



**United Nations Environment Programme
Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean**

PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT

**Sixteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers
of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean**

**Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
27th January to 1st February 2008**

A. PREPARATORY MEETING OF EXPERTS
27th to 29th January 2008

Distribution:

Limited

UNEP/LAC-IGWG.XVI/8

Friday 30th November, 2007

Original: Spanish

**Regional Application of the Work
Programme of UNEP, including the
Regional Implementation of the Bali's
Strategic Plan**

Table of Contents

Presentation.....	1
Examples of execution of Bali's Strategic Plan at the national and regional levels in Latin America and the Caribbean since the XV Forum of Ministers of Environment from Latin America and the Caribbean	2
I. Strengthening of the national or regional environmental institutions or environmentally related institutions (public institutions, judicial power and law enforcement agencies)	2
Annual Latin American Law and Environmental Policies Program	2
Global Programme of Judges	2
Workshops on Access to the Environmental Justice.....	3
Development of the National Environmental Law	3
Support to the Coordination and Organization Celebration of Seminars, Meetings and Congresses of Environmental Law in the Region	3
UNEP's Global Programme of Training on Environmental Law	3
II. Supply of Assistance to facilitate the fulfillment of and compliance with the obligations acquired by virtue of the multilateral environmental agreements (MEA) and fulfillment of the commitments related to the environment	4
Communication, Public Education and Awareness Raising	4
Global Environment Citizen Programme	5
Capacity Building for MEAs Negotiators	7
Synergic Implementation Project of the MEAs related to Biodiversity.....	7
Assistance Programme for the Compliance with the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, (hereinafter ODS).....	7
Green Customs Initiative	9
III. Preparation, integration and implementation of the elements related to the environment in the national plans for sustainable development	10
Trade development and poverty reduction: new approaches for the integrated determination of policies at the national level	10
Integrated evaluation of the effects of the liberalization of trade in the rice sector.....	10
Integrated evaluation of the policies related to the trade and biological diversity in the agricultural sector	10
IV. Support to national and regional institutions during the meeting, analysis and follow up of the environmental trends	11
Environmental evaluations at global region and subregional levels	11
Access to data and information concerning the environmental problems and emerging issues.....	11
V. Facilitation of the access, support to ecologically friendly Technologies and of the corresponding specialized knowledge	11
Evaluation of the sustainability of technologies.....	11

VI. Promotion sustainable consumption and production, including the support to cleaner production centers	12
Sustainable Consumption and Production to reduce poverty.....	12
Task Forces of the Marrakech Process.....	12
National Information Centers on Cleaner Production and Less Contaminant Sustainable Consumption.....	13
The Life Cycle Initiative (LCI)	13
Education for Sustainable Development	13
Capacity Building for a Sustainable Acquisition (SA).....	14
VII. Biological Diversity, including biotechnological safety and the issue of invasive species	14
Development of UNEP / GEF project of national frameworks for the safety of biotechnology	14
Capacity building to participate effectively in the information exchange Center on biotechnology safety of the Cartagena Protocol.....	14
Others	15
VIII. Drinking water resources	16
Integrated Use of Water Resources (OIRH).....	16
GEF Projects:	17
IX. Oceans, seas and coastal zones, including the regional seas and the protection of the marine environment in the face of land-based activities	17
Programme for Small Island Developing States of the Caribbean	17
UNEP Regional Seas Program	18
Global Action Programme for the protection of the marine environment in the face of the land-based activities – national action programs.....	19
X. Management of Chemical Products and Wastes	20
Strategic Approach for the International Management of Chemical Products (SAICM).....	20
Experimental or demonstration projects on the integrated management of solid wastes (GIDS).....	20
XI. Preparation and response in the face of environmental emergency situations	20
Evaluation of needs after conflicts by the United Nations Development Group (UNDG)	20
XII. Execution at the regional level⁰	21
Latin America and the Caribbean	21
Regional Programme in Sustainable Production and for Latin America and the Caribbean	21
GEF Projects	22
Global Environment Citizenship.....	22
Decentralized Middle Size Donations Program	26
Regional Programme on Action and Demonstration of Sustainable Alternatives for the Control of Malaria Vectors without Using DDT in Mexico and Central America.....	26
Improved Certification Schemes for the Sustainable Management of the Tropical Forests	26

Project Andean Moorland27
Establishment of Incentives for the preservation of ecosystem services
with a Global meaning in Argentina27
Ice Masses from the South”: Research in support of the Climatic Change Adaptation27



Presentation

1. During the 24th session of the Governing Council / Global Ministerial Environment held in Nairobi, Kenya from February 5th through 9th of 2007, the Executive Director of UNEP presented a report on the Application of Bali's Strategic Plan for technological support and capacity building (**UNEP/GC/24/3/Add.1**).

2. With a view at guaranteeing the consistency and complementarity between Decision 24/1 issued by the Governing Council / Global Ministerial Environment and Decision 3 issued by the XV Forum of Ministers of Environment from Latin America and the Caribbean, hereunder we present an updated table with the activities related to the technological support and capacity building activities furthered by UNEP in Latin America and the Caribbean. The table also includes some activities promoted by other UNEP Offices with the support of the Regional Office.

3. In this sense, and in line with the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative and the priority goals established in the Regional Action Plan, UNEP's Regional Office developed and facilitated the implementation of regional proposals to apply institutional measures, mechanisms and policies of administrative and legislative natures that promote the capacity building process and the adaptation of Technologies, taking into account the requirements necessary at a regional, subregional and national level and, in particular, the needs and priorities of the Caribbean SIDS.

4. One of the main mechanisms for the implementation of Bali's Strategic Plan is the South-South cooperation. The programs and activities of UNEP's Regional Office have been centered, to a large extent, on this mechanism. In addition, the Regional office has increased its participation amidst the teams of the United Nations in the countries, both in attendance as well as virtually, so as to contribute to the formulation of the "joint programs to reach the Millennium Development Goals" (Brazil, Ecuador, Panama, Peru and Nicaragua); in the "joint evaluation of the country and the framework of the cooperation of the United Nations Development Program" processes (Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador Panama and Mexico) and in the "pilot project with the One UN approach" in Uruguay.

Examples of execution of Bali's Strategic Plan at the national and regional levels in Latin America and the Caribbean since the XV Forum of Ministers of Environment from Latin America and the Caribbean⁽¹⁾

I. Strengthening of the national or regional environmental institutions or environmentally related institutions (public institutions, judicial power and law enforcement agencies)

Annual Latin American Law and Environmental Policies Program

5. Since 2004 this Programme provides training to legal officers from environmental organizations of the Spanish speaking countries of the region on the relevant and emerging issues of the international, regional and national environmental law, with an emphasis on the Latin American environmental law. In 2006, the Programme was developed in Argentina (June), and in 2007 the Programme was developed in El Salvador (July). In this way, 85 attorneys of 20 countries were trained. The Programme also facilitates the exchange of information and update among jurists of the region that participate as teachers.

6. UNEP Brazil organized the 1st Course on Environmental Law for the Portuguese Speaking Countries, together with the non-governmental organization "The Right to a Green Planet". In this course issues on the knowledge and application of the national and international environmental legislation were discussed, as well as the creation of synergy among the multilateral environmental agreements. This event counted with the participation of judges from Angola, Cape Verde, Guine Bissau, Brazil, Mozambique, Portugal and Sao Tome and Principe (Sao Paulo, October 23-25 of 2006).

