Regional Workshop on Poverty Statistics
in Latin America and the Caribbean

Rio de Janeiro, 10-14 May 2004

Provisional Agenda

Session 1: Introduction to the UN project on poverty statistics

(1.1)   Introduction on objectives, operative methods, calendar, and other relevant features of the UNSD project, and within it the role of the Seminar.

(1.2)   The work of the Rio Group on Poverty Statistics. Available products. Its coordination with the Project.

(1.3)   Great challenges of poverty statistics in the UN Statistical Commission framework and in the present stage of the UN summits resolutions and objectives.

Session 2: Institutional and policy contexts of the demand for poverty statistics

(2.1)   Purpose of collecting of poverty statistics: objectives of the measurement (identify the nature and magnitude of the problem; contribute to the design, implementation and evaluation of policies)

(2.2)   Financing of poverty statistics

(2.3)   Conceptual requirement of poverty measures: comprehensiveness, consistency, harmo nization and integration with other socio-economic data

Session 3: Presentation of Latin American countries' experience with particular emphasis on practices by governmental agencies: methods and practices of poverty measurements and poverty statistics (data sources, data processing, data dissemination)

(3.1)   Metric approaches (money metric and non monetary measures on poverty); absolute and relative indices

(3.2)   Capability approaches (unmet basic needs, basic capital possession)

(3.3)   Social deprivations approaches (social exclusion, risk, vulnerability, powerless)

(3.4)   Subjective poverty

Session 4: statistical sources (household surveys, national accounts, administrative information); periodicity and coverage of measurements; setting poverty data within an appropriate and consistent macroeconomic and meso context.

Session 5: National, regional and international perspectives to poverty assessments: (incidence, extent and characterizations of poverty; poverty maps, poverty profiles); use of poverty statistics in national policy formulation, poverty assessment with specific reference to the MDGs' targets.

Session 6: Conclusions and recommendations