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SUPPORT

UNITED NATIONS TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ACTIVITIES

Addendum

Other entities and programmes

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

This addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations technical co-operation activities provides an overview of the work of organizational entities, other than the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, which also have responsibility for technical co-operation programmes. It describes activities undertaken during 1986 by the regional commissions, the Centre for Human Rights, the Division of Narcotic Drugs, the Office of Legal Affairs, the Centre for Human Settlements, the Centre on Transnational Corporations, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Environment Programme.

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INTRODUCTION

1. This addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on technical co-operation activities provides an overview of the work of offices and programmes of the United Nations other than the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development. The information provided by the offices concerned on work during 1986 describes technical co-operation, inter-agency co-operation and action taken in response to resolutions of the General Assembly and various governing bodies. This document also includes information on the United Nations regular programme of technical co-operation.

I. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

2. In 1986, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) continued to carry out a programme of technical co-operation aimed at furthering the economic and social development of the countries of the region. An amount of \$1.5 million in regular programme funds was expended to support the services of 10 regional advisers and to assist the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs). Regional and subregional activities financed by the regular programme were carried out in economic co-operation, statistics, social development, manpower development, conventional and alternative sources of energy, public administration and finance, transport and communication, socio-economic research, administration and common services. The Commission carried out UNDP-supported project activities valued at \$6.5 million in the fields of statistics, industry, national accounts, international trade, transport and communications, integration of women in development, natural resources, public administration management, economic development, socio-economic research and planning and social development. Operational activities financed by UNFPA in demographic statistics, demography, population information networks, census research and training amounted to \$3 million.

3. Bilateral donor Governments and organizations provided direct grants totalling \$2 million for expert services under non-reimbursable loan arrangements and bilateral technical assistance programmes in agriculture, public administration management and manpower development, natural resources, industry, social development, transport and communications, economic co-operation, socio-economic research and planning and information statistics.

4. The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) provided \$180,000 for strengthening national machineries for the integration of women in development and to support the African Training and Research Centre for Women. The ECA environmental co-ordination unit carried out \$108,000 in operational activities financed by UNEP. A total of \$300,000 was allocated to ECA from the United Nations Trust Fund for Africa to carry out technical co-operation in the fields of industry, agriculture, natural resources, public administration, trade, economic co-operation and information.

II. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

5. In 1986, the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) continued its regional operational projects in energy, transport and statistics with the financial assistance of UNDP. In its capacity as a focal point for economic activity within the region, the Commission co-sponsored with UNDP intergovernmental consultations in April in preparation for the fourth regional programming cycle in Europe. The secretariat also continued consultations with other regional commissions in order to improve its exchanges of economic data and expertise at the interregional level and to supplement the activities of the other commissions in promoting economic and technical co-operation among developing countries (ECDC/TCDC). With UNFPA funds, ECE continued its work on projects in the fields of migration and the aging of populations. With the financial support of UNEP, the Commission carried out environmental protection activities.

III. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

6. During 1986, ECLAC, including its two specialized centres, the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) and the Latin American Demographic Center (CELADE), provided technical co-operation in the framework of specific mandates received from its legislative body and Member States.

7. Through its subregional offices in Mexico City and Port of Spain, the ECLAC secretariat was able to continue strengthening institutional co-operation with the integration process in Central America and with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), respectively. Similar tasks were carried out in conjunction with the secretariat of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) through technical backstopping provided by the ECLAC office in Montevideo. Co-operation links with the Latin American Economic System (SELA) were also strengthened, in particular through the work of ILPES.

8. Regional training activities and advisory services were carried out by ILPES in the field of socio-economic planning and policy formulation and by CELADE in population and development and demographic analysis. Funding for these activities came from extrabudgetary contributions of UNDP, UNFPA, UNEP, Canada, France and the Netherlands. ILPES trained 119 fellows from 35 Latin American and Caribbean countries, including 1 from Equatorial Guinea. CELADE awarded 24 fellowships to participants from 13 countries. ILPES carried out a seminar on the integration of women in development and planning in Latin America and the Caribbean.

