

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



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COUNTRY AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

Consideration and approval of country programmes

FIRST COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

UNDP assistance requested by the Government of Turks and Caicos Islands for the period 1982-1986

Illustrative IPF for 1982-1986: \$850 000

INTRODUCTION

Nature of programming process

1. The country programme was prepared by the Financial Adviser in collaboration with the Department Head of each sector of the Administration and with support from the office of the UNDP Resident Representative.

Time frame

2. The country programme covers the third UNDP programming cycle 1982-1986. The technical assistance requirements which emerged during the country programming exercise cover areas similar to those of the second cycle, 1977-1981. Underlying these requests is the need to provide the necessary infrastructure to attract developers and so set the stage for the desired growth.

Note: In accordance with decision 81/15, adopted by the Governing Council on 27 June 1981 (E/1981/61/Rev.1, Annex I), the first country programme for Turks and Caicos Islands is being submitted to the Council without an accompanying note by the Administrator.

The previous UNDP supported activities in the Turks and Caicos Islands were described in the country-programmes of the Caribbean which were issued under the document symbols DP/GC/CAR/R.1-DP/GC/CAR/R.2 and DP/GC/CAR/R.1/RECOMMENDATION-DP/GC/CAR/R.2/RECOMMENDATION, respectively.

Anticipated resources

3. In accordance with standing instructions, only 80 per cent of the illustrative IPF of \$850,000, \$680,000, has been taken into account for programming purposes.

Review of prior UNDP supported activities

4. The available resources under the previous sub-regional programme for the Caribbean were used almost entirely for fellowships designed to help alleviate the shortage of trained indigenous personnel. The 35 fellows trained during this period with UNDP assistance have taken up positions in the health services, public and business administration and in civil aviation.

5. By far the most important feature of the programme was a Civil Aviation project which to date, has accounted for approximately 32 per cent of total resources and has provided the national airlines with pilots and other personnel from within the country.

6. One major deterrent to the full delivery of the programmed fellowships has been the unavailability of a sufficient number of qualified candidates. As a consequence there have been dropouts and outright failures in some courses of study: a waste of scarce resources. It is hoped, however, that by mid-third cycle there will be an improvement in the academic quality of candidates for fellowships. A more solid basis for the technical and academic training of required personnel would thus be laid.

7. The Government's plan to provide potable water to all the islands received a headstart with UNDP assistance in building the access road to the drilling area on Providenciales, the site of rapid tourist development.

8. Given the limited resources and the infrastructural shortcomings, the second cycle activities can be regarded as having contributed significantly to the country's development.

UNDP TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ENVISAGED IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

9. The development objectives of the Turks and Caicos Islands in relation to UNDP assistance during the third cycle are summarized in the following paragraphs.

Training

10. The Turks and Caicos Islands is a services economy. Hence, it is essential to provide the necessary support staff: a cadre of personnel trained in law, accounting, book-keeping, secretarial and allied disciplines. The need to provide such personnel becomes even more vital in view of the Government's plan to establish a tax-haven system using the Cayman Islands as a model. It is also hoped eventually to eliminate the over-dependence on expatriate labour. Care is thus being taken to train islanders for jobs which are, or can be expected to become, available locally. A large percentage of the 1982-1986 IPF is therefore earmarked for training in areas relevant to the country's needs.

Education

11. A desperate need exists to upgrade the secondary school system with a view

to producing graduates capable of fully benefiting from further training. The present situation, insofar as UNDP is concerned, is such that fellowships have to be programmed later in the cycle since qualified candidates are unlikely to be available in the earlier years.

12. Promising students from the islands other than Grand Turk perform far below expectations and capabilities partly as a result of the lack of suitable accommodations for them in Grand Turk. In addition to requests for training, the Government, is thus seeking assistance for the establishment of a hostel in Grand Turk for students from other islands. UNESCO has also been approached for help in this sector. UNDP's support is estimated at \$ 177,000.

Transport and Communication

13. The Government wishes to continue using the services of UNDP/ICAO for the training of airport personnel, as experience has shown this to be the best source for such assistance. With the Providenciales airport scheduled for opening in September 1982, such training has to be given top priority in the early years of the cycle. Additional personnel will need to be trained to meet the expected growth in traffic as services expand.

14. British Government funding is being channeled into reconstructing the Providenciales airport (slated to become the main airport for the islands, capable of handling large jet aircraft) and improving the Grand Turk airport. Funding from this source is not available for South Caicos airport which is the busiest in terms of movements, an important point for planes in transit and the centre from which frozen fish products are air-freighted to Florida.

15. The Government, therefore, wishes to secure through UNDP/ICAO equipment as well as trained personnel for the South Caicos airport. UNDP's contribution will be \$ 85,000.

