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Country and intercountry programmes and projects

COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR

BANGLADESH

UNDP assistance requested by the Government of Bangladesh
for the period 1980-1985

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See document DP/526 which will be issued in June 1981.

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INTRODUCTION

1. Bangladesh's Second Five Year Plan (1980-1985) indicates that to achieve its objectives, "technical assistance will be needed on an increasing scale both from bilateral donors and multi-lateral agencies in order to prepare feasibility studies for and finance projects, to improve functioning of public sector enterprises and technical institutions. Considerable improvement is needed in the utilization of technical assistance in the direction of relating technical assistance to the country's development programme, training personnel in priority areas and progressively using competent local consultants." This statement gives the basis for the programming of the UNDP resources available to Bangladesh during the third Country Programme.

2. The focus, priority areas, content and modalities of implementation of the third Programme have been determined in relation to the Second Five Year Plan (SFYP) but also build upon the experiences of the two previous Country Programmes. They reflect the continuous dynamic evolution of UNDP co-operation with Bangladesh, of international development assistance in general, and that of UNDP and United Nations system in particular.

3. The third Country Programme covers the period from July 1980 through June 1985, corresponding exactly to the time frame of the SFYP. The overall and sectoral development objectives which the Government has established for this five year period set the basis for defining its technical assistance needs and selecting those for which the UNDP, with resources under the present Programme, is the appropriate source. As a result of the joint sector programming exercise, the Programme was prepared in line with the SFYP and its objectives at the macro and sectoral levels. Organized and co-ordinated by the External Resources Division (ERD) of the Ministry of Finance, the exercise was conducted in August-September 1980 with members of the Planning Commission, individual ministries and ERD. Project ideas submitted by individual ministries at the invitation of ERD were examined by officials of the Planning Commission and then discussed at a series of sector reviews chaired by the concerned members of the Planning Commission. A primary test for the inclusion of proposed projects in the third Country Programme was their inclusion in the Government's own series of development project profiles. As a result, the Programme consistently emphasizes the relationship among macro-policies that attended formulation of the SFYP, the sectoral objectives which the latter sets forth, and the form of UNDP assistance which will best assist in achieving them. (See chapter VI.)

I. DURATION, TIME FRAME AND ANTICIPATED RESOURCES

4. The time periods of the Country Programmes of Bangladesh are linked to those of the national development plans and hence do not correspond exactly to UNDP programming cycles. The present Programme will cover eighteen months (July 1980 - December 1981) of the second Indicative Planning Figure (IPF) cycle and three and one half years (January 1982 - June 1985) of the third IPF cycle. The financial resources for the third Country Programme will thus be composed of resource allocations derived from portions of both IPF cycles, which total US$146 million. Of this amount, US$46 million must cover already existing commitments (approved projects). This results in US$100 million of IPF resources which can be programmed under the present Programme.

5. The overall anticipated resources for the present Programme, derived partially from the second programming cycle and substantially from the third, would, if assured
continuous and expanding resources, total about US$175 million. This would require an approximate programming of a permissible 20 per cent over the $146 million indicated above. Careful phasing, introduction of projects with assured implementation potential and continuous monitoring of the delivery mechanisms should ensure that the 20 per cent programming of what would now be reserve projects can indeed be achieved. The Government of Bangladesh, after careful scrutiny of the current technical assistance pipeline, is confident that the third Country Programme should indeed lead to the fullest mobilization of all the resources available to it, with due regard to the financial position of UNDP. Annex I provides a breakdown of the resources available for programming and their anticipated utilization.

6. Existing approved projects have already committed 30 per cent of the resources available for the Programme. Given the recently ever increasing magnitude of UNDP assistance to Bangladesh and the time period covered by major projects, this flow from one programming period into the next is considered quite necessary and in order. Indeed, adherence to the principle that UNDP resources should not be applied to resolving short-term resource constraints but rather to assisting in the building up of Bangladesh's own capacity for pursuing its development objectives results in longer term commitments at the project level and thus contributes to the extension of projects across Country Programme frontiers.

7. It is assumed that the IPF resources anticipated for the third Programme will be supplemented by the Special Measures Fund for Least Developed Countries (SMF/LDC) and multi-bilateral assistance made available to Bangladesh through UNDP. During the second Programme such funds constituted about 10 per cent of the total made available through UNDP.

8. During the present Programme period, Bangladesh will also continue to benefit from the UNDP intercountry programmes. The Government has been giving increasing importance to this portion of the total UNDP programme and during the present period some needs and projects identified by Bangladesh will be put forward for funding.

9. Implementation of the third Country Programme will include a degree of flexibility to facilitate response to unforeseen needs and to changes in Government priorities. Besides use of tripartite reviews and, as necessary, evaluation missions at the project level, the Joint Government (ERD)-UNDP management of the Programme will include periodic total reviews, which are to be held at least annually. This process of continuous programming and monitoring of implementation matches the Government's own efforts in respect of the SFYP (see paras. 22 and 23).

II. DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVES AND THE SECOND FIVE YEAR PLAN 1980-1985

10. The objectives of the Second Five Year Plan have been formulated in the context of overwhelming problems of poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and malnutrition. A high rate of population growth and a slow growth of the economy have accentuated the problems of poverty. Four-fifths of the population of 90 million are considered to be below the poverty line in terms of minimum calorie requirement. These are such massive problems that the Government recognizes that only modest success can be achieved in a medium-term plan period.

11. The First Five Year Plan (1973-1978) had as its major objectives the reconstruction of the economy, reduction of poverty and achievement of social justice. It aimed at an annual GDP growth rate of 5.5 per cent, major creation of new job opportunities, increased investment, reduced dependence on foreign assistance and a curbing of population growth from 3 per cent to 2.8 per cent annually. However, the plan targets were largely unrealized due to a lack of adequate resources and skilled
manpower, inadequate institutional support, unfavourable weather conditions, inflation and recession.

12. The Two Year Plan (1978-1980) aimed at completing as many as possible of the ongoing development schemes and projects. It continued to reflect the basic social development and economic growth objectives set by the First Five Year Plan. However, an important feature of the Two Year Plan was the re-orientation of industrial policy towards private investment.

13. The achievement of objectives and targets during the Two Year Plan was better than during the First Five Year Plan, but shortfalls were experienced in many areas. During the period 1978-1980, the GDP grew at an annual rate of 5 per cent as compared with 4 per cent in 1973-1978. Agricultural production grew by 3.5 per cent as compared with 3.1 per cent in the first period. However, the efforts to create new job opportunities, to reduce population growth and to expand medical and educational facilities, especially in rural areas, fell short of expectations. A relatively high dependence on external assistance continued, and at the end of the period it was apparent that continued attention was required to improve the administrative and functional capacities of all institutions involved in the development process and to train various types of skilled persons.

14. In May 1980, the Planning Commission issued the draft of the Second Five Year Plan. In its preface, the Minister of Planning says, "We have very little choice but to mount a vigorous development effort early in this decade in order to secure a high rate of growth in per capita income, to ensure basic needs to our people and initiate construction of urgent social and economic infrastructure for sustained growth." This statement reflects the basic thrust of the Plan.

15. The central theme of the Second Five Year Plan is the significant reduction of poverty and the creation of such conditions as would help to eliminate it completely in an objective way by the end of the century. The ultimate purpose of these development efforts is to significantly improve the quality of life of the common man. As a necessary condition for this, the economy would have to be taken progressively to a higher level of income and employment. The SFYP therefore attempts to bring about a decisive change in the pattern of growth inherited from the past by focusing on rural development. The complementary development objectives and strategies which will be built around the core of rural development are to:

(a) Bring about a noticeable improvement in the standard of living by ensuring adequate supplies of basic needs;

(b) Bring about significant improvement in the quality of life in rural areas through greater participation of the masses, through local level organizations, in development activities;

(c) Expand opportunities for gainful employment beyond the growth of labour force, so that people have access to resources for their basic needs;

(d) Eliminate illiteracy and make significant progress towards the comprehensive development of human resources;

(e) Reduce the rate of population growth;

(f) Attain a higher degree of self-reliance;
(g) Move towards a more equitable distribution of income, resources and opportunities for better social justice;

(h) Accelerate food production beyond self-sufficiency in the shortest possible time; and

(i) Accelerate the pace of economic development.