9. A substantial proportion of ECLAC technical co-operation activities were financed by the regular programme, UNFPA and UNEP. Significant voluntary contributions were also received during 1986 from a large number of donor countries. Projects undertaken with these contributions were initiated or continued in social development, information and documentation systems, economic integration and regional co-operation, international trade, international monetary and financial relations, trade promotion, industrial development, water resources management, maritime and land transport, environmental dimensions of social and economic planning and agricultural development strategies, the latter with emphasis on the peasant economies of the region.

10. Promotion and support of TCDC continued to be a significant factor in the activities of ECLAC during 1986. TCDC projects were carried out in highland basin water resources management, interior cargo terminals and regional information systems (in collaboration with UNESCO). ECLAC also strengthened its support of TCDC networks in the fields of social and economic planning, capital goods industries, development of mineral resources, international relations, rural development project management (in collaboration with FAO), information networks in the Latin American region and in the Caribbean subregion and, in the Central American isthmus, interconnection of electrical systems.

11. At the interregional level, ECLAC has continued to work jointly with the other regional commissions in the preparation of specific ECDC/TCDC projects in consultation with pertinent organizations and entities of the United Nations system in the framework of Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/66. A joint strategy for funding is now being explored.

IV. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

12. During 1986, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) responded to requests for technical and advisory services from 15 countries in the Asia and Pacific region through 44 missions carried out under the United Nations regular programme of technical co-operation.

13. The majority of the requests were from countries in the Asian region, and emphasis was given to LDCs. For the island developing countries in the Pacific, short-term advisory services continued to be provided by the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre (EPOC) at Port Vila, Vanuatu, under the United Nations Development Advisory Team in the fields of social development, statistics, physical planning and public administration. In 1986, 21 missions were carried out by the resident advisers. In addition, EPOC, with financing provided by UNDP and in close co-operation with the South Pacific Commission at Suva and the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation at Noumea, also fielded 26 quick-action consultancy missions by short-term experts to meet the urgent needs of the island developing countries.

14. Regional and subregional projects financed by UNDP continued to address energy and natural resources, transport, technology transfer and human resources development. ESCAP also co-operated with UNCTAD and the International Trade Centre on trade and trade-related projects in the region and in further enhancing ECDC/TCDC. The Commission continued its close co-operation with FAO in the implementation of energy-related projects and on a project on research and development of food legumes and coarse grains in the Asian tropics and sub-tropics.

15. UNFPA provided institutional support for the population information services section of the ESCAP Population Division to enable it to enhance technical assistance and training (in-service and in-country) for the development of national population information centres in the region. Funds were also made available to ESCAP to provide advisory services on population censuses and surveys and on data preparation and processing to countries in the region and to conduct research on

fertility, family planning, migration, urbanization, mortality and aging. These activities aimed at assisting developing countries in the formulation of population policies and in programme management.

16. Donors from both inside and outside the ESCAP region, as well as recipient countries in the Asia and Pacific region, continued to provide extrabudgetary funding for the implementation of priority projects in the ESCAP work programme, as approved by the Commission.

17. During the year, ESCAP emphasized ECDC/TCDC. ECDC/TCDC modalities were incorporated into technical co-operation projects from the project formulation stage onward. The provision of supplementary TCDC funding directly to developing countries in the ESCAP region to cover the international foreign exchange component of total TCDC costs helped increase the number of TCDC activities by member countries of the Commission.

V. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA

18. The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) continued to carry out technical co-operation activities in the region during 1986 through the provision of short-term regional advisory services and the monitoring and backstopping of technical assistance projects.

19. Under the regular programme of regional advisory services, ESCWA assisted Member States in the areas of development planning; electronics and information processing; human resources development; industrial project identification, formulation and appraisal; household surveys, transport and communications and new and renewable sources of energy.

