



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

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT

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

**Panama City, Panama
26-30 April ,2010**

Distribution:

Limited

UNEP/LAC-IGWG.XVII/4/Rev.1

Thursday 22 April, 2010

Original: Spanish

A. PREPARATORY MEETING OF HIGH LEVEL
EXPERTS

26 to 28 April 2010

**Report of the Secretariat on the
implementation of the 2008 - 2009
Regional Action Plan of the Forum of
Ministers of Environment of
Latin America and the Caribbean**

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Background

1. During the XVI Forum Ministers of Latin American and Caribbean Ministers of the Environment, from January 27 to February 1, 2008, Decision 2 underlines the need to continue intensifying efforts at the regional, subregional and national levels to implement the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development (ILAC), with the intention of honouring the agreements reached at the Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development held in 2002, and the Millennium Development goals, especially those related to the possibility of transfer of environmental policies.

2. To this end, seven (7) priority action areas of the Initiative were highlighted, on which Latin American and Caribbean countries would focus for the 2008-2012 period:

ILAC AREA	PRIORITIES
Climate change ⁽¹⁾	It is recognized the linkages between climate change and all ILAC areas (including renewable energy and energy efficiency)
Biodiversity	Increase of the forest area
	Genetic resources- equitable sharing of benefits
Water management	Watershed management
	Management of marine and coastal areas and their resources
Vulnerability, human settlements and sustainable cities	Vulnerability and risk management
	Waste management
Social issues, including health, inequity and poverty	Health and environment (pollution and chemicals)
Economic issues, including competitiveness, trade and production and consumption patterns (energy)	Sustainable Production and Consumption
Institutional arrangements	Evaluation and indicators
	Environmental education

3. The Sixteenth Forum of Ministers of Environment adopted Decision 2 regarding the 2008-2009 RAP, which reaffirmed that the Regional Action Plan is a

⁽¹⁾ Added in the Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean (Panama, 2003).

fundamental tool for the progressive application of the Latin American Initiative for Sustainable Development ILAC. It was also agreed to develop a new matrix for the preparation of the RAP 2008-2009 with the following purposes:

- a) Define the scope and perspective for implementation of the eight areas of ILAC priority action;
- b) Determine the objectives for each of the eight areas mentioned;
- c) Identify the main areas of work needed to carry the proposed actions forward;
- d) Agree on indicators for assess progress in the implementation of the eight priority-action areas;
- e) Record the actions taken by the countries and by the ITC's agencies in the context of the priorities set.

4. The meeting adopted a new matrix scheme for the RAP 2008-2009 as a guide for the development of the RAP 2008-2009 and invited the ITC Agencies to support the countries of the Region and to be actively involved in the implementation of the RAP 2008-2009.

5. As requested at the meeting, the Secretariat circulated the revised proposal of the RAP 2008-2009, that had been distributed during the Sixteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers, to the countries of the region and to the member agencies of the Technical Interagency Committee (ITC), in order to receive comments and proposals.

6. Within the timeframe as it appears in Decision 2, the final version of the RAP 2008-2009 was redistributed to the countries and agencies, with the following priority areas: Climate Change; Biological Diversity; Water Resources; Human Settlements, Vulnerability and Sustainable Cities; Social Themes, Health, Inequality and Poverty; Sustainable Consumption and Production; and, Institutional Aspects.

7. These themes were selected bearing in mind the problems that beset our region the most, the opportunity of progress in the current regional context and also for its strategic importance in fulfilling the agreements in the Millennium Development Goals and the Johannesburg Plan of Action.

8. The importance of continued work on developing indicators including clear goals was highlighted by the countries during the XVI Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment. This will facilitate the mainstreaming of the environmental agenda leading to the availability of additional resources at the national level.

9. Some countries mentioned successful inter-institutional work experiences which also led to an increase in budgets and to the availability of information for the development of South-South cooperation in areas such as: marine-coastal areas, energy sector, territorial environmental management, payment for environmental services, tourism in protected areas, and adaptation to climate change, among others.

10. This report reflects mainly the activities executed by the agencies of the ITC, thus contributing to the implementation of the RAP 2008-2009. Countries have

contributed extensively to this implementation but their actions are not reflected in this report.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Aim	Support the efforts of countries for developing capacities and technologies for Programmes and studies on subjects related to climate change.
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11. The United Nations Collaboration Programme on the Reduction of Emissions by Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD) is a collaborative work among FAO, UNDP and UNEP. UN-REDD is an effort to create value (economic) from carbon stored from trees, offering incentives for developing countries to reduce emissions from forests and invest in other alternatives of low-use carbon for sustainable development. In July 2008 a fund was established with multiple donors that allows them to mobilize resources and provide funds for the activities. This Project is being implemented currently in Panama and Bolivia.

12. Also, ECLAC has coordinated various related projects on topics such as opportunity cost analysis and country positions in connection with UN-REDD. ECLAC, in cooperation with the Climate Change Office of the Government of Spain, InWent (Germany) and other Latin American and Caribbean institutions (such as the Andean Community), has organized and co-financed seminars in technical, financial and institutional aspects related to the REDD initiatives, for forestry experts in countries in the region. Additionally, together with the National Forestry Office of France and the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), ECLAC has organized biannual meetings of forestry experts to exchange experiences and prepare proposals related to UN-REDD processes.

13. UNEP, under the UNDP-Spain Fund to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, with funding from the Spanish Government (http://www.undp.org/mdgf/environment_jp.shtml), has initiated three Programmes, within the framework of the Millennium Goals Fund, focused on increasing the capacity of the populace and country for adapting to the effects of climate change and the capacity to take mitigating actions in Nicaragua, Panama and Peru (2008-2011), namely:

- a) Joint Programme: Incorporation of Measures for Adaptation and Mitigation of Climate Change in the Management of Natural Resources in the two Priority Watersheds of Panama;
- b) Joint Programme: Adaptation and Integrated Management of Environmental Resources and Climatic Risks in Micro-basin in the Andean Highlands of Peru;
- c) Joint Programme: Local Environmental Management of Natural Resources and Provision of Environmental Services in the Biosphere Bosawas Reserve in Nicaragua.

14. In an effort to confront the problems caused by climate change, at both the regional and subregional levels, in November 2008, there was a Preparatory Workshop for Negotiators from Latin America in Poznan, Poland. In 2009, a

Workshop for Climate Change Negotiators from the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the Caribbean Community in Leon, Nicaragua, was held from 11-13 May. This was organized jointly with the Central American Commission for Environment and Development, in cooperation with the Danish Government where, for the first time, Climate Change Negotiators from Central American Countries and the Small Island Caribbean States, met with the goal of strengthening negotiating capacities and to discuss positions regarding the multilateral climate change agenda, with a view to identifying shared visions and common interests.

15. Likewise, a Workshop for Climate Change Negotiators from Latin American countries was held jointly with the Secretariat for United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), giving continuity to the regional preparatory workshops of the Conference of Parties (COP) 13 and 14, achieved since 2007. The objective was to strengthen negotiating capacities and discuss the region's positions in light of the multilateral negotiations prior to COP 15, in December 2009 in Copenhagen.

16. In September 2008, in Mexico, UNEP signed an agreement with the Secretary for the Environment and National Resources of that country, for the implementation of joint actions, including the creation of capacities to support Mexico in the implementation of multilateral agreements, particularly for the adaptation and mitigation of the effects of climate change, among others.

17. The Inter American Development Bank (IDB) has supported the countries of the Latin American region through its investment loans, for the Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Initiative, loans to promote policy reforms on climate change, for sectoral policy reforms, Climate Investment Funds (CIF) and funds from the Global Environment Fund (GEF). In this sense the following has been carried out:

a) More than U.S. One billion in loans throughout the region aimed at investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency, plus more than USD800 million for direct investments in various areas of mitigation and adaptation to climate change

b) Support for institutional capacity building and planning, including support for:

- Development and implementation of national programmes and sub-national and national strategies;
- National and sub-national economic impact studies of climate change in 8 countries of the region;
- Training of national and subregional institutions and national decision makers, such as national focal points for climate change, planning and finance ministries and sectors in the region to incorporate the issue of climate change in their activities.

c) Support regional and sub-regional dialogues, including support for:

- Studies and meetings of representatives from ministries of environment and climate change focal points within the frame of the Mesoamerica Plan and the Mesoamerican Strategy for Environmental Sustainability (EMSA) to identify areas of collaboration on adaptation to climate change (including in
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the water sectors, agriculture, energy and disaster) and the development of collaborative networks on climate change action plans and methodologies for the analysis of carbon sequestration by land use;

- Development of materials and regional meetings for ministries of finance, planning and climate change focal points to discuss how to incorporate climate change concerns in national budgets and better access to international funds for climate change.

d) Support for more than 20 projects at national, sub-national and regional levels for pilot projects and training for adaptation to climate change, including support for:

- Improvement of local institutional capacity to identify and analyze vulnerabilities to climate change through the provision of tools for monitoring the climate system and the use of information models from regional models of climate change for decision makers; Identification, design and implementation of strategic and replicable adaptation projects that support treatment of the impacts of climate change and demonstrate the costs and benefits of adaptation in priority sectors;
- Promotion of risk management strategies and reducing the risk of climate change impacts, including studies of risk transfer such as the use of insurance schemes or other mechanisms to deal with losses and costs associated with climate change;
- Development of analysis of regulatory instruments for the promotion of adaptation, such as promotion of price signals, and environmental markets, development of standards and analysis of market mechanisms.

e) Support for more than 30 projects at national, sub-national and regional levels for pilot projects and capacity building for the analysis of the potential to reduce carbon emissions and promoting climate change mitigation, including support for:

- Promotion of standards ("bio fuels scorecard") and technical and financial support to pilot projects on sustainable bio fuels;
 - Development of methodologies, observatories, and action plans to promote the reduction of emissions from sustainable transport - including assessment and monitoring of emission reduction in urban mobility plans and national plans for transport logistics;
 - Studies and pilot projects for monitoring deforestation and carbon stocks from land use, studies and support to local communities for the governance of REDD projects, institutional capacity building for the promotion of projects to reduce deforestation;
 - Training and technical support to decision makers in developing regulations and implementing energy efficiency programs for water and sanitation sectors and buildings;
 - Analysis of potential and financing of pilot projects on renewable energy such as wind and solar energy;
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- Support to public and private companies (such as commercial banks, mining and energy companies, water, oil production, etc.) to analyze emissions of greenhouse gases of the portfolio of activities of these companies and the identification of measures and potential funding for mitigation of emissions. Review of the IDB's lending portfolio and analysis of potential additional investment in activities to reduce emissions.

f) Support for access to the carbon market:

- Analysis and institutional support to governments for the promotion of projects of the clean development mechanism (CDM);
- Development of a knowledge web platform for LAC in Spanish on the carbon market;
- Development of methodologies and technical assistance (especially for under-represented sectors);
- Analysis of potential emission reductions and support for the preparation of project documents and validation.

g) Support for access to investments on mitigation and adaptation activities through the development of investment plans and identification of co-financing.

18. Further to the abovementioned projects, IDB has other loans, technical cooperation projects and events related to climate change and forestry, which are attached as ANNEX A of this document.

Aim	Increase access to information, technologies, options and opportunities for financing Programmes and projects for adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change.
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19. In regard to available information with a solid scientific basis that is relevant to our region, and which is available to the decision-makers and sectors involved, UNEP supported the development of evaluation activities related to the vulnerability and compilation of data for the implementation of activities for adapting to Climate Change, which resulted in the following publications dedicated to two subregions with the greatest level of vulnerability in the regions. These publications are: "Mitch: A Decade Later. An Overview of Environmental Trends in the Central American Environment" (original in Spanish). It includes posters and maps, and was developed with Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), ECLAC, other United Nations System agencies and other organizations; and "Climate Change in the Caribbean and Challenges for Adaptation, 2008", developed with the Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM), the University of West Indies, the Caribbean Community Centre for Climate Change, and the Water Centre for Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (CATHALAC).

20. Also, regarding evaluations, a methodology was developed to integrate factors relating to climate change and ecosystems in risk assessment and

associated planning processes. Initially, this Project was situated in the Caribbean region, in Jamaica to be precise, as a case study and with a view to its possible replication in the regions. The methodology for these evaluations was completed in March 2010².