16. Specific targets set by the SFYP include: GDP growth rate of 7.2 per cent per annum, average rate of population growth of 2.23 per cent and annual per capita income growth of 4.85 per cent. While these figures may seem somewhat optimistic in light of the past, it is considered that anything short of a rate of growth of 7 per cent over the next decade will fail to make any significant change in the massive, endemic poverty.

17. Achievement of the objectives set in the SFYP will require a most significant mobilization of resources. The Plan calls for a total investment of taka 256 million (approximately equivalent to US$15,560 million), 79 per cent of which will be in the public sector. The SFYP notes that inadequate domestic resources constituted a serious obstacle to development efforts during the first two development plan periods and therefore sets out measures to be taken to assure adequate domestic resource mobilization during the SFYP.

18. Of the total investment required, taka 138 million (US$8,437 million equivalent) is to come from net foreign capital inflow. Foreign investment will increase in absolute terms during the SFYP, but as a portion of total investment it is to be only 40 per cent as compared with 76 per cent during the first plan period. The Plan clearly notes that dependence on foreign aid must be reduced and that, at the same time, it is necessary to have the domestic resources required to use foreign aid effectively. The SFYP anticipates that over its 5 years US$5.4 billion will be disbursed as project aid, US$3.6 billion as commodity aid, and US$1.5 billion as food aid.

19. The SFYP recognizes that an important constraint to its proposed size and to the prospects of obtaining and using meaningfully a large volume of external assistance lies in the management ability of the country.

20. Consistent with its recognition of the need to increase domestic resource mobilization, ensure effective utilization of foreign capital and improve the country's management capacity, the SFYP sets specific objectives in its various sector chapters and calls for concrete action in each of these.

21. In formulating the SFYP, the Government carefully studied the experience of plan implementation during the period 1973-1980 and notes that, "A plan, however well designed, is only as good as the seriousness with which its discipline and policy prescriptions are observed, the extent of political commitment behind it and the efficiency with which it is implemented." Thus, besides setting out sectoral objectives, targets and programmes, the SFYP contains specific sections on the implementation and monitoring of the Plan and on policy issues related to implementation capability as well.

22. The SFYP calls for a set of changes in implementation strategy. This includes the setting up within the Planning Commission of a Policy Planning Division, which will be charged with examining all proposed Government policies to determine their consistency with the SFYP and with ensuring that such policies are adopted with the consensus of all those concerned with implementation of the Plan. Related to this
will be formation of an Interministerial Policy Co-ordination Committee, under the chairmanship of the Minister of Planning. There are also to be "Sector Action Programmes" to detail how sectoral objectives are to be pursued. Crucial to overall management of the implementation of the multi-year development plans are the Annual Development Plans. A new approach to their formulation has been introduced to make them a more effective instrument which will allow for the setting of specific year-to-year targets and the measuring of progress against these.

23. To ensure effective plan implementation, the SFYP calls for policy decisions by the Government which will result in an improvement of administrative and technical capability, changes in rules and procedures and an improvement of planning and programming techniques. Examples of specific items to be included within these categories are the:

(a) Re-organization and strengthening of Ministeries to make them more suited to and capable of managing development programmes and activities;
(b) Introduction of management information systems (MIS);
(c) Setting up of a committee to review what changes to Government rules and procedures are required to eliminate bottlenecks; and
(d) Revision and improvement of the Project Proforma (PP) document.

III. DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES AND UNDP ASSISTANCE

24. The third Country Programme does not attempt to cover all of Bangladesh's needs for technical assistance in achieving the SFYP objectives. Rather, it focuses on those sectors and types of needs for which the Government considers UNDP and its Executing Agencies to be the most appropriate source of assistance.

25. In defining the role of technical assistance, the SFYP indicates that, "Considerable improvement is needed in the utilization of technical assistance in the direction of relating technical assistance to the country's development programme, training personnel in priority areas and progressively using competent local consultants." This statement sets the broad framework for programming the UNDP resources available to Bangladesh during the present Programme, so that they make a significant contribution to achievement of the Plan's objectives. In this context the Government recognizes that the most important source of technical assistance is the UNDP.

26. The SFYP sets out objectives for 28 sectors, and its sectoral definition and order are followed in the Country Programme. Assistance needs to be addressed by UNDP are identified in almost all sectors. In certain areas there is a concentration of projects, while in others only one project has been identified. This wide spread is considered acceptable because, even where there is only one project, allocations were made on the basis of UNDP being considered the best source of assistance.

27. Due consideration by the Government of three principles set the basis for concentrating UNDP resources into certain sectors: (a) the importance of the sector concerned as reflected in the allocation for it in the SFYP; (b) the relative share of the sector concerned in past UNDP resource deployment; and (c) international recognition of agriculture and related sectors (flood control, water resources, rural development) as priority sectors having claim on about one-third of the global flow of assistance resources.
28. The sectors in which there is a concentration of identified needs to be addressed by UNDP are agriculture, water resources, and industry. Other sectors which are quite predominant include energy and natural resources, transport, communications, education, human resource development, manpower and employment. Within these sectors the predominant focus of UNDP assistance is training, planning and investment-oriented activities. Besides the sectors, certain types of activities or needs also stand out (see Chapter VI).

29. The content, shape, and modalities of project delivery of UNDP assistance during the present Programme are based not only on a forward look but also reflect careful assessment of the experience accrued by the Government and UNDP and the Executing Agencies during the first and second Country Programmes. ERD organized and co-ordinated a series of meetings in May-June 1980 which reviewed and assessed past experience on a sectoral basis. These meetings, chaired by the concerned members of the Planning Commission, had a high level of participation and went into considerable depth at the project level. The most significant points to emerge from them, which served as guideposts in formulating the third Programme and will continue to serve as such during its implementation, are: (a) to maintain a degree of programme flexibility so as to respond to unforeseen needs and changes in Government priorities; and (b) to select areas and types of activities for UNDP assistance which are most clearly the ones in which UNDP and its Executing Agencies have proved their ability and competence in Bangladesh.

30. In this regard, experience is showing significant scope for lesser dependence on foreign advisors and for greater use of national consultants and consulting firms in UNDP projects. Also, the dynamic experience of the UNDP programme in Bangladesh is clearly showing scope for Government execution of projects and for the benefits of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (TCDC). All three of these modalities are expected to be used in a progressively greater degree during implementation of this Programme.

31. The paragraphs following set out the sectors of concentration of UNDP assistance. For purely indicative purposes overall earmarkings of resources for broad sectoral groups are shown in Annex II. A list of continuing and new projects is provided in Annex III.

A. AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

32. Given the nature of the country, the structure of the economy and the concentration of the population in rural areas and of the labour force in agriculture, a major emphasis of the SFYP is rural development and agriculture.

33. The comprehensive approach of the SFYP to rural development includes actions in economic, social and cultural development as well as in education and health. However, the SFYP states that, because the foundation of welfare is output, the corner-stone of rural development will be agricultural development.

34. While the macro-objectives of the SFYP stress the importance of comprehensive rural development, the specific elements and relevant strategies are set out in the various sector portions of the SFYP and are dealt with in the same manner in the Country Programme.

35. The constraints to rural and agricultural development in Bangladesh, which the objectives and strategies of the SFYP address, include:
(a) An environment prone to monsoon season flooding, periodic cyclones and droughts, all of which can negatively affect production;

(b) A high ratio of population to land;

(c) Poor land use and low productivity of land;

(d) Inadequate access to modern inputs and support services;

(e) A land tenure system marked by widespread share cropping and absentee land ownership, which do not encourage extensive use of costly high-yielding inputs or land development;

(f) A lack of local level institutions and participation of the people in local planning and implementation; and

(g) Widespread illiteracy of the farmers.