Global Programme of Judges

7. UNEP developed a capacity building Programme for the application of the environmental law in the national courts, in the global activities of which judges of the region participate, in addition to the subregional / national activities organized in the LAC region, among which we find:

- a) Symposium of Judges and District Attorneys on the Application of and Compliance with the environmental regulation, Peru, January 30-31 of 2006.
- b) National Workshop for Judiciary, Chile, April 26-28 of 2006.
- c) First Workshop on Environmental Law for Portuguese speaking Judges, Brazil, October 23-25 of 2006.

⁽¹⁾ Execution of the list of the main spheres of technological support and capacity building activities (shown in the document UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1- par. 20). Indicative list of the main spheres of technological support and capacity building activities.

Workshops on Access to the Environmental Justice

8. As part of the work Programme of the environmental law, subregional Workshops on access to the environmental law for Mesoamerica (Mexico, July 5 and 6 of 2007) and the Southern Cone (Asuncion, Paraguay; August 27 through of 2007) were developed. In this activities information is exchanged and training is provided concerning the progresses in the environmental legislation, doctrine and jurisprudence of the region to members of the judicial power, district attorneys and legal officers of the Ministries of Environment. The workshop on access to the environmental justice for the Caribbean will be held between October 2nd and 31st of October, 2007 in Bridgetown, Barbados.

Development of the National Environmental Law

9. The assistance in the development and implementation of the national legislation in Grenada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Panama includes the strengthening of the institutional capacities and the training of local human resources.

Support to the Coordination and Organization Celebration of Seminars, Meetings and Congresses of Environmental Law in the Region

- a) Fifth and Sixth International Meeting on environmental Law (Mexico, October of 2006 and October of 2007). Over two hundred participants attend the meeting.
- b) Third and Fourth Latin American Meetings on Environment (Salta, Argentina, August of 2006 and August of 2007) Over five hundred participants attend the meeting, including students of environmental law, lawyers, judges, and district attorneys of all the countries of the southern cone.
- c) Eleventh Brazilian Congress on Environmental Law (Sao Paulo, Brazil, May of 2007) More than seven hundred participants attended the meeting; environmental law students, lawyers, judges and district attorneys.

UNEP's Global Programme of Training on Environmental Law

10. This is an intensive training Programme for a selected number of participants from developing countries. It is offered at the headquarters of UNEP in Nairobi, Kenya. Ministers of Environment of the region are invited to nominate participants to the event. In 2007, the course will be held between November 5 and 16.

II. Supply of Assistance to facilitate the fulfillment of and compliance with the obligations acquired by virtue of the multilateral environmental agreements (MEA) and fulfillment of the commitments related to the environment

Communication, Public Education and Awareness Raising

11. UNEP's Environmental Training Network for Latin America and the Caribbean:

- a) It undersigned agreements for the development of three long distance courses: 1) Agro-ecology, agro-forestry and sustainable agriculture with the Universidad Autónoma de Chapingo; 2) Ecologic Economy of Water, with the Faculty of Higher Studies - Acatlán from Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (FES-Acatlán/UNAM); and 3) of Environmental Education with the Confederation of Education Workers of the Republic of Argentina (CTERA).
- b) It contributed substantially to the: 1) V Iberoamerican Congress of Environmental Education (Joinville, Brazil; April, 2006); 2) Regional Consultation Meeting on the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (San Jose, Costa Rica; November, 2006); 3) National Seminars on Environmental Education in Argentina, Peru, Uruguay and Colombia.
- c) It continued providing support to CTERA in Argentina and to the development of the Masters Degree in Environmental Education of the Universidad Autónoma de la Ciudad de México, within which a project for the creation of Prototypes of Textbooks on Environmental Education for the Basic Education System of the countries of the region; it also finished the first phase of this project by means of a cooperation agreement with SEMARNAT and the National Biodiversity Commission (CONABIO) in Mexico, by holding 10 training workshops for 10 projects on sustainable development within the Mexican Biological Corridor.
- d) It supported the programming of the Andean Amazonian Plan of Communication and Environmental Education (PANACEA) and the decision to incorporate the Ministries of Education through negotiations of the Ministries of Environment. UNEP/ROLAC opened a web page⁽²⁾ in its Internet site for the publication and diffusion of the documents and agreements generated in the meetings of the American and Caribbean Environment Education Programme (PLACEA) and the PANACEA.
- e) It contributed to the establishment of the Center of Socio Environmental Knowledge and Care of Basin of la Plata.

12. On the other hand, UNEP/ROLAC has been supporting the various activities from the Programme in environmental education developed by the Ministries of Environment and Education from Brazil. These activities concentrate on the preparation of educational and integrating materials for groups of young people. UNEP Brazil distributes the magazine Tunza and other information of young people

⁽²⁾ Site available at <http://www.pnuma.org/educamb/>.

and the environment for the Network of Young Educators, created by the two ministries in the scope of these activities.

13. In the area of communication, UNEP's Regional Office carried out, among others, the following activities:

- a) Organization of workshops on "Integrated Management on Solid Waste" in Buenos Aires, Argentina and in Panama City in Panama.
- b) Organization of a training course for journalists on "Environment, Social Communication and Access to Information" in Buenos Aires, Argentina; Lima, Peru; Mexico City; La Paz, Bolivia, Panama City, Panama; and Montevideo, Uruguay.
- c) Organization of a workshop on "Environment, Radio and Gender" in collaboration with UNIFEM within the Radio Programming Project framework, in Mexico City. More than 35 women from women's environmental organizations from Central America were present.

14. Concerning the subject of climatic change, UNEP developed a public awareness Programme at the global level that was carried out in Africa (Kenya, Ghana, and Namibia), Europe (Federation of Russia, Albania, Georgia, and Armenia), Asia (Cambodia, Uzbekistan) and the Caribbean (Saint Lucia).

Global Environment Citizen Programme

15. The Global Environment Citizen Programme is directed to raising public awareness, to increasing the levels of understanding on global environmental issues, and to mobilizing support in Latin America and the Caribbean, so as to create an adequate environment for the decision making process and national action regarding the focal areas of the World Environment Fund (GEF): Biodiversity, Climatic Change, International Waters and depletion of the Ozone Layer. This is possible by means of the capacity building activities carried out by 6 major social networks (World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters, Latina American Association of Radio Education, Latin American Church Council, International Consumers, Latin American Parliament, and the International Union for the Preservation of Nature) in 7 countries of the region (Argentina, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico and Peru).

16. This Project has a pioneer character in relation to what it does to the portfolio of projects funded by the GEF, in envisioning the support to citizens' networks that exist in the region and promoting the dialogue and action around the global environment problem, and in attention to the multilateral environmental agreements.

17. Upon conclusion of the networks' training stage in the year 2006, 2007 has been devoted to the implementation of the activities addressed to the civil society in the areas of participation of each one of the networks in the 7 countries. The project has yielded interesting fruits in the field of public awareness raising. Some of the most relevant examples are:

- a) Concerning the community radios, 8 radio spots (commercials) were produced regarding the 4 issues of the project, as well as 4 radio capsules

(micros), which since its recording and final edition have been broadcasted through 400 radio stations affiliated to the AMARC LAC network and 187 radio stations affiliated to the ALER SATELITAL network. The broadcast of the aforementioned material will take place until the end of the project, which is expected to happen by March 2008.

