



26 March 2012

To: Ms. Rebeca Grynspan
Associate Administrator

Through: Judith Karl, Director
Operations Support Group

From: John Magoha, Programme Assistant
Operations Support Group

Cleared: Abdul Hannan
Policy Adviser, OSG

Subject: Extension of DEX Authorization for Regional Project "Support to Spain-UNDP Trust Fund" ID 00046620

Bureau: Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean

BASIC INFORMATION	
Dates of authorization	1 April 2012 – 31 December 2013
Brief Description	Since March 2007 the project under the Spain-UNDP Trust Fund has been geared towards complementing regional efforts to reduce poverty inequality and enhance democratic governance in the region. The project is a strategic instrument of Spanish cooperation in Latin America and is in line with UNDP's third cooperation framework of the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean.
Budget	\$ 7.9m
JUSTIFICATIONS	
Justification for DEX	This extension will enable the bureau to build upon achievements with additional outcomes derived from the Trust Fund's 2010 evaluation recommendations. According to the evaluation, the project exceeded expectations. DEX Authorization is needed for the bureau to continue providing technical and administrative support to the project, including building capacity of national democratic actors through South-South cooperation. There is neither a regional institution nor other UN agency with the required network and capacity to carry out the project.
DECISION	
Approval recommended	OSG recommends approval of Extension of Direct Execution of the project for the period 1 April 2012 through 31 December 2013.



Interoffice Memorandum

To: Ms. Rebeca Grynspan
Associate Administrator

Date: 23 March 2012

From: Niky Fabiancic
Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Director
Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean

Extension: 5402

Subject: **Request for extension of DEX authorization for
Regional Project "Support to Spain-UNDP Trust Fund,
Towards Integrated and Inclusive Development"**
ATLAS # 00046620- DEX from April 1st, 2012 until
December 31th, 2013

OSG # 988
26 MARCH 2012

Brief Description and Results Achieved until March 2012

The main objectives of the Project "Support to Spain-UNDP Trust Fund, *"Towards Integrated and Inclusive Development"* are to complement efforts in Latin America and the Caribbean to reduce poverty and inequality - in line with the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and to strengthen and consolidate democratic governance in the region.

To achieve these outcomes the project provides direct support to the implementation of projects developed under the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development (AECID) Spain-UNDP Trust Fund "Towards Integrated and Inclusive Development in Latin American and the Caribbean." Such support is granted both administratively and technically. Moreover, this project contributes to the development of regional initiatives resulting from this joint initiative.

Most of the work has revolved around the original thematic areas of poverty and inequality reduction, democratic governance and crisis prevention and recovery. The project has been in execution from March 2007 until the present and has had the following main achievements in 2011:

A. Poverty and inequality reduction and MDGs achievement:

- The **4th Strategic Social Forum** was held on May 22nd and 23rd, 2011 in New York with participation of 37 ministers and officials in charge of social affairs, representing 16 countries throughout Latin America. Carlos Slim inaugurated the Forum, focused on the discussion of social policy innovations to respond to the economic crisis. A publication is being prepared with all the works presented at the Forum.
- The development of an analytical framework and empirical studies for Mexico, Argentina and Chile with the Levy Institute and the launch of the report **"Women, Time and Poverty: Why Women's Lack of Time Must Be Factored into Poverty Measurements and Policies"**.



- The **Network of Universities for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) REDUNIRSE** continued its work on training professors from universities in how to teach these topics and the course work has been incorporated into the universities' permanent curricula. REDUNIRSE ended 2011 with 230 universities formally affiliated to the network and 179 professors trained. This initiative mobilized resources from the private sector (Banco de Santander - Spain) and will no longer be supported by the TF.

C. Strengthening of democratic governance:

- The regional study on **“The State of Citizenship: Transformations, achievements, and challenges for the State in Latin America in the 21st century”** was published and launched. This study-an analysis of the political and social citizenship in Latin America, a follow up to the 2010 Regional Report on Democracy- was presented to the Heads of States meeting on the XXI Iberoamerican Summit in Paraguay in October 2011.
- **New leadership's development**, focused on youth leaders within afrodescendants communities was strengthened in with a regional meeting of 60 youth leaders from 13 countries. We also supported the international meeting “Afro XXI” within the framework of the International Year of Afrodescendant peoples.
- On **Social and Political Dialogue**, the TF supported brokering and convening of national actors in Economic and Social Councils in three LAC countries for inclusive development and participatory public policies (El Salvador, Dominican Republic and Paraguay). The Colombian Government was also assisted to constitute a public management system to define, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Presidential priorities in 2011.
- Baselines for the implementation of a regional alert system on women's political participation were designed jointly with UN Women and IDEA International and **support of women parliamentarians** promoted legislative agendas on gender equality in Costa Rica, Uruguay, Dominican Republic and Chile. A comprehensive information center and online resources (publications and experiences) about Gender equality in the parliaments, governments and the judiciary system in the region was created and improvement on visibility of the importance of integrating gender and intercultural approaches in parliamentary work and the public policies cycle was achieved.
- **PAPEP** contributed to awareness raising and advocacy for democratic governance with the publication of knowledge products on conflict prevention and management, specifically two regional studies: “Los conflictos sociales en América Latina” (Social Conflicts in Latin America) and “Los caminos diferenciados de la democracia en América Latina” (Different Paths to Democracy in Latin America) and national capacities for political and prospective analysis were supported in 4 countries of the region: El Salvador, Peru, Nicaragua and Ecuador.
- In cooperation with the World Bank contributed to awareness raising and advocacy on the strategic issue of **“Media & Politics in Latin America”** combining actors and experts to discussions related to the institutional architecture of the media and access to information for strengthening the democratic governance.
- Contributed to capacity development of **high level diplomats in the LAC region** through a Programme developed in collaboration with the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) and ECLAC. Two trainings were developed on priority issues on development and international cooperation agenda.



