmonize demographic policies in the region, as a part of broader socio-economic policies for reducing poverty. The project has been relevant in terms of the development priority of the six countries targeted in Central America. In Costa Rica, where a Responsible Fatherhood Act (relating mainly to the recognition and registration of children) has already been approved, the project has helped to extend the concept and scope of paternity to other fields, in particular, health, education, human rights. In El Salvador, the Supreme Court of Justice has shown particular interest, since the legal demands on related items (for example, child recognition alimony) have increased enormously and judges, feeling somewhat limited in their ability to deal with these subjects, have proposed collaborating on training. In Guatemala, membership in the National Network on Responsible Fatherhood, which was created after a national seminar on the project, has grown considerably and includes representatives from various ministries, the Army and civil society organizations. In Honduras, the institutional response has been extremely weak. There has, however, been a positive reaction from the academic sector and from the Ministry of Health. In Nicaragua, the Council has worked very hard to sensitize all its representatives with a view to including the core issue of the project in the regular work programme of each participating institution. The Children's Attorney and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) are working together to reform existing legislation on the protection of children. In Panama, after the project workshop, the Ministry of Youth, Women, Childhood and the Family created the programme "Promotion of Responsible Fatherhood", in conjunction with representatives of public and private agencies. Legislative authorities are also working to promote a Responsible Fatherhood Act, similar to that of Costa Rica.

The impact of the project has been significant, especially among women, who were targeted as the primary beneficiaries. Some of them have admitted that they have often, consciously or unconsciously, supported men's cultural patterns, and would need to make a determined effort to encourage men's participation in rearing children. The lessons learned are: (i) the advantage of generating the Regional Initiative for Responsible Fatherhood in Central America, not as a single institutional plan, but as a series of inter-sectoral and inter-agency activities at the local, national and regional levels; (ii) the emphasis placed by this project on reproductive education reconciling potential differences with conservative groups and resulted in a widespread acceptance of the project objectives; (iii) training activities were a positive way of maintaining the project on an on-going basis, contrary to the general view that the subject would disappear once the project was terminated; and (iv) the great advantages of working jointly with other United Nations agencies such as the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), UNICEF and the World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization (WHO/PAHO).

The project will further strengthen the institutional capacity of countries through the strategic alliance formed with other United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), in order to maximize the project's sustainable impacts.

Box 16

**Project to "IMPROVE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY TO PROMOTE
NATURAL DISASTER MITIGATION AND RISK REDUCTION AWARENESS
AND PREPAREDNESS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN"**

(Financed by the Government of the Netherlands and the Government of Italy)

Implemented by the ECLAC system, headed by the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters in Mexico,
in its capacity as the focal point for the project, with the
cooperation of several substantive divisions

Start-up date: October 1999

Completion date: June 2002

In the past five years, Latin America and the Caribbean suffered the onslaughts of nature as rarely before in the region's history. In 1998, Hurricane Georges lashed several Caribbean islands, and Hurricane Mitch ravaged Central America in the worst natural disaster ever to hit some of the countries of the isthmus. Venezuela suffered flooding and mudslides in 1999, Belize sustained damage from Hurricane Keith in 2000, and El Salvador was hit by an earthquake in 2001. The scale of these disasters and the kinds of damage they caused showed the region's extreme vulnerability to such events and underlined the indissoluble link between development, environmental sustainability and the risk of catastrophic damage. The governments worst affected by these disasters approached ECLAC for advice in assessing damage and developing proposals for rehabilitation and reconstruction. ECLAC-coordinated missions were sent to the countries that had sustained the heaviest damage. Each of these missions prepared a detailed report for the respective government, based on a methodology developed by ECLAC over more than 25 years of work analysing the socio-economic effects of natural disasters.