21. Additionally, various ITC agencies have participated in the Regional Platform for Risk Reduction from Disasters (Panama, Panama; 17 to 19 March, 2009), organized by the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR). Also, UNEP promoted the exchange of knowledge and experiences related to climate change policies and legislations, within the framework of the XI Meeting of the Latin American Commission for the Environment and Tourism of the Latin American Parliament, PARLATINO (Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; 5 and 6 March, 2009), and the creation of capacities through conferences on climate change dictated by the V Programme for Capacity in Environmental Law and Policies, (Asuncion, Paraguay; 20 to 30 May, 2008), and in the Regional Programme for Capacity in Environmental Governance of Coastal Areas, (Panama, Panama; May 2009).

22. The Programme on the Caribbean Hotel Energy Efficiency Action Programme (CHENACT) is aimed at supporting the Caribbean hotel sector in moving towards maximum energy efficiency and use of renewable energies, as well as studying the possibilities of obtaining carbon credits for reducing carbon dioxide emissions, using the clean development mechanism (CDM) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Synergies have been created within the CHENACT project and UNEP, so that the participating countries not only comply with reducing their carbon dioxide emissions, but also with the Montreal protocol in relation to the phasing out of ozone depleting substances in air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment.

23. UNDP has made progress in implementing a key component of its Climate Change Programme, the Carbon-2012 Project. With an important donation from the Government of Spain, this four-year Project provides support to countries in the region in mobilizing funds directed at combating carbon emissions, as a potential source of finance for climate change mitigation projects, which contribute to sustainable development. The Carbon-2012 Project has been initiated in eight countries in the region, with a balanced representation from the Caribbean, Central America, the Andean countries and the Southern Cone.

24. The Project is geared towards countries with emerging markets in relation to the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), which has not yet achieved its maximum potential. Likewise, it is focused on activities at the national level which support national and regional governments, as well as the private sector, to understand and act in light of new investment opportunities related to the reduction of carbon emissions, which are emerging in the post-2010 Climate Change regime.

25. The Carbon-2012 Project complements the work of the Carbon Programme in the Millennium Development Goals (MDG-C) of UNDP, which points to:

² See <http://postconflict.unep.ch/publications/RIVAMP.pdf>.

- An increase in the number of countries that are benefitting from the Kyoto Protocol Clean Development Mechanism;
- Supporting the development of the CDM projects which could help countries to reach their MDG.

26. By developing capacities in the public and private sectors to comply with the CDM funds and attract investment in climate change projects, the Carbon-2012 project helps to position countries and companies to take advantage of available assistance from MDG-C. In combination, these UNDP initiatives contribute towards transforming national emerging markets of the CDM, which have still not realized their maximum potential, into mature carbon markets that constitute an important source of income for national efforts towards sustainable development.

27. Another regional initiative of UNDP has begun in response to the agreement reached in COP 13 in Bali in the year 2007, in “Bali Road Map” is Policy Project 2012: Support for Long-term Investment and Financing to Combat Climate Change: Evaluation of the Policy Implications up to and beyond (“Policy 2012”), which aims to:

- Increase national capacities in the countries of the region to: coordinate the application of ministerial visions, participate in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, UNFCCC, and negotiate national positioning within the period of the Bali Action Plan;
- Analyze investments and financial flows to treat with climate change in a maximum of three fixed sectors and/or economic activities per country, and improve the sectoral planning capacity in regard to climate change.

28. This initiative could include 19 countries at its maximum coverage. Currently, it exists in Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, St. Lucia and Uruguay. The overall objective of this initiative is to support countries in the way they participate in this challenging and complex negotiation process by providing assistance to interested parties at the national level in coordinating different points of views to define their policies on climate change, which should reflect a cross-cutting character in a variety of sectors. A number of workshops have been facilitated to accommodate national dialogue in different countries of the region.

29. In line with the ILAC priority action area on Climate Change, ECLAC, together with the United Kingdom Department for International Development, the Interamerican Development Bank and the Governments of Spain and Denmark, as well as the European Commission, has coordinated studies on the Climate Change economy in many Latin American and Caribbean countries, which include sectoral studies on the economic impacts of climate change and the measurement of its social impacts. Such studies emanate from the common interest of countries in the region in analyzing the socio-economic consequences of climate change and developing mitigation and adaptation policies, as well as in leveraging the necessary financial resources to deal with this phenomenon. In this same vein, ECLAC published a document, “Climate Change and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean: an Outline”, compiling scientific information, from recent years,

on the impacts of climate change on the region. Also in line with the area of Climate Change, ECLAC supported the dialogue in preparation for the Copenhagen Summit by convening the two meetings of negotiators and experts from the region to exchange viewpoints on the subject.

30. Additionally, in cooperation with the Project for Global Trade Analysis (PGTA) and with the Interamerican Development Bank, ECLAC hosted the 20th Annual Conference for Global Economic Analysis, with sessions focused on modelling climate change. In addition, ECLAC, along with the Iberoamerican Network of Climate Change Offices (RIOCC in Spanish), organized in 2008-2009 four courses, two related to climate forecasting and two on projects for adapting to Climate Change.

31. Some dissemination and information activities on climate change which are promoted by the UNEP Secretariat include:

- a) International Biennial Meeting of the Cartel in Mexico. Topic: Climate Change. Franz Mayer exposition (October 2008 to March 2009);
 - b) Expo on Art and the Environment in Guadalajara, June 2008 and June 2009 (800,000 attendees);
 - c) Poster Expo on Climate Change. Film, photographs, graffiti, caricatures, conferences y forums;
 - d) Art and the Environment in Montevideo; May, 2009;
 - e) Month of Art and the Environment in Panama, September 2008 (multiple promotional activities: concerts, interactive and creative activities with children: painting, audiovisual production);
 - f) Concert (Panama Symphony Orchestra) on the grounds of the National Theatre, September 2008;
 - g) Distribution of posters on climate change on the streets of Panama, June 2008.
 - h) Environmental Film Cycle in the Joint Programme of Peru;
 - i) Production of audiovisual material with Albatros Media: spots and Programmes on climate change broadcast on 50 channels in Latin America, including CNN in Spanish;
 - j) Competition in children's painting, subject: Climate Change. More than 2,000 drawings received in Latin America and the Caribbean;
 - k) Training of journalists in Colombia (October 2008), Panama (November 2008), Torreon, Mexico;
 - l) Publication in Tierramerica of articles and reports on climate change on a regular basis;
 - m) World Environment Day in Mexico -- launching the reports on Carbon Capture and kick off the "Seal the Deal" Campaign;
 - n) Showing of the film, "Home" in Panama and Brazil, June 2009.
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Aim	Support countries during the stage of analyzing options and measures for the gradual elimination of Greenhouse emission (GHG) and Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), Methyl bromide and other substances
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32. UNEP has supported countries of the region to achieve and maintain compliance with multilateral environmental agreements. To this end, a subregional workshop for Central American countries was organized on the application of multilateral environmental agreements (MEA) in El Salvador in 2008. The objective of the workshop was to create consciousness and explore synergies between the different inter-related trade agreements, particularly in the context of Central America and the Dominican Republic, the Free Trade Agreements (CAFTA/RD).

33. A Train the Trainers Workshop on the Green Customs Initiative (Caracas, Venezuela; February 2008). A similar seminar was held in the Dominican Republic in November 2009, for the Caribbean Region. The object of this initiative is to strengthen the implementation and application of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) through integrated capacity building for customs officials within the execution framework of the MEAs. In this regard, customs officials were trained to carry out the commercial requirements of several MEAs at the same time, thereby making the workshop more efficient than one in which capacity building is done for a single multilateral agreement.

34. On the other hand, activities have been undertaken within the framework of the Regional Network for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, creating opportunities for interchange of expressions and knowledge sharing between government officials and officials of implementing bodies, with respect to alternatives for Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) and the reduction of emissions. Countries have been assisted in the timely elimination of SAOs, in the activities under individual projects which take into account the requirements for fulfilment of the Montreal Protocol. Countries have been assisted in establishing or reviewing their legislation and their support framework for developing new policies and legal instruments to allow for the elimination of strategic ODS, in order to include mechanisms for the management of all controlled substances. Finally, countries have been assisted in the creation of mechanisms for compiling reliable information on the importation and consumption of ODS and for managing the situation with respect to fulfilment of the Montreal Protocol.

35. Activities of the Montreal Protocol Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP). The Caribbean SIDS CAP is a combination of projects and initiatives to achieve this goal and build capacity at the national, regional and collective levels with the aim of assisting the Contracting Parties to fulfil and maintain compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The following activities are included:

- a) Montreal Protocol Compliance Assistance Programme. The CAP provides continuous support to all Caribbean SIDS on management of compliance of the Protocol and presentation of reports on annual data requirements to the Secretariat to the Multilateral and Ozone Fund. UNEP provided training and capacity building of ozone officers and other key national stakeholders on the
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management and preparation of the annual reports required by the Secretariat of the Montreal Protocol. The Caribbean SIDS has achieved 100 per cent compliance for data reporting requirements. With regard to the 2008 database, more than 85 per cent of the SIDS has eliminated the use of CFC, in compliance with the mandate of the Montreal Protocol. A meeting of Caribbean ozone officers was organized by UNEP in collaboration with the Government of Belize (Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment) and the UNDP country representative for Belize, was held in Belize, 2-5 March 2010. Fourteen (14) countries including Haiti (Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Lucia, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago) participated in the meeting which was aimed at determining new national implications and requirements based on recent decisions of the Montreal Protocol in accordance with the Meeting of the Parties and the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol; reviewing the implementation status and management of hydro chlorofluorocarbons (HCFC), with a view to their elimination, in keeping with the Montreal Protocol, and lastly, benefits of energy management and climate change. The process was achieved through training for the execution of national surveys and project preparation; information on the role of the National Refrigeration Associations in support of the implementation of the Montreal Protocol; analysis and control of the trade in Ozone-Depleting Substances (ODS) and analysis of the challenges of implementing the Montreal Protocol in approved projects;

b) Exchange among Networks. The main objective is to build capacities of the national ozone workers and prepare and implement strategies to deal with the emerging issues such as favourable technologies for the ozone layer, the need for new skills, illegal trade of ODS, alternative technologies to using methyl bromide, CFC inhalers and the trade of ODS technologies that contribute to ODS dependence. Since 2008, four meetings of the network were held in which the Caribbean countries participated;

c) Development and implementation of national Montreal Protocol policies and legislation. The CAP provided support to the Caribbean SIDS on reviews and development of national legislations and in particular, the establishment of licences to control the trade in ODS. This support is provided through national and regional policy workshops and, where necessary, through special assistance and resources to countries that are at risk of non compliance or those that are fully non compliant;

d) Support for Country-specific Policy and Legislative Compliance with the Montreal Protocol. With this goal in mind, support was given to Haiti, Guyana and Barbados. Ten (10) SIDS have established an informal information exchange system for the trafficking of ODS with countries of Asia Pacific for provisional approval of ODS freight before reaching to the respective countries. A training course was also held for the national partners on the implementation of ODS licensing system in Dominica, Belize and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. All the countries received assistance towards

maintaining compliance. With regard to the 2007 and 2008, reports on compliance with the Protocol, the Ozone Officers Network of the English-speaking Caribbean were the first to complete all the data required by the Ozone Secretariat;

e) Technological support and capacity-building at the national and regional levels. UNEP coordinates the transfer of the best available technology to support the sustainable compliance and transition of ozone-friendly technologies through a combination of national and sub-regional workshops, targeting both the private and public sectors. Special attention is paid to the air-conditioning and refrigeration as this sector is the largest user of ozone depleting substances in the Caribbean SIDS. Additional regional workshops to facilitate the creation of capacities for adaptation to technologies in the long-term were held in Trinidad and Tobago 2008 (8 countries), Grenada 2009 (14 countries). Cuba and the Dominican Republic participated in similar workshops in Argentina and Colombia in 2008 and 2009 respectively. In addition, this policy training was included in all the activities of the national project to phase out the use of ODS;

f) Training of customs officials, other government workers and the private sector responsible for the trade in ODS and ODS dependent technologies. To date, customs training has been conducted in all Caribbean SIDS and seven regional workshops have been held since 2003 to address the functions and responsibilities relating to the trade in ODS and the technologies that use ODS;

g) Training and awareness-raising in relation to the monitoring and control of illegal trade in commodities traded by virtue of multilateral environmental agreements. In May 2007, a workshop for the English-speaking Caribbean on the management and control of illegal trade was held in Saint Lucia, with particular reference and focus on commodities controlled under the Montreal Protocol. National ozone and customs officials from each of the 14 CARICOM member-states, including Haiti, as well as representatives from regional organizations such as the CARICOM Secretariat, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Caribbean Customs Laws Enforcement Council also participated in this workshop. The Customs Enforcement Network was established in 2008, and its first meeting was held in 2008 together with the Network of Latin American countries;

h) Green Customs Initiatives (GCI) Training. The objective of the Initiative is to strengthen compliance and the enforcement of multilateral environmental agreements through integrated capacity building of customs officials within the framework of the enforcement of these agreements. Workers are trained in various agreements at the same time in order to achieve greater efficiency than if they were trained separately for each agreement. The Green Customs Training Initiative for 2009 will be held in the Customs Training Centre, in November 2009, in the Dominican Republic. This training programme for all small island states will focus on the training of trainers that allows for the nationalization of GCI methodology;

i) Support to institutional strengthening and national ODS phase-out action plans. The main objectives of this project are to support increased national capacity, national plans of action for the phasing out of ODS and the implementation and compliance of the Montreal Protocol. The national projects for which UNEP is responsible are: creation of regional workshops and networks; horizontal cooperation; support to training and capacity building; training and technological support of long-term options for refrigerant alternatives; research and development activities, among others. The CAP has undertaken project activities in the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Bahamas, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Surinam. It provides support services for compliance and the work network in Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago.

