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PROJECT RESULTS: GLOBAL AND INTERREGIONAL PROGRAMME
AND SPECIAL FUNDS

I. GLOBAL AND INTERREGIONAL PROGRAMME RESULTS: SOME EXAMPLES

1. The Division for Global and Interregional Programmes (DGIP) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) supports international co-operation in basic and applied research and its dissemination, particularly in the areas of food crops and health.

A. Agriculture

2. Most DGIP resources are invested in agricultural research carried out at centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) in Nairobi, Kenya and the International Fertilizer Development Centre (IFDC) in Mussel Shoals, Alabama. Emphasis is placed on improving varieties of food crops such as maize, rice, sorghum and millet by combining higher yields with resistance to insects, disease and environmental stress. The programme has created successful networks in several developing countries to test and adapt new varieties of these crops under different agro-ecological conditions.

3. The International Rice Testing Programme (IRTP) initiated by DGIP in 1975 at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in the Philippines has now become an indispensable vehicle of technical co-operation among 70 countries. Nearly 800 rice scientists from developing countries are linked to this network. In 1988, 1,215 sets of 25 types of rice strains were distributed to 46 countries. From tests conducted in different countries, 33 improved varieties performed well under varying conditions. A total of 130 trainees from 17 countries were trained at IRRI.
4. DGIP work with IFDC continued to strengthen efforts to increase crop output through efficient use of fertilizers. Over 400 persons from 63 countries participated in training courses. A workshop on fertilizer sector development for delegates from 18 Arab states examined production and use and recommended methods for intercountry co-operation. Financing to establish an African Fertilizer Centre in Lome, Togo should contribute to addressing fertilizer use in African countries.

5. Research to control animal and plant diseases and pests includes that of the International Laboratory for Research on Animal Diseases (ILRAD) in Kenya. There, progress in developing immunological controls for trypanosomiasis (parasitic infection of the blood) is being made by breeding disease resistant animals. ICIPE further expanded its research on economical, environmentally sound and biologically based pest control strategies for subsistence farmers. It also pioneered the development of a new cost-effective technique for controlling the tsetse fly.

6. Many believe that the future development of sustainable agricultural systems should include a reduction in the use of synthetic chemical pesticides. A distinguished scientific panel of environmentalists and agronomists was assembled in Cairo to consider the possibility of developing alternative methods to control desert locusts. The panel's recommendations for a long-term research and development programme were endorsed at the meeting which was organized by DGIP and the Regional Bureau for the Arab States and European Programmes (RBASEP) and the Regional Bureau for Africa (RBA).

7. The $11 million UNDP contribution under the global programme to agricultural research centres was combined with nearly $250 million in support provided by other donors. Linking the global agricultural programme more closely with UNDP country and regional programmes would also give them a boost by strengthening national capabilities.

B. Water and sanitation, health, AIDS

8. UNDP and partner United Nations agencies are applying innovative strategies to provide clean drinking water and adequate sanitation to the developing world through the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD). Five new intercountry projects for low-income communities were allocated $10.8 million in 1988 bringing total UNDP support for this sector to $370 million since the Decade was launched in 1980.

9. In 1988, together with other multilateral as well as bilateral and non-governmental organizations UNDP established a collaborative council for the purpose of expanding external support to water supply and sanitation programmes in developing countries. The strategies adopted by the council represent a major commitment by the international community to reach hundreds of millions of low-income people in need of clean water and basic sanitation in the 1990s.

10. The UNDP programme Promotion of the Role of Women in Water and Environmental Sanitation Services (PROWESS) demonstrates how maximizing community involvement, and in particular women's participation, helps to ensure effective utilization of...
water and sanitation services. Almost 700 communities in 13 countries have participated in PROWWESS. Preparations are being made to extend the programme to seven more countries and an office was opened in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, to encourage closer co-operation with other African organizations. Emphasis is now being placed on upgrading publications and other outreach activities. A series of case studies and training manuals entitled "Lessons, Strategies, Tools" was launched. Additional funding for the programme in 1988 was granted by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

11. DGIP continues to support tropical diseases research and diarrhoeal diseases control. Together, these programmes represent a $40 million a year effort by the donor community. New initiatives include basic and applied vaccinology, designed to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of immunization programmes, related treatments such as the administration of vitamin A, and the control of acute respiratory infections. Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction and the Safe Motherhood Operational Research Programme are directed towards preventing and reducing maternal mortality and morbidity.