In this context, the project aims to increase awareness of the link between sustainable development and risk reduction in an environment hit by recurrent natural disasters, by improving the existing ECLAC methodology for damage assessment following natural disasters and making it available to all potential users, in order to strengthen legal and institutional capacity and to promote regional cooperation among the Central American and Caribbean countries and thus reduce their vulnerability to natural disasters.

During the biennium 2000-2001, the project staff participated in the following assessments in Central America: (i) the socio-economic effects of flooding and mudslides in Venezuela; (ii) the economic, social and environmental impact of Hurricane Keith in Belize; (iii) economic, social and environmental assessment of the earthquake in El Salvador; and (iv) socio-economic and environmental assessment of the drought in Central America. The project provided Caribbean governments with technical support to improve their capacity to assess the impact of natural disasters on their economies. To this end; the ECLAC/Caribbean Cooperation and Development Committee (CDCC) secretariat convened a subregional training workshop on the use of the ECLAC methodology for assessing the macroeconomic, social and environmental impacts of natural disasters in Latin America and the Caribbean. This signalled the start of a national-level process aimed at developing a core of experts with multidisciplinary skills, to enable the deployment at short notice of assessment teams drawn from staff located within or in close proximity to affected countries. The national workshops were organized at the request of the Government of the British Virgin Islands in July 2000 and at the request of the Government of Belize in June 2001. In November 2001, the Government of Jamaica requested the ECLAC/CDCC secretariat to conduct an assessment of the damage caused by Hurricane Michelle.

The international community uses the ECLAC assessments to determine strategies for the mobilization of financial resources, both in terms of the amounts committed and the selection of projects that are a priority for the reconstruction of the affected countries. Following a natural disaster, a meeting of donors is therefore held to raise funds to contribute to the rebuilding process.

Box 17

**Project entitled INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF GENDER POLICIES WITHIN ECLAC
AND SECTORAL MINISTRIES**

Being implemented by the Women and Development Unit
in the Office of the Executive Secretary

Financed by the Government of Germany through the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ)

Start-up date: June 1999

Completion date: June 2002

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/104, Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/17 and with decisions adopted at the eighth meeting of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Lima, Peru, February 2000), this project seeks to promote mainstreaming of the principle of gender equity in public policies. In some countries—namely, Argentina, Ecuador and El Salvador—measures were taken to strengthen the institutional capacity of national offices for the advancement of women and sectoral ministries to formulate and implement inter-agency labour policies in key sectors of the economy. These sectors were identified jointly by ECLAC and the national Governments concerned: health in Argentina, tourism in Ecuador and in-bond processing in El Salvador. The strategy adopted was to prepare technical instruments and studies, as well as to strengthen cooperation, dialogue and intersectoral consensus and to facilitate the active and direct participation of government agencies and civil society (entrepreneurs, trades unions, academic centres and grass-roots organizations and non-governmental organizations dealing with women's issues). In each country, a gender-based diagnostic analysis was carried out on the employment situation in the selected sector, on the basis of a holistic approach to development and public-policy formulation and with the participation of the different interest groups concerned. These studies were the basis for proposals for a research and policy-design agenda, which were negotiated and refined at the intersectoral level, culminating, in each country, in agreements that are binding on the relevant agencies:

- In Argentina, within the framework of the Federal Health Council (COFESA), an agreement-commitment was signed between the Ministry of Health of the Federal Government, the provincial ministries of health and the National Council for Women (April 2001).
- In Ecuador, a working group on tourism and equity was set up (July 2000) and a public ceremony was held to adopt the "Intersectoral agenda for gender mainstreaming in the labour and economic policy in the tourism sector" (May 2001), which was signed by several civic and corporate entities.
- In El Salvador, at a plenary meeting of the Supreme Council on Labour, a strategy was adopted for mainstreaming the gender perspective in the labour and economic policy of the *maquila* sector and an intersectoral Letter of Agreement was signed by representatives of the Government, the private sector and workers.