Aim

Support integrated and sectoral initiatives by countries throughout the region to control the effects of climate change, including the promotion of the efficient use of renewable energy and sustainable management of natural resources among other initiatives.

36. With respect to initiatives relating to the efficient use of energy, jointly with the UNEP – Risoe Centre for Energy, Climate and Sustainable Development, a workshop was organized to present the mechanism “Sustainable Energy Advisory Facility – SEAF, the mechanism aimed at offering a rapid and flexible response to countries for promoting development and implementation of sustainable energy, policies, strategies and technologies. The project is funded by the Ministry of the Environment, Preservation of Nature and Nuclear Security of the Federal Republic of Germany, as a pilot project in Latin America. Two workshops were held, one in Panama for countries within Latin America and another in Jamaica for Caribbean countries, both in February 2009. In October 2009, another meeting was held to follow up on and give support to countries in the development of projects to be submitted for consideration for the use of this mechanism.

37. It must also be pointed out that a regional initiative of UNDP entitled Energy for Achieving the MDGs in the Caribbean began with activities at the beginning of July 2009. This regional project is aimed at increasing both national and regional capacities within the energy sector so that they may contribute effectively to achieving the MDGs in the region; for example in the reduction of the impact of the activities of this sector (energy), on the environment (MDG7) and on climate change. Initially, this initiative covered only five (5) countries, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, and supported the Energy Unit of CARICOM. One of its main objectives is the promotion of energy efficiency and use of renewable energy. This is evident, for example, in the support given to the Renewable Energy Committee, created by the Ministry of Energy and energy industries in Trinidad and Tobago for drafting the National Strategy for Renewable Energy; likewise the support given to UNDP country offices in Jamaica, Guyana and Suriname, for carrying out their energy Programmes. Another relevant aspect of

UNDP's Regional Project "Energy for Achieving the MDGs in the Caribbean", is related to the support provided to the countries involved in mobilizing financial, technical and human resources to facilitate the implementation of renewable energy projects and energy, or to facilitate changes in technology that contribute to sustainable development based on low-carbon emission technology. This type of support is takes place for example in Guyana with the implementation of the project entitled "Promotion of Access to Energy Sources for Achieving the MDGs in the hinterlands through renewable energy alternatives". Another project is being carried out in Trinidad and Tobago under which support is being offered to government to promote transition at the national level, from engines that depend on gasoline to engines that depend on natural gas. This regional UNDP project seeks synergies with other initiatives such as those being carried out by the Caribbean, Community Climate Change Centre, the Energy Unit of CARICOM and other important stakeholders in the sector. Additionally, the experiences and results obtained under other initiatives, such as the Caribbean Renewable Energy Development Project (CREDP). This was an initiative of the ministries of energy of the member countries of CARICOM themselves, which were interested in facilitating the adoption of renewable energies, eliminating barriers and reducing growing costs, in order to reduce the impact of the energy sector on the environment. It is focused mainly on projects connected to the network of wind energy, biomass energy, hydraulic energy, co-generation energy and geothermal resources.

38. On the other hand, in Brazil, UNDP supported the establishment and implementation of buses that run on hydrogen cells, the launch of which took place during the second half of 2009. As its name implies, this project is aimed at encouraging development and use of buses propelled by hydrogen cells through support for a significant operational test of these buses in the Sao Paulo metropolitan area. They will provide feedback to the developers of the technology and will also serve to provide local institutions with significant experience in the use of the technology.

39. In Mexico, UNDP has contributed by constructing the Regional Centre for Wind Technologies, under the project entitled, Plan of Action for the Elimination of Barriers against the Large Scale Implementation of Wind Energy in Mexico. The main objectives of the project are to reduce CO₂ emissions, worldwide, by four (4) million tons (Mt) per year by promoting the development of a commercial market for wind energy in Mexico, with an installed capacity rate of wind energy of 2000 MW over ten (10) years. An equivalent pilot project albeit on a smaller scale, began in Uruguay in May of 2009 with advice and technical/administrative support from UNDP, in order to encourage investment in the generation of commercially viable wind energy. To date, the project has been able to negotiate enough investments to install wind farms in the countries that are capable of generating 10MW.

40. In April 2009, also in Mexico, a National Seminar on the Funding of Photovoltaic Projects was held, with technical advice and specialized implementation by UNDP, within the framework of the project entitled, Domestic Systems for Photovoltaic Cells Connected to the Mexicali Network.

41. 2009 marked the final year of the Rural Electrification with Renewable Energy Project in Chile, under the implementation and monitoring of UNDP. The activities carried out under the project contributed to the removal of barriers against the use of non-conventional renewable energies within the framework of the National Rural Electrification Programme in Chile. Through the development of a series of activities which contributed to the lessening of greenhouse gas emissions produced by energy sources in rural areas, thereby improving the quality of life of these communities. UNDP also implemented similar projects in Costa Rica, Bolivia and Peru, which were aimed at eliminating the most common barriers (financial, technical and human resources) to achieving electrification in rural areas with technologies applied from renewable sources of energy. In the case of Costa Rica in particular, in addition to the obvious benefits of a reduction in greenhouse gases, electricity was supplied to 329 rural communities through microelectric plants or photovoltaic systems, contributing to the reduction of CO2 emissions by some 210,000 tons.

42. Another project, whose final activities took place at the beginning of 2009 through the implementation and monitoring by UNDP, was the project entitled, Development of Small Scale Hydroelectricity for Productive Uses in Areas outside the Network. This contributed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions originating from fossil fuels in electricity generation for productive uses in rural areas not integrated within the National Interconnect System, through the removal of barriers and the reduction of the cost of implementation and distribution of Small Hydroelectric Plants in Nicaragua, to promote productive development in rural areas outside the Network.

BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Aim	Active participation of Latin America and the Caribbean in the negotiation of an international regime of access to genetic resources within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
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43. In support of the negotiation for the international regime, as well as for the promotion of regional and subregional activities, a number of meetings, workshops and other fora have been organized to heighten knowledge and exchange of ideas on the subject of access and benefits sharing of the genetic resources from biodiversity and associated traditional knowledge, in identifying priorities and needs of the region and its better positioning in these negotiation processes.

44. In this respect, the Second Meeting of the Working Group on Access to Genetic Resources (Quito, Ecuador; 29-30 April, 2008) was held prior to the Ninth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Bonn, Germany 2008) so that negotiators from Latin America and the Caribbean within the Ad Hoc Working Group on Access to Genetic Resources of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), could review the recommendations of both meetings in preparation for the multilateral encounters. Given the intense negotiations taking place towards adoption at the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Nagoya, Japan; October 2010), UNEP and the Secretariat of the CBD organized regional consultations involving all the Group of Latin

America and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC for its initials in Spanish) (Panama, Panama; 15th and 16th January 2010), which produced a document of regional consensus. The Ninth and final meeting of the Working Group on Access to Genetic Resources was held in March 2010 in Cali, Colombia. Additionally, a regional project was prepared on Access to Biological Diversity related to the strengthening of implementation of the regime of access to genetic resources and distribution of benefits in nine countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. The proposal was approved by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and a project document is being prepared in consultation with the countries involved.

45. UNDP carried out several projects at the national and regional levels throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Among these projects there is a regional initiative, carried out in collaboration with UNEP, ECLAC and other organizations, entitled, Biodiversity and Ecosystems: Why these are Important for Sustained Growth and Equity in Latin America and the Caribbean? This initiative began in 2008 and its main objective is to prepare a comprehensive report with a view to providing information to policy makers in Latin America and the Caribbean on the need to invest in and maintain biodiversity and ecosystem services, while focusing on achieving concrete financial and economic benefits, as well as on the cost incurred by countries in carrying out sustainable ecosystem management policies. Additionally, the contribution of biodiversity and ecosystems to sectoral production was analyzed and their economic value and role in the attainment of sustainable growth and equity were determined. This initiative is promoting regional consultation among the main stakeholders involved in some of the very diverse countries of the region. Consultations were carried out between August and December 2009 in Mexico, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela and Central America (Guatemala). Consultations in Brazil and the Caribbean (Trinidad and Tobago) will be carried out in March 2010. Participating in these consultations are government representatives, representatives of civil society, indigenous communities and representatives of the academic and private sectors. For the first time, these consultations revealed that there are symbolic cases of green environment underway in Latin America and the Caribbean, while barriers and opportunities were discussed; strategic areas were identified, as well as mechanisms for promoting investment in biodiversity and ecosystems.

Aim	Development of national and sub-regional incentive programmes and campaigns to promote preservation, renewal and investment in local forests.
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46. ILAC has established as one of its indicative goals "to increase significantly the surface area of the region that are protected areas, including in this definition transition zones and biological corridors". The ILAC goal and millennium objectives include, as an indicator, an increase in the percentage of protected area in respect of total surface area.

47. To this end, the countries of the region have made great strides in their administrative restructuring, within the concept of "national systems", and have established new protected areas in their respective territories. The Latin American Network for Technical Cooperation on National Parks, other Protected Areas and Wildlife (REDPARQUES) of the FAO has served as a regional training mechanism in the area of regional conservation and cooperation, in order to facilitate implementation of the Protected Areas Programmes. UNEP has continued

its coordination of and its participation in electronic discussion fora through which electronic conferences are organized on priority topics.

48. In order to promote sustainable forest management, UNEP organized the Second Regional Training Course on Forest Resources Management in Oaxaca de Juarez, Mexico from 13th to 24th July 2009. This course that totalled 70 hours, was aimed at technicians and officials of the forest management area of Latin America including keynote conferences and field trips, achieving the following: training on management and conservation of forest resources, updating of skills, learning techniques for forest restoration, forest fire fighting, combating erosion and desertification, and exchange of experiences among participants from the Spanish Speaking Caribbean, Central and South America in regard to forest management in each of their countries.

49. The work of REDPARQUES has been supported by participating in the revision of the publication titled "Financial sustainability in Protected Areas in Latin America" and in the regional virtual forum for the development of Voluntary Guidelines for the Establishment and Land-use planning of Protected Areas in Latin America. Currently, UNEP is participating through REDPARQUES in the organization of the Regional Symposium on Climate Change and Protected Areas, in Latin America which is planned for next October or November in Huascarán, Peru. Among the main objectives of this event are discussions on the topics of adaptation, policies and legislation in protected areas.

50. UNEP participated in the Third Mesoamerican Congress on Protected Areas (Merida, Yucatan, Mexico; 8 to 12 March 2010). This Congress was organized by the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD), the Environment and Natural Resources Secretariat of Mexico, through the National Commission on Natural Protected Areas and the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor-Mexico. The main objective of the congress was to follow up on the six priority lines identified by the member countries, namely: protected areas, indigenous and afro descendent peoples, territorial management and governance of protected areas, regional integration and cooperation, and lastly the financing of the protected areas.