12. In March 1988, UNDP and the World Health Organization (WHO) formed an "Alliance to Combat AIDS." It joins UNDP expertise in socio-economic development with WHO international leadership in health policy and science. Under the Alliance, UNDP Resident Representatives are charged with seeing that assistance for AIDS from all United Nations organizations is co-ordinated within the framework of national AIDS plans. WHO assists Governments in formulating, implementing and monitoring national AIDS plans. UNDP also helps mobilize external funds.

13. DGIP and WHO also play leading roles in the "Global Blood Safety Initiative", launched in 1988. This programme is designed to make blood supplies safe throughout the world in order to stem the spread of AIDS and other diseases. A consortium of organizations has been established that includes UNDP, WHO, the Red Crescent and Red Cross societies, the International Society of Blood Transfusion and other external support agencies. They will work with Governments to see that blood supply systems are adequate and that safe blood banks and transfusion centres are in place in every country.

C. Fisheries

14. DGIP-funded information networks are improving the access of developing countries to fisheries and aquaculture technologies. In one project, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) maintains a global register of vessels that carry out marine biological research, exploratory fishing, stock assessment surveys and crew training. These vessels, of which there are about 1,000 in the world, are prohibitively expensive for some national fisheries services. The register permits rentals for short periods with specific objectives. Another listing includes institutions, companies and experts specializing in fishing and aquaculture technologies with regional links which facilitate Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (TCDC).
15. The year 1988 represented a milestone for the UNDP and World Bank Energy Sector Management Assistance Programme (ESMAP). In just five years, ESMAP has evolved into the leading global technical assistance facility in the energy sector. Support is provided by UNDP and a large group of donors for activities in well over half of the countries of the developing world. Unlike more traditional energy work in such fields as oil and gas exploration and rural electrification, ESMAP focuses on energy efficiency and conservation in existing facilities as well as household energy strategies. Access to reliable supplies of energy at a reasonable cost is a life-and-death issue for many households in low- and medium-income developing countries.

16. ESMAP is co-operating more closely with other United Nations agencies in biomass utilization and management - notably fuelwood - and in energy efficiency and conservation. ESMAP has also initiated a review of the extent to which women's issues are being addressed in its household energy strategy. An evaluation of ESMAP was undertaken by the Governments of Canada and the Netherlands in 1988 on behalf of all ESMAP donors.

E. Trade

17. The UNDP and World Bank Trade Expansion Programme (TEP) was established in 1987 to help countries deal with the many economic and related issues which arise during the implementation of trade reform measures. An innovative feature of TEP is its emphasis on finding ways to minimize the adjustment costs associated with trade policy reform, in particular the redeployment of displaced workers in affected industries.

18. In 1988, a study on trade reform in Poland was successfully completed. The report took as its starting point the Government's concern over the magnitude of its debt and its commitment to implement reforms such as decentralizing economic controls, streamlining administrative procedures and liberalizing market-based mechanisms. The trade expansion aspects of the reform programme were thoroughly examined. The report outlined short-, medium-, and longer-term measures designed to stimulate exports and encourage more efficient import substitution. It noted that the allocation of foreign exchange would need to be liberalized, particularly with respect to the ability of exporters to retain their foreign exchange earnings.

19. In Guatemala, an assessment was made of the effects on Guatemalan employment as well as on its exports and imports that could result from the planned reduction in external tariffs by the Central American Common Market. A study of the effects of trade liberalization on Government revenue and on the economy of Mali was also undertaken.