- b) In the religious arena, the Latin American Church Council carried out several activities of establishment of friendly relations with the public; the following being the ones most widely mentioned: the inter-religious and ecumenical for a held in Argentina, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile and Ecuador. These events have created the appropriate spaces to start the dialogue with other religious doctrines so as to multiply the effort of raising the awareness in what pertains to the care of the environment, among churches and parishioners of Latin America and the Caribbean. It is expected that by the end of 2007, 150 Christian denominations present in the 7 countries of the project sign a letter of intention for the promotion of the environmental issues among their parishioners.
- c) Concerning the work with consumers, the organizations affiliated to "Consumers International" have opted for an individual action plan for each country, in attention to the thematic priorities and circumstances of the municipalities over which they have incidence. The topic of the management of household solid wastes received a particular attention in Argentina and in Ecuador. The work consisted of an awareness raising Programme with inhabitants and authorities in the Argentinean municipalities of Barranqueras and Maipu and in the metropolitan area of Quito, Ecuador. In the case of Mexico, the issue of biodiversity was treated widely, and the creation of virtual schools on this issue is envisaged, in collaboration with the SEMARNAT. In Peru, the promotion of sustainable lifestyles and the change in habits in the acquisition of non-detrimental products to the environment was performed through the organization of expo-consumption fairs in the municipalities of Huancayo and Callao.
- d) In the area of the work carried out with the parliamentarians, in the year 2007 it was decided to address the issue of the potential creation Latin American Environment Court. To that end, 4 workshops of a subregional nature were organized in Argentina (May 2007), Mexico (June 2007), Peru (June 2007), and Cuba (October 2007), taking into account the challenges such a mechanism would imply for the. In this sense, a strategy for that purpose has been discerned, which recognizes the need to previously ensure the right to information and access to justice in environmental matters. The results of these workshops, aim at strengthening the bonds of the Latin American Parliament with the European Parliament, particularly for the development of a document that adopts the principles established in the agreement of Aarhus, which was ratified in this matter by the European Union in 2004.
- e) Finally, the participation of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has focused on the educational sector. The member organizations have had the opportunity to compare their progress in the

various participating countries, exchanging experiences in the configuration and promotion of a syllabus in environmental education for the basic levels of school education. In 2007, the efforts of this network were directed at the promotion of Environmental School Observatories in schools of primary education from various municipalities in the 7 participating countries.

18. The Global Environment Citizenship project has yielded one of the most valuable learning experiences in the effort that UNEP has been developing to promote a culture that oversees the rights and environmental responsibilities of the citizens of Latin America and the Caribbean. In this process, through various spaces, representatives from both governments and the civil society of other countries not currently involved in the project have expressed their interest to join this initiative. The project coordination is currently assessing the possibilities of continuing and evolving in the direct work between UNEP and the civil society organizations of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Capacity Building for MEAs Negotiators

19. A meeting of the Working Group on Genetic Resources of the Forum of Ministers took place in September 20th and 21st of 2007, with the participation of the co-chairman of the Open Working Group on the Access to Genetic Resources of the CBD, to strengthen the participation of the region in the coming meetings of multilateral negotiation of the international regime. 20 negotiators from 12 countries and 1 participant from the indigenous communities received updated and accurate information about the mechanics of the forthcoming multilateral negotiations and benefited from the mutual exchange.

20. In October 22 and 23 2007, a preparatory meeting of the COP13/MOP3 of the United Nations Convention on Climatic Change and the Kyoto Protocol was held for the countries of Latin America. 17 focal points nations will benefit from a prior regional instance of analysis and discussion of the agenda of the forthcoming multilateral negotiations.

Synergic Implementation Project of the MEAs related to Biodiversity

21. The Project is being developed in four countries of the region (Uruguay, Colombia, Nicaragua, and Trinidad and Tobago) aiming at analyzing the institutional and legal mechanisms for the implementation of agreements relative to biodiversity and to propose strategies for its synergistic implementation. The project envisages the realization of national training workshops for governmental and non-governmental stakeholders relevant for the national implementation of the agreements.

Assistance Programme for the Compliance with the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, (hereinafter ODS)

22. Since early 2002, the UNEP/DTIE Ozone Action Programme has reorganized to provide direct and focused assistance to developing countries with the objective to support them in complying with their obligations under the Montreal Protocol. Such assistance is channeled through the Compliance Assistance Program, is known as CAP by its initials in English. The CAP essentially operates in the Regional Offices,

under the leadership of the Regional Directors, and with the guides and supervision of the Division of Technology, Industry, and Economy.

23. The Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol is the financial mechanism that solves the functioning of the CAP, which amounted to the lump-sum of 7.7 million US dollars by the year 2006 and to 8.6 million US dollars by 2007.

24. During the biennium 2006/07, the of national capacity building and technology transfer services provided by the CAP in Latin America and the Caribbean included:

- a) Support to the phase out of ODS by means of technical assistance to national focal points of the Montreal Protocol to for: the identification and overcoming of national barriers for the compliance with the Montreal Protocol, assessment of the collection systems on ODS' consumption data and adoption of the necessary corrective actions, coordination with the other UN agencies and the bilateral donors, to the effects of increasing the synergies in the region and avoiding the duplication of activities.
- b) Three sub-regional networks of the national focal points of the Montreal Protocol, and promotion of activities of South-South cooperation for: the exchange of information, experience and technical knowledge required to comply with the commitments made under the Montreal Protocol and training in the management of projects of the Multilateral Fund.
- c) Management of the specific projects of training and technology transfer approved by the Multilateral Fund where UNEP acts as implementing agency, both at the regional and national level, in: institutional strengthening of the ozone offices and customs training, management of refrigerants, phase out of the use of methyl bromide, Halons and Solvents.
- d) A forum for the exchange of electronic information to promote the use of alternatives to the ODS, as well as to support the development and the implementation of the regional and national strategies for information, education and communication of the public.

25. By means of joining the efforts of the team of CAP of UNEP, the national efforts and the whole group of the other Implementation Agencies of the Multilateral Fund in the Region of Latin America and the Caribbean during the biennium 2006/07, the following achievements were obtained:

- a) The 33 countries of the region have sent their ODS consumption reports in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol.
- b) Four countries have established, strengthened or renewed their legislation on the ODS import control: Chile, Dominica, Guyana and Paraguay.
- c) Suriname ratified the Amendments of London, Copenhagen, Montreal and Beijing.
- d) Dominica ratified the Amendment of Copenhagen, Montreal and Beijing.
- e) Mexico and Ecuador ratified the Amendment of Montreal.

- f) Argentina, Colombia, Paraguay and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela ratified the Amendment of Beijing.
- g) Resources were renewed for 15 of the 22 Institutional Strengthening Projects in which UNEP acts as an Implementation Agency.
- h) Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Suriname received economic resources and assistance from UNEP and UNDP for the preparation of the CFCs consumption Total elimination Plan. It has been agreed, in said plans, that UNEP implements the technical assistance components of the plans and UNDP implements the investment components thereof.
- i) The Halons Management Strategy in Haiti and the technical assistance for the elimination of the uses of methyl bromide pertaining to Paraguay and Saint Kitts and Nevis also received the approval of the Multilateral Fund.
- j) A regional project for the creation of an Application Network of the Montreal Protocol between the Ozone Units and the Customs was approved by the Multilateral Fund with a view to prevent and detect the illegal commerce of ODS in the Latin American region.
- k) 28 Memoranda of Understanding signed between UNEP and the pertaining governments during the year 2007 and 22 during 2006 to implement the different individual projects approved by the Multilateral Fund. By means of the aforementioned MOUs, about a million and nine hundred thousand US dollars were committed.
- l) 26 out of the 33 countries of Latin America and The Caribbean are in compliance with the obligation of the Montreal Protocol or have their Action Plan for the return to the compliance approved by the Meeting of the Parties.

Green Customs Initiative

26. This initiative, launched in the year 2005, is the product of the association of seven conventions' secretariats and three international organizations to build the capacity of the officers responsible for the surveillance and enforcement of the law, to prevent the illegal traffic of substances that cause damage to the environment and to facilitate the trade of substitute substances.