36. Reflecting the premise that increases in output are the corner-stone to rural development, the strategy of the SFYP for agriculture consists of the following elements:

(a) All efforts at institutional changes, land reform, local level organization, regional planning, etc. will be geared to give a major thrust to agricultural production;

(b) A more balanced diet will be sought through a substantial increase in the production of oil-seeds, pulses, vegetables, fish and poultry;

(c) The agricultural production strategy will seek to ensure proper institutional changes and appropriate policy measures relating to the supply of inputs and supporting services;

(d) The main thrust of the agricultural production programme will be increased irrigation coverage, combined with expanded cultivation of high-yielding varieties of rice and wheat and supported by intensive management; and

(e) Proper incentive prices for rice, wheat, sugar-cane and jute will be maintained and procurement and storage efforts greatly improved.

37. The sectoral financial allocation of public investment in the SFYP calls for about 4 per cent of the total to go for rural institutions, 9.4 per cent for agricultural crops, and 15 per cent for irrigation and development of water resources.

38. The third Country Programme was formulated to reflect the priorities of the SFYP, including the importance attached to the development of rural institutions and agriculture. The specific needs for UNDP technical assistance in these areas are set out below. Other donors are also assisting in these areas. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the Asian Development Bank (AsDB), and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) figure prominently in irrigation, provision of inputs and crop research. The Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), the Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Netherlands are significantly involved in integrated rural development schemes. The assistance from UNDP is distinct from, but well co-ordinated with, that of other donors.
39. A basic objective of rural development is to widen the scope of local participation in the planning, programming and implementation of development projects in rural areas through local bodies. Current UNDP assistance for the planning and evaluation of rural public works is aimed at this. Proposed assistance for the development of training materials for rural development workers and local leaders as well as proposed assistance to the Rural Development Training Institute and the Co-operative Training Institute will also contribute to achieving this objective.

40. The SFYP stresses the need to achieve a more equitable distribution of income, output and employment among small farmers and the landless. The UNDP assisted dairy co-operatives project is increasing the real incomes of small milk producers by assuring receipt of a fair price. Ongoing assistance to the Government's poultry improvement scheme aims at improving the quality and production of chickens at the village level. Additional assistance, if resources permit, may be considered for poultry. Assistance to strengthen the Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development and to help design new small farmer development schemes will further contribute to this objective.

41. Special importance is given by all Government efforts and in the SFYP to substantially increase and stabilize food production at a level which ensures adequate and balanced nutrition as well as self-sufficiency and food security from domestic production. Ongoing UNDP assistance to strengthen agricultural extension, for land use planning and for fertilizer use demonstration and distribution focuses on this objective. Proposed assistance for rice grading and processing, plant protection, nutrition and seed quality control will also contribute to the efforts to increase food production. Finally, proposed assistance for agricultural product marketing systems will contribute to the stabilization of production. If resources permit assistance in seed preservation and processing may be extended to the Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) and for documentation to the Central Extension and Research Development Institute (CERDI).

42. Research and technology must play a major supporting role in achieving the objectives of the agricultural sector. In this area, ongoing assistance for soil survey interpretation and proposed assistance to the Soil Resource Development Institute are important as will be the assistance proposed to help establish an institute for appropriate technology. An ongoing project pursues agricultural extension and research in the Chittagong Hill Tracts and assistance is proposed to the Horticulture Board for research on coconut seed and mango production. Assistance may also be given for the establishment of a wheat research centre, and for training at the Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI).

43. Provision of credit to farmers to finance improved inputs or technology is important, and the SFYP calls for the credit available to expand by 25 per cent each year. UNDP is supporting this objective through the provision of advisory services on co-operative credit and banking systems to the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives. Assistance for the staff training programme of the Krishi Bank, which provides agricultural credit, is also important.

44. To increase fibre production is an objective of the studies on high-yielding varieties of Jute being conducted by the Jute Research Institute with UNDP assistance. It is also proposed to assist the Cotton Development Board.

45. The total effort to define and achieve sectoral objectives is facilitated by sectoral planning. For this reason, UNDP is assisting the Planning Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, especially as concerns project formulation and
screening. Assistance is proposed to the planning and implementation cell of the Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation. The Government's Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) is to receive assistance in project planning and management. Finally, assistance is proposed for establishing a Government Staff College for Agriculture which will provide advanced in-country training to Government personnel who work in agriculture.

B. FORESTRY

46. The SFYP states that, if forest and forest product output is not increased, the lack of wood fibre will most likely continue to be a serious constraint to the development of both the modern and traditional sectors of the economy. While the actual production and consumption situation is under study by an ongoing UNDP project, it is considered that both have declined recently and that production falls below the potential level. Wood fibre is important as a fuel and for building purposes and has export potential. Given the relative and rising costs of alternative materials to wood fibre, it is clear that Bangladesh should optimize its forests production potential. About 1.5 per cent of public investment during the SFYP is to be for forestry. The basic sectoral objectives are to:

(a) Maximize production of forest produce from the existing growing stock; and

(b) Develop forest resources in the Government and private homestead forests as quickly as possible.

47. UNDP projects are assisting to conduct a supply and demand study of forest products and a village forest inventory and to rehabilitate rubber plantations. Proposed additional assistance during the third Country Programme will help prepare forestry investment, conduct an inventory of forests in the Chittagong Hill Tracts and Sylhet, facilitate training in forestry, promote fast growing species for fuel, and provide advise concerning bamboo treatment, charcoal production and cane production. If resources permit assistance may be considered for the development of wildlife resources and the Botanical Garden. Investment orientation, energy considerations and resource surveys dominate this programme.

48. Other external assistance to forestry includes AsDB for rubber production, SIDA for forestry development in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and IBRD in coastal reforestation.

C. FISHERIES

49. From various perspectives, fisheries are important to Bangladesh: they provide about 80 per cent of the country's animal protein supply, account for about 6 per cent of export earnings and provide employment in some form to nearly 6 per cent of the population. However, per capita intake of fish has fallen during the last decade and a series of constraints are limiting the achievement of production and, in some cases, are actually resulting in decreased production.

50. Fisheries have been negatively affected by large-scale shoaling in the rivers, changes to and destruction of breeding and production areas due to flood and water control and irrigation schemes, and indiscriminate use of pesticides. Fisheries development also suffers due to the lack of adequately trained manpower at all levels, failure to use appropriate fish culture and fish extraction techniques, inadequate service and infrastructure facilities and inappropriate planning for the sector.
51. The sectoral planning efforts of the Ministry and the fisheries resource survey it is conducting are both UNDP-assisted. Assistance has been proposed to the Aquaculture Experimentation Station (Mymensingh) and the Marine Fisheries Training Centre and also for a programme of integrated development of marine fisheries to be carried out by the Bangladesh Fisheries Development Corporation. With regard to marine product export earnings, assistance will be forthcoming for the processing and quality control of seafood.

52. The fisheries sector also receives assistance from IBRD, DANIDA, the United Kingdom, Japan and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

D. WATER

53. Given the need to increase Bangladesh's food production and the fact that there is relatively no virgin land to be brought into production, increases must come from intensified cultivation of existing acreage. For this, effective use of water resources and irrigation are most important.

54. According to the SFYP, about 3.6 million acres of agricultural land were considered to be irrigated in 1980, representing about 10 per cent of total land in production. The Plan sets a target of increasing the acres of irrigated land to about 7.2 million. Achieving this target is dependent upon: (a) accurate knowledge of the ground water and hydrological situation; (b) careful planning, design and implementation of water projects; (c) availability of various types of trained manpower; and (d) effective utilization of installed irrigation facilities.