20. Under UNFPA-funded regional advisory services, assistance was provided to two countries in the field of demography and to four countries in population statistics. Advice was provided to three countries through the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), which sponsored regional advisory services in industrial and mechanical engineering.

21. Technical co-operation projects carried out by ESCWA included the National Household Survey Capability Programme, which continued to assist participating Governments in the development of continuous and integrated household surveys. Workshops on survey-related topics were held in Amman, Baghdad and Cairo.

22. Other project activities included the development of statistical services in Yemen. Projects in Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Democratic Yemen relating to the role of women in national development efforts were funded by UNIFEM. Many regional projects were also related to women in development in the region.

VI. CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

23. During 1986, in the framework of the activities for the implementation of the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, a seminar on international assistance and support to peoples and movements struggling against colonialism, racism, racial discrimination and apartheid was held at Yaounde, Cameroon. This seminar was financed from the resources allocated to the programme of advisory services. Participants and alternates from 21 countries as well as observers from 3 other countries, United Nations organs and specialized agencies, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations attended.

24. Under the programme of advisory services and in compliance with relevant resolutions, a training course on human rights was held at La Paz, Bolivia. It was attended by 45 persons, and lectures were given by 6 experts, including 2 from the staff of the Centre for Human Rights.

25. For lack of funds, no individual fellowships were granted in 1986 under the programme of advisory services.

26. Under relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights on advisory services and technical assistance to Equatorial Guinea, two experts were sent to that country in early 1986. Their report was submitted, through the Centre for Human Rights, to the Government of Equatorial Guinea for comments.

27. Issues and trends emerging from relevant United Nations bodies showed special interest in the programme of advisory services and reflected the hope that training courses would be organized on the preparation of reports on implementation of the international covenants on human rights as well as on teaching human rights. Conscious of the financial constraints within the United Nations system, members of the Commission on Human Rights expressed the view that the idea of establishing a trust fund on advisory services in the field of human rights merited serious consideration.

VII. DIVISION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS

28. In 1986, the last year in the five-year programme of action to implement the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy adopted by the General Assembly in 1981, the Division of Narcotic Drugs (DND) undertook a variety of technical co-operation activities, including provision of advisory services, programme support, equipment, fellowships and training material. Throughout the year, technical assistance in support of drug abuse control programmes was provided to interested Member States to the extent permitted by available resources.

29. In Bangkok and Vienna, the Division provided training for 22 fellows from 14 Member States in laboratory techniques for the identification and analysis of seized drugs. In addition, the Division organized study tours designed to increase the expertise of 38 national officials from 17 Member States in drug abuse control. Training seminars were organized at the regional level in co-operation with national authorities and intergovernmental organizations. The Division also

carried out 10 fact-finding, consultative and evaluation missions in support of technical co-operation.

30. The Division worked to develop a more concerted response by the United Nations system to drug abuse problems through closer co-operation with relevant United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and other international organizations involved in drug control activities. During 1986, DND convened two *ad hoc* inter-agency meetings on co-ordination in matters of international drug abuse control at Vienna, where preparations were reviewed for the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking to be held in June 1987.

VIII. OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

31. The Office of Legal Affairs advised and assisted United Nations bodies and units of the Secretariat at Headquarters and in the field, including DTCD, UNDP and the regional commissions on matters pertaining to the establishment and application of legal rules relating to technical co-operation programmes. This work included drafting and interpreting constitutive instruments, as well as financial and other regulations, rules and directives of United Nations bodies; drafting, interpreting and advising on basic agreements, loan agreements, project documents, trust fund arrangements, management services agreements and other legal instruments with Governments, intergovernmental organizations and executing agencies. The Office also provided legal advice and assistance in negotiations with respect to disputes and advised on administrative, personnel, financial and contractual questions, as well as problems of privileges and immunities and the terms of reference of technical co-operation bodies.