27. Within the framework this initiative's work, the UNEP's CAP team is collaborating with the organization of the first sub-regional workshop on Green Customs in South America to be held in the first week of December of the present year in the city of Caracas. The workshop is indented to train the customs officials of the region.

28. Moreover, CAP's team of is collaborating with the Central American Commission on Environment and the Environmental Protection Agency of the United States (USEPA). The role of the CAP in this sub-regional working group is to provide contributions for the development of a Handbook for the Green Customs for the implementation of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements under the Free Trade Agreement in Central America (called DR-CAFTA).

III. Preparation, integration and implementation of the elements related to the environment in the national plans for sustainable development

Trade development and poverty reduction: new approaches for the integrated determination of policies at the national level

29. Nine national capacity building projects were started at national level to assess the impact of the planning and development policies in the objectives of sustainable development and to develop policies in response to such assessments. The projects were launched in the countries that are listed below and were executed by the proposing governments and the national institutions designated by governments:

- a) Brazil: Integrated evaluation and planning within the framework of the Sustainable Plan for the Amazon, centered on the sphere of influence of the BR-163 road and the soybean sector.
- b) Colombia: Integrated evaluation on the liberalization of the agricultural trade centered on the corn sector.
- c) Chile: Project with the Ministry of Agriculture to incorporate the environmental dimension.

Integrated evaluation of the effects of the liberalization of trade in the rice sector

30. Studies, conducted by the countries, were undertaken in China, Colombia, Indonesia, Nigeria, Senegal and Vietnam on the environmental, social and economic effects of the trade liberalization in the rice sector. These studies provide the basis for the development of appropriate measures to ensure that the rice sector of these countries supports the objectives of sustainable development.

Integrated evaluation of the policies related to the trade and biological diversity in the agricultural sector

31. Based on the national experiences, a reference manual is being prepared for the assessment of trade and the biological diversity that will provide guidance to evaluate the policies related to trade in the sector of agriculture at a national level. This will strengthen the capacity to coordinate and harmonize the objectives of sustainable development, reduction of poverty and conservation of the biological diversity at a national level. The methodologies and instruments for the assessment of the reference manual shall be implemented in six pilot countries: Cameroon, Jamaica, Madagascar, Mauritius, Papua New Guinea and Uganda. The information on the possible effects over the society and the environment, including the impacts on the biological diversity, will be used to substantiate trade negotiations and the formulation of national policies.

IV. Support to national and regional institutions during the meeting, analysis and follow up of the environmental trends

32. The following activities, among others, were carried out:

Environmental evaluations at global region and subregional levels

- a) GEO 3 for Latin America and the Caribbean was produced.
- b) Assistance for the preparation of national reports on the state of the environment and evaluations concerning the environmental impact in Argentina, Chile, and Peru.
- c) In 2006, national GEO activities were started in Belize, Cuba, Ecuador and Uruguay.
- d) The GEO Cities Project: Currently, more than 35 cities in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) have joined the network of evaluations of GEO Cities in Latin America and the Caribbean. Two metropolitan areas, Lima and Callao (Peru) and the metropolitan area of central Costa Rica initiated and completed their assessments in 2006.
- e) The Youth AEO was prepared and it is promoting the participation of young people in activities for sustainable development, including the completion of the assessments pertaining to Cuba, and the start of activities pertaining to Chile; Colombia; Morelos and Veracruz, in Mexico; Panama; Lima and Callao, in Peru, Uruguay and Brazil. A subregional assessment has been completed in Central America and the one pertaining to the Caribbean is under way.
- f) Experimental project in Argentina and Brazil for the integrated evaluation of the environment and health (GEO Health).

Access to data and information concerning the environmental problems and emerging issues

- a) Indicators of the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development (ILAC); Mexico, Costa Rica and Argentina requested it at the national level and published their reports in 2006.
- b) National websites on the environment (experimental), which provide electronic access to data coming from the environmental surveillance activities.

V. Facilitation of the access, support to ecologically friendly Technologies and of the corresponding specialized knowledge

Evaluation of the sustainability of technologies

33. The activities carried out were aimed at building capacity to conduct environmental assessments, formulate policies and implement concrete actions

related to the cleaner production methods, the sustainable consumption and production, and the management of wastes.

34. Several of the activities undertaken were coordinated with the Network of Environmental Authorities for the Urban Management of Latin America and the Caribbean, which was created in October of 2001 and, to the present, includes 20 cities of the region. Among the activities we find:

- a) The onset of the distance training activities with a first course organized jointly with ECLAC: "Basis for a sustainable environmental management".
- b) A long distance course was held in relation to solid hazardous wastes, with the support of the Network of Centers from the Basel Convention, Montevideo headquarters.
- c) A Forum of Air Quality Monitoring was promoted, as was another one on Solid Waste management in Mexico City, in which representatives from Latin American cities participated.
- d) Two on site courses related to solid wastes were carried out in Panama and Buenos Aires.
- e) Training activities were supported with Mercocities and with the Central American Commission of Environment and Development.

VI. Promotion sustainable consumption and production, including the support to cleaner production centers

Sustainable Consumption and Production to reduce poverty

35. A regional Programme in sustainable production and consumption is being implemented with a view to support the development and implementation of concrete policies and projects to accelerate the shift towards sustainable patterns of production and consumption.

Task Forces of the Marrakech Process

36. Working groups have been established in the framework of the Marrakech Process, in which experts from developing and developed countries participate, which support the implementation of concrete projects, focus on specific themes of the SCP, and strengthen the North-South cooperation in this area. The working groups of Morocco are voluntary initiatives led by countries that, in collaboration with other partners, undertake to develop activities on SCP at the national level. So far seven working groups have been created, with the support of specific developed countries. These groups are: Tourism (France), Sustainable Construction (Finland), Cooperation with Africa (Germany), Sustainable Education for a Sustainable Consumption (Italy), Sustainable Living Styles (Sweden), Sustainable Acquisition (Switzerland), and Sustainable Products (United Kingdom and Northern Ireland).

National Information Centers on Cleaner Production and Less Contaminant Sustainable Consumption

37. In response to a request from the Ministers of Environment from several countries of the region, the Information Centers have been designed to act as focal points in the area of production and sustainable consumption. Through the contribution of a base capital, UNEP ensures the commitment of the local institution and the sustainability of the initiative. The Information Centers aim at: diffusing information on sustainable consumption and production to the industry, governments, NGOs, consumer associations and other key stakeholders; exercising a complementary role in the National Cleaner Production Centers and providing more support or carrying out joint initiatives; facilitating the exchange of information and strengthening capacities; promoting the sustainable production and consumption among all the key stakeholders. To date, Centers have been established in Argentina, Cuba (2), and Panama. Other Centers of subregional in nature will soon be providing their services in Nicaragua and Saint Lucia.

The Life Cycle Initiative (LCI)

38. Since 2002, this Initiative has supported the implementation of criteria related to the life cycle in key sectors in the whole world, such as housing, mobility and food. In the framework of the Initiative regional of capacity building networks have created for Africa, Eastern Europe, Latin America and Southeast Asia. These networks promote a) knowledge on the applications of successful life cycle criteria that address the management of wastes, natural resources, chemical products, energy and water; b) the application of the life cycle criteria, influencing the decisions of the enterprises' administrations of in connection with the key consumption conglomerates; c) the strengthening of policies related to products and programs of development, of said criteria, and d) the sustainable development in emerging and developing economies, building capacity in the use of the life cycle criteria in public policies and direct associates of enterprises, even in the supply chain in sectors of high resource consumption.

