

W.Strengthening regional knowledge networks to promote the effective implementation of the United Nations Development Agenda and to assess progress

Department of Economic and Social Affairs, jointly with the ESCAP, with the ECLAC, the ECA, and the ESCWA(\$526,300)

Background

118. The Annual Ministerial Review launched in 2007 by the Economic and Social Council has proven to be a success, as demonstrated by the increasing number of countries volunteering for review. The General Assembly in its resolution 61/16 requested the Council to urge the United Nations regional commissions, in collaboration with other regional and subregional organizations and processes, as appropriate, to contribute, within their mandates, to the reviews of progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields and to provide input to the discussions of the Council in accordance with its rules and procedure. Since 2007, the regional commissions have been collaborating with the DESA to organize regional consultations in preparation of the Annual Ministerial Review. Starting in 2008, in order to help Member States best engage with the Council, the DESA has organized workshops and developed a website to enable countries to exchange information on effective practices at the national level. While national workshops have enabled countries to strengthen preparations for national reviews, it is necessary to examine progress and enable Member States to share lessons learned and exchange information among each other at the regional level.
119. The project will address this need by supporting the establishment of regional knowledge networks, developing capacity through a portal for Member States and establishing stronger links among countries at the regional level, including National Voluntary Presentation countries. The proposed project will build on the efforts to integrate the development agenda into national strategies and to build the capacity to assess national progress towards the internationally agreed development goals. Jointly with the regional commissions, it will augment the knowledge, expertise and lessons learned so far at the regional level in the review and assessment of national development strategies. The project will build on existing regional networks and projects, such as the ECA peer learning review/knowledge network on national development strategies. Moreover, this project will contribute towards the preparation of national voluntary presentations and the continued engagement of Member States with the Economic and Social Council. In particular, it will enable a mutual review of policies and projects facilitating scaling-up and possible regional collaboration. The project will tap into the expertise of national experts who have already been engaged in National Voluntary Presentations and use the website “Development Strategies that Work”, developed under the sixth tranche of the Development Account.

<p>Objective of the Organization: To strengthen national and regional expertise for the review and assessment of effective national development strategies, and support the sharing of such expertise and assessments at the regional and global levels, including the preparation of national voluntary presentations and engagement with the Economic and Social Council.</p>	<p>Summary budget (Thousands of United States dollars)</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Consultants</td> <td>81.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Travel</td> <td>55.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contractual services</td> <td>43.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating expenses</td> <td>4.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Workshops</td> <td><u>342.0</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>526.3</td> </tr> </table>	Consultants	81.0	Travel	55.0	Contractual services	43.5	Operating expenses	4.8	Workshops	<u>342.0</u>	Total	526.3
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<p>Relationship to the strategic framework for the period 2010-2011 and the Millennium Development Goals: DESAsubprogrammes 1 (Economic and Social Council support and coordination), 3 (Social policy and development), 7 (Development policy and analysis), 8 (Public administration and development management) and 10 (Financing for development); ECA subprogrammes 1 (Trade, finance and economic development), 4 (Information and science and technology for development), 7 (Subregional activities for development), 8 (Development planning and administration), 9 (Statistics) and 10 (Social development); ESCAP subprogramme 1 (Macroeconomic policy and inclusive development), 2 (Trade and investment), 3 (Transport), 4 (Environment and development), 5 (Information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction), 6 (Social development), 7 (Statistics) and 8 (Subregional activities for development); ECLAC subprogrammes 1 (Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation), 2 (Production and innovation), 3 (Macroeconomic policies and growth), 4 (Social development and equity), 7 (Planning of public administration), 8 (Sustainable development and human settlements), 11 (Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America) and 12 (Subregional activities in the Caribbean); ESCWA subprogrammes 1 (Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development), 2 (Integrated social policies), 3 (Economic development and integration), 4 (Information and communication technology for regional integration), 5 (Statistics for evidence-based policymaking), 6 (Advancement of women), and 7 (Conflict mitigation and development); Millennium Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8.</p>													

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Establishment of regional knowledge networks to share regional expertise in the review and assessment of national development strategies and in the preparation of national voluntary presentations	(a) Increased number of regional and national experts participating in regional knowledge networks for the review and assessment of national development strategies and the preparation of national voluntary presentations
(b) Building national and regional capacity on policies that work	<p>(b) (i) Increased number of effective policies identified and posted on the portal through the review and assessment of national development strategies</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of national and regional experts trained in identified effective policies</p>

Main activities

120. The main activities of the project will include:

- (a) In collaboration with relevant United Nations country team entities at the national level, identifying regional and national experts to promote the sharing of knowledge and lessons learned at the national and regional levels for the review and assessment of national development strategies and national voluntary presentations;
- (b) Developing regional knowledge networks for exchanging experiences on effective policies for national and regional experts and stakeholders responsible for the review and assessment of national development strategies and the preparation of national voluntary presentations. The regional knowledge networks will be maintained by the respective regional commissions;
- (c) Developing an online portal that will post consolidated and synthesized experiences and expertise shared through the regional knowledge networks in the four regions, including identified effective policies. The portal will be available on the “Development Strategies that Work” website maintained by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, where materials would be available not only to the Economic and Social Council, but also to Member States, regional stakeholders, national administrations, local governments and civil society organizations;
- (d) Organizing regional workshops with national and regional experts to exchange knowledge and lessons learned with government representatives/officials responsible for the review and assessment of national development strategies and the preparation of national voluntary presentations.

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Implementing entities: DESA with ECLAC, ESCAP, ECA and ESCWA		Duration: 2010 – 2013
Objective: To strengthen national and regional expertise for the review and assessment of effective national development strategies, and support the sharing of such expertise and assessments at the regional and global levels, including for the preparation of national voluntary presentations and engagement with ECOSOC.		
Summary budget <i>thousands of US dollars</i>	Detailed budget (US dollars)	
Consultants 81.0	Consultants	81 000
Travel 55.0	<u>Regional consultants</u>	
Contractual services 43.5	Regional consultants for preparing training materials, holding workshops (in support of activities (a), (b), (c), (d)) (6 consultants) x (3 work months x \$3,000 per month) and (\$3,000 each for consultant's travel) (\$72,000)	
Operating expenses 4.8	<u>Evaluation</u>	
Workshops <u>342.0</u>	evaluation will be conducted by an external evaluator in addition to a final self-evaluation of the project conducted jointly by DESA and the 4 regional commissions (\$9,000)	
Total 526.3	Travel of staff	55 000
	6 missions by DESA staff to participate and support in organizing and coordinating the workshops organized by the Regional Commissions and acting as additional resource persons (in support of activity (d)) (\$5,500 per person x 2 person x 4 missions) and (\$5,500 per person x 1 person x 2 missions)	
	Contractual Services	18 500
	Contractual Services in support of all activities (\$18,500)	
	Operating expenses	4 800
	Communication and supplies (In support of activity (d)).	
	Contractual services	25 000
	Translation and website support: Translation and website support will be used for the development of an online training module (in support of activity (b)) on policies that worked at the national and regional levels for national and regional stakeholders. The training module will be hosted and available on the ECOSOC website (5 work months x \$5,000 per month)= \$25,000	
	Workshops	342 000
	6 workshops will be organized by the 4 Regional Commissions (2 by ECA, 2 by ESCAP, 1 by	

	ECLAC, and 1 by ESCWA) (in support of activity (d)) (\$3,000 per participant x 20 participants x 5 workshops) and (\$3,000 per participant x 14 participants x 1 workshop)	
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