A number of requests were received from countries in the region seeking to reproduce the project methodology (Brazil, Dominican Republic and Guatemala, among others). As part of the technical support provided to countries, a select bibliography on economics and gender was prepared as well as a directory of gender experts within and outside the region, in the following areas: economics, labour, poverty, social security and statistics. These and other relevant documentation may be accessed at the project web site <http://www.eclac.cl/mujer/proyectos/gtz/Default.htm> .

III. DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS DIVISION

The Documents and Publications Division edits, translates, processes, reproduces, distributes and sells the documents prepared by the Secretariat in both English and Spanish and, to a lesser extent, in French. It also provides these services at conferences and meetings sponsored by the Commission, at ECLAC headquarters and elsewhere. In fulfilment of the policies established by the Publications and Information Services Committee, it produces printed documents for cost-free distribution and publications for sale, using its own printing facilities or external printers, or through co-publishing agreements with outside publishing houses. It also produces electronic documents for publication on the Internet; collaborates with the United Nations Sales Section in the task of commercial distribution; and it also acts as technical secretariat to the Publications and Information Services Committee and draws up and implements the ECLAC Publications Programme.

Internal processes. The Division has continued to introduce technical innovations and to outsource editing, translating and graphics services on a regular and extraordinary basis. The small in-house staff, which is seen as a highly qualified core group, is mainly responsible for the documents of greatest institutional importance. Intensive use is made of new computer software which, together with progress in electronic communications and the acquisition of on-demand printing technology, has enabled the Division to deliver a high-quality product, within very short time scales and in a minimum of two languages.

Editorial policy and its results in the biennium. During the biennium 2000-2001, the Division consolidated the changes that were proposed and agreed upon with the Executive Secretariat, with a view to implementing a more consistent editorial policy (begun in 1998). The policy objectives that have been met include the following:

- (i) ECLAC flagship publications in English and Spanish produced with a standard format for both internal layout and cover design, so that they can be readily distributed and identified as a set.
- (ii) A collection of ECLAC books, with their own distinguishing features and an improved presentation. During the biennium 15 of these ECLAC books were published.
- (iii) Substitution of traditional institutional documents for “series” publications. Research and other work is channelled through these series, which are produced by the respective substantive divisions and, in as number of cases, by the Publications and Information Services Committee. The Division has trained a large number of staff from different parts of the Commission in the formatting of these series.
- (iv) Co-publishing: following several years of negotiations, the United Nations Publications Board granted ECLAC a delegation of authority to sign joint publication and distribution agreements with commercial publishing houses. In the biennium 2000-2001, 18 books were produced as joint publications, with ECLAC providing financial contributions in most cases.

- (v) Preparation of electronic publications for the ECLAC web site. The number of documents available in electronic version on the web site increased significantly.

Quantitative production data: During the 2000-2001 biennium, the Division provided a variety of support services to 30 conferences and meetings sponsored by ECLAC and partial translation support to one event sponsored by the United Nations Office at Geneva. It edited, translated and revised 11.2 million words, produced 1,096 documents and publications, including 50 substantive publications and 330 titles in series. It printed a total of 71.4 million pages (55.3 million internally and 16.1 million externally); it distributed 630,000 copies of documents and publications free of charge, and delivered 54,000 copies of publications to the United Nations sales network. In addition, 650 documents were delivered in electronic format for publication on the ECLAC website, some of which were processed externally. Eighteen publications were produced jointly with external commercial publishers. ECLAC also participated actively in nine international book fairs (see figure showing production statistics for the biennium 2000-2001).