39. The following countries (and various institutions) have been working in the region: Costa Rica, Chile, Brazil, Argentina, Peru, Mexico, Cuba, Colombia and Uruguay. The ALCALA Network (Latin American LCA Association) has been strengthened since its creation during the International Conference on LCA-CILCA in 2005, in Costa Rica. Likewise, CILCA 2007 was also held, in Brazil, and CILCA 2009 is also being organized in the region (probably in Chile). Within the products that can be mentioned, either individually or as network we have the following: a publication of Life Cycle Evaluation and workshops of life cycle inventories (Brazil), a project of life cycle analysis in metals (Argentina, Chile and Peru), and two projects proposed for the region in energy inventories and environmental impact models.

Education for Sustainable Development

40. The Youth for Change Project: youth exchange promoted by UNEP and the United Nations Organization for Education, Science, and Culture (UNESCO) is a project aimed at building capacity in educators and individuals to understand and

communicate, in an effective and innovative manner, the concept of sustainable consumption to young adults. The project is implemented in more than 15 countries and it involves the use of a global coordination service of UNEP and the local partners, who are, generally, a national government, but can also be a consumer, an NGO or a local authority. The project is part of the United Nations Decade for Education with a view to a Sustainable Development.

41. In Latin America and the Caribbean, Mexico through CECADESU (Center for Education and Training for Sustainable Development) of the SEMARNAT, has taken the initiative to translate and adapt the guide that, together with the web site, are part of the base training material. This translated material has served so that other countries can use it in their local programs. Several training seminars have been carried out in Bolivia and Peru. Colombia, through a juvenile NGO, has also carried out important progresses in the implementation of this program.

Capacity Building for a Sustainable Acquisition (SA)

42. In 2004, UNEP started a series of building sessions on sustainable acquisition for public officers. The teaching materials are the result of the collaborative work undertaken by UNEP, the World Bank, the Inter-Agency Procurement Services Office (IAPSO), and UNDP. The training in this area is intended to raise the awareness of the purchasers from the national authorities of developing countries in relation to sustainability and sustainable acquisition. Training sessions have already been conducted in Ghana (June of 2004), Morocco (June of 2006), and Argentina (November of 2006).

43. Mexico and Argentina have carried out initiatives in this direction. In the case of Mexico, a life cycle assessment for printers and paper was conducted, with a view to obtain criteria for sustainable purchasing decisions. Currently, an MOU is about to be signed with these two countries to carry out demonstration projects that will allow the adoption of procedures and good practices for sustainable purchases that can be replicated in other countries of the region.

VII. Biological Diversity, including biotechnological safety and the issue of invasive species

Development of UNEP / GEF project of national frameworks for the safety of biotechnology

44. The aim of this project is to help countries that can obtain financing from GEF and are signatories to the Cartagena Protocol on Biotechnology Safety in the implementation of the Protocol, preparing national frameworks on biotechnological safety and promoting the regional and subregional cooperation through regional and subregional seminars. The project is being implemented in 130 countries.

Capacity building to participate effectively in the information exchange Center on biotechnology safety of the Cartagena Protocol

45. The objective of the project is to develop core human resources and create the proper infrastructure for an Information Centre on Safety in Biotechnology, which

allows eligible countries to fully participate and benefit from the Centre. The project provides eligible countries the ability to access scientific, technical, environmental and legal information on Living Modified Organisms (LMOs). The project helps to ensure a proper level of protection for the biological diversity in the area of the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs. UNEP and GEF support 139 countries in this project.

Others

46. Under the GEF and UNEP the following projects are being implemented at the national, regional, and global levels:

- a) Assessment of Capacity Building Needs to Conserve Biological Diversity, Participation in National Clearing House Mechanism, and Preparation of a Second National Report to the CBD (add on) – Bahamas.
- b) Assessment of Capacity Building Needs and Country Specific Priorities in the Conservation of Biodiversity and Participation in the National Clearing House Mechanism – Barbados.
- c) National Capacity Self - Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management – Barbados.
- d) Support to the Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework of Cuba.
- e) Assessment of Capacity-building Needs for Biodiversity, Participation in CHM and Preparation of Second National Report – St. Lucia.
- f) Sustainable Conservation of Globally Important Caribbean Bird Habitats: Strengthening a Regional Network for a Shared Resource - Regional (Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Jamaica).
- g) Biodiversity Conservation and Integration of Traditional Knowledge on Medicinal Plants in National Primary Health Care Policy in Central America and Caribbean - Regional (Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Dominican Republic).
- h) Facilitation of financing for biodiversity-based businesses and support of market development activities in the Andean Region – Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.
- i) Establishment of incentives for the conservation of ecosystem services of global significance in Argentina.
- j) Establishment of a Programme for the Consolidation of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor - Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama.
- k) Conservation of the Biodiversity of the Moorland in the Northern And Central Andes - Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.
- l) Improved Certification Schemes for Sustainable Tropical Forest Management - Brazil, Mexico and Cameroon.

- m) In-situ Conservation of Crop Wild Relatives through Enhanced Information Management and Field Application - Regional (Armenia, Bolivia, Madagascar, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan).
- n) Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into Tourism through the Development and Dissemination of Best Practices - Regional (Belize, Ecuador).
- o) Ecosystems, Protected Areas and People – Global.
- p) Building Capacity for Effective Participation in the Biosafety Clearing House (BCH) of the Cartagena Protocol – Global.
- q) UNEP Support to CBD Parties for Preparation of Third National Reports to the CoP of CBD – Global.
- r) Indigenous Peoples' Network for Change – Global.
- s) Knowledge Base for Lessons Learned and Best Practices in the Management of Coral Reefs – Global.
- t) Conservation and Use of Crop Genetic Diversity to Control Pests and Diseases in Support of Sustainable Agriculture (Phase 1) - Global (China, Ecuador, Morocco, Uganda).
- u) Conservation and Management of Pollinators for Sustainable Agriculture through an Ecosystem Approach - Global (Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Brazil).

VIII. Drinking water resources

Integrated Use of Water Resources (OIRH)

47. In Central America, within the framework of the project of integrated management of water resources, seminars on the formulation of a national plan of integrated use were organized in Managua, Nicaragua, and in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. In Guatemala, technical assistance was provided to train indigenous communities in the management of water resources (which included teaching material in four indigenous languages).

48. In Latin America, a pilot project of technological support to improve the quality of water in the city of Bocaina (Brazil) is being undertaken in collaboration with the International Lake Environment Committee (ILEC). An artificial marsh will be designed and constructed for the treatment of water coming from a waste water treatment facility that pours into the Bocaina River. The project also includes the building of capacity of local authorities and of the partner institution in the design and construction of artificial wetlands, as well as the dissemination of the experience through the municipalities.

49. A project for the integrated management of water resources in the Titicaca Lake, Desaguadero River, Poopo and Salar Lake of Coipasa (TDPS System) is beginning to be implemented in Peru, Bolivia, and with the Binational Autonomous Authority of Lake Titicaca, with the aim to evaluate and update the levels of the waste water discharges and introduce measures to reduce contamination.