20. An interregional project, executed by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), was initiated in 1988 to assist developing countries participate more effectively in the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations. The UNDP regional programmes are also providing support. The
accession to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) of a large number of developing countries in recent years means they have a greater stake in the outcome of the negotiations. Issues such as trade in agriculture, services and intellectual property have never before been negotiated in a multilateral setting. They are of vital concern to developing countries. The Uruguay Round will also address the issue of non-tariff barriers which limit the prospect for an increase in exports from developing to developed countries.

F. Environment

21. In 1988, a study was launched to review options for the financing of conservation projects in developing countries. The study is being carried out by the World Resources Institute on behalf of UNDP and a consortium of bilateral donors and private foundations. Its starting point is the Brundtland Commission recommendation that in order to enhance the resource base for development, serious consideration should be given to the development of a special international banking programme or facility. The study, already well advanced, is being guided by a distinguished international advisory panel which includes individuals with extensive experience in commercial banking. The second phase of the study will include regional workshops and the development of an action plan to be considered at an international symposium in the fall of 1989. This study provides an unparalleled opportunity to bring together UNDP, the World Bank, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector to systematically address this issue.

G. Education

22. In 1988, UNDP distributed 300,000 school textbooks donated by United States publishers to school systems in 11 developing countries. The programme is the result of a feasibility study undertaken for DGIP which showed that publishers and professional associations in the United States were willing to donate new or slightly used books and journals to non-profit organizations overseas. The need for more materials is being assessed and the establishment of an Educational Materials Donation Programme is foreseen. The project makes extensive use of UNDP field offices and is linked with the world-wide Book Network for International Development in Education.

H. Urban management

23. In order to address issues emerging from the explosive growth of urban areas, UNDP, the World Bank and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) joined forces in a $2.2 million support programme for urban management. The immediate aims are to improve urban policies and practices with better techniques of urban management, particularly at local government levels. These aims will be achieved through applied research and technical co-operation with emphasis on land use and tenure, operation and maintenance of infrastructure and municipal finance.

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II. ASSOCIATED FUNDS

A. United Nations Capital Development Fund

24. The United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) provides capital assistance for small-scale investment projects, primarily in least developed countries (LDC). Projects are designed to bring early and direct benefits to the poor and to achieve cost-effective and sustainable development through maximum utilization of local potential.

25. Pledges for 1988 rose to approximately $36 million while new project commitments approved by the fund from its general resources grew to about $74 million. The increased level of project activities cannot be maintained in the longer run without an increase in contributions. Following are examples of how UNCDF and UNDP programmes complement each other.

26. Recurrent drought combined with population growth in Ethiopia have caused crop failures and food shortages leading to widespread famine in recent years. To improve food production, the Government gives top priority to agriculture and water resources which, in turn, require qualified personnel. UNCDF is supporting the Water Technology Institute at Arba Minch, which offers 17 programmes in the various disciplines of water technology. Support has included equipment for five specialized laboratories as well as equipment and design studies for demonstration irrigation plots.

27. UNDP also provided consultants to help establish and operate the technical training laboratories, workshops and libraries. The Institute now has 450 students and is being equipped to accommodate 4,000. It has its own dairy farm livestock, gardens and orchards. A near-by state farm of 1,000 hectares will be given to the Institute to help make it self-sufficient.

28. In 1981, the Government of Togo, with the assistance of UNDP, set up a plant to manufacture agricultural tools, primarily for cultivation. The increase in demand for equipment and the need to diversify production led the Government to request financial assistance from UNCDF to provide materials to produce more sophisticated equipment such as oil presses and rice and corn mills. UNCDF helped set up a revolving fund for the purchase of raw materials. This complemented UNDP and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) assistance in training plant managers and personnel and in setting up marketing and distribution strategies.

29. In Sierra Leone, UNCDF and UNDP have a joint project to provide safe drinking water to over 60,000 persons in the eastern province. In 1986-1988 UNCDF helped construct 155 wide-diameter wells, 315 latrines and 8 pumped gravity schemes and catchment devices for the collection of water. UNDP strengthened local capability to build and maintain the wells and new equipment. Such progress, plus a continuing need to provide safe drinking water, led the Government to apply successfully for a one-year extension of UNCDF and UNDP assistance.
30. In Samoa, $1.1 million in UNCDF financing contributed to the construction and installation of 3,000 rainwater storage tanks, each with a capacity of 1,000 gallons. UNDP also assisted in the design, construction and installation of tanks which will benefit rural residents on three of Western Samoa's four inhabited islands. A second phase is under consideration.

