

Distr.: General 13 July 2001

Original: English

Second regular session 2001
10-14 September 2001, New York
Item 5 of the provisional agenda
Country cooperation frameworks and related matters

Extension of the first country cooperation framework for India

Note by the Administrator

Period of extension: 1 January 2002 to 31 December 2002

I. Background and justification

The first country cooperation framework (CCF) for India from January 1997 to December 2001 was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session 1997. It marks a significant departure from earlier UNDP-assisted country programmes. While the previous country programmes largely concentrated on technology transfer and institutionbuilding/strengthening, the first CCF has focused on growth with equity, with poverty alleviation and human development as central concerns. The strategy of the first CCF envisaged support around four main themes: employment and sustainable livelihoods; access to basic services; management of development; and development. In implementation, common threads running through the programme included: (a) working at the community level with a wide range of development partners (local self-government institutions. community-based organizations and non-governmental organizations) in addressing poverty alleviation, social development and other areas such as the environment; (b) mobilizing women as agents of change; (c) delineating suitable lessons from micro-level experiments and new

approaches in order to inform state and national policies and programmes; and (d) promoting the use of State human development reports as important instruments for development programming and socioeconomic change.

This transformation in programme focus and the resultant new partnerships has been an intensive and time-consuming process. Although the first CCF formally started in January 1997, the resource commitments needed to give shape to its vision could only gather momentum during the latter part of 1998. To enhance national ownership of UNDP-assisted programmes and to facilitate their integration with development efforts, the Government introduced new national execution guidelines in July 1998. The implementation of these guidelines has taken time. Programmes of the first CCF have now taken off and results are emerging, a number of which also have policy implications. An additional year, however, is needed to achieve fully its goals and to harmonize the programming cycles of the member organizations of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) and synchronize them with the national tenth five-year

II. Objectives

- The extension of the first CCF will provide sufficient time for achieving suitable progress in the following key result areas: (a) evaluating and refining further community-based approaches for poverty alleviation and social development with a view to informing state and national policies and programmes; (b) delineating models for gender mainstreaming in development programmes; (c) enhancing State human development reports by evaluating the experience in more than half the states in India covering different socio-political conditions; (d) developing suitable technologies models to promote clean environmental practices; and (e) defining approaches for the implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for India by exploring opportunities for joint programming.
- The extension will also enable the Government 4. and UNDP to: (a) enhance further national capacities for managing national execution and the programme approach; (b) strengthen monitoring and evaluation of programmes, particularly with a view to delineating results for policy lessons; (c) provide sufficient lead time for a comprehensive review of the first CCF in order to enhance the effectiveness of the innovative approaches supported by it; (d) allow adequate time for the formulation of the second CCF and its programmes by reducing the lead time for their start-up; and (e) enable the harmonization of the programming cycles of **UNDG** member organizations and synchronization with the tenth national development plan for April 2002 to March 2007.

III. Recommendation

5. The Administrator wishes to inform the Executive Board that he has approved the extension of the first country cooperation framework for India for one year, from 1 January 2002 through 31 December 2002.

Annex

Resource mobilization target table for India (1997-2002)

Source	Amount (In thousands of United States dollars)	Comments
Estimated carry-over	50 332	Includes AOS carry-over.
TRAC 1.1.1	53 286	Assigned immediately to country.
TRAC 1.1.2	0 to 66.7 per cent of TRAC 1.1.1	This range of percentages is presented for initial planning purposes only. The actual assignment will depend on the availability of high-quality programmes. Any increase in the range of percentages would also be subject to availability of resources.
TRAC 1.1.3	305	
SPPD/STS	3 751	·
Subtotal	107 674 ^a	
UNDP other resources		
Government cost-sharing	2 473	
Third-party cost-sharing	9 562	
Funds, trust funds and other	98 627	
	of which:	
GEF	70 540	•
Montreal Protocol	27 276	
Capacity 21	611	
Small grants fund	200	
Subtotal	110 662	
Grand total	218 336 ^a	

^a Not inclusive of TRAC 1.1.2, which is allocated regionally for subsequent country application. Abbreviations: AOS = administrative and operational services; GEF = Global Environment Facility; SPPD = support for policy and programme development; STS = support for technical services; TRAC = target for resource assignment from the core.

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