GEF Projects:

50. Under the GEF and UNEP the following projects are being implemented at the national, regional, and global levels:

- a) "Integrated Management Programme of the El Pantanal Basin and the Upper Basin of the Río Paraguay" – Brazil. The Pantanal project completed its work in December 2006 with the formulation of a Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Wetland. PIF under formulation and negotiation. Will look at the implementation of SAP prescribed activities in BD, LD and IW.
- b) "Integrated Management of land-based activities in the San Francisco Basin" – Brazil. Project concluded in March 2006 – Main product was a SAP for the Basin - Follow-up MSP with GEF for approval.
- c) "Strategic Action Programme for the Binational Basin of the Río Bermejo" – Argentina, Bolivia. Project under implementation although delayed due to political situation in both countries which forced us to put on hold activities. The project however now counts with a revitalized Binational Commission which is representative at the whole basin and not just its upper part. The whole project is somehow a capacity building project as it is meant to enhance the legal and institutional environment for implementing the Basin SAP. One of the main achievements in that respect in Argentina is the agreement amongst the riparian provinces on common IWRM principals for the management of the Basin.
- d) "Integrated and Sustainable Management of Transboundary Water Resources of the Amazon River" – Regional. Ongoing PDF-B – PIF for SAP formulation approved last week of September 2007.
- e) "Formulation of a Water Resources Management Framework for the Plate River Basin" – Regional. PDF-B over – Project approved at Council in June 2007 – Appraisal phase on-going.

IX. Oceans, seas and coastal zones, including the regional seas and the protection of the marine environment in the face of land-based activities

Programme for Small Island Developing States of the Caribbean

51. In the area of South-South Cooperation, UNEP/ROLAC is supporting a Tri-National South-South Programme between Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic, based on the establishment of Biological Corridor between the three countries. A number of meetings at both the Technical and Ministerial levels have been held in support of this initiative. A draft Plan of Action for the Tri-National Collaboration will be considered by the Ministers in the near future.

52. Some Latin American countries, have committed to undertake surveys to identify capacities and technologies that could be incorporated into a South-South Programme between Latin American Countries and Caribbean SIDS. Modalities are also being explored to make available to Caribbean island countries cooperation

packages in which several Latin American countries could participate in a coordinated and joint manner.

53. In Dominica, focus is being placed on providing technical assistance to further elaborate the concept on “Environmentally Sound Organic Development”. This involves technical evaluation of the prospects for transforming Dominica into an environmentally sound organic island. UNEP/ROLAC also provided technical and legal assistance to the Government of Dominica to review policies, legislation and institutional arrangements related to the management of bioprospecting activities, including a legislative initiative on access to genetic resources and the distribution of benefits arising from their use, taking into account the benefits arising from traditional knowledge.

54. To strengthen Government capacities to implement the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and analyze such capacities, UNEP organized a series of activities:

- a) First Training Seminar on Access to Environmental Justice in collaboration with the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus; and
- b) First Training Seminar on MEAS for Lawyers in the Public and Private Sectors in the Caribbean SIDS. This was delivered in collaboration with the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus.

UNEP Regional Seas Program

55. In the area of training and capacity building, the UNEP Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) remains committed to ensure that the peoples of the Wider Caribbean region have the knowledge and information they need to effectively manage marine and coastal ecosystems. The Marine Protected Area Training Programme has trained over 450 professionals across the region. Training workshops were also conducted in socio-economic monitoring, legal implementation of MEAs and in methodologies for conducting inventories of land based sources of pollution. All training activities were conducted with provisions made for language and geographical representation for the benefit of all Member States.

56. CEP is collaborating with the University of the West Indies (Department of CERMES in Barbados) on the implementation of an educational project to increase awareness of coral reefs and sustainable development in 19 schools in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. CEP funding will allow an additional 100 students and 8 teachers to be included in the project.

57. A Regional Training Workshop on Socio-economic Monitoring for Caribbean Coastal Management (SocMon Caribbean) was convened in Soufriere, Saint Lucia, 9–13 May 2005 with logistical assistance from the Soufriere Marine Management Area (SMMA) and the Department of Fisheries of Saint Lucia and funding from the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and UNEP-CEP. Eighteen participants from 8 countries: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, Jamaica, Mexico, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago were trained in using "Socioeconomic Monitoring Guidelines for Coastal Managers in the Caribbean: SocMon Caribbean", to complement their existing monitoring programs. Local socioeconomic monitoring activities are now underway in: Xcalak

NP, Mexico; Point Sable, Saint Lucia; Shoal Bay/Island Harbour MP, Anguilla; Montego Bay MP, Jamaica; Cades Bay Marine Reserve, Antigua and Barbuda; SMMA, St Lucia; and Sandy Island Oyster bed MP, Grenada.

58. UNEP-CEP convened a Fifth Training of Trainers Course scheduled for 2005 in February 2006 under a grant of US\$200,000 over three years from the MacArthur Foundation, to continue the training initially funded through ICRAN and to increase the number of trained Marine Protected Area managers in the Caribbean region under the Training of Trainers (ToT) program. Ten participants from Bahamas, Belize, Guadeloupe, French Guyana, Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Jamaica. The trainees were park managers, technical staff of national park services and fisheries agencies, and conservation organizations. To date local follow-up training has been conducted in Belize (Training Marine Reserve Managers in Belize and MPA Empowerment Training for Rangers), Guadeloupe (Guadeloupe Marine Protected Areas Network), French Guyana (Monitoring birds and fish in the coastal reserves of French Guyana), and additional courses are planned for the Bahamas, Grenada, Jamaica and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Global Action Programme for the protection of the marine environment in the face of the land-based activities – national action programs

59. Fifteenth countries of the region have launched national action programs for the protection of the sea, in the face of the land-based activities, within the framework of the Global Action Program, and with the support of specifically designed national action programs, or by means of activities related to the national action programs such as the national development policies, programs, initiatives, and frameworks. The 15 countries aforementioned are: Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Saint Lucia, Bahamas, and Trinidad and Tobago.

60. UNEP collaborates with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States to integrate activities related to the national action programs and the funding and strategic planning in the national strategies of environmental management of its member countries (Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines).

61. An alliance with the regional seas secretariats has been created, so that they provide technical support in the design of the national action plans. This regional strategy is being applied in the Southeast Pacific (Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru), the Greater Caribbean (Barbados, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago).

X. Management of Chemical Products and Wastes

Strategic Approach for the International Management of Chemical Products (SAICM)

62. The initial application of SAICM is supported on a "Quick Start Program", which includes a trust fund administered by UNEP and other forms of bilateral and multilateral cooperation. The objectives of the Strategic Approach are to increase the capacity for the sound management of chemical products, shorten the widening gap between the capacity of developed countries and developing countries, establish or strengthen partnerships and mechanisms for the technical cooperation and the supply of appropriate and clean technology, and promote the coordination and access to information on capacity building for the sound management of chemicals. In the framework of the "Quick Start Program", the measures for the building of capacities are the training of the personnel that provide the necessary knowledge to support the systematic implementation the Strategic Approach at the local, national and regional levels, in a coordinated and in the whole range of requirements related to the safety of the chemical products, including the strategic planning, evaluation and risk management, tests and research projects, and the prevention of illegal trafficking.

Experimental or demonstration projects on the integrated management of solid wastes (GIDS)

63. Municipal authorities of Nicaragua, with the support of UNEP, went on a mission to Mexico, where they had the opportunity to see the progress in the integrated management of solid wastes. The visits also included the recycling area, with examples of public and private management. From the exchange of information, the groundwork for the formulation of the national policy in the integrated management of the municipal waste was obtained. It is expected to sign a MOU with Nicaragua, to carry out a demonstration project with the participation of key public and private stakeholders. The product of this project is intended to be replicated in other countries of the subregion.

XI. Preparation and response in the face of environmental emergency situations

Evaluation of needs after conflicts by the United Nations Development Group (UNDG)

64. UNEP, in the field of environment, is the coordination center for the activities of assessment of the needs that arise after a conflict, conducted by the UNDG, and it participates in the activities carried out to draw lessons from the past three years with a view to improve the basic methodology of assessment. Similarly, UNEP collaborates with the Standing Inter-Organization Committee to develop a methodology for the environmental assessment and the evaluation of the needs in the first phase of the recovery. UNEP has collaborated with the Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to fully integrate environmental issues in the Framework of the Assessment of Needs.