31. The Government of Somalia gives high priority to developing its fishing industry, which provides employment and exports as well as a relatively cheap supply of high protein food. The potential for fishing on Somalia's north coast was unexploited until 1984 when the World Bank, the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), FAO, UNDP and UNCDF co-ordinated their efforts in designing individual, complementary projects to develop the area.

32. UNCDF with UNDP and FAO assistance is developing artisanal fisheries along the coast near Berbera. A fishing training and community centre was constructed with a workshop and housing for the Centre's senior personnel. A revolving fund was set up to enable the fishermen to purchase boats and engines on credit, with repayments over five to seven years. Repairs, spare parts, and fishing gear are available on short-term credit through a working capital fund.

33. The Centre is already self-supporting through profits from sales in both foreign and domestic markets and charges for repairs. Entrepreneurship has developed rapidly, with the fishermen gaining an estimated 30 per cent return on their investment. These results have led to an expansion of the project to the town of Zeila, where construction of another centre is near completion and training and credit activities will soon begin.

34. Weaving is an age-old tradition in the Lao People's Democratic Republic. Nevertheless, production meets less than 10 per cent of national demand. Since 1983, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), UNDP and UNCDF have contributed to setting up the Lao Women's Pilot Textile Centre as well as creating a network of women who weave yarn into cloth in their homes. The activities carried out in the Centre include opening and carding cotton, spinning and dyeing as well as training in weaving, garment-making and marketing.

35. UNCDF has contributed $1.8 million to construct an extension of the Textile Centre, to procure dyeing and other equipment that will improve the quality of yarn, and to purchase 230 improved looms for selected home weavers. When all the equipment is in place, the Centre is expected to support 500 weavers who will produce over 1 million meters of cloth per year.

36. The material and garments produced at the Centre are now being sold domestically. Once the project becomes fully operational, approximately 15 per cent of the material will be exported. The high quality of the cloth and the flexibility of production techniques will allow for a broad range of exportable products. The foreign exchange earned will be placed in a revolving fund for the purchase of imported chemicals, dyes and spare parts.
B. United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office

37. More than two decades of drought in the arid and semi-arid countries served by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO) have made desertification and related problems more and more acute. This situation is aggravated by precarious economic conditions in this LDC region. Environmental degradation and the consequent loss of productive capacity have become a major concern of the international community as made clear in the Brundtland Report and its emphasis on sustainable development. Thus, UNSO drought-related and desertification control activities assume added importance.

38. The World Plan of Action to Combat Desertification estimates that over 30 million square kilometres of land and 78 million people are threatened by desertification in the region. Of these, 57 million persons live in severely affected areas. Six million hectares of productive land is being lost yearly. Taking this into account, UNSO reassessed its responsibilities and restructured itself. Assistance to Governments in planning and co-ordination, regarded as a prerequisite to effective action, is being given higher priority. Frameworks for national policy, such as the National Plan to Combat Desertification in Somalia and the Multi-Sectoral Plan to Combat Desertification in Mauritania, were developed in 1988. Other initiatives include arrangements to control desertification through the Desertification Control Unit in Tanzania, the Scientific Advisory Council in Kenya, and the National Committee to Combat Desertification in Burkina Faso. These initiatives reinforced UNSO collaboration with United Nations organs, including the specialized agencies and the World Bank, as well as other international organizations active in this endeavour.

39. UNSO is helping Governments to improve the co-ordination of their desertification-control activities through follow-up meetings in the round-table process. UNSO assisted the Government of Mali in the preparations for its second round-table sectoral follow-up meeting with donors to discuss the programme in the context of the National Plan of Action to Combat Desertification.