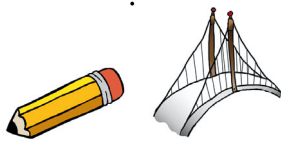
ECLAC, DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS DIVISION OUTPUT STATISTICS, 2000-2001

(Approximate figures)



AUTHOR

**1,096 documents
published**



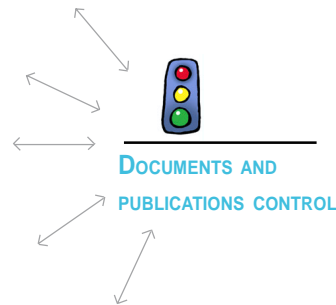
EDITING AND TRANSLATION

11.2 million words



**TOTAL GRAPHIC
PRODUCTION**

70,000 pages



**DOCUMENTS AND
PUBLICATIONS CONTROL**



PRINTING

71.4 million pages



ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION

650 documents



DISTRIBUTION AND SALES

683,000 copies



READERS

ECLAC LIBRARY

The ECLAC Library has made significant progress in incorporating new information technologies. During this period, the library subsite was installed on the ECLAC web site and includes an on-line catalogue in Spanish and English. The catalogue is updated periodically and lists documentation produced by the Commission since 1948. Access by the international community to this tool and to a specific search and information retrieval program has helped to give ECLAC a higher profile through its publications.

The documentation published during this period was duly processed by the Library for diffusion through the ECLAC web site. Documents for which the full text is available may be retrieved through an information search feature developed by the Library. Electronic mail has become the Library's main channel for transmitting information and an active service is conducted in response to the numerous queries received from external users.

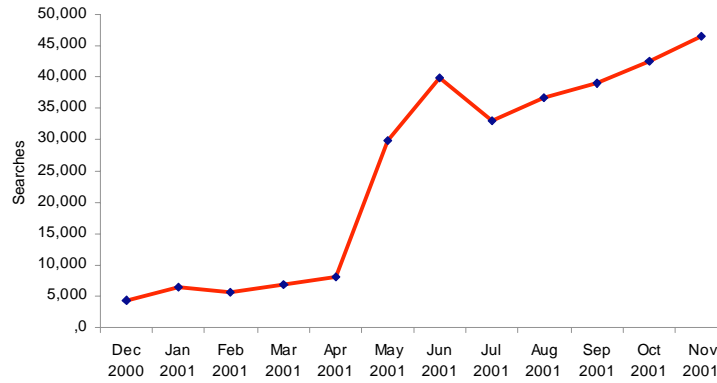
The Library Catalogue also includes valuable information compiled from external sources over the past 50 years on countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, particularly the official publications from ECLAC member States. The English version of the Library's on-line catalogue is linked to the United Nations sites in New York and Geneva, and to several other Internet information networks and services. Considerable headway has been made with the digital library project initiated in the previous biennium for digitizing important ECLAC texts and contributing to their conservation.

In keeping with the policy of the Library services, new resources on the Internet are constantly monitored to obtain and ensure access by users to information relating to the subject areas covered by the Commission and to incorporate other sources and electronic publications into the ECLAC web site. The ECLAC Library information services in Santiago are also available to the ECLAC subregional headquarters and national offices.

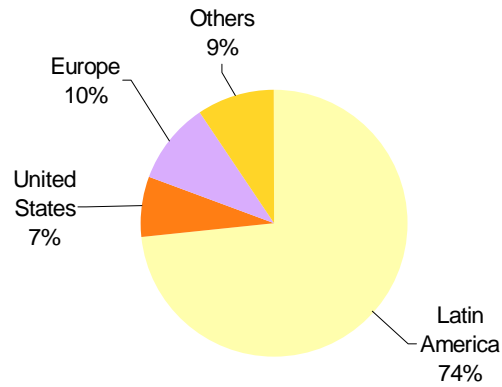
With respect to processing, the Library is continuing to explore direct access to sources that generate the information required by ECLAC for retrieval of digitized texts. In this way, it can replace printed publications, dispense with the manual processes associated with management and distribution of printed publications, and avoid duplication in processing. The Library's participation in the United Nations system Electronic Information Consortium has made it easier to direct acquisitions towards new formats, without this necessarily implying an increase in costs.

