

V. Strengthening statistical capacity-building in support of the millennium development goals in the Economic Community of West African States

<i>Implementing entities:</i> The Department of Economic and Social Affairs in cooperation with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and ECA	<i>Duration:</i> 2004-2006	<i>Summary budget</i> (Thousands of US dollars)
<i>Relationship to the medium-term plan:</i> programme 7, Economic and social affairs, subprogramme 5, Statistics; and programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa, subprogramme 4, Harnessing information for development		General temporary assistance 60.0 Expert services 50.0 Ad hoc expert group meetings 45.0 Travel 70.0 Operating expenses 50.0 Acquisition of equipment 80.0 Training 180.0 Fellowships 110.0
<i>Objective:</i> Strengthen national statistical systems in the countries of the ECOWAS region in order for them to produce and use certain statistical data in order to monitor and respond to the millennium indicator list for the millennium development goals. In particular through the use of improved information and communications technologies, the project will promote cooperation among the countries of the region in the field of statistics.		Total 645.0

<i>Expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>	<i>Main activities</i>
<p>(a) Strengthened capacity of the countries routinely to produce and use statistical data such as macroeconomic indicators and social statistics contained in the millennium indicator list</p> <p>(b) Improved organization of the statistical systems and strengthened capacity of the countries in the region to develop and disseminate data for national and international progress reports on the millennium development goals</p> <p>(c) Development of common methodologies and classifications for the collection of data and common statistical priorities in areas such as economic and social statistics</p> <p>(d) Strengthened coordination and communication among countries</p> <p>(e) Upgraded information and communications technologies to promote networking among statistical offices in the region</p> <p>(f) Strengthened capacity of the Statistics Division of ECOWAS in promoting regional statistical coordination</p>	<p>(a) Number of experts trained in and exchanging national statistical information in the region</p> <p>(b) Improved coverage of millennium indicators in national and international progress reporting on the millennium development goals</p> <p>(c) Improved use of information technology in statistics</p> <p>(d) Number of common statistical definitions and methodologies and common lists of development indicators</p>	<p>(a) Two seminars for senior managers of statistical offices to improve statistical infrastructures and to develop a common regional approach to official statistics, particularly in relation to the operation of statistical systems, dissemination, marketing and advocacy of official statistics. One seminar will focus in particular on the user-producer relationships, and will bring in the perspective of the user community. The seminars will include the introduction of the "Handbook of Statistical Organization, Third Edition: The Operation and Organization of a Statistical Agency" developed by the Statistics Division and an exchange of information on the problems and the successes experienced by the countries of the region. Issues related to the implementation of regional strategies at the country level will also be addressed</p> <p>(b) One expert group meeting on social statistics and macroeconomic indicators to exchange country experiences, develop common methodologies and identify common statistical priorities</p> <p>(c) Two training workshops for staff of national statistical offices to improve the technical capability of countries in the collection of social statistics, the production of macroeconomic indicators such as trade statistics and energy statistics and the implementation of international classifications and methodologies. The workshops will facilitate the implementation of common methodologies and will establish a regional network of statisticians</p> <p>(d) Exchange of experts between statistical offices in the region for short periods of time to encourage the implementation of common methodologies and facilitate the exchange of information on statistical procedures (estimated 15 study tours)</p>

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		<p>(e) Upgrading information and communications technologies in national statistical offices in order to improve the electronic communications among statisticians and to support the electronic and printed dissemination of regional statistical data</p> <p>(f) Advisory services in the field of collection and dissemination of statistics and use and maintenance of technology (estimated 8 missions). Experts from the Statistics Division and subregional, regional and international consultants will provide technical support for the implementation of this project</p>