32. The Office assisted in the selection of legal experts and provided substantive advice, when requested to do so, for technical co-operation projects executed by DTCD in the legal field in Barbados, St. Christopher and Nevis, and Trinidad and Tobago. The Office performed various functions connected with the goals of the United Nations programme of assistance in the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law. It participated in the United Nations/UNITAR Fellowship Programme in international law, financed from the regular budget, under which 20 fellowships were awarded in 1986. The Office co-operated in programmes of training and assistance sponsored by the Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and participated with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea in activities connected with the award of the first Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, which is financed from a trust fund of voluntary contributions.

IX. UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

33. During 1986, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (UNCHS) had 160 projects under execution in 77 countries. Of these 46 were located in LDCs. Ninety-eight projects were financed by UNDP, and these accounted for approximately 66 per cent of the funds budgeted for technical co-operation during the year. A total of 17 projects were also supplemented by trust funds, government

and third-party cost-sharing arrangements. The United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation funded 44 small-scale projects designed to provide assistance in preparing project documents for submission to UNDP, donor Governments and donor agencies.

34. Regular programme funds were used for special advisory services and training, with emphasis on supporting human settlement activities in the LDCs. In 1986, 40 missions were fielded. Special advisory missions were provided on human settlements data management, in particular on the development of computer software, on building materials and construction technologies with emphasis on locally available materials and on the development of conventional and non-conventional human settlements financing systems. Some missions resulted in project documents for funds-in-trust financing.

35. UNCHS continued its collaboration with other agencies in the field of human settlements. UNCHS and UNEP, for instance, promoted environmentally sound human settlements development. Co-operation with the World Bank was strengthened by the development of a joint urban development strategies project. UNCHS collaborated with UNDRO and other organizations in the establishment of a programme for seismic risk reduction in the Mediterranean region. With the World Food Programme, the UNCHS/WFP co-ordinator assisted in project development and appraisal missions. Co-operation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees continued through the UNCHS/UNCHR Human Settlements Officer charged with advising on and promoting technical co-operation in the area of refugee settlements.

X. UNITED NATIONS CENTRE ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

36. During 1986, the technical co-operation activities provided by the Centre increased both in the number of countries receiving assistance and in the extent of these services as compared with the previous year. This increase confirms the trend, started some years ago, of an increasing number of developing countries beginning reappraisals of policies towards transnational corporations. Governments have turned to the Centre for technical assistance and pertinent information in the formulation of foreign investment and technology régimes or in the structuring and negotiation of transactions with transnational corporations.

37. The Centre completed or initiated 119 advisory and information projects. Of these projects, 35 per cent related to general régimes for foreign investment and technology or special régimes for the participation of transnational corporations in specific sectors. Most focused on formulating or revising existing policies, laws and regulations dealing with foreign investment and transfer of technology transactions. Some projects dealt specifically with designing and establishing institutional arrangements for acquisition of imported technology, as well as with developing mechanisms for controlling transfer pricing abuses.

38. With regard to advisory services on the negotiation of specific contractual arrangements with transnational corporations, the Centre provided assistance to Governments in evaluating financial, fiscal, economic, legal and other technical issues contained in feasibility studies prepared for projects involving the

participation of transnational corporations in proposals submitted by transnational corporations. These concerned wholly-owned direct investments and joint ventures, technology, management, financing and other topics. The Centre also provided legal and economic experts to assist Governments in preparing for negotiating or renegotiating similar arrangements with transnational corporations.

39. Some 65 per cent of the projects were related to assistance in specific sectors. A total of 48 projects were in the natural resources sector, including petroleum, mining, sugar, agriculture, forestry, fisheries and another 17 were in the manufacturing and services sectors: the machine tool, computer, automobile, fertilizer, banking, airline and hotel industries. Of the 119 projects, 47 were undertaken for 17 African countries or areas, 58 for 15 Asian and Pacific countries or areas, and 14 for 6 Latin American and Caribbean countries.

40. In 1986, the Centre organized 27 training projects. These were comprised of training workshops, round tables, study tours and fellowships programmes for government officials, executives of State enterprises and managers from the private sector of various developing countries.