This period saw the completion of the integration process, started in 1998, whereby the information services of the Population Division (CELADE) have been incorporated into the ECLAC Library. This major effort to rationalize and coordinate the library systems means that ECLAC staff and member States can now use these services, which integrate both ECLAC and CELADE developments in the area of population. During the biennium, the project to integrate UNICEF information services into those of ECLAC was also implemented. In August 2001, the Documentation Centre of the UNICEF Area Office for Argentina, Chile and Uruguay was subsumed into the ECLAC Library.

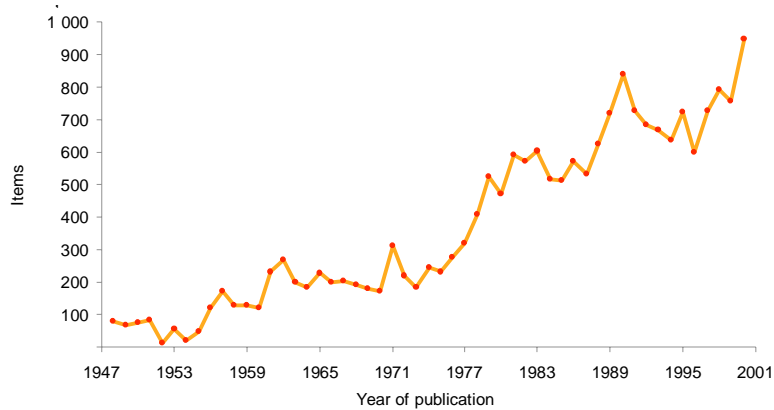
ON-LINE LIBRARY CATALOGUE SEARCHES 298,765 SEARCHES



REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ADDRESSED TO THE LIBRARY BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ORIGIN



ECLAC DOCUMENTATION: 20,409 ITEMS (1948-2001)



CEPAL REVIEW

The CEPAL Review is a quarterly 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 and which contains articles written by experts in economics and other social sciences from both within and outside the United Nations.

During the 2000-2001 biennium, numbers 70-75 of the CEPAL Review were published with articles on development options available to countries of the region (7 articles), structural characteristics in these countries (3 articles), integration processes in the international economy (6 articles), macroeconomic, fiscal and financial policies (7 articles), policies for productive restructuring (10 articles), social policies (11 articles) and policies and problems relating to employment, income distribution and poverty (13 articles). Number 75 also includes a section in homage to Raúl Prebisch, with nine essays on his ideas and the historical context in which they were generated.

In 2001, for the third consecutive year, the full text of the Review (Spanish version) was published on the ECLAC web page (<http://www.cepal.cl/publicaciones/>). The Internet edition has consistently attracted a readership of approximately 30,000 —an estimate based on the cumulative number of users who downloaded the files within the first year of the appearance of each issue. This is in addition to the distribution to universities, research institutes, other international organizations and individual subscribers.

In 2001, the time lag between the publication of the Spanish and English editions was reduced to less than two issues, that is, No. 73 in English came out before No. 75 in Spanish.

Notas de Población

In the 2000-2001 biennium, numbers 70 to 73 of *Notas de Población* were published and are available in full on the ECLAC web site (<http://www.cepal.cl/publicaciones/> and <http://www.cepal.cl/celade/>).

Notas de Población No. 70 (June 2000): This contains five articles, two on the estimation and analysis of internal migration, one on population ageing and pension systems, one on statistics for deaths due to accidents and violence, and another on demographic trends and the challenges that they pose for equity in health systems.

Notas de Población No. 71 (March 2001): This special issue comprises eight articles devoted to a review and update of indirect methods of estimating sociodemographic variables in small geographical areas. The variables analysed range from population size and use of, and demand for, contraceptive to income levels, consumption levels and poverty rates for various subnational geographic divisions (departments, provinces, districts, communes or cantons). The articles examine recent methodological advances and important policy applications.