55. Given the importance of the water sector, about 15 per cent of public investment will be directed to it during the SFYP. The main sectoral objectives set in the SFYP are to:

(a) Increase irrigation facilities;

(b) Develop and control surface water for irrigation purposes;

(c) Complete ongoing surveys of ground water resources;

(d) Protect coastal areas from saline water inundation and control and regulate floods; and

(e) Arrange training for personnel at all levels involved in the planning, design, construction, management, operation and maintenance of water development programmes, so that a cadre of trained manpower is developed.

56. With UNDP assistance, both the Planning Commission and the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) are introducing sound planning standards and procedures and practices for water project investment identification, planning and appraisal. BWDB is also utilizing UNDP assistance to review and improve its organization and management structure and operational procedures. Further assistance is desired to help establish a planning cell of the Ministry of Flood Control, Water Resources and Power, to train manpower and to improve the monitoring and evaluation of minor projects.

57. UNDP is assisting to complete ongoing surveys and studies of ground water resources and water balance studies so that the total availability of water for irrigation may be more accurately established; it is also proposed to assist in ground water exploration of the coastal belt.

/...
58. The development and control of surface water is also important, especially for agricultural irrigation. BWDB is conducting a hydrological survey with UNDP assistance. The River Research Institute was assisted by UNDP during its establishment as it will be during its operational phase.

59. Food for Work, which is supported by the World Food Programme (WFP), is used by BWDB to mobilize labour for various embankment schemes. An existing UNDP project provides BWDB with advisory services related to these schemes.

60. The SFYP places great demands on irrigation to contribute to reaching the targeted levels of increased food production. Low-lift pumps play a major role in irrigation efforts and the training programme for pump operators and mechanics established by the Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) has received UNDP assistance. Proposed assistance includes a feasibility study of the Brahmaputra barrage project and command area development and the promotion of private workshops for pump maintenance.

61. The Government is carrying out a major World Bank-assisted command area development programme in northwest Bangladesh which is aimed at increasing the extent and efficiency of irrigation. Within this scheme, the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives and the Rural Development Academy (Bogra) under it are responsible for research and training on irrigation and related production practices. This effort has been and is expected to continue receiving UNDP assistance.

62. Being able to anticipate floods and control their negative impact is important. For this purpose, BWDB and the Department of Meteorology, with UNDP assistance, are establishing a flood forecasting and warning system and assisting the Department itself in improving the meteorological information and forecasting system.

63. This sector is a major recipient of external capital assistance, in particular from the IBRD, AsDB, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and several bilateral donors. The ongoing and proposed UNDP assistance is well coordinated with and supportive of such investment.

E. INDUSTRY

64. Although the industrial sector in Bangladesh is currently small, contributing only about 9 per cent to the GDP, it plays an important role in the country's total development in terms of providing manufactured inputs to other sectors, particularly agriculture, goods for the domestic and export markets, and employment opportunities.

65. The industrial base, which was not very large to start with, suffered heavily during the war of independence. Rehabilitation of the existing industrial plant and further expansion have been constrained by a lack of capital, technology, adequate management and skilled workers.

66. The sectoral objectives of the SFYP are built primarily around the agricultural development programme and include specific elements to address the mentioned constraints. During the plan period 16 per cent of public investment is to go to this sector.

67. One objective of the SFYP is to increase domestic manufacture of machinery, implements and supplies as much as is feasible. Existing related UNDP projects...
include assistance to the Ceramics Institute, to the Bangladesh Industrial Technical Assistance Center in plastics technology, to the Machine Tools Factory, in preparing a master plan for steel production (a project executed by Government), and for pre-investment studies on petrochemical industries. Further assistance is proposed in the areas of production of soda ash, sulphuric acid/clinker from phosphogypsum, insulators, sanitary wares and ceramic products. It is also proposed that UNDP provide industrial training opportunities for personnel in a number of specialized areas. If resources permit assistance may be provided to the Ministry of Industries for productivity surveys in the public sector corporations.

68. The SFYP also sets as an objective of the industrial sector support to the rapid expansion of the food and agricultural sector through the provision of supplies, inputs and equipment. The current UNDP assistance to the Chemical Industries Corporation for the operation and management of fertilizer plants is related to this objective, as are proposals for assistance in the manufacture of compound fertilizers from natural gas.

69. The SFYP also calls for increased production of products such as clothes, medicine and paper, so as to better meet the basic needs of the population. Related to this is the assistance in training currently provided to the Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation and to the Food and Allied Industries Corporation. Assistance is proposed during the third Programme for a series of feasibility studies for production of various items and for improved quality control and related training. Assistance for studying the feasibility of producing polyvinyl chloride (PVC) from natural gas, of which Bangladesh has significant reserves, is also proposed as support to the Sericulture Board under Ministry of Textiles concerning various aspects of sericulture (silk production) and marketing.

70. The objective of creating wider employment opportunities, with special emphasis on rural development through promotion of rural industries, is pursued through the programmes of the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC). UNDP has approved a project for assisting the development of cottage industries, and additional assistance has been requested by BSCIC for establishing a Small Industries Training Institute.

71. During the SFYP, the industrial sector is to contribute to improving the balance of payments position through the accelerated growth of export-oriented and import substitution industries. UNDP assistance for jute product development and for assessing the international market for jute carpets is related to these objectives, as is the proposed assistance for establishing an export processing zone and promoting an international investor's forum.

72. The need to improve management in both state and private industrial enterprises is being addressed by the Management Development Centre of the Ministry of Industry, which had been receiving UNDP assistance. During the present Programme, it is proposed that UNDP continue to assist the Ministry in its programmes to improve management.

73. The industrial sector receives a significant amount of project loans, mainly from IBRD, the International Development Association (IDA), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), AsDB and bilateral sources. However, with regard to technical assistance, UNDP is a primary source and the activities and projects it supports are crucial to achieving sectoral objectives.
F. ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

74. As Bangladesh proceeds with its development process, its energy requirements will inevitably increase. During the SFYP, the achievement of agricultural production objectives will significantly increase energy needs. Given the increasing cost of petroleum and petroleum products and the fact that Bangladesh at the moment has only natural gas as an exploitable fossil fuel, the energy situation can present a significant constraint to total development efforts. In this context it is also important to consider, as was referred to in section B above, the role of forestry production.

75. Given this situation, the SFYP places great importance on careful and rational planning for developing energy and power sources such as solar energy and wind power and renewable energy sources, and for making maximum possible use of the country's existing natural resources such as gas. The SFYP calls for almost 15 per cent of public investment for this sector. The main constraints in this sector are the lack of information on exploitable domestic resources, access to technology and the lack of skilled and trained manpower.

76. As a direct outcome of an earlier UNDP-assisted study with investment and institutional linkages, it has been proposed that planning for this sector be done by the Energy Study and Planning Cell of the Ministry of Planning and that it receive UNDP assistance, as well as by the Planning Cell of the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, which is already receiving UNDP assistance. Assistance is also being provided for developing training programmes at the Petroleum Institute, to improving productivity at the Eastern Refinery and for improving gas field management. Assistance is proposed for mineral and energy exploration.

77. In the field of electrical power, UNDP is providing advisory services for the construction of a 110 megawatt power station in Khulna and has been providing training for personnel of the Bangladesh Power Development Board.

78. In natural resources, UNDP continues to assist the Bangladesh Minerals Exploration Corporation in a feasibility study for mining limestone deposits. Assistance for training is required by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources, and this will be considered if resources permit.

79. Other external assistance to this sector concentrates largely on expansion of the electrical production and transmission capacity, with assistance being received from USAID, IBRD, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), CIDA and the United Kingdom. With increasing world concern for energy matters, donors are offering increased assistance to the country in this area. UNDP inputs will be coordinated with those of other donors.

G. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

80. The Government is placing increasing emphasis on the appropriate application of science and technology to the development needs of Bangladesh. During the second Country Programme, UNDP funded a "Science and Technology Capacity Study", which helped the Government to identify specific projects so that it can make the best use of science and technology to support its development efforts. The Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development (IFSTD) will be requested to fund some of these projects.