40. Ecological monitoring is an important tool in planning as well as serving as an early warning system. UNSO and the Government of Senegal, with added funding from DANIDA, are enlarging the activities of the country's Ecological Monitoring Centre. A similar project has been designed for Somalia.

41. New projects and extensions of projects sponsored by UNSO increased by $25 million in 1988, bringing their total value to over $100 million at the end of the year.

42. These programmes range from large-scale integrated land management projects in Niger and Sudan to afforestation and fuelwood plantation projects in Ethiopia and Sudan and sand-dune fixation and alternative energy projects in Somalia and Cape Verde. The results of these and other projects described below have achieved substantial results.

43. In Mauritania, a follow-up to an UNSO-funded project on sand-dune control combined with forestry and pastoral development is being financed by UNDP, UNCDF...
and DANIDA through UNSO. Its goal is to protect 40 sites with a variety of afforestation, and integrated development activities. The four-year project has already provided protection for 550 hectares, planted 3,000 metres of windbreaks and rehabilitated 1,100 hectares of national forests and 707 hectares of pastureland.

44. In the Kordofan region of Sudan, UNSO continues to support restocking of the gumbelt - the geographical zone suitable for the gum arabic tree (Acacia senegal). In addition to controlling desertification, gum trees stabilize and enrich the soil. By the end of 1988, 11.5 million seedlings had been produced and distributed to 11,500 farmers in 270 villages. In all, 15,000 hectares have been restocked. Within five to six years, the trees will produce gum, which is one of Sudan's main exports.

45. In northern Mali, the first phase of the rehabilitation of the Lake Faguibine system was completed in 1988. The objective of the project is to restore the productivity of the Faguibine system of five lakes and catchment areas which were long exploited by local inhabitants for fishing, livestock-raising and flood cultivation. Earthwork activities in 1987-1988 have cleared some channels feeding the system. The channel banks and nearby sand dunes have been planted to provide protection.

46. A pre-feasibility study showed that good management could replenish the Faguibine system, even under the most unfavourable hydraulic conditions in the Niger river. This, in turn, would allow cultivation of more than 15,000 hectares - compared to 2,500 hectares under cultivation in 1987 - yielding 18,000 tonnes of cereals. It is anticipated that completion of the project will permit 56,000 migrant farmers and herdsmen to return to the area and that the living conditions of another 82,000 should dramatically improve.

47. An UNSO afforestation project in Ethiopia seeks to restore the degraded environment and alleviate the chronic shortage of fuelwood. A 2,850 hectare plantation in Debre Birhan has been set up and a management plan and socio-economic study of the region completed. In 1988, 700 hectares of trees were planted and 2.8 million seedlings produced in the nursery. In addition to tree planting, 85 kilometres of roads were constructed to allow access to isolated villages and a grade school was built. Agricultural extension services are also provided for sheep breeding.

48. UNSO assisted the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) with an environmental education project and the Inter-Governmental Authority for Drought and Development (IGADD) with study tours. It also supported COMIDES, an African ministerial level forum on desertification. UNSO prepared guidelines to help the Organization of African Unity (OAU) operate its drought fund and financed a feasibility study for a non-governmental organization (NGO) information network in the Sudan and Ethiopia.
C. United Nations Volunteers

49. The world-wide United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme reached record levels in 1988. The number of established posts increased to 2,145 and the number of serving Volunteers to over 1,900. United Nations Volunteers worked in 94 developing countries with priority given to 41 LDC, which, at year's end, had 976 Volunteers who represented 63 per cent of the total serving Volunteers in 1988.

50. Africa absorbed just over 50 per cent of the Volunteers with 772 persons assigned to 42 countries. Botswana hosted 73 Volunteers, the largest contingent, with most serving in education, agriculture and primary health care. Forty-one volunteer teachers assigned to 16 towns and villages throughout the country taught maths, agricultural science, woodwork, technical drawing and home economics. In the agricultural sector, a UNV team helped improve crop production along with land and labour productivity.

51. In Rwanda, six UNV specialists assigned to a FAO-executed project shared their knowledge of erosion control, soil conservation, seeds management and marketing with farmers. Their help contributed to a three-fold increase in local grain production within two years.

