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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
Office for the Caribbean

CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

AD HOC WORKING GROUP FOR PHYSICAL AND REGIONAL
PLANNING

First Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group for
Physical and Regional Planning

Project entitled:

FORMULATION OF ADVISORY COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT
SCHEMES WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE PREPARATION
OF GUIDELINES FOR LAND USE, RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND SUPPORT FOR
NATIONAL ENDEAVOURS IN THIS AREA



UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA Office for the Caribbean

FORMULATION OF ADVISORY COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT SCHEMES WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE PREPARATION OF GUIDELINES FOR LAND USE, RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL ENDEAVOURS IN THIS AREA

OBJECTIVES

To examine the interrelationship between population, resources and the environment of the Caribbean, with special attention to the problems of small islands.

To specify how this interrelationship affects coastal and marine resources.

To promote the understanding and use of economic analysis in decision-making about developments that may affect the natural environment.

To contribute to the formulation of development strategies for Caribbean states, particularly islands, which will allow a sustainable economic and environmental life style.

BACKGROUND

The growth of population and rising incomes generate increasing demands on natural resources like water, energy and minerals. This, in turn, puts demands on environmental resources like air, water, soils and amenity. If these demands are beyond the "carrying capacity" of the environmental systems, localized or generalized pollution occurs. In the longer run, this environmental deterioration can check both the population growth and income levels.

These interrelationships are important for the Caribbean, and particularly for island nations which are pure coastal zones and which do not have extensive frontier areas to which development can be redirected. Land use, resource management and environmental protection are not isolated issues because their underlying factors are interdependent.

Decisions are being made now in various sectors which will have effects on the coastal environment over a period of time. Air and water resources will receive growing volumes of complex residual materials from petrochemical complexes, bauxite and alumina plants and from other large-scale industrial operations. Having examined, in principle, the general interrelationships above, it is logical to progress to practical methods of incorporating this knowledge into the analytical and decision-making process for development projects.

ACTIVITIES

Technical papers will be commissioned by experts from various disciplines on the interrelationship between population, resources and environment in the context of marine and coastal resources, with particular reference to small islands.

These papers would fall into five categories:

- (i) The general issue of the interrelationship between population, resources and the environment and its importance in the Caribbean context;
- (ii) Specific coastal and marine sectors in which these interrelationships are manifest;
- (iii) Techniques of environmental assessment which incorporate economic analysis of environmental questions;
- (iv) Case studies of these issues and their resolution in the Caribbean context;
- (v) The implications of alternative development strategies for the future of the environment of the Caribbean.

A workshop would be held, and the technical papers described above would be submitted as discussion material to the workshop. Ideally, the workshop should be sufficiently small as to allow for meaningful participation by technical people from the Caribbean States.

This project relates to a number of activities which are receiving priority within the United Nations system, in particular the system-wide consultation on population, resources and the environment within the ECOSOC. It can draw upon outputs and preliminary activities, projects within the Action Plan, particularly APCEP 10, 13, 17, 18, 19, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30. The UNESCO/UNFPA project, and the UNESCO Regional Project for research and training on coastal ecosystems, are likely to yield useful material for this project. It is also related to a project within the programme of UN/DIESA on development strategies for small islands. The ECLA project on alternative styles of development will be a useful input to the planning of this project. This project is a synthetic one in which the Action Plan can focus a number of disparate activities and make them more relevant to the needs of the Caribbean.

OUTPUTS

(a) First Phase

1. Technical papers.

(b) Second Phase

2. Workshop and recommendations.
3. Guidelines for land-use, resources management and environmental protection.

WORKPLAN AND TIMETABLE

Activities	Starting and ending (from month 0)	Supporting Organization
Choice of paper topics	0 - 2	UNDIESA/UNESCO
Selection of authors and commissioning of papers	3 - 6	UNDIESA/UNESCO
Selection of workshop participants	3 - 8	UNDIESA/UNESCO
Workshop	9	UNDIESA/UNESCO
Editing of papers. Discussions and recommendations	10 - 14	UNDIESA/UNESCO
Publication of proceedings	15 - 18	UNDIESA/UNESCO

Estimated cost of project is US\$200,000.