41. The 19 training workshops and round-table meetings organized by the Centre at national, subregional and regional levels were attended by about 590 participants. Of these projects, nine were held in Asian and Pacific countries, seven in African countries, and three in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

42. Under the Centre's fellowship programme, arrangements were made for senior government officials from Sierra Leone to visit three Asian countries in order to gain experience in the management of investment procedures and technology transfer.

43. The Centre was also engaged in making arrangements for a study tour by senior government officials from Pakistan to visit export-processing zones in selected Asian countries. Nepalese government officials visited light manufacturing industries in India, Thailand and Sri Lanka, and five Chinese officials from China's International Economic Information Centre visited New York. All study tours were organized for officials from low-income countries.

44. To strengthen the capabilities of individual government entities and private enterprises in their dealings with transnational corporations, the Centre continued, in 1986, with its programme of assistance to national and regional management training institutes and academic institutions. Its objective was to improve the professional skills of public officials and private sector managers in matters related to transnational corporations. The Centre also organized a training seminar in Thailand to help improve the skills of lecturers from various institutions.

45. The Centre continued its assistance to institutes of management and public administration in selected African countries. In 1986, the Centre's work with these institutes focused on a round-table meeting for the directors of these institutes at Arusha, Tanzania, with participants from seven African countries, and from regional and subregional institutes such as le Centre Africain de Formation et de Recherche Administratives pour le Developpement (CAFRAD), based in Morocco; the

East and Southern Africa Management Institute (ESAMI), based in Tanzania; and the Institute Development Management (IDM), based in Botswana.

46. As part of the Centre's efforts to support ECDC/TCDC it maintained close working relationships with over 20 regional and subregional centres and institutions on matters relating to the activities of transnational corporations in the countries constituting the various groups.

XI. UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

47. The total project expenditures incurred by UNCTAD in 1986 amounted to \$10.0 million, an increase of \$2.7 million over 1985. The technical co-operation activities were funded from three sources: UNDP, \$7.9 million; funds-in-trust, \$1.9 million; and the regular programme of technical co-operation, \$0.2 million. As regards expenditures against UNDP IPFs, 58 per cent represented intercountry activities and 42 per cent country activities. Personnel costs represented 72.2 per cent of total expenditures, training 8.8 per cent and 19.0 per cent corresponded to sub-contracts, equipment and miscellaneous expenditures.

48. UNCTAD technical co-operation activities covered a number of sectors. Assistance was provided in trade policy, including the increased dissemination of information on the Generalized System of Preferences, support to the external sector and a feasibility study for the establishment of a free zone. In the area of money, finance and development, technical co-operation on computerized debt management systems and service on improving existing debt management procedures and systems were extended to a number of countries. Assistance in external financial planning and management and technical support to the Committee of Twenty-four for international monetary and financial issues also continued. In the area of commodities, activities were largely centred on assistance to food importing countries in upgrading their procurement of major food items through improved market knowledge, skillful trading and import management.

49. In the area of ECDC, technical support was provided to the ongoing negotiations on a Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries and on the establishment of a trade information system involving the collection and dissemination of data on trade barriers, viewed as essential to negotiations among developing countries. Direct support was given to regional and subregional organizations and secretariats of integration movements in analysis of trade liberalization schemes, establishment of common external tariffs, reform of customs practices, customs computerization (Automatic System for Customs Data), fiscal harmonization, financial and monetary co-operation, industrial co-operation and counter-trade.

50. Special assistance to LDCs was aimed at strengthening their external sector by an expansion of visible and invisible export earnings, minimizing the procurement costs of imports and promoting import substitution and improving the system of formulation and management of price policy as well as the structure of distribution. Assistance was also provided to landlocked countries both collectively and individually with regard to the main bottlenecks that hinder

transport and communications in an effort to reduce the real cost of access to the sea and to world markets. This assistance included the simplification and harmonization of trade formalities and procedures and the standardization of trade documentation.