51. Support has continued for the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor-Mexico, mainly for capacity building activities for protected area officials in the region, specifically through UNEP's participation with technical conferences and support to participants from Central America and the Caribbean to attend Courses on Connectivity and Management of Protected Areas in Mesoamerica, that have been held in Chajul, Montes Azules, in the State of Chiapas, Mexico. Support was also provided to the Ministry of Environment of Guatemala to facilitate the reproduction and subsequent exhibition of a photograph collection titled "Mesoamerican Biological Corridor: Space for Life", in Guatemala.

52. Another initiative that promotes the preservation and increase in forests and which is being implemented at the national and subregional levels, is Payment for Environmental Services (PES). The use of this instrument has increased significantly in the Mesoamerican Region. At the request of the Council of Ministers of the Environment in the Subregion, UNEP, in collaboration with the CCAB, has undertaken a project for the Preparation of a proposal for the establishment of a Mesoamerican fund for the payment of environmental services. This project is currently underway.

53. Another activity already mentioned in this report which is also relevant under this point is the United Nations Programme on Collaboration in the Reduction of Emissions

through Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UNREDD).

54. On the other hand, UNDP, through its Regional Programme on Energy and the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, in alliance with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) through its Global Strategy for Protected areas, is working within the framework of a regional initiative to strengthen the sustainable financing of National Protected Areas Systems in the region. This initiative began in 2008, with the implementation of a Financial Sustainability Score Card for protected areas systems by governments and a group of experts on financing of protected areas in nineteen countries of the Region. Currently, the results and considerations emerging from the application of this checklist have been compiled in a regional report which will be published at the end of this year, in an effort to assist decision makers and management officials within the protected areas of the region to identify the needs and financing loopholes of the Protected Areas System and to make an input in the determination of support activities at the national level.

55. The UNDP has also carried out projects in the Protected Areas System of several countries of the region. Some of these are:

- a. Re-engineering of the national system of protected areas in Dominican Republic in order to achieve financial sustainability;
- b. Strengthening of the operational and financial sustainability of the national system of protected areas;
- c. Design and implementation of a National Subsystem of Marine Protected Areas in Colombia;
- d. Strengthening of a comprehensive National System of Protected Areas in Chile: a financial and operative framework;
- e. Financial Sustainability of the National System of Protected Areas and the Subsystems of the related private and community Protected Areas in Ecuador;
- f. Consolidation of Marine Protected Areas in Costa Rica;
- g. Strengthening of national capacities for the implementation, consolidation and sustainability of the protected areas in Belize.

56. The UNDP offered technical and specialized assistance for the development and implementation of an initiative aimed at the recovery of large territory across the Andean Region of Peru that are being affected by severe processes of destruction and extreme poverty, through the implementation of a pilot project in the area known as Las Bambas, which is affected by a massive copper mining operation. The project will provide opportunities for collaboration between all sectors: private, governmental (at the national regional and local levels) and the local communities in support of sustainable land management. This experience will be replicated in other areas of the country affected by land degradation.

57. Additionally, conservation projects are being carried out with GEF funding. Among the projects worthy of mention are: continuation of the Project on Conservation of the Biodiversity of the Paramo in the Northern and Central Andes, the Decentralized GEF Medium Size Grants Programme in Argentina (Umbrella Programme), as well as projects on Biosafety in the framework of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, of the Convention on

Biological Diversity in countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

58. The IDB has increased its investments for the protection of biological diversity, especially in the context of internalizing and promoting conservation of biodiversity in all IDB programmes in the different sectors: Tourism, Water, and Agriculture. Some examples of projects include, the IDB financing loan-specific components of sector loans, technical assistance, and GEF operations that in the 2008-2009 period amount to over USD 100 million. In this regard the following is under implementation:

- Tourism programmes in Brazil, Panama, Chile, and Dominican Republic;
- Regional Programmes on Sustainable Development in Central America (Gulf of Fonseca, Trifinio);
- The programme for Palm cultivation in Colombia;
- The program for the Maya Biosphere in Guatemala, and several other operations in the BID GEF Biodiversity window.

59. Additionally, the IDB in the context of REDD Plus, and its country lending strategies has increased operating funds for sustainable forest development. These operations include the Loan for Sustainable Development of the State of Acre in Brazil, the Environment and Forest Programme of Suriname, strengthening the National Forest Corporation of Chile, the watershed management programmes in Central America, among others. The IDB has offered a number of technical cooperation's in Guyana, Bolivia, Peru, and Colombia on the issue of forests.

WATER RESOURCES

Aim	To promote and support projects and to expand capacity, institutional development and shared management tools
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60. The Latin American and Caribbean region is facing increasing challenges with water, in terms of its management, institutional framework, management instruments, among other things. The strengthening of capacities and the exchange of ideas and practices among the countries is an important tool for addressing this issue. In this regard, a number of activities have been supported and training projects are being implemented in the region.

61. The Water Forum of the Americas brought together more than 4000 participants representing governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), indigenous communities and many other sectors (Foz de Iguazú, Brazil; November, 2008). UNEP participated in this forum which consisted of a preparatory meeting in which the "Regional Document of the Americas" that was later presented at the Fifth Water Forum (Istanbul, Turkey; 16 to the 22 March, 2009). In the document the perspectives and positions related to water resources management and its respective services in the American continent were presented. It focuses on global changes which include population growth, urbanization, land-use change and climate change in particular, and was geared towards development and progress that countries in the different sub-regions of the Americas (North, Central, South and Caribbean) have experienced in the last decade.

62. ECLAC has promoted the adoption of measurement schemes through Water Accounts (National Accounts System/ Satellite Accounts) as venue of the regional course on methodologies for estimating water resources, organized by FAO.

63. Another important contribution to the advancement and support of projects in this area, was the meeting of the Council Board of the Centre of Socio-environmental Knowledge and Care of the La Plata Basin in Brazil, where Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia and Paraguay, made presentations on the progress being made in training activities for trainers and where the participants agreed on a new course of action by 2009. Indigenous representatives now form part of the assessment Board, thus adding more value to the work that is being done in the Centre.

64. As regards the integrated water resources management (IWRM) significant support has been received from the Spanish Government. At the Eighteenth Summit of Heads of State and Government, (San Salvador, El Salvador; October 2008), the Iberoamerican Water Initiative was transformed into the Iberoamerican Water Programme and accordingly approved. As part of the same, the Iberoamerican Water Training Programme was proposed by the Latin American countries at the Conference of Iberoamerican Directors of Water (CODIA), which is coordinated by the Permanent Technical Secretariat of the Ministry of Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs of Spain.

65. It is important to note that UNEP has contributed significantly to the CODIA, participating in its conferences. In 2008 it was decided that UNEP would provide support to this Iberoamerican Water Training Programme, in the following priority topics:

- a. Planning and IWRM (coordinated by Brazil);
- b. Hydrogeology (coordinated by Cuba);
- c. Climate and extreme phenomena (coordinated by Brazil);
- d. Water quality (coordinated by Uruguay);
- e. Glaciology (coordinated by Chile).

66. The Second Hydrogeology course took place in Panama City, October 26-31, 2009, within the framework of this Programme.

67. Additionally, with funding from the Government of Spain, the First Training Programme took place on Environmental Governance of the Coastal-Marine Zones: Legislation and Institutions (Panama, Panama; 5 to 15 May, 2009), within the framework of UNEP's Environmental Law Programme and with cooperation from the Ministry of Environment in Spain. This Programme sought to contribute to training stakeholders involved in the design, development, and execution of the various legal and institutional aspects of environmental governance of coastal and marine zones within the region. Among the participants were decision-makers from environmental bodies, authorities and entities of various countries. This promoted networking and synergy among participants, facilitating close links and dialogue with experts on the matter, so as to create formal and informal networks that would contribute to the strengthening of enforcement and information on environmental law within the region.

68. In collaboration with the Permanent Commission of the South Pacific, under the framework of the Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Zones of the South East Pacific a Regional Workshop on the Compatibility of Legal Instruments with International Law was held in Callao, Peru, 9-10 September, 2008,

69. Since 2007, UNEP, with funding from the Spanish Government, is carrying out the project entitled Integrated Water Resources Management in the Lake Titicaca, Desaguadero River, Poopo, Coipasa Salt Marsh System (TDPS System): Assessment and Update of the Pollutants Discharge Levels." (Lago Titicaca: support to the integrated and participatory management of water) in Bolivia and Peru, with environmental authorities from both countries and with the Binational Authority of Lake Titicaca. The project has three objectives: a) Strengthen the technical management of water quality in the TDPS (Titicaca, Desaguadero, Poopó, Salar de Coipasa) System, b) Strengthen skills and participation mechanisms in resource management TDPS system and c) Strength and consolidation of the binational management of water and aquatic resources of the TDPS system.

70. In order to create IWRM capacities in the coastal areas of the Caribbean SIDS, the project GEF-IWCAM will continue to facilitate the coordination of this work, along with the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI), UNEP and other stakeholders, in order to assist countries of the Caribbean in achieving objectives of the IWRM of the Summit on Sustainable Development. Additionally, UNEP initiated in September 2009, a project entitled "Integrated Management of Water Resources and Coastal Zone Management (IWCAM) in Latin American countries". The project seeks to increase the capacity of countries of Latin America and the Caribbean as well as interested parties, at the regional, sub-regional and local levels, in order to advance the interests of IWCAM. The project will assist in implementing the strategic principles and objectives of UNEP Water Policy and Strategy, the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Sources of Pollution and Activities and its Plan of Action 2007-2011, the Bali Strategic Plan for technology support and capacity building (Bali Plan of Action), as well as the results of the Conferences on Iberoamerican Water Directors.

71. UNEP has also supported several projects in the Caribbean sub-region:

- The Caribbean Biological Corridor Project which involves Cuba, Haiti, Dominican Republic and recently Jamaica as an observer;
- The 10-year integrated management programme on transforming Dominica into an environmentally sound organic island that utilizes the natural resources of the country – water, forests, biological diversity and productive agriculture as a basis for transforming the country.

72. Within the context of the ONE UN Pilot Project in Uruguay, UNEP is developing a joint project with UNESCO for the establishment of a system of national indicators with emphasis on monitoring in coastal areas. Similarly, as was previously mentioned, and within the framework of the UNDP-Spain Fund for achievement of the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals, UNEP is participating, along with other agencies of the United Nations System, in the development of joint Programmes under the thematic

area related to the environment and climate change within the context of watersheds in Nicaragua, Panama, and Peru. All three projects deal with measures for mitigation and adaptation to climate change within the context of the watersheds - in Nicaragua, (Bosawas Biosphere Reserve), in Panama (Chucunaque and Tabasara watersheds), and Peru, (Alto andinas micro basins).

73. Recently, a project was approved for integrated coastal management, with special emphasis on sustainable management of mangrove forests in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. A similar project will be implemented after feasibility studies are developed in the participating countries and this will form the basis for the preparation of operational plans, for the implementation of plans for integrated management of coastal areas as well as for sustainable management of mangroves in the countries involved.

74. For its part, the Inter American Development Bank (IDB) has a loan portfolio of over USD 800 million related to the water sector and the integrated management of water resources, under the IDB Water Initiative for Latin America and the Caribbean, which is being implemented since 2009. Among the remarkable aspects of integrated water resource management, are:

- A contract was signed to start a loan of Integrated Management of the Caroni River basin in Venezuela, a basin of approximately 90,000 km² (86% is protected area) occupied by indigenous Pemons, Garimperos and peasants. This watershed produces most of the energy consumed in the country;
 - A series of 3 Programmatic Loans for Peru were approved to modernize the management of water resources. In 2010, a third one will be adopted. Achievements include the consolidation of the National Water Resources Strategy and contributed to the adoption of the new Law on Water Resources;
 - Technical Cooperation is being provided to manage the conflict between peasants and Mining with the use of water in the region of Yanacocha in Peru;
 - Technical cooperation for the management of water sources of the water company SEDAPAL of Lima, Peru was approved, and implementation begins during this year 2010;
 - A National Water Plan is being implemented in Costa Rica;
 - A National Water Plan is being implemented in Brazil;
 - In 2009 the Program for Modernization of Water Resources in Peru was approved, to support the implementation of watershed management and other mandates of the Law on Water Resources. Two of these basins are transboundary: one with Ecuador and one with Chile;
 - Three technical cooperations were approved in Peru: i) to stabilize the rights on water use in small communities, ii) national water plan, and iii) the economic value of water to set fees for its use;
 - Through successful technical cooperation, the institutional framework for Water management in the basin of La Hoya de Quito (INWAP) was implemented;
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- A series of watershed management programs in the Panama Canal area and one in Costa Rica are under implementation;
- Technical cooperation for the management of the high river basin of Uruguay that is already generating additional operations.