81. UNDP has provided assistance for the use of remote sensing technology to study...
and analyse data on vegetation, forests, water resources and soils and the management of natural resources. A new phase to this assistance is proposed during the present Programme.

82. An important ongoing UNDP project, which will continue during the third Country Programme, enables the Government to send about 20 persons per year to the Asian Institute of Technology (Thailand) for a one year training programme designed to prepare technologists with consideration for Bangladesh's needs. Environmental issues are of concern to the country's development and it is proposed that, if resources permit, assistance be given for the study of air pollution and control and for the assessment of the environmental impact of selected industries.

H. TRANSPORT

83. In spite of their importance to the development process, the transport systems of Bangladesh are relatively underdeveloped. In part this reflects the country's difficult terrain with its many rivers. Also, major destruction of facilities occurred during the war for independence and, as a result, most investment during the first two plan periods went for replacing rather than expanding transport facilities.

84. The SFYP allocates 13 per cent of public investment to transport and sets forth the following objectives for the sector: (a) to connect the centres of growth and upgrade modes of transport through implementation of a feeder road programme, standardization of river ports and improvement of transport equipment; and (b) to improve the operational efficiency of public sector transport. The Plan lays out specific programmes for surface, water and air transport. Constraints include the need for investment capital and equipment, improved facility and equipment maintenance, and the training of various categories of personnel in aspects of operations and maintenance.

85. Civil aviation: The SFYP calls for the expansion and improvement of domestic and international airports and the expansion of air routes. Since 1972 ongoing UNDP projects have been assisting the Civil Aviation Training Centre and the Department of Civil Aviation in improving its operational capacity and in training personnel. Assistance is also being provided for improving aviation meteorology. As these projects are completed, a series of new projects is proposed to provide for new and additional needs in civil aviation. Assistance to the Department of Civil Aviation for operational and manpower training needs in key areas for the new international airport is also foreseen. The Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism also requires assistance in establishing a documentation centre within its planning cell. Bangladesh Biman airline requires assistance for flight operations.

86. Surface transport: The SFYP sets specific objectives for the expansion and improvement of road networks, railways and surface transport equipment. Special attention is given to the need for maintenance. In ground transport, UNDP has been assisting the Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) to improve its ability to repair and maintain its fleet of buses. A follow-up project to strengthen BRTC management has been proposed.

87. Water transport: The SFYP sets objectives for the development of both inland water and maritime transport. In marine transport, UNDP is providing assistance for improving the capacity for training cadet officers of the Marine Academy and fellowships for training marine officers for the Bangladesh Shipping Corporation. Assistance is also being provided to the Steel and Engineering Corporation for the commis-
sioning and operation of the Chittagong Dry Dock, the conducting of a nautical and marine engineering survey, and the mechanization of country boats. The latter project involves the use of technology developed in a neighbouring country and is an interesting example of TCDC. Additional assistance is proposed for the Seaman Training Institute and to improve the finance and accounting operations of the Bangladesh Shipping Corporation. With a view to improving overall sectoral planning, assistance during the third Country Programme is proposed for the Planning Cell of the Ministry of Ports and Shipping.

88. The transport sector receives significant capital investment from multi- and bilateral sources; quite often it receives technical assistance related to investment projects from the funding agency. UNDP assistance tends to focus strongly on manpower training services to complement investment projects and to provide the trained personnel their operation requires.

I. COMMUNICATIONS

89. The postal, telegraph, and telephones system and radio and television play a vital role in linking the nation and providing the means for personal as well as private and public business communication. Radio and television are also expected to play increasingly significant motivational and educational roles in the development process. Lack of capital and trained manpower have been the most significant constraints in this sector. The SFYP calls for 4 per cent of public investment to go to communications and for continued emphasis on manpower training, a field in which the UNDP has and will continue to provide assistance.

90. An objective of the SFYP is to expand the number of installed telephones and increase the portion of total phones in rural areas. UNDP has been assisting the Telecommunications Training Centre, which prepares middle-level technical personnel. During the present Programme it is intended to redesign and commence assistance for establishing the Telecommunications Staff Training College, which will prepare supervisory and management personnel. Additional assistance is proposed for a Regional Telecommunications Training Centre.

91. The Government's efforts during the SFYP to establish 1,500 new post offices, two-thirds of them in rural areas, will benefit from the training programme of the Postal Academy which is to be established and for which UNDP assistance is proposed.

92. The SFYP calls for greater use of radio and television to support the country's development efforts through the effective dissemination of information and broadcasting of instructional and educational material. The Government's Radio and Television Training Academy, which is assisted by UNDP, is preparing the technical and programme personnel required by both radio and television.

J. HUMAN RESOURCES

93. The SFYP recognizes that man is the goal and the major instrument of all development. Hence a central theme running throughout the Plan is the need for human resource development. The objectives and strategies for most sectors focus on human resource needs of the particular sector as well as on its potential contribution to the development of the country's total human resource base.

94. The SFYP calls for preparation of an appropriate methodology and a viable strategy for human resource development which considers and establishes close linkages among nine major areas: rural development, fundamental education, higher education and
unemployment, overseas employment, technical and vocational education, training in management and entrepreneurship, public administration, agricultural extension and rural uplift and research and extension.

95. UNDP is currently providing a team of advisors to the Planning Commission under the manpower planning and human resource development project to assist in working out the strategies for human resource development. Assistance during implementation of the strategies is also foreseen. Manpower surveys and assessments are built in to various ongoing projects, notably in the communications sector.

K. EDUCATION

96. Only about 20 per cent of the male and 16 per cent of the female population in Bangladesh is considered literate. The education system serves less than half of the 25 million school age children. The SFYP notes that education and training have been neglected, not only in the Pakistan era but also since then. In 1978-1979, total public expenditure for education constituted only 8.5 per cent of the total budget. The Plan notes that this figure is markedly lower than in many other developing countries and that, "What is worse is that the educational budget has probably been spent to a significant degree on the wrong type of education."

97. The SFYP aims at broadening the base of primary education, linking education with employment, making science and technology a basic component of the educational system, accelerating the development of women's education and reducing the rural-urban gap in education.

98. A specific objective of the Plan is the decentralization and reorganization of educational administration. Related to this is ongoing UNDP assistance to the Ministry of Education for educational administration and planning. Further assistance to the Ministry in this area is proposed, as is assistance for the National Institute of Education Administration, Management and Research.

99. The SFYP puts great emphasis on universal primary education, and for this UNDP assistance to the Academy of Fundamental Education for teacher training is proposed. The Plan also calls for launching a national mass education programme, improving the educational curriculum, and developing educational facilities, especially community high schools, in rural areas and carrying out distance learning projects. UNDP assistance is proposed for each of these areas. Should resources permit assistance may be provided to the National Examination Board and the Textbook Board, and for improving educational broadcasting and technical and university training.

100. UNICEF is a significant provider of instructional materials to the education sector. A World Bank (IDA) project is also providing significant assistance for improvement of the educational system at the primary level. NORAD is supporting a project in engineering education.

L. CULTURE

101. While the pressing social and economic development needs of Bangladesh restrict the giving of high priority or resources to culture, this field is not completely neglected. In particular, attention is being given to preserving the various aspects of national culture and to increasing the population's exposure to and appreciation of its culture.
102. In providing the Shilpakala Academy of the Ministry of Culture with advisory services for design of the theatre within a cultural complex, UNDP is supporting the objective set out in the SFYP of encouraging culture and the performing arts. Small scale assistance relating to display design is also proposed for the national museum of Bangladesh. Likewise, the objectives of preserving cultural heritage will be supported by proposed advisory services to the Department of Archaeology and Museum for conservation of the Muslim monuments in the Bagerhat group, dating from the 15th century, and of the Buddhist monastery at Paharpur, dating from the 8th century, which is considered to be the largest such monastery complex south of the Himalayas.