Notas de Población No. 72 (June 2001): The seven articles that make up this issue focus on different topics: new demographic theories, models and statistics; financial stability and demographic aspects of pension systems based on national accounts; the most common problems in age-reporting concerning older persons; migration movements between Mexico and the United States; the relationship

between employment of women and the independence of married women in Mexico, and health trends and the mortality transition in Latin America.

Notas de Población No. 73 (September 2001): This is a special issue on international migration devoted to the eminent research analyst, Georges Tapinos, who died towards the end of the year 2000. The nine articles cover various facets of this outstanding analyst and include political, demographic, economic and social issues. The articles were written by experts from Latin America and the Caribbean, the United States and Europe, and were drawn from papers presented at the Symposium on International Migration in the Americas, held in San José, Costa Rica in September 2000.

INFORMATION SERVICES UNIT

This Unit continued implementing the institutional communications policy, including the provision of information on the work of ECLAC, in a user-friendly form, with special emphasis on the content of the home page of the ECLAC web site; the page for the Office of the Executive Secretary and the page for the Press Centre; the dissemination, electronically and by fax, of press releases to an updated list of the media and other institutions in the region; and the quarterly monthly publication of *ECLAC Notes*, a newsletter distributed by electronic and regular mail to more than 8,000 opinion-makers in the region and beyond. All of this information is produced in English and Spanish and is available on the ECLAC web site.

The Unit also continued to deal with the information needs of the ECLAC system, at the local, regional and international levels, arranging press interviews with ECLAC experts, providing information to journalists and to the general public via the web site, electronic mail, telephone and personal visits. During the period under review, in addition to disseminating information on the regular activities carried out by ECLAC in accordance with its work programme, a special effort was made to disseminate the institutional opinion of the ECLAC on the most important events and processes in economic and social development and public policy in the region.

The most significant issues of the biennium included the issues raised in the document *Rethinking the development agenda*, international asymmetries and the design of the international financial system, the new economy, climate changes, competitiveness, information technology, the impact of politics on development, fiscal policy, the effect of economic reforms, defence spending and social capital. Considerable time and effort were also devoted to promoting the ECLAC flagship publications and the *CEPAL Review*, through the dissemination of substantial, well-researched press releases. The fact that this material is often published with virtually no change by the respective media seems to be a positive indication of their quality.

The Unit also continued to serve as a public information service for the United Nations in Chile, concentrating its efforts on distribution of material and information to schools, public institutions, non-governmental organizations and other community groups. This task also involves collaboration with other bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations system outside Chile, such as organizing press conferences to publicize the annual reports of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the International Narcotics Control Board.

ECLAC INTERNET DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION UNIT

During 2000-2001 the Office of the Executive Secretary placed a particular emphasis on the development of institutional communications and this, together with the positive results achieved by the ECLAC web site in previous years, boosted the electronic dissemination activities of the organization, through which its work and publications are made available on the Internet. In early 2000 the organization embarked upon a process of institutionalization and decentralization of these activities, building up the team responsible for the web site and assigning financial and technological resources to **Project Internet 2000-2001**.

The purpose of this Project is to widen the organization's presence on the Internet in order to enhance the service it provides to the governments and institutions of the region. It is based on the policy guidelines established by the Executive Secretary and the ECLAC Programme Planning and Operations Division to institutionalize the management of Internet in the organization.

The project's activities included the selection and implementation of a new technological platform (hardware and software) with the capacity to support an expanded and decentralized web site, and the development of a new **decentralized administration system**, which enables all the divisions, units, subregional headquarters and national offices of ECLAC to manage and maintain their own sites within the ECLAC Internet portal.

By late 2001, thanks to these activities, the new portal was being managed entirely by the divisions and units responsible for producing the respective content. These divisions and units maintain 14 specialized sites, which are used to disseminate the totality of the organization's intellectual output. The project has thus created a new model of Internet management based on latest-generation technologies and involving the training and preparation of a network of over 25 focal points within the institution.