52. In the United Republic of Tanzania, a team of eight United Nations Volunteers helped the Department of Customs, Sales and Income Tax streamline procedures in custom valuation, import inspection, audit planning and research. Their efforts contributed to higher revenue inflows. These Volunteers also trained 214 officials in the methods they had introduced to improve revenue administration.

53. Twenty-eight Asian and Pacific countries received the services of 527 United Nations Volunteers. Bhutan, Laos, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Cook Islands and Fiji were among the major beneficiaries. Hong Kong received its first Volunteer, who is helping develop programmes to meet the social welfare needs of refugees and asylum seekers.

54. Another first was the assignment of a volunteer computer specialist to Mongolia. Working within a UNIDO-executed project, he helped to strengthen the technical information base of a Government department by introducing automated methods of data-processing and computer applications for feasibility analysis and reporting. The Volunteer trained 12 nationals in programming languages. The successful completion of the assignment prompted the Government to request another United Nations Volunteer. A biogas technology specialist will be assigned to Mongolia in 1989.

55. In Nepal, three UNV irrigation engineers, working within an ILO-executed public works scheme, helped the Development Ministry prepare and implement several hill-terrace irrigation programmes in the western part of the country. The Volunteers also trained local farmers.

56. In Sri Lanka, a UNV silkworm-rearing and farm management specialist surveyed sericulture practices and introduced improved techniques of silkworm rearing and
mulberry plantation management. His work contributed to a significant increase in cocoon and mulberry leaf production.

57. A UNV industrial economist assigned to Vanuatu drafted an industrial investment strategy for the Government. The Volunteer also conducted numerous courses for local entrepreneurs and small industries.

58. There were 146 United Nations Volunteers working in 13 Arab countries in 1988. The Yemen, Somalia, the Sudan and Oman absorbed 107 of these. In the Yemen, three women Volunteers serving within a FAO-executed project provided women's groups with information, skills and technology on family nutrition, health and child care. Two volunteer engineers helped build a water distribution system for a rural population of 50,000.

59. Latin America and the Caribbean hosted 99 Volunteers, 30 of whom provided medical services in Jamaica. In Haiti, an LDC, two United Nations Volunteers introduced improved food production techniques while another trained local fishermen in fish preservation.

D. United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration

60. The United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration (UNRFNRE) had another successful year in both the solid mineral and geothermal energy sectors. The Fund is also active in investment follow-up assistance to Governments where the Fund has made discoveries. Fund projects continue to complement the work in mineral resource exploration undertaken by UNDP using IPF funds.

61. In Peru, the Fund discovered a gold deposit in 1987 with a potential value of $440 million. In 1988, the Fund made further discoveries in two adjacent areas with an estimated value of $300 million. Mining operations are anticipated to begin in the second half of 1989. The Fund is ready to assist the Government in further development of these deposits.

62. In Honduras, a gold and silver bearing vein was identified in Yuscaran. Exploration is now being carried out to gather information to present to potential investors. The second phase work is being financed by the Government of Italy.

63. In Argentina, additional exploration of gold and silver deposits discovered by the Fund should be completed in 1989. The Fund is assisting the Government in seeking investment follow-up in hopes of soon starting production. In Ecuador, a Fund-discovered silver deposit is being further developed by a Canadian firm.

64. In Ghana, Fund reconnaissance for gold led to drilling operations in several promising areas. The work is supported by a $450,000 contribution through a management services agreement with the Swedish Agency for International Technical and Economic Co-operation.
65. In Haiti, the Fund submitted a final report on its discovery of a potential $100 million gold discovery. Private investment is being sought for exploitation.

66. The Fund’s chromite exploration project on Dinagat and Palawan islands in the Philippines began field operations in 1988. An agreement to explore for prophyllite in Fujian Province, China, was signed in November 1988. Work should begin in early 1989.

67. In Congo, bulk sampling for an offshore phosphate feasibility study was completed in 1988. The sampling precedes tests which will help determine the potential value of phosphate and shell deposits for use as fertilizers and soil conditioners. The project has financial assistance from the Government of France with sampling and testing carried out by the Bureau de recherches géologiques et minières.