75. Additionally, the IDB has a growing portfolio of operations for managing coastal and marine resources including:

- The sustainable management of marine protected areas in the Gulf of Honduras and Islas de la Bahia;
- Sustainable management of artisanal fisheries in coastal areas of Ecuador, including coastal marine conservation;
- The conservation of biodiversity in the South West coast of Colombia in the Caribbean Sea;
- The Caribbean Revolving Fund for Wastewater Management (CRew) in coastal areas;
- Integrated management of coastal zone resources in Punta Arenas, Costa Rica;
- The coastal zone management programme in Barbados.

Aim	Development of assessments, inventories and Resource management capabilities
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76. The UNEP Caribbean Environment Programme, CEP, (which was established by the Caribbean states in 1981) has continued to exercise its mandate under the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention, adopted in 1983) and in support of the Programme of Work of the United Nations Environment Programme for the Wider Caribbean Region.

77. CEP is a member of various regional and sub regional initiatives, such as the Caribbean Sea Commission established to follow up and implement the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS) resolution³, various technical and

³ Resolution 63/214 was adopted by the UN on 19 December 2008 entitled "Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations," which calls on the United Nations System and the international community to assist Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to protect the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution, to promote the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources, and to implement long-term programmes of disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, management, relief and recovery.

advisory committees of the OECS, CARICOM, UN ECLAC, CTO, Sustainable Tourism Initiative and is an observer of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) Caribbean Sea Special Area initiative. CEP continues to participate in high level policy related processes and meetings, as well as in technical programmes related to land and marine pollution prevention and management; the establishment of ecosystem, habitat and species conservation measures; and capacity building. The CEP has continued its active support to the implementation of actions pursuant to the Barbados Plan of Action (BPOA) for Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and follow up to the Mauritius Strategy, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Millennium Declaration and several other related Multilateral Environmental Agreements. These activities are all carried out within the mandate established in the Cartagena Convention and its three protocols: Oil spills, Land-Based Sources of Pollution (LBS) and Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW).

78. The CEP continues to actively promote accession ratification to the Cartagena Convention by the five countries who are not yet parties - Bahamas, Honduras, Suriname and Guyana through a combination of high level missions, national promotional workshops and implementation of pilot projects in those countries. Additional promotional efforts took place related to the Protocol concerning Land-Based Sources of Marine Pollution (LBS). This Protocol has been now signed by six countries - Saint Lucia, USA, France, Belize, Trinidad and Tobago and Panama. Three additional ratifications are needed to bring the LBS Protocol into Force. To assist in this effort, several regional and national promotional workshops were convened and supplemented by the regional distribution of informational material including a promotional LBS DVD and LBS brochures produced in English, Spanish and French. A greater commitment to ratification has been expressed by several other governments in the region and the Protocol is being actively promoted with a view of having it enter into force as early as possible. The Government of Belize also ratified the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife Protocol (SPAW) bringing the number of SPAW Contracting Parties to thirteen and the promotion of this Protocol has continued to ensure additional countries join this biodiversity agreement. The following governments have been visited in this regard: Antigua, Bahamas, Costa Rica, Dominica and Guatemala.

79. In order to enhance the capacity of the countries of the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR) to implement the LBS Protocol and to improve the knowledge about the status and quality of the marine environment and its resources a partnership called "Regional Network in Marine Science and Technology for the Caribbean: The Know-Why Network" was implemented (with partners including the CEP, the LBS-Regional Activity Centres (RACs), as well as the Marine Research Institute of the Ministry of Environment of Colombia (INVEMAR), IOCARIBE and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency - SIDA). Acquisition of laboratory equipment and training strengthened the capacity of the LBS RACs in Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago as well as partner regional laboratories in Colombia. Assessment and monitoring programmes were initiated in selected hot spots in Nicaragua, Jamaica, Venezuela, Trinidad and Tobago, Cuba and Colombia to update baseline pollution information through scientific analysis, and capacity building.

This facilitated the increased use of technologies such as Geographical Information Systems (GIS) for mapping the marine environment, water quality and pollution loads from land based sources. Existing and proposed information systems were evaluated to develop a pollution information node and a database on the state of the marine environment of the WCR. Standardized Methodological guidelines for marine waters classification into Class I and Class II in accordance with the provisions of the LBS Protocol were also finalized. The Know-Why Network has had considerable impact in strengthening the Regional Activity Network of Technical Institutions working in collaboration with the Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution AMEP sub-programme and results of the monitoring component improved the knowledge on the status and quality of the region's marine environment while highlighting the common priority pollutants for further management interventions. The data collected validated that the primary pollutants to the Caribbean Sea are from land based sources including: sewage, nutrient rich agricultural runoff, suspended sediments and solid waste. The data also reinforced the original findings of "Update to the Regional Overview of Land-Based Sources of Pollution in the Wider Caribbean Region" (CEP Technical Reports #33)" and will be correlated as possible with other regional coastal monitoring assessments.

80. Further to the development of an information management strategy for CEP and the identification of regional gaps in the applied use and institutionalization of GIS, cooperation was initiated with the Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and the Caribbean (CATHALAC) in Panama and LBS RAC- Engineering Centre for Environmental Management of Coastal areas and Bays (CIMAB for its initials in Spanish) in Cuba. A regional training workshop on modelling non-point sources of pollution data was convened in 2008 and an atlas summarizing the, activities, and information generated under the Assessment and Management of Environmental Pollution (AMEP) sub-programme developed. An interactive web based map is currently under development.

81. In an effort to improve management effectiveness in marine protected areas (MPA), MPA staff and practitioners from countries in the region have received training on all aspects of MPA management, including training and communication skills to expand the acquired capacity at the local level. In this context, seed funding was also provided to participating MPAs to develop and execute local training activities of their choice addressing specific needs. Regional issues such as reef resilience to climate change, coral reef bleaching and coral reef economic valuation was introduced to the MPA trainees.

82. The CEP in collaboration with the UNEP GPA has also assisted in facilitating the development and implementation of National Programmes of Action (NPAs) for the prevention of pollution from land based sources and activities. Direct support was previously provided to completion of these plans in Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados. New NPAs were completed in Belize and Guyana and are now under development in Suriname. Ongoing efforts are focused on strategic planning and sustainable financing to enable these NPAs to be mainstreamed into development planning processes and implemented. Resources have been mobilized to assist Trinidad and Tobago in the implementation of a pilot NPA project.

83. Following the preparation of a Sewage Needs Assessment Guidance document for implementing Annex III of the LBS Protocol, relating to Wastewater Management, pilot projects were initiated in Saint Lucia and Jamaica to develop national planning mechanisms to control marine pollution from domestic sewage. Detailed project plans for improving infrastructure for sewage and wastewater management were also developed. Similar sewage needs assessments were implemented in Tobago and Panama and efforts are now focused on the sharing of experiences from these national assessments. Similar pilot sewage needs assessments have started in Belize and will be completed by the end of 2010.

84. The development of the full project proposal for "Testing a Prototype Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management (CReW)" is underway in collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and with funding provided by GEF. The CReW would serve as a pilot project to demonstrate the viability in the region of an innovative fund approach to developing and financing wastewater Projects, and engendering relevant policy reforms in support of improved wastewater management that is consistent with the GPA Strategic Action Plan Guidelines on Municipal Waste Water Management, including institutional and legal strengthening and capacity building to ensure technology transfer, targeting specifically innovative and low cost wastewater management technologies that provide communities with effective and locally manageable wastewater treatment and disposal at an affordable cost. It also promotes public awareness and information exchange for improved wastewater management.

85. The publication entitled "Regional Action Plan for Marine Litter" was developed by the UNEP-CAR/RCU in collaboration with regional experts as a part of a pilot project initiative with support from UNEP's Regional Seas Programme and the Swedish Government and has been circulated throughout the region. The primary goal of this pilot project was to assist in the environmental protection and sustainable development of the WCR related to the prevention and reduction of marine litter. Complementary activities that were completed in 2008 included a Marine Litter Database that will provide marine debris data for the region and access to related links and collaborating organizations. Further action towards the implementation of the Action Plan was tested in three pilot countries (Barbados, Guyana and Saint Lucia) to strengthen related legislation and policy requirements, monitoring and economic assessment mechanisms and improve education awareness programs to reduce national and regional impacts of marine litter. Future activities will focus on education and outreach on integrated waste management as a means of changing attitudes and behaviour on pollution.

86. The GEF funded project "Integrating Watershed and Coastal Areas Management (IWCAM) for Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS)" supports legislative and policy reform at the island states level, capacity building to implement those reforms, and demonstration projects on key issues facing individual states. Demonstration projects are underway aiming to show how reduction of contaminants can address water scarcity and also improve the quality of the marine environment and coastal resources. A series of studies have been conducted to guide countries in the implementation of the IWCAM project: review

of GEF Indicators Mechanisms; an inventory of policy and legislation relevant to IWCAM; a review of relevant and ongoing projects; and an assessment of Geographic Information Systems for IWCAM. Guidance materials related to model legislation and accession to relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements including the Cartagena Convention and the LBS Protocol were also produced. A Road Map for GIS has been finalized, based on inputs from regional delegates. Regional activities also included raising public awareness through preparation of quarterly newsletters (Caribbean WaterWays), videos, brochures, posters, monthly bulletins, conducting training and making presentations at local, regional and international fora. Capacity-building activities have included training in environmental indicators and communications, project management, community resource based management as well as laboratory assessments designed to improve environmental monitoring capabilities. The project has also supported efforts to address the target of developing Integrated Water Resource Management Plans through a series of interventions and direct support to participating countries.

87. The GEF-funded project "Reducing Pesticide Run-off to the Caribbean Sea" (REPCar) was initiated in Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Colombia to protect the Caribbean marine environment by reducing pesticide runoff, implementing comprehensive management practices and specific measures to control the use and application of pesticides in the agricultural sector. National Coordinating Committees were established in each of the participating countries with broad stakeholder participation from public and private entities to prioritize needs and follow-up on project actions and outcomes. The practical application of good agricultural practices are investigated and promoted through (8) demonstration projects. Specifically, these demo projects form the basis for the validation of innovative farm management strategies, the assessment of environmental and socio-economic impacts of different innovative practices, and a training programme in Good Agricultural Practices. The demonstration projects are supplemented by a customized regional coastal monitoring programme for the monitoring of pesticide residues within the coastal waters of the three countries. Regional planning workshops were held to develop the programme. These were complemented by a regional training workshop in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to improve the capacities of selected research labs. Preliminary results from this programme are available. The methodologies for the Coastal Monitoring Programme as well as the list of pesticides monitored are available in the detailed Coastal Monitoring Manual available at the REPCar website. The regional and national activities of the project also included the development and distribution of targeted public awareness and training materials including newsletters, brochures, and manuals in Spanish and English. Information generated from the project will be analysed and displayed through an interactive web-based map (in collaboration with CEP) and a GIS database application now under development.

88. As a Co-Chair of the White Water to Blue Water (WW2BW) Partnership Initiative, the CEP continues to develop partnerships that would enhance integrated approaches in areas such as wastewater and sanitation, sustainable agricultural practices, integrated coastal management, sustainable tourism and

environmentally sound marine transport in the WCR. WW2BW also provides for discussions and information sharing between potential partners from these different areas to collaborate on projects to be implemented in the WCR.

89. The International Maritime Organization (IMO), the United Nations Regional Coordinating Unit for the CEP (UNEP CAR/RCU) and the Regional Activity Centre for Regional Marine Pollution Emergency, Information and Training Centre - Wider Caribbean (RAC/REMPEITC-Carib) have hosted pollution prevention seminars in a number of SIDS (Saint Lucia, Barbados, Dominica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Antigua and Barbuda, and Curacao) on the ratification and implementation of MARPOL Annex V aboard the M/V FREEWINDS during its port visits in said countries. The objective of the seminars was to facilitate the exchange of information between participants on legislative and administrative procedures regarding MARPOL Annex V, specifically calling attention to the issue of waste reception facilities in the Wider Caribbean Region with a goal to placing the Special Area provisions of MARPOL Annex V into effect. A similar seminar has been planned for the Spanish Speaking countries of the Wider Caribbean in 2009. To accelerate the entry into force of the Special Area provisions of MARPOL 73/78 Annex V, REMPEITC is currently sending out to all Parties a proposal of regional notification to IMO regarding the adequacy of port reception facilities.