65. OCHA and UNEP's Regional Office have joined efforts to address situations of environmental emergencies. Thus, they sent experts from Brazil to Peru to assess the environmental damage caused by the earthquake of Pisco (August 2007); and at the request of the Minister of the Environment and Natural Resources of Nicaragua they channeled the support of Mexican experts to assess the damage caused by Hurricane Felix in the Bosawas Reserve (October 2007).

XII. Execution at the regional level⁽³⁾

Latin America and the Caribbean

66. Advisory services and technical assistance to governments for the incorporation of the environmental issues in the national development frameworks and in the countries' common evaluations, execution of priority initiatives such as the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor and the Inca Route, protected areas, energy and sustainable tourism, access and distribution of to the benefits, soil degradation and desertification, activities related to the Global Action Program, activities related to the Small Developing Islands States, development and approval of national legislations in the environmental field, strengthening of the institutional agreements (secretariat of the Andean Community, the Caribbean Community), development of GEF's environmental projects, United Nations Fund for International Alliances, and other financing sources, environmental emergencies and natural disasters.

67. Training workshops, seminars and activities related to capacity building in priority areas of trade, environment and sustainable development, including the sustainable development of communities, cleaner production, eco-design, training courses and workshops for teachers and educators of the academic and non-academic teaching systems, also including the "green banking", sustainable acquisition and environmental accounting, projects for small scale cleaner development mechanisms in the fields of biomass, energy and forests, and courses and training seminars for judges on the execution of MOUs, scholarships through the Environmental Training Network (ETN), guided tours and conferences.

68. Publications and instruments of capacity building and technological support – guidelines, manuals, agenda: ETN Collection, prototypes of texts for the education in environmental matters for a basic academic education system; Web site of the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, data base on judicial decisions related to environmental matters.

Regional Programme in Sustainable Production and for Latin America and the Caribbean

69. The goal of this Programme is to support the development and implementation of concrete policies and activities to accelerate the shift towards sustainable production and consumption patterns. In particular: to design and implement national strategies of sustainable consumption and production, to design and implement integrated waste management systems, to improve the capacities and knowledge of small and medium size entrepreneurs in cleaner technologies, cleaner

⁽³⁾ Capacity building priority activities at the regional level, including intersectorial issues and thematic spheres.

production and eco-design, to support the implementation of sustainable public purchasing programs, to increase the public awareness concerning sustainable consumption and production, and to strengthen the Regional Council of Government Experts in Sustainable Consumption and Production.

GEF Projects

Global Environment Citizenship

UICN – South

70. The capacity building activities included:

- a) Training workshop and observation visit to the certification experiences of schools in Santiago de México. Organizes and executes the regional coordination with the support of Mexico's focal point.
- b) Training to teachers of selected schools, activities with the education community in schools and their local surroundings, promotion and diffusion of experiences in the community. All of this by means of a (1) workshop per school, (4) four developed observatories, (1) art contest and several activities with the community (Mexico).
- c) Workshops for the Diffusion of Knowledge vis-à-vis the Global Environment Citizenship. Environmental Challenges of the XXI Century for a sustainable development. Performed on November 30, December 5 and 7 of 2006.
- d) Workshop with Educational Authorities, principals and teachers, March 2006, Argentina.
- e) Three workshops with Educational Authorities in January, April, and May of 2006 in Costa Rica.
- f) Two preliminary workshops and an advisory/training workshop in March 2006 in Cuba.
- g) Workshop with Educational Authorities in January 2006, in Chile.
- h) Regional Workshop in Quito, Ecuador, in April 23 and 24 of 2006.
- i) Two workshops with Educational Authorities in January and February of 2006.
- j) Series of Global Dialogues (videoconferences) in the seven countries of the project, 3 weeks in March and 1 week in April of 2006.

AMARC/ALER

71. The capacity building activities included:

- a) Production and dissemination of 4 radio spots, February 2007.
- b) Broadcast of radio spots, June 5, 2007.
- c) Production of radio programs (design of content, elaboration of scripts, artistic production and recording, and editing of productions). Buenos Aires, Argentina and Quito, Ecuador, December 2006 to May 2007.

- d) Distribution of productions to the focal points. Buenos Aires and Quito, May 2007.
- e) Launching of the campaign. Buenos Aires and Quito, June 2007.
- f) Dissemination of the campaign through the informative agency Pulsar and ALER satelital. Buenos Aires and Quito, June 2007 to date.
- g) Training/Advisory Workshop in Fe de Valle, March 28 – 30 of 2006, in Cuba.

Consumers International

72. The capacity building activities included:

- a) Meeting of networks with a view to generate an exchange of ideas on the implementation of the demonstrative activities in the Barranqueras and Maipu municipalities, April 24 of 2007.
- b) Performance of surveys, March – April of 2007.
- c) Delivery of ecologic bags to the people of the municipality of Barranqueras, May 18 of 2007.
- d) Production of a documentary on wetlands and waste management in Barranqueras, December 2006 – January 2007.
- e) Workshop on the exchange of ideas and opinions, and promotion of the current situation of the wetlands and the waste management in Barranqueras, and visit to the area of the wetlands, May 18 of 2007.
- f) Production of a documentary on waste management in the municipality of Maipu, March – June of 2007.
- g) Workshop on the exchange of ideas and opinions, and promotion of the current situation of the wetlands and the waste management in Maipu, and visit to the area of classification of local waste, June 28 of 2007.
- h) The Jalisco Ecologic Collectivity developed and produced materials as part of the demonstrative activities (The power of labels. Diagnosis on the labeling in Mexico; Manual on Biodiversity and Consumption; Short guide on labeling for responsible consumers).
- i) The Ecuadorian Consumers' Tribune conducted 5 technical preparatory workshops and sustainability of the project in 6 neighborhoods, with a view to build the capacities of the promoters for the multiplying effect in the community, Quito, December 2006 – January 2007.
- j) Six technical visits were also conducted, in which the community of the same six neighborhoods went to the Solid Wastes Transfer Station of Zamiza and to the landfill of El INGA in the municipality of the metropolitan district of Quito, so as to teach and raise awareness on the problem posed by the subject, and strengthen their capacities as multiplication factors in the neighborhoods.
- k) Six open workshops were also carried out in 5 popular urban neighborhoods of Quito, involved in the process, to diffuse the issue and involve the persons

living in each neighborhood in the responsible consumption, as well as to generate awareness during purchasing times.

- l) Local Workshop in Barranqueras, February 9 of 2006
- m) Workshop on Solid Local Wastes, Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 7 of 2006.
- n) Local Workshop carried out in the municipality of Osa, Costa Rica, January 20 and 21 and June 6 of 2006.
- o) Preparatory Workshop of demonstrative activities, Santiago, Chile, April 10 of 2006.
- p) Local Workshop in Quito (January 7 and April 1-8 and 15 of 2006)
- q) Local Workshop in Ixtapan de la Sal, State of Mexico, February 10 and 11 of 2006.
- r) Local Workshop in Guadalajara, Mexico, May 11 and 12 of 2006.
- s) National Training Workshop, January 20, 21 and 22 of 2006, in Peru.