68. The Fund scored a major breakthrough in 1988 with the discovery of a geothermal well that has the potential to supply the island of St. Lucia in the Caribbean with one-third of its energy requirements. This well could produce five to six megawatts of electric power which would reduce the dependency of this island country on oil imports to produce electricity. The Fund is working with the Government to find financing to develop additional wells.

69. Another Fund geothermal project, near Guadalajara, Mexico, became fully operational with the signing of a drilling agreement with the Mexican Comisión Federal de Electricidad. Drilling is scheduled to begin in early 1989. If the results are promising, three additional wells will be drilled. Supervision and management of the project is due to be financed by the Government of Italy.

70. The Fund is developing a large number of mineral exploration projects in Central America and southern Africa. In Central America it is seeking co-financing on the basis of a number of project evaluations it has completed. Pre-project evaluations have been undertaken in each of the nine member countries of the Southern Africa Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC). Recommendations for a gold and base metal project in Tanzania have been accepted by the Government and negotiations for a project agreement are under way. Other projects in the region are being developed. Financial support for these endeavours is being sought from Japan, Italy and the Nordic countries.

71. Geothermal evaluation missions were carried out in Djibouti, Nicaragua, China and the Philippines. After further evaluation at headquarters, project recommendations will be prepared for those considered likely to succeed. The Fund is encouraged by the interest of the Government of Italy in the geothermal programme and hopes for a substantial contribution in 1989.

72. Consistent with its mandate, the Fund executes its own projects. This involves use of a considerable number and variety of contractors from the private sector and includes drilling companies, laboratories, geochemical and geophysical analysis companies and consulting firms specializing in management services. The Fund emphasizes the use of local and regional companies wherever possible.
73. The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) promotes the involvement of women in development in over 100 countries. It has two priorities. First, it is a catalyst to promote the involvement of women in mainstream development at the pre-investment stage. Second, it supports innovative and experimental activities benefiting women.

74. A 1988 survey showed that over the past three years UNIFEM projects had nearly doubled the value of its own investment by attracting additional funding from other sources. The Consultative Committee on the Fund recommended for approval $8.5 million in new commitments for projects and programmes, inclusive of programme support costs, for 1988. This represented an increase of 67 per cent over the 1987 commitments.

75. In Togo, UNIFEM assisted in planning a workshop on developing national institutional capabilities in programming for women. The workshop was attended by staff from Government ministries and women's groups from 17 countries in west and central Africa. UNDP offices in a number of these countries helped to finance the participation of some delegates.

76. UNIFEM funded the production of a resource kit for women by the Asian-Pacific Development Centre. The kit contains six booklets on such subjects as health, work and law which can serve as references for legislators and development planners.

77. In Argentina, at the invitation of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), UNIFEM participated in a pre-negotiation mission to ensure the integration of women into a programme of credit and technical support for small farmers in the northeast. UNIFEM provided technical assistance to an agricultural secretariat and 4,800 farm families are to gain access to credit facilities.

78. To encourage innovative and experimental activities, UNIFEM funded instruction in the use of small grain dehulling machines for women in Zimbabwe. These women now save up to 10 hours a week which can be used to generate more income. In Bolivia, UNIFEM has helped 3,000 peasant women to market milk and crops. They have achieved recognition as part of the country's milk production system and their families are better nourished.

79. UNIFEM, OXFAM and the Institute of Social Studies Trust have set up a resource centre in India to encourage women to develop small businesses and to increase their resources. The centre facilitates access to raw materials and teaches marketing.

80. In Morocco, the Union of Moroccan Women is developing a women's co-operative to produce bee-keeping equipment. This activity is an outgrowth of a successful UNIFEM project for bee-keeping co-operatives that was executed by the Union. UNIFEM proposes to finance the establishment of three bee-keeping equipment production centres capable of producing 10,000 beehives a year, along with the necessary honeycombs and protective equipment. This project is linked to a UNDP regional project to promote national technical expertise in apiculture.
F. United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development

81. The United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development (UNFSTD) is responding to a growing demand for its services. With developing countries seeking new methods to bridge the gap between research laboratories and small businesses, UNFSTD has responded with a programme to stimulate technological innovation and entrepreneurship through "business incubators".