90. A Regional Cooperation Mechanism for Response to Oils Spills was developed in 2008. RAC-REMPEITC continues to provide capacity building, training and support to facilitate the implementation of the Oil Spills Protocol of the Cartagena Convention and to reduce the incidences and impacts of oil spills in the region. The CEP continues to collaborate closely with the Secretariat for the Basel Convention on the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes within the framework of a Memorandum of Cooperation. Support had been provided previously to prepare a Regional Used Lead Acid Battery Strategy and a Draft Regional Used Oil Management Strategy which were reviewed and approved by participating countries.

91. The work of the SPAW sub-programme includes conservation activities *for* Wider Caribbean threatened and endangered species as listed in the Annexes to the SPAW Protocol and included in the SPAW species database. The "Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Mammals (MMAP) in the Wider Caribbean" was adopted by the SPAW Contracting Parties in 2008 and priority activities for the next 5 years were identified and are being implemented. Some of these include building capacity to address marine mammal strandings, whale watching operations as an important and alternative economic activity and information gathering on abundance, distribution and status to develop informed conservation and management measures. Additionally National Sea Turtle Recovery Action Plans were finalized for Costa Rica, Panama, and Grenada and sea turtle nesting sites identified and mapped. An emerging threat to biodiversity in the region is that of alien and invasive species and the CEP collaborates with key partners (CABI; the Global Invasive Species Programme, GISP; Conservation International, CI; The Nature Conservancy, TNC; and the International Maritime Organization, IMO) to mitigate this threat through capacity building and the development of management strategies. In 2008 SPAW Parties also adopted the Guidelines and Criteria for listing

protected areas under the SPAW Protocol and which will result in the development of a regional cooperation programme for the listed Protected Areas.

92. The existing regional management plan for the West Indian manatee was comprehensively updated with inputs from all governments, identifying national management and recovery actions within the short and long-term as well as priorities for implementation.

93. The CEP, through the SPAW Protocol, provided support to sustainable management initiatives for Queen Conch and Spiny Lobster. Capacity building activities were implemented in collaboration with the Food and Agricultural Association/Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission (FAO/WECAFC) for the management of the conch and lobster fisheries and support was provided to the development of management plans for conch in St. Vincent & the Grenadines and Barbados. Small grants were also provided for sustainable fisheries and alternative livelihoods in various countries. Activities for bird species conservation were also supported at the local and regional levels. The book and atlas on Important Bird Areas of the Caribbean of BirdLife was supported and published. The CEP through SPAW is also an active member of the Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative (WHMSI) implemented by the OAS.

94. Recognizing the role that Marine Protected Areas have as a tool to conserve biodiversity, enhance fisheries, and achieve other management goals, the CEP continued to take the lead in the Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Managers Network and Forum (CaMPAM) aiming to strengthen capacity for MPA management in the Wider Caribbean by bringing together MPA managers, researchers, administrators, managers, educators, scientists as well as the private sector in an inclusive network to exchange information, lessons learned and promote better practices in support of MPAs.

95. Coral reef monitoring and assessments were conducted by sub-regional nodes in the WCR, and a tool for economic valuation of coral reefs was developed in collaboration with the World Resource Institute. The International Year of the Reef (IYOR) was extensively promoted throughout 2008 and awareness and education activities supported in various countries.

96. The Mesoamerican Reef Alliance (MAR) project, a CEP partnership developed in conjunction with the International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN) was a collaborative effort aimed at confronting the decline of coral reef ecosystems and improving the economic and environmental sustainability of the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef through capacity building activities, the development of better practices, and building of partnerships with the private sector. The MAR was a multi-pronged programme, which addressed three areas that impact reef health: watershed management, fisheries and marine tourism, and which encouraged the exchange of knowledge between organisations in the region to achieve the goals of the project. The project concluded in 2007 and outputs from this project are widely disseminated and being used as a basis for the development of additional activities in sustainable marine recreation in collaboration with regional partners.

97. The CEP has provided support as a member of the Steering Committee to the recently approved GEF supported project "Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem

(CLME)" developed to assist the Caribbean countries to improve the management and governance of their shared living marine resources, most of which are considered to be fully or over-exploited. through an ecosystem level approach. Pilot projects on specific transboundary fisheries (spiny lobster and reef fisheries) will trial governance models at the local, national and sub-regional levels and provide additional knowledge on means of applying ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management and determining the fisheries' socio-economic importance and sensitivities. The CEP will lead the coordination and implementation of the Reef Fisheries and Biodiversity pilot

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, VULNERABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES

Aim Support national and subregional policies and programmes to deal with main environmental vulnerability risks in urban settlements

98. In support of programmes and policies at the national and subregional level, UNEP's Global Environment Outlook (GEO) initiative has created a valuable tool for the countries with a focuses on urban and city dwellers. It provides information for the development and planning strategies, appropriate for their specific needs and problems. To date, 31 GEO Cities have been established in Argentina, Bolivia, Belize, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay and are supplying municipal governments, scientists, policy formulators and the general public of the region with information on the environmental state of their cities. Eleven evaluations are currently under development. The development of an environmental and economic assessment on resource efficiency has been initiated (Resource Efficiency: Economic Outlook, REEO) with a scientific, participatory, multi-sectoral and political relevance for Latin America and the Caribbean. The Report will have a conceptual and empirical information background to encourage resource efficiency as a determining factor of sustainable environmental economic development for countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, using the Mercosur region and Mexico as case studies. It will review the current situation, trends and policies for major contribution to resource efficiency transition toward a sustainable region. In addition, a methodology for the development of evaluations with a focus on risk, vulnerability and climate change was developed as a pilot in Jamaica. The methodology for these evaluations was completed in March 2010⁴.

99. The Sustainable Urban Housing Initiative (SUSHI) was established in 2009.

⁴ Available at <http://postconflict.unep.ch/publications/RiVAMP.pdf>

This initiative is conducting the Sustainable Building and Construction Initiative in alliance with UNEP and company managers at the global level to promote sustainable solutions to the housing and construction sector. In our region, the SUSHI project will be executed in Sao Paulo and will aim at developing a method of finding a way of ensuring that the social housing programme have design and construction practices criteria that conform to sustainable building principles.

100. In relation to the issue of vulnerability, human settlements and sustainable cities, ECLAC has prepared an Overview of Mega-cities that look at the proposed indicators for sustainable urban development in order to assess the changes of major cities towards sustainable lives. ECLAC, in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP) and UN Habitat, is currently executing the “Eco-efficient and sustainable urban infrastructure development in Asia and Latin America” project. This project is aimed at promoting eco-efficiency as a key criterion for sustainable infrastructure development and as a basis for expanding funding opportunities. This project also promotes social inclusion as a key requirement for eco-efficient development of infrastructures.

101. In this regard, ECLAC continues to work on the economic value of natural disasters, which has been reflected in the Damages and Loss Assessment Methodology. ECLAC has also worked on projects in relation to the identification of incentives to generate eco-efficient urban infrastructure (transportation and services), as well as the assessment of potential markets for the development of the environmental goods and services industry (case study on Espirito Santo, Brazil).

102. On the issue of human settlements and vulnerability, the IDB promotes the prevention and mitigation of disaster risk to its member countries, so that this topic can be incorporated into strategies, plans and/or programmes of national and sub national development through a series of projects, such as:

- Implementation and update of the Disaster and Risk Management Indicators of the IDB in 12 countries: Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, Bolivia, Jamaica, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Brazil and Panama) - RG-T1579 (USD 750,000);
- Development of Catastrophe Risk Profiles of four countries: Bolivia, Guatemala, Jamaica and Peru - RS-T1120 (USD 720,000);
- The Central American Probabilistic Risk Assessment (CAPRA) is under implementation in accordance with a Letter of Agreement with the World Bank. The IDB financed Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Belize. The project is implemented in collaboration with the Coordination Centre for Natural Disaster Prevention in Central America (CEPREDENAC for its initials in Spanish) and the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) - RG-T1587 (USD 1,000,000);
- In the case of Peru, the IDB finances a policy reform loan to reduce vulnerability and risk management, including a line of credit for disasters;
- In the case of Honduras, the IDB has approved the first of a series of loans aimed at reducing vulnerability. Similar loans are being considered for the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua;

103. In the wake of the earthquakes in Chile and Haiti, the IDB is working with both countries on two programmes for national reconstruction under a strategy to reduce vulnerability.

SOCIAL ISSUES, HEALTH, POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

Aim	Promote and support Project and expand institution and individual capacities for the appropriate management of chemical substances and reduce water, air and soil pollution.
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104. The Poverty-Environment Initiative (PEI), jointly implemented by UNDP and UNEP, was officially launched in the region in November 2008 in Panama City. The objective of the PEI in Latin America and the Caribbean is to support best practices on mainstreaming poverty and the environment in the national plans and the budgetary processes in various countries of the region. The expected output of the PEI is to improve the capacity of governments of the interested countries and parties, on the integration of priority environmental issues of the poorest and most vulnerable sectors in policy, planning and implementation processes. Eleven countries of Latin America and the Caribbean participated in the meeting discussion on programme objectives, entry point of the Initiative, challenges, advantages and disadvantages of the incorporation of environment in the different initiatives. The interest of the participants in preparing a PEI programme in their country was also explored. The PEI is currently being implemented in Uruguay and the Dominican Republic.

105. In order to expand capacities and incorporate the issue of air pollution at the national and regional level, and as mandated by the Forum of Ministers of the Environment, a regional network responsible for the atmospheric pollution was established. The same will serve as a means of achieving technical exchanges, promoting capacity development and evaluating options to reduce atmospheric pollution for the 2008-2009 period. In March 2009, UNEP, with the support of the Global Atmospheric Pollution Forum (GAPF), organized in Panama the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Network on Atmospheric Pollution in Latin America and the Caribbean. Antigua and Barbuda, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru and Uruguay participated in this seminar in which government representatives were briefed on different issues such as regional and global trends of atmospheric pollution, effects on health, needs in the Latin America and Caribbean region, the transportation sector and atmospheric pollution, bio-mass burning, among others. A workshop of the network was held in the second half of 2009. It focussed on the Co-Benefits⁵ as a tool for reducing atmospheric pollution. Following the meeting and workshops held in 2009, a report on the operation and progress of the network will be presented to the Seventeenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers for consideration.

⁵ The co-benefits are a new focus to address climate changes issues while improving the local environment as part of the action of developing countries for achieving their development objectives in a sustainable manner. Studies are currently being carried out to establish measurable results of this tool, and verify the methods for effective evaluation of the co-benefits.

106. In October 2008, the Haiti Regeneration Initiative was established. Its long-term goal (10 to 20 years) is to reduce poverty and vulnerability to disasters through the restoration of the ecosystems and livelihoods based on sustainable management of natural resources. After the earthquake that devastated Haiti in January of this year, UNEP has concentrated efforts in this issue by participating in the flash appeal for Haiti, and is currently participating in the development of the post-disaster needs assessment, a process which is being carried out in collaboration with other UN agencies as well as the European Commission and the World Bank. This assessment will determine the necessary elements, so that Haiti could have an ecologically sustainable post-disaster recuperation in the medium and long-term, as well as actions toward reducing disaster risks.

107. In regard to the management of chemical substances, UNEP is implementing the Project entitled "Reduction of mercury demand and storage solutions". Two regions are involved in this project: Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean. This project is a joint effort between UNEP and the Regional Coordination Centre of the Basel Convention. The results of the Mercury Storage Project in Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean would serve as input for the Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee, responsible for preparing a legally-binding global instrument. To initiate this process, a first workshop of the Mercury-Storage Project in Latin America and the Caribbean was held (Montevideo, Uruguay; 22-23 April 2009) and it was decided to establish a technical and policy-oriented Executive Committee of the project with the purpose of coordinate and facilitate actions with the different stakeholders of the region. The Committee met for the first time on December 15-16, 2009 in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and worked on defining the scope and contents of the regional feasibility study for mercury-storage in the long-term. The Committee indicated that the regional group would meet again in April 2010 to evaluate the progress made.