M. HEALTH

103. The SFYP states that health is one of the basic requirements in improving the quality of life and achieving socio-economic development. Bangladesh's health care system has traditionally been curative-oriented and urban-based. The Government is trying to move from this towards a system that also includes preventative and promotive health care and extends services to rural areas. Achieving this requires a reshaping and expansion of medical training programmes, investment in health facilities and deployment of health care personnel in rural areas. Increased production and better distribution of drugs is required, as is improved administration of the total health care system of the country.

104. The objectives for the health sector are interlocked with the objectives and programmes for population. Reduction of the rate of population growth is vital if the other objectives of the SFYP are to be achieved.

105. The SFYP calls for 6 per cent of public sector outlay to go for health, population and family planning. These areas are significant recipients of external assistance. In the health field, UNICEF provides a significant quantity of medical supplies, and WHO, through its own resources, provides technical assistance. The Government of the Netherlands is providing assistance in the development of health manpower.

106. UNDP is currently providing assistance for training medical assistants and for strengthening health manpower development, and in each area additional assistance is proposed. Assistance is also proposed for nursing education. The Plan also calls for effectively controlling the major communicable diseases and for expanding preventive and promotive measures with a view to establishing a comprehensive health care system. Supporting this objective is ongoing assistance to the National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine and to the Institute of Epidemiology and Disease Control. During the third Programme assistance is also proposed for the Institute of Post Graduate Medicine and Research and for establishing a Cancer Research Institute, which is to focus on detection of cancer and public education concerning cancer prevention.

107. Nutrition is considered a basic element in achieving good health, and UNDP is providing assistance to the Institute of Public Health Nutrition.

108. The Plan stresses the need to develop and integrate indigenous and homeopathic systems of medicine into the health care services. UNDP assistance is proposed for this purpose.

N. POPULATION

109. In spite of tremendous efforts by the Government in the past, the fast growing
population remains a serious problem for Bangladesh. The problem is accentuated by
the illiteracy of the people and the conservativeness of a traditional society. Also,
in the case of a mass-oriented problem like population control, a quick break through
is hard to expect. Nevertheless, in view of the critical nature of the problem, the
Second Five Year Plan calls for significant efforts and sets as a goal the reduction
of population growth to an average annual rate of 2.23 per cent.

While the main emphasis heretofore has been on the delivery system for popula-
tion control services, the SFYP recognizes that a real break through cannot be
achieved without the participation of the community and thus focuses on village
level organizations to create this condition. Along with this, the delivery system
will be further strengthened and an entire system of incentives, such as inducements
for late marriage, preferential treatments to small families, etc., will be explored.
Population control programmes will be meaningfully integrated with health services
with a view to increasing the effectiveness of these programmes and enabling family
planning activities to use the existing overheads and infrastructures of the Health
Division.

Within the United Nations system, assistance to family planning is a direct
mandate of UNFPA and is thus not an aspect of the Country Programme. UNFPA is one
of the major donors in this field for Bangladesh, with programmes and projects that
include training of personnel, provision of materials and supplies, and support for
the 1981 population census. While many external donors provide assistance in this
area, the most significant ones besides UNFPA are IBRD, in conjunction with bilaterals,
and USAID.

O. MANPOWER AND EMPLOYMENT

With its rapidly growing population, Bangladesh has experienced difficulty in
effectively training and employing all available persons. Unemployment and under-
employment are considered problems. Creating sufficient employment opportunities in
rural areas in agriculture, in non-farm activities and in industry has been a problem
which the SFYP addresses in each of these sectors. The provision of a sufficient
quantity and adequate quality of technical training and placement of trained persons
in appropriate jobs is another problem which the Government has been addressing and
its efforts will continue during the SFYP.

While the Government itself can assign only limited resources to the expansion
of technical training, this area is receiving significant multilateral and bilateral
investment capital. Thus the vocational training system has been receiving signifi-
cant assistance from IBRD, AsDB, SIDA, and DANIDA. In addition, there is technical
assistance, in which the UNDP and IBRD are primary donors.

The SFYP calls for expanding the technical training network of the Ministry of
Manpower Development to enable it to increase the annual intake capacity of pre-
service formal training courses and to introduce in-service upgrading courses for
workers at the Technical Training Centres. UNDP is providing assistance for five
technical training centres and for the vocational training system being established
by the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training.

Various institutions exist in Bangladesh to provide specialized training for
particular professions or sectors. UNDP is assisting two such institutions, the
Institute of Chartered Accountants and the Tourism Training Institute.

The SFYP calls for firmly establishing mechanisms for the self-employment of
technically trained persons, especially in service industries, as an institution in society. Various proposals exist for UNDP assistance to help in this area.

117. Setting up a system for a national employment service and establishing district employment and manpower offices, which will provide employment opportunity information and vocational guidance and counselling, are objectives of the SFYP which UNDP is supporting. A large number of new proposals for UNDP assistance to this sector during the third Country Programme exist. These include assistance for establishing a National Institute of Labour Studies and an Employment Research Institute and Manpower Planning Centre. Assistance is proposed for industrial accident and safety training, occupational hygiene and health analyses, dock labour safety training and rehabilitation of disabled workers. Assistance is also proposed in the field of labour welfare centres and motivational education for workers.

P. SOCIAL WELFARE

118. Traditionally, social welfare programmes in Bangladesh have given emphasis to providing relief and charity to vulnerable groups. Current Government policy for social welfare, as reflected in the SFYP, calls for dealing with the problems that make certain groups vulnerable and for carrying out programmes which will enable disadvantaged or handicapped persons to become productive citizens.

119. During the present Programme UNDP assistance is proposed for the rehabilitation of disabled workers and for the vocational training of handicapped persons.

Q. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

120. The SFYP notes that "Public administration assumes particular importance in a country where the public sector occupies a key position in the total development effort and where a large segment of the private sector comes under the regulatory and promotional influence of the Government." With this recognition of the importance of public administration, the Plan stresses the improvement and rationalization of administrative organizations, of financial and personnel systems and of rules and procedures. Stress is also placed on public administration training and the enhancement of special skills of members of the civil service.

121. Under one project, UNDP is providing assistance to improve the public administration training programmes carried out by the Civil Officers Training Academy, the National Institute of Public Administration and the Administrative Staff College. Assistance is also being provided for the operational and physical design of a public administration training complex, for which multilateral investment is considered forthcoming. A series of small-scale UNDP projects are providing advisory services and training in a number of specific areas within public and fiscal administration. Assistance is also to be provided to the Administrative Staff College for creating a data bank, and for establishing a research and development cell, and to the Civil Officers Training Academy for strengthening its research and development cell, and to the recruitment and training section of the Establishment Division.

122. The public administration objectives of the SFYP include the decentralization of development planning and administration. The Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board is attempting to plan and administer development efforts for one of the country's least developed regions. It is receiving UNDP advisory services for strengthening its planning, implementation and monitoring capabilities in the use of multilateral investment resources.
R. REGIONAL AND PHYSICAL PLANNING AND HOUSING POLICY

123. Given a growing population and the already high ratio of people to land, the SFYP gives attention to the need for regional and physical planning and for establishing housing policies and strategies. Regional and national physical planning is to be aimed at achieving a meaningful decentralization and devolution of socio-economic and development activities throughout the country. Housing policy and programmes are aimed at the provision of adequate shelter for all people. There is an ongoing project of UNDP assistance in each of these areas; it is proposed that during the present Programme they be extended and realigned to fit more closely the needs of the Government's programmes during implementation of the SFYP. UNDP has funded a Dacca Metropolitan Development study, carried out by the Planning Commission, which will most likely lead to multilateral investment funds being made available for urban projects.