82. Technology business incubators are usually established by local Governments or research universities. They provide four basic elements in support of new technological ventures: affordable space for start-up, shared office services, assistance in management and marketing and access to seed capital. The incubators set entry and exit requirements for participation by new businesses. Critical to their success is the involvement of the community in which the incubator is sited.

83. In 1987, the State Science and Technology Commission of China invited UNFSTD to review government policies, the entrepreneurial climate and the use of scientific research needed to establish technology business incubator centres. UNFSTD launched a feasibility study in 1988 in collaboration with the National Research Centre for Science and Technology and Ernst and Whinney (Hong Kong), a management consultant firm. The study resulted in the establishment of the Wuhan East Lake New Technology Innovation Centre. The Commission now plans to establish 50 such centres in the next three years in the coastal areas and major inland cities.

84. As part of the UNFSTD-sponsored programme, a National Research Centre team made a study tour of Europe incubators in 1988. A training programme for potential incubator managers will be held in 1989 and the third Beijing international conference on technological innovation and entrepreneurship development will be held in Beijing in September 1989.

85. Similar exercises are under way in Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guyana, Nigeria, Trinidad and Tobago and Zimbabwe. Training programmes will prepare potential incubator managers and prospective entrepreneurs to staff the new incubators. UNFSTD has also received requests from India, the Philippines, Thailand and Turkey to examine the viability of the incubator approach.

86. During 1988, UNFSTD supported science and technology strategies in Ethiopia, Jordan and Cyprus. One project helped to develop a master plan to reorient the economy of Cyprus towards modern technology. The goal was to better use the island's highly educated population and slow the brain drain, which has increased as a result of the closer association of Cyprus with the European Community.

87. UNFSTD examined the likely demand on UNDP for technical assistance in New and Emerging Technologies. It recommended that Programme Advisory Notes (PANs) be developed to guide the initial appraisal of projects by field staff. Biotechnology is generating interest in all regions and was the subject of the first PAN. Other PANs will deal with informatics, renewable energy and new materials.
88. In China, the UNFSTD-supported National Food Technology and Quality Control Centre was officially inaugurated in 1988. Trainees are using their newly installed equipment for research and development on protein derived from soybeans and on improving standards in food quality control and packaging. A second phase of technical assistance will enable the National Centre to become the country's leading institution supporting modernization of the processed food industry.

89. The Technological Information Pilot System (TIPS) is an information exchange on business opportunities and technical products which have reached prototype or pilot stage. Governments, professional organizations, private enterprises, research institutes and investors in nine developing countries participate in the exchange. Other information exchanges pertain to such industries as agriculture, food processing, energy, electronics, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology. Another listing deals with requests for technical assistance, trade opportunities, and global procurement and consultancy tenders by the United Nations system. In its first year, over 3,000 such items of information generated over 1,000 responses. The goal of TIPS is to become self-funding through paid subscriptions and national contributions by the end of 1990.

90. UNFSTD also manages three other programmes. The Energy Account provides an information exchange on energy resources and technologies. The Short-term Advisory Service (STAS) provides highly specialized advisors from the private and parastatal sectors of developed and developing countries to solve problems and provide technical advice to firms in the productive, commercial and service sectors of developing countries. The Transfer of Knowledge through Expatriate Nationals (TOKTEN) maintains a roster of expatriates from developing countries, usually scientists and university researchers, who volunteer on a short-term basis to meet needs in their former homelands. From the inception of TOKTEN in 1977 through the end of 1988, over 2,200 consultancies were completed, of which nearly 450 were carried out in 1988. STAS advisors have completed 129 assignments in 45 countries. Both programmes provide experienced talent at low cost for specific purposes. Only one project was approved through the Energy Account in 1988. Without more donor interest and support, implementation of new projects will be severely handicapped.