Agriculture

16. To reduce dependence on imported foodstuffs, and with a view to producing for the hotel market, the Government is requesting technical assistance to explore the possibilities of farming suitable to soil conditions in the country. Some assistance is also needed to train personnel to take over from expatriates the management of the experimental farm at Kew and the extension work in North and Middle Caicos. As agriculture develops, it is intended that, co-operatives be established. Provision is therefore being made for training at least one national in agricultural co-operative management. FAO is being approached for additional assistance. An approach to the Inter-American Institute for Co-operation on Agriculture (IICA) is also being considered. UNDP's input is estimated at \$ 60,000.

Fisheries

17. Fishing is an important economic activity in the Islands. To spur its development, assistance is being sought for training in fisheries management as well as for the provision of a boat for research purposes. Full details and specifications for the boat have not yet been worked out. The Government's input (in kind) will be fuel for the boat and housing and transportation for the researchers. UNDP's contribution will be \$ 30,000.

Health services

18. The Islands' health services continue to suffer from the lack of adequately trained personnel. It is considered too costly to train present staff abroad. Therefore a request is being made to UNDP for support to local training courses in basic psychiatric and pediatric nursing. Other new requests to UNDP will cover training in medicine, midwifery and anaesthetics. It is expected that PAHO will also assist with funding from its Regular Programme.

19. The Government hopes also to obtain some aid towards the setting up of a nurses' hostel to alleviate the severe housing shortage which at present is a major hindrance to recruiting and maintaining staff. In addition UNFPA is being asked for \$ 87,700 to cover the cost of a comprehensive Maternal/Child Health/Family Planning Programme during 1982 and 1983. UNDP's inputs is expected to be about \$ 267,000.

Water resources

20. The Government attaches great importance to the need to provide potable water for all islands and to bring per capita water consumption within the range considered adequate by international standards. UNDP assistance is being sought to implement the recommendations contained in a recent PAHO study of water resources. The Government is, however, awaiting the final report of this study before making any specific proposal. It is also expected that assistance will be available through the UNDP-supported regional Groundwater Development project.

Public works

21. In order to reduce and eventually eliminate, expenditure for expatriate mechanical skill, the Government wishes to train as early as possible, two auto electricians, at least one office equipment technician and one outboard motor mechanic. Training under this sector will comprise full-course fellowships in these skills as well as on-the-job training in power plant operation and maintenance. UNDP's contribution is estimated to be about \$ 61,000.

Assistance from sources other than UNDP

22. There is great dependence on external donors for capital development since the Islands' recurrent budget is presently financed by annual grants-in-aid from the British Government and leaves no surplus for development purposes. The assistance obtained from the United Nations system is therefore of great importance. Support from sources other than UNDP is expected from UNESCO in education, FAO in agriculture and fisheries, PAHO in health sciences and UNFPA in maternal and child health programmes. Except in the case of UNFPA the extent of the assistance is not yet known.

Annex
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

| | | | | |
|----|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| A. | <u>Resources</u> | \$ | | |
| | (a) IPF and other resources | | | |
| | (i) Illustrative IPF for programme period | 850 000 | | |
| | (ii) Carry-over from previous IPF cycles | - | | |
| | (iii) Other resources | - | | |
| | (b) Provision for adequate programming | - | | |
| | TOTAL | 850 000 | | |
| B. | <u>Use of resources</u> | | | |
| | (a) Programmed | | | |
| | (i) Ongoing projects | 49 000 | | |
| | (ii) New projects and new phases included in the country programme | 631 000 | | |
| | (iii) Earmarked for specific objectives and activities for which projects are to be worked out (continuous programming at a later stage) | - | | |
| | Subtotal | 680 000 | | |
| | (b) Reserve | - | | |
| | (c) Unprogrammed balance ^{a/} | 170 000 | | |
| | TOTAL | 850 000 | | |
| C. | <u>Financial distribution of programme, by sector</u> | | | |
| | <u>Sector</u> ^{b/} | <u>Ongoing projects</u> | <u>New projects</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
| | | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| 04 | Agriculture and Fisheries | - | 90 000 | 90 000 |
| 06 | Transport and Communication | 39 830 | 45 170 | 85 000 |
| 10 | Health | - | 267 000 | 267 000 |
| 11 | Education | 9 170 | 167 830 | 177 000 |
| 12 | Employment | - | 61 000 | 61 000 |
| | TOTAL | 49 000 | 631 000 | 680 000 |

^{a/} Representing 20 per cent of the illustrative IPF which has not been taken into account for programming in accordance with the Administrator's instructions contained in UNDP/PROG/FIELD/111; UNDP/PROG/HQTRS/126.

^{b/} According to ACC classification.