124. Multilateral lending institutions are beginning to examine with the Government investment capital needs which are related to urban development and housing. In many cases, joint Government-UNDP technical assistance projects have resulted in the preliminary identification of investment proposals. The assistance they may eventually provide will be co-ordinated with the UNDP technical assistance.

S. WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION

125. The SFYP addresses both rural and urban water supply and sanitation needs. The Plan is supplemented by the "National Plan for Water Supply and Sanitation", prepared in conjunction with the activities of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (1980-1990).

126. For the rural sector, the SFYP states that it will be a policy to substantially accelerate the popularization of water sealed sanitation units and to increase the availability of tubewells for drinking water. For the urban sector, the plan puts priority on the improvement of water supply and sanitation facilities in city peripheries and in new settlements.

127. Ongoing UNDP assistance is being provided to the water and sewerage authorities of Dacca and Chittagong to improve their management and financial operations. UNDP has funded a feasibility study for water supply systems for five district towns and follow-up investment proposals are now under consideration. Additional assistance is proposed during the third Country Programme to the Urban Development Directorate in the areas of solid waste disposal and waste recycling. The Urban Development Directorate is also requesting assistance for assessing urban environmental problems and determining solutions.

T. DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, STATISTICS, DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE CO-ORDINATION, RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

128. Certain Government efforts and activities are not specific to any one economic or social sector, but rather constitute part of the basic Government infrastructure to plan and implement the country's development. The Government attaches importance to these areas and they receive UNDP assistance.

129. The Planning Commission has received UNDP assistance for improving its economic planning capacity, and if resources permit additional assistance may be provided to the Commission. Also, as mentioned in the discussion of specific sectors, UNDP is
assisting the Planning Cells of various Ministries. Assistance is also being provided
to enable a national institution to carry out a study on the legal aspects, in the
Asian context, of the new international economic order.

130. Both the Government and the private sector have a growing need for various types
of statistics. It is the role of the Bureau of Statistics and Division of Statistics
of the Ministry of Planning to conduct the national population census as well as
other censuses, such as that of the agricultural sector, and to collect, analyse and
disseminate various types of statistics. A major UNDP project which extends through
1985 is providing assistance for the improvement of the statistical services with a
focus on the population and agricultural censuses of the Bureau of Statistics. UNFPA
is also providing significant assistance for the population census.

131. In the area of development assistance administration, UNDP has provided various
study tours to Government officials to acquaint them with systems and procedures for
aid co-ordination. Assistance is also to be provided for the Technical Assistance
Co-ordination Cell of the External Resources Division of the Ministry of Finance.
There is also an ongoing UNDP project of programme support which, in particular,
provides central logistical support to other projects.

132. It is a stated objective of the Government to decrease the dependence on
foreign assistance and to progressively support development efforts with domestic
resources. In relation to this, the National Board of Revenue and the Internal
Resources Division of the Ministry of Finance will pursue the following objectives
during the SFYP: (a) to explore and identify the potential for mobilization of
additional resources; (b) to reduce revenue leakage and tax evasion; (c) to widen
the tax base; and (d) to improve and simplify procedures, rules and regulations.
UNDP assistance is being provided for the overseas training of tax and customs
officials. Additional assistance during the present Programme is proposed for help-
ing to improve in-country training for the Customs and Excise Departments, for re-
drafting and revising tax laws, and for improving operational efficiency in domestic
resource mobilization.

IV. RELATIONSHIP WITH ACTIVITIES AT THE GLOBAL AND INTER-COUNTRY LEVEL

133. The Government is committed to the global development priorities established by
intergovernmental bodies and the UNDP Governing Council: i.e., attention to the needs
of the poorest segments of society; promotion of the role of women in development,
concern for environmental questions, promotion of Technical Co-operation among
Developing Countries, and utilization of appropriate technology. These issues served
as a backdrop to the consideration of projects for inclusion in the third Country
Programme. During the project formulation stage, the Government will rely upon the
United Nations system to advise on how UNDP technical co-operation can effectively
support these global priorities as they are linked to and consistent with the
country's national development efforts.

134. The Government is a participant in and benefactor of the global activities
supported by UNDP. Most significant in terms of Bangladesh's contribution to global
efforts has been the transformation of a national institution into the International
Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, which will make the results of research in
Bangladesh and the capabilities of an established scientific institution available
on a global scale.

135. At the intercountry level, Bangladesh has provided significant leadership and
direction in helping the UNDP regional programme for Asia and the Pacific to better
address the needs of the least developed and the landlocked countries. In this context, the Government has and will continue during the present Programme to make its experiences and training institutions available, in particular to the LDCs. A specific example is the provision of scholarships at the Marine Training Academy for students from the Maldives.

V. RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE

136. Both the Government, through ERD, and the individual sources of development assistance to Bangladesh make significant continuous efforts to co-ordinate their activities so that the country receives a balanced and rational total package of assistance.

137. Within the United Nations family, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) provide technical assistance to Bangladesh under their regular programmes or through funds-in-trust. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has a two year programme 1980-1982 for Bangladesh providing US$34.7 million, mainly for child health, drinking water, environmental sanitation, nutrition, education and social services. The FAO technical co-operation programme (TCP) provided about US$1 million in 1979-1980. In addition, FAO projects using funds-in-trust provided by specific governments totaled US$6.6 million; they included provision of barges for food transport, provision of fertilizer and a project on post-harvest losses. WHO delivered US$1.5 million in 1979, the ILO US$25,000 and UNIDO’s Special Industrial Services (SIS) projects and regular programme provides about US$350,000 per year in advisory services and training.

138. In the population field, UNFPA is a most important source of funding for Bangladesh. Its programme for the period 1980 to 1985 will provide US$50 million of assistance, out of which US$25 million will be available from UNFPA regular funds with the remaining US$25 million to be mobilized by UNFPA under multi-bilateral arrangements with other donors.

139. WFP provides commodity assistance for the Food-for-Work programme and for vulnerable group feeding programmes. Over a five year period, the level of this assistance is expected to be US$190 million.

140. With all of the Agencies cited above, UNDP maintains very close working relationships, including inviting their participation in periodic joint programme reviews. In some cases, there is direct linkage by design between a UNDP technical assistance project and the assistance from one of the other United Nations Agencies. In other cases, small-scale projects begun by the Agencies under their regular programmes have laid the foundation for a larger UNDP project. Projects of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) are also a most useful complement to the UNDP technical assistance programme.

141. A close relationship and co-ordination is maintained with the multilateral capital development agencies, IBRD and ADB. In a number of instances by predesign UNDP technical assistance helps provide the feasibility analysis needed for making a loan or provides technical assistance to facilitate loan implementation.

VI. SIGNIFICANT FEATURES OF THE THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMME: THEMES AND MODALITIES

142. It is important to note that besides addressing certain specific sectoral develop-
ment needs, UNDP technical assistance under the third Country Programme has certain features, characteristics and themes which are present in a significant number of projects and are indicative both of Bangladesh’s needs as a relatively young developing nation and also of the types of assistance which the United Nations system is now considered the most capable of effectively delivering within the Bangladesh context.

The first Country Programme, consistent with the First Five Year Plan, focused on national reconstruction. The subsequent Two Year Development Plan and the corresponding Country Programme in a sense marked a transitional and consolidating phase, with a definite move towards building and strengthening the national capacity to carry out the Programme required if national development objectives were to be realized. This thrust now comes into sharp focus in the SFYP and the corresponding third Country Programme.

144. The training of persons in various specialized technical, management and administrative fields figures significantly in most sectors. The third Country Programme responds to this pressing need by offering overseas training to address immediate needs and by assisting in the establishment of Bangladeshi training institutions which will provide for longer term needs and in time reduce the need for much external training.

145. As development programme and project implementation becomes a major operational activity of the public sector, the need for adequate planning at various levels has become apparent to Government. The meeting of this need is another significant feature evident throughout the Programme.