51. In the area of maritime transport, the programme on training development in the field of maritime transport (TRAINMAR) continued to expand, and direct assistance was provided to shipping companies, port authorities and shippers' organizations in several developing countries. Multilateral transport was a new area added.

52. Another group of projects aimed at strengthening the technological capacity of developing countries through the formulation of appropriate policies, laws and regulations, the preparation of technology plans and the creation of appropriate institutional infrastructure. Support was also given to the development of trade and economic co-operation between developing countries and socialist countries of Eastern Europe through the preparation and dissemination of practical information on the trading systems and procedures prevailing in the latter group of countries. In the area of insurance and reinsurance, assistance was provided to a number of regional and subregional institutions as well as to several countries.

53. With limited regular programme resources, UNCTAD, in 1986, continued to provide interregional advisory services in support of ECDC, namely for short-term assistance to economic integration movements, trade expansion programmes, techniques of trade liberalization, monetary and payment arrangements and investment programmes. Limited sectoral support was also provided in maritime transport and trade policy under UNDP funding.

XII. UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

54. UNEP carried out technical co-operation activities during 1986 financed by the Environment Fund, counterpart contributions and trust funds. The Programme also provided technical advice to donor-executed projects.

55. Technical co-operation continued in 1986 between the UNEP international environmental information system (INFOTERRA) and Governments through the 127 national focal points. Accomplishments included compilation of a resource book on wastes and their treatment, and provision of training courses for new national focal points through eight national seminars in Kenya, Latin America and the Caribbean. The system responded to over 10,000 queries during the year. Co-operation continued with the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development on the elaboration of the concept of a global information network for scientific and technological information for development.

56. Technical co-operation activities implemented during 1986 under projects financed by UNEP and co-operating institutions included Global Environmental Monitoring System (GEMS) monitoring projects. UNEP continued to assist more than 120 States participating in the regional seas programme. A large part of this assistance was provided as technical co-operation with about 400 national

institutions participating in the programme, which was financed by the UNEP Environment Fund (\$2.3 million) and several trust funds managed by UNEP (\$4.6 million). The Programme also participated in the UNEP/ECLAC horizontal co-operation project.

57. Technical co-operation executed with counterpart contributions or trust funds were primarily clearing-house projects. These included the preparation of a long-term programme on environmental management of the Andean Region of Ecuador with financial support from Sweden; the continuation of a pilot project on integrated environmental management of the Andean Ecosystem in Peru financed by the Federal Republic of Germany; preparation of pilot projects on environmental management of villages and livestock rearing zones in Uganda and Sudan with support from Norway; and finalization of an environment code for Togo, with support from the Federal Republic of Germany. Short-term consultancies were provided to Guyana, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and ASEAN.

58. There were also a number of technical co-operation projects identified by UNEP but financed and executed under the responsibility of the donor with UNEP providing technical advice. The Netherlands financed the organization of national information systems on chemicals in 5 additional developing countries, increasing total participation in this training programme to 10. The global information exchange network on hazardous chemicals expanded to 107 developed and developing countries and a data base on environment and development was established in Botswana. Both were financed by the Netherlands. Preparation of a national conservation strategy was also carried out in Botswana, financed by Norway.

59. The WMO/UNEP background air pollution monitoring network (BAPMON) continued its activities, as did various projects and activities on renewable natural resources in co-operation with FAO, UNESCO and other organizations. Also as part of GEMS, UNEP has established the Global Resource Information Database (GRID) which uses a geographical information system to focus various levels of natural resource data on common problems. GRID attempts to bridge the gap between environmental inventory and monitoring and application of such data to practical resource development and management. So far, two of the GRID processing units are operational: the GRID control in Nairobi and the GRID processor in Geneva. A two-year pilot phase is currently under way involving some 10 developing countries which will demonstrate the usefulness and applicability of GRID technology for practical natural resource management.