Consejo Latinoamericano de Iglesias (CLAI)

73. The capacity building activities included:

- a) First Inter-religious Forum "The Ecologic Conversion", April 16 of 2007, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- b) Workshop on the liturgical production, San Jose, Costa Rica, March 27-30 of 2007.
- c) Forum on the treatment of Solid Wastes – April 18 of 2007, Municipality of Desamparados, San Jose, Costa Rica, 500 young people from the Community and from different churches, Catholic and Protestant
- d) Inter-religious Forum "Towards a new environmental culture", May 1 of 2007, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- e) Second Inter-religious Forum "Towards a new environmental culture", May 12 of 2007, Entre Rios, Argentina.
- f) Inter-religious Forum on "Environmental and citizens' responsibility", June 12 of 2007, Gualeguaychu, Argentina.
- g) Forum "Defending God's Creation", June 18 of 2007, Barranqueras, Argentina.
- h) Inter-religious Forum for the Environment, June 22-23 of 2007, La Habana, Cuba.
- i) Workshop: ecology and economy, June 29-30 of 2007, theological community of Mexico, Mexico D.F.
- j) Symposium on climatic change, Chillan, Chile, July 7 of 2007.
- k) Informative Campaign on Environment, Christian Responsibility and Environmental Citizenship "Caring about Water", Santiago, Chile, July 14 of 2007.

- l) Forum for religious leaders from Temuco, July 25 of 2007, Temuco, Chile.
- m) Training workshop for religious leaders, ecumenical organizations, and NGOs, Prov. De Río Negro, July 30 and August 1 of 2006, in Argentina.
- n) Training workshop for religious leaders, Caribe Limón, Costa Rica, May 5 and 6 of 2006.
- o) Training workshop in the pilot municipality of Espiritu Santo, February 18 of 2006, Cuba.
- p) Training workshop in the pilot municipality of Cienfuegos, May 26 of 2006, Cuba.
- q) Training workshop in the pilot municipality of Sandino, February 13 of 2006, en Cuba.
- r) Preparation workshop for Ministers and church leaders, Bahia de Caraquez, Manabi province , Ecuador, April 22 of 2006
- s) Preparation workshop for Ministers and church leaders, Riobamba, Ecuador, May 31 of 2006.
- t) Training workshop in global environment citizenship, Ixtapan de la Sal, State of Mexico, February 10 and 11 of 2006.
- u) Training workshop in the pilot municipality of Callao, Peru, June 16 and 17 of 2006.
- v) Training workshop on the National Committee of CLAI, Lima, Peru, July 15 of 2006.

Parlamento Latinoamericano (PARLATINO)

74. The capacity building activities included:

- a) Three Workshops on the Access to the Environmental Justice: Buenos Aires, Argentina, May 9-10 of 2007, Mexico City, May 31 – June 1 of 2007, and Lima, Peru, June 21 -22 of 2007.
- b) Training Workshop and technical assistance, Buenos Aires, Argentina, September 14 and 15 of 2006.
- c) Municipal Workshop in Chile, August 15 and 16 of 2006.
- d) International Workshop on Global Environment Citizenship, “Biodiversity and Water”, Piura, Peru, June 19-21 of 2006.

Consejo Nacional del Ambiente – Perú (CONAM)

- a) Workshop on Global Environment Citizenship, June 1 of 2007, Callao, Peru.
- b) Environmental Citizen’s meeting, June 21-22 of 2007, Huancayo, Peru.
- c) Event on Environment, June 21-23 of 2007, Huancayo, Peru.

Comisión Nacional del Medio Ambiente – Chile (CONAMA)

- a) Workshop on community organization, Coyhaique, Patagonia. Rio Simpson's Children Park Project, October 10 of 2006 and March 7 of 2007.
- b) Evaluation on the consumers' awareness campaign in the project's communes, February 27 of 2007.
- c) Citizens' Demonstrative Experience, CEIBO, April 24 and 2006, and June 22 of 2007.
- d) Demonstrative Experience on the environmental management to raise awareness on the management of water. Rural Environment Management. Pudahuel, July 20 of 2007.

Decentralized Middle Size Donations Program

75. Training workshops for the design of GEF projects were carried out for the 59 selected institutions. The workshops were conducted on 14th and 15th days of August of 2006 in the city of Cordoba and on the 17th and 18th days of August of 2006 in the city of Buenos Aires. The selected proposers were trained on the process of projects' design.

Regional Programme on Action and Demonstration of Sustainable Alternatives for the Control of Malaria Vectors without Using DDT in Mexico and Central America

76. The project seeks the strengthening of the Control Programs in their technical capabilities and the technological development of their local and national information systems (personnel, systems, operative quality, and development of community participation). This has been achieved through:

- a) Technical Implementation Guide and Demonstration of Sustainable Alternatives for the Integrated Control of Malaria in Mexico and Central America. Editing and distribution in Mexico and Central America (1000 texts and 1000 CDs in PDF format). English version (June 2007).
- b) Editing of technical video support for the training and promotion of the model Focalized Treatment of Malaria without the use of DDT in Mexico. In its English and Spanish versions.
- c) Regional technical cooperation. Training in regional resources (Honduras, Guatemala, and Belize). Protocol for the implementation (in process) of a Surveillance System (rapid test detection) and timely treatment in migratory routs of Mexico and Guatemala, and technical collaboration in the implementation of the treatment effectiveness protocol in Chinandega, Nicaragua-Central America.

Improved Certification Schemes for the Sustainable Management of the Tropical Forests

77. One of the results expected by the project is the increase of the local capacity to identify, manage, monitor, and assess for the HCVF certification, including the

biodiversity values of small forests and low intensity forests. The capacity building activities included:

- a) Mexico and Brazil participated in the training courses from ProForest HCV and led the HCV identification workshops in their own countries. At least two members of communities have been trained in all the sites to identify high preservation values and the management of instruments.
- b) A workshop was conducted with owners / managers of forests, ecologists, certifiers, and preservation specialists, so as to develop the criteria needed for the identification, monitoring and management of biodiversity / CBF areas in small forests and NTFP operations.
- c) A workshop of Standard development groups was carried out so as to develop adequate regional definitions of "small" and of "NTFP operation".
- d) A workshop with multiple stakeholders at the regional and country level was held so as to develop appropriate indicators and verifiers for biodiversity and HCVF aspects of the forests.

Project Andean Moorland

- a) Workshop for the development of the Andean Ecosystems Map from the northern and Central Andes. Construction of an Andean ecosystems map of the Northern and Central Andes. This includes the support and participation of 6 national agencies of the countries involved (one per country, except in the case of Peru, where two institutions are involved), August 27 and 29 of 2007. Quito, Ecuador.
- b) Research workshop on the environmental systems that generate the mountain ecosystems in the Northern and Central Andes. Identification of hydrological research priorities applied to the management and preservation of the Moorland, February 2007. Merida, Mexico.
- c) Two regional events are planned between October and November: identification of priorities in the payment for environmental services and the training for the monitoring of biodiversity in the uplands and the climatic change effects.

Establishment of Incentives for the preservation of ecosystem services with a Global meaning in Argentina

78. A training workshop was carried out to as a preparation for the Resistencia project, Argentina.

Ice Masses from the South": Research in support of the Climatic Change Adaptation

- a) International Symposium in interactions of the Herat and the volcanic ice of the planet, Reykjavik, Iceland, June 19-23 of 2006.
- b) A training workshop was carried out in preparation for the MSP, from October 16 through 18 of 2006, in Valdivia, Chile.

- c) Chilean Meeting of Antarctic Research and Latin American Symposium on Antarctic Research Projects, Concepcion Chile, August 16-18 of 2006.
- d) Regional reconstructions of the climatic variations in South America during the late Holocene, Malargue, Argentina, October 3-8 of 2006.
- e) "Without oil or gas, but with ideas" Seminar, Santiago, Chile, October 7 of 2006.
- f) Seminar/workshop "Third Meeting of Preparation of the Action Plan for the National Strategy on Climatic Change ", Santiago, Chile, November 22 of 2006.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