146. Increasing self-reliance is a central theme of the SFYP. It is reflected in the content of the Country Programme by trying to select projects of assistance which, over time, will contribute to this goal. Of equal importance in the implementation of the Programme is the stress to be placed on using modes of project implementation which foster self-reliance. This will include use of local expertise, Government execution of projects, careful assessment of the need for and tasks to be addressed by United Nations advisors as well as the duration of assignments, and TCDC considerations.

147. There is an increasing rate and magnitude of public and private investment in economic and social infrastructure and productive and service facilities. In most cases, in the pre-investment phase as well as in the post investment operational start-up period there is need for technical assistance inputs. Addressing this need is also a significant feature of the present Programme.

148. While the Government intends to utilize advanced hard and soft technology as appropriate in its development efforts, it also recognizes that the experience of other developing countries in particular areas may be quite relevant to Bangladesh’s needs and that, in a similar fashion, Bangladesh is acquiring experience of value to other countries. The productive exchange of such experience will feature strongly in the actual implementation of the third Country Programme as it did progressively during the second.

149. As noted previously, the central theme of the SFYP is the reduction of poverty by a significant extent and the creation of such conditions as would help to completely eliminate it in an objective way by the end of the century. While admittedly broad and ambitious, it is this central theme which must serve as a base line for including any project in the third Programme and ultimately for evaluating the contribution which any individual UNDP project, and the programme as a whole, may make to the development...
of Bangladesh. Thus the central theme of the SFYP is also the central focal point of the third Country Programme.
Financial summary

I. Resources taken into account for programming 1981-1985:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Dollars ($)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Illustrative IPF for 1982-1986</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Minus 20 per cent unprogrammed at present</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Minus proportionate amount of 1982-1986 IPF</td>
<td>(50)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>allocated for July 1985-December 1986</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) Plus remainder of 1977-1981 IPF available</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1980-December 1981</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e) Plus provision for adequate programming</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(20 per cent of available IPF of $146 million)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total resources taken into account for programming</td>
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II. Use of resources:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Dollars ($)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Continuing projects</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) New projects</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Earmarked for proposals in specific sectors but for which specific projects are still to be defined</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) Unallocated</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total resources programmed</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Continuing and new projects and tentative earmarkings, by sector 1/

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Continuing projects</th>
<th>New projects</th>
<th>Tentative sectoral earmarkings</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$ million</td>
<td>$ million</td>
<td>$ million</td>
<td>$ million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Development, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water, energy and natural resources</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industries</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport and communications</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education, technical training and employment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health, water supply and sanitation</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning, public administration and human settlements</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total programmed</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>170</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unallocated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1/ Arranged according to the ACC classification to the extent possible, and illustrative of tentative overall priorities rather than firm allocations in respect of new projects and sectoral earmarkings.
## LIST OF CONTINUING AND NEW PROJECTS

### I. Rural Development, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

#### (a) Continuing projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>$000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural Works Programme</td>
<td>345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry Improvement</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy Co-operatives</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Extension</td>
<td>1,975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Lift Pump Training</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Use Policy</td>
<td>222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil Survey Interpretation</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extension and Research in Chittagong Hill Tracts</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Assistance to Bangladesh Krishi Bank</td>
<td>285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-operative Credit and Banking System</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jute Seed Research and Production</td>
<td>603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Planning</td>
<td>605</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agricultural Research Council</td>
<td>111</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barisal/Patuakhali Socio-economic Survey</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Research Institute</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply and Demand of Forest Products</td>
<td>209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village Forest Inventory</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubber Plantations</td>
<td>407</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fisheries Development</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisheries Resources Survey</td>
<td>1,320</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal** | 7,495 |

#### (b) New projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>$000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institutional strengthening of Krishi Bank</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fertilizer Use, Demonstration and Distribution</td>
<td>850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy Co-operatives Phase II</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice Grading and Processing</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubewell Command Area Improvement</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance to the Forestry Sector</td>
<td>2,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal** | 7,560 |

### II. Water, Energy and Natural Resources

#### (a) Continuing projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>$000</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water Sector Planning</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundwater Survey</td>
<td>729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Balance Studies</td>
<td>1,082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrological Survey</td>
<td>845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Research Institute</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adviser to Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) (Food-for-Work Schemes)</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization and Implementation of BWDB Projects</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Flood Forecasting and Warning System
- Meteorological Services: 1,261
- Planning Cell, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources: 334
- Petroleum Institute: 1,051
- Eastern Refinery: 69
- Gas Field Management: 72
- Training of Power Personnel: 25
- Khulna Power Station: 525
- Limestone Exploration Study: 545
- Uranium and Thorium Exploration: 10

Subtotal: 8,893

### New Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Energy Study and Planning Cell</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Cell, Ministry of Flood Control, Water Resources and Power</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundwater Exploration of the Coastal Belt</td>
<td>1,100</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal: 2,050

### Industries

#### Continuing Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ceramics Industries</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastics Processing</td>
<td>256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cottage Industries</td>
<td>941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering Industries</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machine Tools Factory</td>
<td>1,467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study of the Iron and Steel Sector</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation and Management of Fertilizer Plants</td>
<td>884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Chemical Industry</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petrochemical Industries</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textile Industry Development</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food and Allied Industries</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jute Products Research</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jute Carpet Market Study</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Development</td>
<td>851</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal: 7,445

#### New Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assistance to Sugar Industry</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jute Industries Phase II</td>
<td>1,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Jute Testing Laboratory</td>
<td>600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Export Processing Zone</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance to Bangladesh Shilpa Rin Sangtha</td>
<td>258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Promotion Industries</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal: 2,591
IV. Transport and Communications

(a) Continuing projects

- Civil Aviation Training Centre 387
- Assistance to Department of Civil Aviation (DCA) 208
- Training of Key DCA Personnel 108
- Assistance to Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) 795
- Marine Academy 2,709
- Training of Marine Officers 396
- Chittagong Dry Dock 288
- Nautical and Marine Engineering Survey 219
- Mechanization of Country Boats 109
- Telecommunications Training Centre 447
- Telecommunications Staff College 608
- Broadcasting Services 2,539
- Press Institute 25

Subtotal 8,838

(b) New projects

- Improvement of Aviation Meteorology 430
- Assistance to Department of Civil Aviation Phase II 2,500
- Civil Aviation Training Centre Phase II 2,000

Subtotal 4,930

V. Education, Technical Training and Employment

(a) Continuing projects

- Educational Administration and Planning 340
- Shilpakala Academy 105
- Museum Science and Technology 37
- Technical Training Centre, Chittagong 627
- Vocational Training Phase II 428
- Employment Services 332
- Human Resources Development 160
- Institute of Chartered Accountants 209
- Tourism Training 260

Subtotal 2,489

(b) New projects

- Education Administration and Development 1,291
- Strengthening Insurance Education 224

Subtotal 1,515

VI. Health, Water Supply and Sanitation

(a) Continuing projects

- Training of Medical Assistants 507
Strengthening Health Manpower Development 425
National Institute for Social and Preventive Medicine 573
Epidemiology and Disease Control 913
Institute of Public Health Nutrition 187
Assistance to Water and Sewerage Authorities 266
Subtotal 2,871

(b) New projects

VII. Planning, Public Administration and Human Settlements

(a) Continuing projects

Planning Commission 519
Legal Aspects of NIEO 25
Improvement of Statistical Services 5,614
Study tours for Institutional Development 135
Programme Support 430
Support to UNCDF projects 32
Advisory Services for Project Formulation 183
Tax and Customs Administration Training 189
Public Administration 786
Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board 268
Regional and Physical Planning 418
Urban Housing Policy 137
Remote Sensing Technology 112
Training of Technologists 188
Subtotal 9,036

(b) New projects

Assistance to Public Administration Training Centre 290
Assistance to Parliamentary Secretariat 100
National Physical Planning Phase II 2,800
Urban Housing Policy Phase II 2,200
Technical Assistance Co-ordination Cell 500
Subtotal 5,890