108. Similarly, within the framework of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM), a series of activities have been carried out so far in this biennium. The regional meeting of Latin America and the Caribbean on SAICM was held in Panama City, February 14-16, 2008 with the support of the Governments of Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America. The next regional meeting will be held in March 2010 in Kingston, Jamaica.

109. In addition to this meeting, the meetings below were held as follow-up activities:

- a) First Meeting of the Regional Coordination Committee, (Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago; 11-13 June 2008);
- b) Regional Consultation Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean on issues relating to international management of chemical products, (Viña del Mar, Chile; 17-19 December 2008);
- c) Workshop on Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) for the Caribbean on chemical products and instruments for hazardous wastes, (Bridgetown, Barbados; 10 to 13 March 2009);
- d) Second Meeting of the Regional Coordination Committee, (Santiago de

Chile, Chile; 15 to 16 November 2009).

110. UNEP also organized two workshops before the SAICM regional meeting, namely:

- a) Workshop on the continued management of Polychloride-Biphenyl in the Latin American and Caribbean Region (11-12 February 2008); and
- b) Workshop on the development of national institutions and infrastructure for the sound management of chemical products (13 February 2008).

111. UNEP, in collaboration with the Stockholm Centre in Uruguay, is executing a Global Environment Facility (GEF) project entitled "Guidance for a Global Monitoring Programme for Persistent Organic Pollutants in Latin America and the Caribbean" in the region. This objective of this project is to support the participating countries to strengthen their capacities and contribute regional data to a global monitoring of the efficiency of the Stockholm Convention. Antigua and Barbuda, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay are involved in this project. The project was launched at a workshop held November 3-5, 2009, in Montevideo, Uruguay and its work plan was approved. Training needs were identified and sampling and analysis protocols were reviewed.

112. With regard to solid waste, UNEP provided technical support to Costa Rica through the South-South Cooperation and support from Argentina in 2008 for the development of national policies in the management of solid waste. Specific recommendations which underscore the concept of "integrated waste management" and focus on civil society participation and environmental education were formulated.

113. Peru, with the support of UNEP's International Environmental Technology Centre (IETC) and the Peruvian organization *Cooperación*, developed a solid waste management project, reinforcing the life cycle focus on the development of the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (ISWMP) in the Lima region (Peru), both at the policy and implementation level, and the strengthening of local and regional capacity to manage the system.

114. Similarly, a global project for integrated solid waste management is currently being carried out to support at the city level, the design of specific plans that enable the minimization, classification, collection, transport, reuse/recycle, recovery of resources, treatment and disposal of solid waste.

115. UNEP has supported countries of South America and Mexico to begin the process toward coordination and cooperation at the national and regional level within the framework of the global process which is being carried out for the chemicals MEAs cluster. To this effect, the workshop entitled "Regional Awareness-Raising Workshop on Enhancing Cooperation and Coordination for the Implementation of the Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions" (Montevideo, Uruguay; 23 to 25 November, 2009).

116. UNEP also contributed to the preparation of the progress report presented at the Third Regional Implementation Meeting (RIM) on Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, in preparation for the 18th Session of the

Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-18). The RIM was jointly organized by ECLAC and the Government of Guatemala and was held in November 26-27, 2009. The report referred to the progress achieved in Sustainable Consumption and Production, Mining, Transportation, Chemicals and Waste.

117. UNEP has supported the countries of the region in implementing multilateral environmental agreements. Within this context, a sub-regional workshop for Latin American countries on the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) was held in El Salvador in 2008, to raise awareness and explore synergies between different trade agreements with related regulations, particularly in the context of the Dominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement (DR/CAFTA).

118. As indicated above, training has also continued in countries regarding the use of ozone depleting substances, within the framework of the Montreal Protocol, by - building capacities of national ozone officers through sub-regional networks to develop and implement strategies to address emerging issues such as ozone-friendly technologies, the need for new skills, the illegal trade in ODS, alternative technologies that use methyl bromide, measured-dose inhalers with CFC and trade in ODS-dependent technologies that contribute to ODS dependence.

119. To this end, a series of workshops was conducted in 2009: Workshop on the Protection of the Ozone Layer, Climate Change and Energy Efficiency of the Caribbean in the Communication Media (Paramaribo, Suriname; 5 to 6 October 2009) the main meeting of the Ozone Action Network of Central America, South America, Mexico and the Caribbean (Paramaribo, Suriname; 6 to 9 October 2009); the Training Workshop for Trainers on Hydrocarbon Refrigerants and Technologies for the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Sectors of the Caribbean (Belize, Belize; 13 to 15 October 2009).

120. In addition, as indicated before a Training of Trainers Workshop on the Green Customs Initiative was held in February 2008 in Caracas, Venezuela.

121. UNEP, in support of the implementation of the Stockholm Convention, has developed and is implementing global and/or regional projects as GEF implementing agency. In this framework, it is worthy of noting the project on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRPR) in which Chile, Ecuador and Peru fulfil the global component and Costa Rica, El Salvador, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua the regional component. UNEP is also currently supporting Brazil in developing its national implementation plan.

122. Lastly, the Project on Global Environment Outlook and Health, GEO Health Sao Paulo, which was established in 2003 in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization and the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (FIOCRUZ) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, was launched in 2008. The GEO was prepared in Portuguese and the executive summary translated into English. Since 2006, the Project has been in Buenos Aires and Chabas, Argentina. FIOCRUZ provides technical support to the local partners at these locations.

SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Aim	Establishment of national roundtables
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123. On the topic of sustainable consumption and production (SCP), significant progress was made in regard to the implementation of the Regional Action Plan of Latin America and the Caribbean. Many countries of the region including Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador and Uruguay have started to adopt national SCP policies and strategies. Additionally, an SCP Dialogue will be held in Mexico in early 2010, which is expected to initiate the definition and establishment of an integrated SCP policy. A training course for the preparation of national SCP programmes was also held in the Caribbean (Georgetown, Guyana; 24 to 26 February 2010). Roundtable discussions have been held in Brazil and Uruguay.

124. Regarding competitiveness economic issues, trade and, production and consumption patterns, ECLAC has incorporated in its trade annual report the evaluation of the impacts of climate change in international treaties and agreements. On issues relating to energy efficiency, ECLAC produced a publication entitled "Status and Energy Efficiency Perspectives in Latin America and the Caribbean" and held meetings such as the intergovernmental seminar on energy efficiency and the one on access to energy and the reduction of poverty.

Aim	Creation of an SCP information network
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125. UNEP developed and initiated the SCP Information Network for Latin America and the Caribbean which is available in English, Spanish and Portuguese for the entire region. A series of training courses to train technical focal points of the countries to use this tool was held. Its official launch took place during the Fifth Meeting of the Regional Council of Government Experts on Sustainable Consumption and Production in Cartagena, Colombia, 16-18 September 2009. The Network's website is www.redpycs.net. In addition, a network for the Caribbean has been created by the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI) in Saint Lucia.

126. In addition, UNEP conducted an evaluation on the status and progress of CPS in the region that was presented during the Fifth Regional Meeting of the Council of Experts on Sustainable Consumption and Production - CPS (Cartagena, Colombia; 16 to 18 September, 2009). The purpose of the meeting was to learn about the progress made in the region on CPS in accordance with the priorities identified by the Expert Council and ratified by Decision 10 of the Forum of Ministers, and define the specific contributions of the region to the 10 YFP that will be presented to the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) this year 2010. Also, the regional priorities that were approved at the Fifth Meeting of the Council were presented to the Regional Implementation Meeting and incorporated in the reference document for the region to be discussed at the CSD. These recommendations will be presented

at the Seventeenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers for consideration.

127. At the subregional level, relevant entities of the Caribbean met in September 2008 to review the Subregional Action Plan. Also in Mesoamerica government focal points met to develop a specific recommendation on CPS to Ministers of Environment of the Commission for Environment and Development, reinforced by the decision of 19 February 2010. In the Caribbean, training was provided for the development of national CPS from 24 to 26 February 2010. Roundtables have been developed in Brazil and Uruguay.

128. With respect to small and medium enterprises with SCP practices in the region, efforts are underway to create a special working group with Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Before the end of 2010, a meeting may be convened with business representatives to discuss their views on the draft 10 Year Framework Programme (10-YFP) on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP).

Aim	Promotion of sustainable public procurement systems
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129. In regard to the topic of sustainable public procurement (SPP), UNEP has developed a project in Mercosur which included a proposal for the inclusion of SPP criteria, an SPP manual, and a communication campaign proposal. An SPP training workshop for Central America was held in Costa Rica in October 2008, in conjunction with the Government Purchasing Network of the Organization of American States (OAS). Additionally, the project for SPP capacity-building at the regional level has begun with the participation of 4 pilot countries: Mexico, Costa Rica, Chile and Uruguay. Two training courses which focused on SPP were also held for South America (Santiago, Chile; May 2009) and Mesoamerica (Mexico City, Mexico; July 2009).

INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS

Aim	Assessment and Environmental Indicators
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130. UNEP and ECLAC have worked together in developing environmental indicators. During the 2008-2009 biennium, UNEP provided technical support for the preparation of national ILAC reports in Peru (launched in May 2008, www.pnuma.org/deat1/publicaciones.html). Panama and Cuba are in their final phase and their publications are expected before April 2010. UNEP and ECLAC prepared project proposals during this biennium, without obtaining the required financial support for their implementation. The projects formulated address the issue of improving of national capacities for the implementation of a system of ILAC indicators in Latin America and the Caribbean.

131. The Atlas: Our Changing Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, a joint undertaking between UNEP and CATHALAC, with the support of the member countries of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is in its final stages of

development. A final version of the Atlas is expected to be ready for printing by May 2010.

132. To this end, the following activities were accomplished:

- a) Reactivation of the ILAC discussion forum;
- b) Capacity Building Workshop on Biodiversity Indicators in the Mesoamerican Region: a joint effort between World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and UNEP, through the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean. The workshop was part of the activities planned by WCMC in fulfilment of the alliance on Biodiversity Indicators for 2010, contributing to the creation of capacities for the generation of indicators that enable the follow-up of ILAC goals 1.1 to 1.4.

133. With regard to the Working Group on Environmental Indicators (WGEI) of the Forum of Ministers of Environment, UNEP with the support of ECLAC organized a ILAC discussion forum and re-started the ILAC's discussion forum work through the virtual forum (www.geodatos.org) on May 18, 2009. Twenty (20) methodological sheets were discussed. As a simultaneous discussion tool, virtual tools were used through sessions for consolidating comments in which country focal points participated. Comments were mainly received from countries that have already prepared the ILAC report (Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Colombia and Mexico). In addition, ECLAC supports the revision of the methodological sheets that have been agreed to by consensus and those that have not been agreed to.

134. The meeting of the Working Group on Environmental Indicators was held August 26-28, 2009 (Santo Domingo de Heredia, Costa Rica). The work sessions were focused on discussing twenty-three non-consensus indicators. At the end of the meeting, consensus was reached on seventeen of the indicators discussed; four were eliminated, two remained without consensus and ten new indicators were proposed. The EIWG will present a total of 31 ILAC indicators with their agreed methodological sheets to the Forum of Ministers.

135. The progress achieved in the six thematic ILAC areas covers the twenty-five goals presented in forty-five indicators. However, the definitions of some of those indicators present challenges, which have made it difficult to arrive at a consensus among the countries. Currently, there are thirty-one (31) methodological sheets for which consensus was achieved (69%), two under development (4%) and twelve emerging (27%).

136. The following is the progress achieved by thematic area:

- a. Biological Diversity: Three indicators; all agreed to.
 - b. Management of Water Resources: Nine indicators, four agreed to (44%), one under development (11%) and four emergent (44%).
 - c. Vulnerability, Human Settlements and Sustainable Cities: Eleven indicators, ten agreed to (91%) and one emergent (9%).
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- d. Social Issues including Health, Poverty and Inequality: Nine indicators, five agreed to (56%), one under development (11%) and three emergent (33%).
- e. Economic aspects including trade, consumption and production patterns: Six indicators, five agreed to (83%) and one emergent (17%).
- f. Institutional Aspects: Seven indicators; four agreed to (57%) and three emergent (43%). Among the conclusions agreed to, the following can be emphasized:
- i. The need to review the formulation of some goals and the relevance of some indicators concerning the same;
 - ii. The incipient development of the environmental dimension, together with the national statistics systems in countries that make the development of ILAC indicators difficult;
 - iii. The need to strengthen national statistical entities through an increase in budgets, capacity-building and formalizing inter-institutional coordination with environmental entities;
 - iv. The need to publish a regional ILAC report 7 years after its adoption, with national data, to the extent possible.
- g. Additionally, a joint ECLAC/UNEP workshop was held (Santiago, Chile; September 2009): Development of Environmental Indicators (ILAC/ODM7) in Latin American countries.