The **results** of the portal management during 2000-2001 indicated sustained growth in both the number of visitors and the number of downloads of documents produced by the organization. In 2000, 1,109,043 users visited the portal and downloaded 1,116,842 document files, while in 2001 the January-December figures show 1,525,101 visitors and 3,071,116 document file downloads (see figure showing portal visits).

In the final months of 2001 progress was made on the final phase of the institutionalization of Project Internet, with the formal establishment of the ECLAC Internet Development and Coordination Unit (IDCU), based on the original web site team. The Unit's central task will be to coordinate operations and provide technological support for the ECLAC portal.

In addition, during the period under review, the Unit provided ongoing support to a number of **cooperation organizations and agencies of the United Nations system** in Chile, consisting of direct assistance activities and training seminars. Among other agencies and organizations, the Unit worked directly with the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education in Chile, CARICOM and an inter-agency communications working group created by UNDP in Chile, and established a cooperation agreement with the World Bank project known as Development Gateway. In late 2001 ECLAC incorporated into its Internet portal a system of information on follow-up to United Nations Summits and Conferences. This initiative is intended to enhance inter-agency coordination and publicly reflect the regional contribution and activities of the United Nations agencies operating in Latin America and the Caribbean.

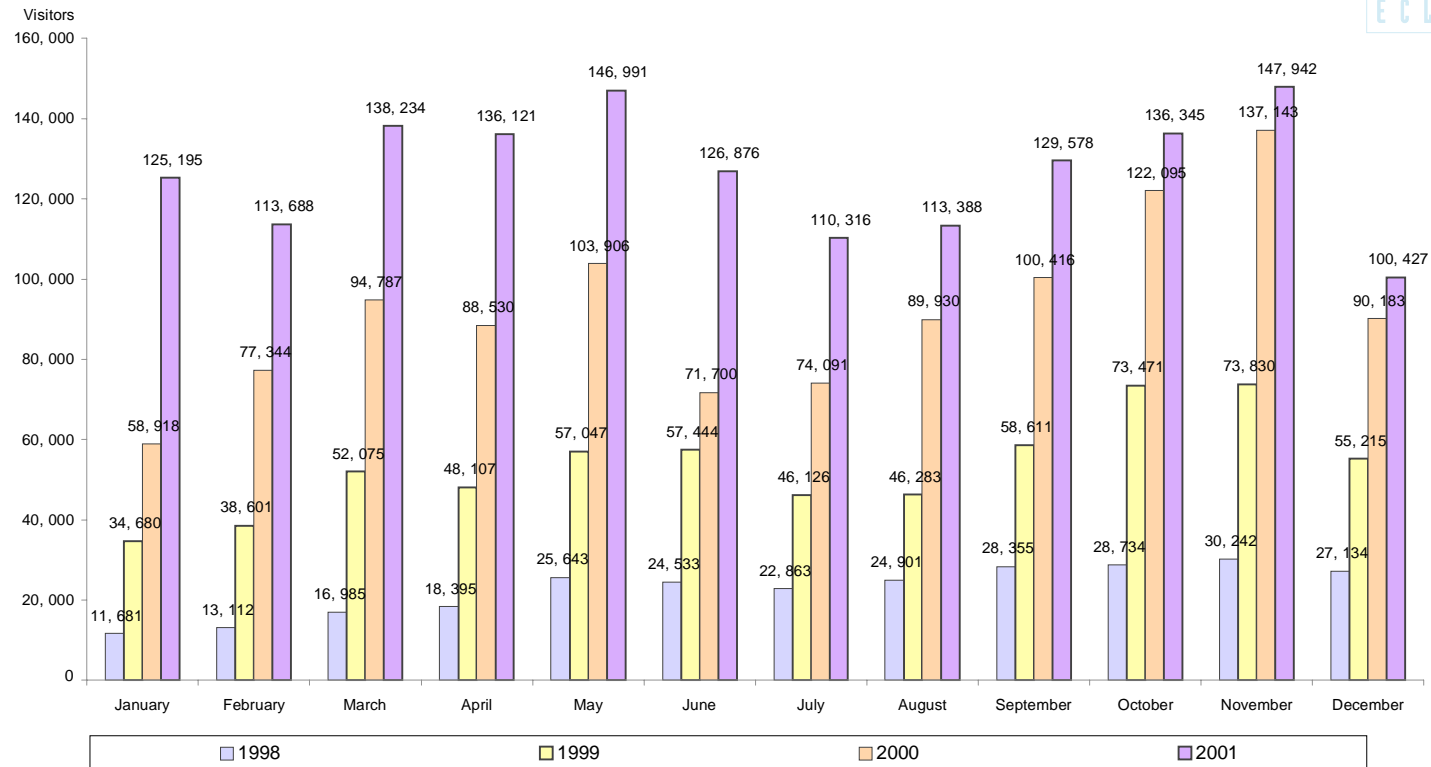
During the period under review, the following sites were installed on the ECLAC Internet portal:

- Subprogrammes 1 and 2: International Trade and Integration (<http://www.cepal.cl/comercio>)
- Subprogramme 3: Production, Productivity and Management (<http://www.cepal.cl/dppe/>)
Economic and Social Finance (<http://www.cepal.cl/ues/>)
- Subprogramme 4: Economic Development (<http://www.cepal.cl/de/>)
- Subprogramme 5: Social Development (<http://www.cepal.cl/dds/>)
- Subprogramme 6: Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) (<http://www.cepal.cl/ilpes/>)
- Subprogramme 7: Environment and Human Settlements (<http://www.cepal.cl/dmaah/>)
Natural Resources and Infrastructure (<http://www.cepal.cl/drni/>)
Transport (<http://www.cepal.cl/transporte/>)
- Subprogramme 8: Population and Development (CELADE) (<http://www.cepal.cl/celade/>)
- Subprogramme 9: Statistics and Economic Projections (<http://www.cepal.cl/deype/>)
- Subprogramme 10: ECLAC Subregional Headquarters in Mexico (<http://www.cepal.org/mx/>)
- Subprogramme 11: ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean (<http://www.eclacpos.org>)
- Subprogramme 12: Gender (<http://www.cepal.cl/mujer/>)
- ECLAC Office in Brasilia (<http://www.cepal.cl/brasil/>)
- ECLAC Office in Buenos Aires (<http://www.cepal.cl/argentina/>)
- ECLAC Office in Washington, D.C. (<http://www.eclacwash.org/>)

In addition, the following sites and special pages were installed on the central site of ECLAC:

- About ECLAC: (<http://www.cepal.cl/acerca/default-i.asp>)
- Office of the Executive Secretary: (<http://www.cepal.cl/SecretariaEjecutiva/default-ing.htm>)
- Press centre: (<http://www.cepal.cl/prensa/default.asp?idioma=IN>)
- Analysis and research: (<http://www.cepal.cl/analisis/default-i.asp>)
- Statistical information: (<http://www.cepal.cl/estadisticas/default.asp?idioma=IN>)
- Training: (<http://www.cepal.cl/capacitacion/default.asp?idioma=IN>)
- Publications: <http://www.cepal.cl/publicaciones/default.asp?idioma=IN>
- ECLAC library: (<http://www.cepal.cl/biblioteca/library.htm>)
- Software and systems: (<http://www.cepal.cl/software/default-i.asp>)
- Calendar of events: (<http://www.cepal.cl/agenda/default.asp?idioma=IN>)
- Links: (<http://www.cepal.cl/Enlaces/default.asp?idioma=IN>)
- United Nations Summits and Conferences: (<http://www.cepal.cl/cumbres>)

VISITORS TO THE ECLAC WEB SITE, BY MONTH AND YEAR 1998-2001



Source: ECLAC Internet development and coordination Unit.