Aim

Environmental Education

137. The Latin America and Caribbean Environmental Programme on Education for Sustainable Development (PLACEA) is the regional cooperation and integration mechanism for promoting joint policy coordination, encouraging joint project and programme development and boosting communication, exchange and mutual support. PLACEA was approved in 2003 by the Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean which was held in Panama. During the Sixteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment held in February 2008 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, support for PLACEA was reaffirmed as established in the Final Report of the Fifteenth Forum of the Ministers. During the 2008-2009 biennium, the proposal was coordinated by Brazil in accordance with Decision 11 on Environmental Education for the Sustainable Development of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers. The forum decided to support the redirection and development of training activities within the framework of PLACEA, particularly at the national level, taking into account the priority issues identified by the Forum in the ILAC framework, and the design of a 2008-2009 Regional Plan of Action under the leadership of Brazil.

138. As Secretariat to the Forum of Ministers, UNEP updated the Environmental Education focal points of the region to facilitate as part of the support for the VI Ibero-American Congress on Environmental Education. These congresses provide a platform for the integration of regional environmental educators of Latin America and are the most important events on the issue in the region.

139. Within the framework of the Environmental Training Network, the Seventeenth International Agro-forestry and Eco-design Course, organized jointly by the Universidad Autonoma de Chapingo, the Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) of Mexico and the Mexican National Forestry Commission was held September 7-27, 2008. The X version of the Diploma in Sustainable Management of Coastal Areas organized with the University of Guadalajara and the support of SEMARNAT took place from 20 October to 8 November 2008. This network continues to grant scholarships to environmental professionals from countries of the region for training in environmental issues. Prototype textbooks for each grade of the primary school and a general one for the secondary school for Environmental Education was published in 2008. 1000 copies of these publications were printed.

140. Also approximately 40 publications of the Environmental Training Network have been made available in digital format through the UNEP web page⁶.

141. In December 2009, UNEP signed an agreement with the University of the West Indies (UWI) to mainstream environmental issues in Caribbean universities. This is a follow-up to a sub-regional workshop that was held 22-24 September 2009 at UWI in Kingston, Jamaica, for the development of a regional network aimed at incorporating environment and sustainability in universities of the Caribbean, particularly the conceptualization of a programme within the context of the Caribbean. It has an action plan to integrate priority environmental issues such as ecosystems management, climate change and resource efficiency in a wide range of disciplines at Caribbean universities.

142. The Tierramerica Policy Centre for Sustainable Development and Defense of the Environment (Centro Tierramérica de Políticas para el Desarrollo Sustentable y la Defensa del Medio Ambiente) based in Brazil, is a private non-profit civil association with public interest. It was established in 2008 with some of its objectives being to organize training courses for journalists from companies and non-governmental organizations and award scholarships to researchers in the area of sustainable development and environment. This is a joint project of UNEP, UNDP, the World Bank and the Inter Press Service.

143. The Centre of Socio-environmental Knowledge and Care in the La Plata Basin, located in the Itaipu Bi-national Technical Park. It is a place for meetings and dialogues between governmental and civil society organizations of the five countries of The Plata basin (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay), to boost and facilitate the exchange of knowledge, experiences and practices on the sustainable use and management of water. This initiative was established by the

⁶ See <http://www.pnuma.org/educamb/publicaciones.php?menusup=10&menuinf=3>

Itaipu Bi-national entity (Paraguay and Uruguay) and the countries of the Plata basin (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay) with the support of UNEP. As part of the Council Board of the Centre, UNEP continues to provide feedback to the discussions and programme of work of the Centre.

144. Additionally support has been provided to the preparatory process of the Children and Youth International Conference on Environment that will be held from 5 to 10 June, 2010 in Brasilia, Brazil⁷.

⁷ See <http://confint2010.mec.gov.br>

ANNEX A

IDB Portfolio in LAC region: Climate change and forestry sectors (as of Jan 2010)

Table 1. IDB loans in the forestry sectors

Title	Target	Description	Year
Acre Sustainable Program	State of Acre, Brazil	To improve the quality of life of the population and preserve the natural wealth of the State of Acre.	2009
Environmental and Sustainable Forestry Program	Suriname (SU-L1017)	To develop a forestry and environmental project that helps Suriname to materialize the full the economic and environmental potential of its forest resources.	2010
Serra do Mar and Mata Atlántico	State of San Paulo, Brazil (BR-L1241)	To solve some of the most acute problems faced by Conservation Units (CUs) in Sao Paulo, specifically, the illegal and unsustainable occupation of land within the CUs, lands which have been disaffected by the CU and which would now be subject to rehabilitation.	2010
Natural Resources Management of Priority Basin	Honduras	To contribute to the development of medium and long term solutions to the management of natural resources in priority watersheds in order to reduce poverty and physical, economic , and environmental vulnerability.	TBD
Strengthening CONAF (The National Forest Corporation)	Chile (CH-L1021)	To increase the management and administrative capabilities of CONAF, and will modernize the management of the different institutional tools related to the development and protection of forestry and natural protected areas.	TBD
Support to Forestry Development	Argentine (AR-L1067)	The project: (a) strengths and modernizes the institutional framework and the existing institutions of application (of policy, legal and regulatory); (b) generates and disseminates the information to improve the productivity level, through a sustainable handling; (c) directly supports with the technical assistance groups of small producers/ lumber entrepreneurs; and (d) supports the development of a fiduciary scheme .	TBD

Environmental management of natural disasters and climate change	Nicaragua (NI-L1048)	Environmental management of natural disasters and climate change in Nicaragua	TBD
Other Loans	All LACs	Forest Investment Program (FIP), Policy Based Loans (PBLs), Kiwi (Germany), Nordic Development Fund (NDF), Cool Earth Partnership (launched by Japan) etc.	Other Loans

Table 2. IDB Technical Cooperations relating to climate change and the forestry (as of Jan 2010)

<u>Title</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Year</u>
<i>Measurement of CC impacts & Eco-system Services (GY-T1069)</i>	<i>Iwokrama, Guyana</i>	<i>Formulation and establishment of scientific-based research to measure CC impacts and Eco-system Services</i>	<i>2009 / On-going</i>
<i>Developing LULUCF investment opportunities (RG-T1778)</i>	<i>2-3 countries in LACs</i>	<i>Retainer program to develop LULUCF business plan</i>	<i>2010 A / OP preparation and QRR</i>
<i>Forestry/LULUCF and the role of IDB (Knowledge based program; RG-K-1048)</i>	<i>All LAC</i>	<i>Preparation of position paper and seminar/conference in November 2009</i>	<i>2009 / Almost completed</i>
<i>Mechanism for Voluntary Mitigation of GHG emissions in Colombia (GEF; CO-X1008)</i>	<i>Colombia</i>	<i>With Fundacion Natura Colombia, this GEF project aims to formulate and establish a basis for launching Verified Emission Reduction (VER) unit in Colombia as well as in the region</i>	<i>2010 A</i>
<i>Development of REDD pilot projects in the Andean Amazon areas of Peru</i>	<i>Andean Amazon, Peru</i>	<i>Support 3 pilot projects to prepare REDD credits in collaboration with WWF-Peru, TNC and CI in the Andean Amazon areas of Peru.</i>	<i>2010 A / Approved</i>
<i>Climate Change, Iberoamerican Mountain Forests and</i>	<i>Regional (Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Honduras,</i>	<i>Led by CATIE in Costa Rica, it aims to measure 1) the climate change impact to forestry ecosystems and 2) the vulnerability of mountain regions in the Iberoamerican</i>	<i>2010 A / Approved</i>

Adaptation (CLIMAFORAD: RG-T1837))	Mexico, Spain,	mountains.	
Community-based REDD Readiness and Carbon Mapping Projects	1) Colombia, Guyana, Suriname, Bolivia and Ecuador with COICA and EDF 2) Brazilian Amazon with ACT	Considering the commitment of IDB to Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) in FY 2009/2010, this TC will implement and scale-up community-based training of REDD Readiness for representatives of the indigenous peoples in the Amazon basin who are the stewards of the forests and direct beneficiaries of REDD. Selected representatives may participate to the workshop in Mexico (Aug/Sep, 2010).	2010 A
Strengthening TNC's and Partners REDD efforts in the Brazilian Amazon	Brazilian Amazon with TNC	During the last two years TNC and partners have been developing and implementing several strategies and activities to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) in the Brazilian Amazon. Our approach has been based on an integrated framework resting on three pillars: policy, science, and pilot projects. As a result of a feasibility analysis, two priority regions were selected to advance REDD pilot projects: the municipality of Cotriguaçu in the Northwest region of Mato Grosso and the municipality of São Felix do Xingu in Para State.	TBD
Agroforestry and climate change	Amazon basin	Capacity building and technology transfer program with Brazil and surrounding countries in collaboration with ICRAF/JICA	TBD
Support for forest carbon activities in Colombia	Colombia	Support to identify, promote and finance Forest carbon activities which will generate environmental and social benefits with MAVDT	TBD
Biofuel's potential study in the deforested areas of Amazon, Peru (PE-T1197)	Peru	Evaluation study of the deforested areas with potential for production of biofuels in the Amazonia in Peru	TBD
Afforestation and reforestation in the state of Yucatan	Yucatan, Mexico	Under the national development plan (2007-2012), the project aims to restore and implement afforestation/reforestation of deforested and degraded areas.	TBD
Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and Climate Change	All LACs	Partnership with ITTO to up-scale approximately 150 SFM operations for mitigation and adaptation of climate change	TBD

<i>initiatives in LACs</i>			
<i>Knowledge and tools for LULUCF</i>	<i>All LACs</i>	<i>Satellite image analysis (e.g. Advanced Land Observing Satellite; ALOS) for MRV with Google, FORMA and JICA</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Knowledge and tools for forestry sector</i>	<i>All LACs</i>	<i>Forest Vocation Land, Index of Forest Investment Attractiveness (IAIF), Plans to Enable Forest Investment (PROMECEF), Studies on Financial Instruments to facilitate forest investments;</i> <i>Satellite image analysis for MRV with Google and FORMA</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Others</i>	<i>Suriname, Bolivia, Guyana, Peru, etc</i>	<i>Technical assistance with GEF and other funding sources</i>	<i>TBD</i>

Table 3. IDB events relating to climate change and the forestry (as of Jan 2010)

Title	Place and partners	Description	Period
Workshop on Forest Governance, Decentralization and REDD in Latin America	Tuxtla, Mexico CONAFOR, UNFF, CIFOR, Intercooperation and others	The workshop will identify trends, facilitate the sharing of experience and distil lessons on SFM, forest governance and decentralization; explore synergies with emerging REDD strategies; and identify opportunities and/or threats to livelihoods and the poor. It will be a direct contribution to UNFF9 and will inform pre-2012 discussions on REDD and its post-2012 design.	Aug. 30-Sep 4, 2010
2nd International conference on Climate, Sustainability and Development in Semi-Arid regions (ICID)	Fortaleza, Ceara, Brazil Government of Ceara, ICID	To prepare and present a paper of "Review of the policy process: Land Use Cover Change and Forest degradation in semi-arid LAC region" at ICID conference.	Aug 16-20, 2010
FIP Sub-Committee (SC) work program	Washington DC (Feb. and June 2010) and	To clarify FIP SC work program FY 10 and guidance from FIP SC;	Feb. 3 &4, and June 2010 (in DC), March

	Manila, Philippines (Mar. 2010)	To identify the key elements for the investment and programming modalities, operational guidelines and financing modalities for FIP; To identify next steps as well as roles and responsibilities for further discussions among MDBs.	2010 (Manila)
Other events	All LACs	UNFCCC COP 16 (Dec. 2010 in Mexico), UNCBD COP 10 (Oct. 2010 in Nagoya, Japan), etc.	