- In coordination with RBAS, RBLAC implemented several initiatives in support of Arab countries democratic transitions. Capacities of national actors have been developed through South-South cooperation on electoral support, human rights and transitional justice, economic policies and job creation, social policies and programmes, security sector reform, political participation and political and institutional analysis and constitutional reform processes. Civil society and emerging actors' participation was strengthened, in particular youth and women.
- Ten public institutions in seven countries improved capacities for transparency and accountability through SIGOB (Systems of Governance) support by implementing systems developed for public management that articulate a results-oriented management approach, transparency and citizen participation.
- At the local level, TRAALOG was able to respond to small but strategic initiatives at the sub-national level that could be scaled up through policy support, development and systematization of knowledge products and tools, capacity development and partnerships to promote transparency and accountability initiatives, policies and mechanisms in Colombia, Bolivia, Dominican Republic and Mexico.

C. Crisis Prevention and Recovery:

- In the scope of the regional project for Citizen Security in Central America (developed in alliance with SG SICA), it was achieved a good rate of the implementation of a strategy in order to advance on the prevention and social insertion of minors in social risk and/or in conflict with the law. High level technical advice to the definition of a new regional security strategy in Central America which includes gender based related issues UNDP was provided.
- Preliminary work for the Regional Human Development Report on Citizen (In) Security was developed and partners for specific outputs contacted.

As described above, the project's continued activities are responding to the demands generated in the region and the Trust Fund fully adheres to the framework of the third regional cooperation framework of the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean. Further details are specified in the 2012 and 2013 Work Plans (attached).

Objectives of the Project until December 31st 2013

The project solicits an extension from April 1st 2012 until December 31th 2013. The overall strategy of the Trust Fund will be to continue to complement efforts in the region to reduce poverty and inequality and to strengthen and consolidate democratic governance, as well to support initiatives on crisis prevention and recovery, partnering with civil society, private sector, and government actors. In the coming years, additional innovative initiatives will be pursued in order to achieve the Trust Fund's main objective of integrated and inclusive development. An extension is requested due to the following concrete actions and products that will be delivered in Latin America and the Caribbean:



A. Poverty reduction, inequality and MDGs:

- Organization of the 5th Development Forum with the participation of ministries for LAC and from African countries.
- Generation of further knowledge in areas related to inclusive growth, inequality and MDGs, through a series of specific research products (notes, graphs, working papers).
- The promotion of fiscal and social policies pacts will be supported through deep analysis on fiscal schemes.
- The analysis on future challenges and missing dimensions of development in middle income countries will be developed, in support to the post 2015 agenda.
- Support to the development on gender equality certification for business in LAC will be provided.

B. Strengthening of democratic governance:

- Knowledge for *gender* advocacy will continue to be developed on *parliaments* and diversity and coordination on women's participation will continue to be encouraged. Support of women parliamentarians to promote legislative agendas on gender equality will also be provided.
- *Regional Report on Political Citizenship* will be developed and disseminated.
- *Development of Young Leadership* will be strengthened with the development of a virtual platform for training programs on inclusive human development for youth leaders within indigenous and afrodescendants communities. And also will continue to promote networks and organizations of youth indigenous and afrodescendants peoples to strengthen the analysis and advocacy for their rights and the elimination of discrimination.
- *Promotion of Socio-Economic Dialogue* for democratic governance will continue to be pursued via capacity building of strategic development actors at the national and local levels, training workshops, and technical assistance in socio-economic dialogue processes.
- Support to ministries of foreign affairs from LAC will continue to be provided in order to develop and strengthen their capacities.
- Joint support with RBAS to Arab countries for their democratic transitions will continue.
- Debate and analysis on democratic governance in the region will be enhanced by conferences, forums and high level dialogues.
- Capacity to promote transparency and accountability initiatives, policies and mechanisms will be enhanced in at least 3 countries of the region.



C. Crisis Prevention and Recovery:

- Dialogue for conflict prevention will be enhanced in at least 3 countries.
- Support to SICA's Citizen Security Strategy for Central America will continue to be provided.
- The first draft of the Regional Human Development Report on Citizen (In) Security in LA will be launched in wide consultation with national partners.

Important remarks on the Spain-UNDP Trust Fund

The DEX extension requested covers the 2012 and 2013 annual work plans for the regional initiatives of the TF, agreed with the donor. In this sense it is important to remark that the outcomes set for the TF with the donor are based on a multiyear achievement. So, for this period, we are only considering activities that in addition to the ones developed between 2007 and 2011 (the TF has not established a duration), will contribute to achieve specific outcomes and outputs. Nevertheless, we have already set specific targets for 2012 and 2013, linked to the RBLAC's ERBM platform.

Regarding to the strengthening of capacities of national and regional partners, the baseline is similar. Most of the regional initiatives of the TF include the capacity building of partners as a cross-cutting issue, as it is part of its future sustainability. In this sense, some of the activities planned strongly contribute to develop this capacities, for instance, in Corporate Social Responsibility, we strengthened the capacity of "Centro Nacional de Responsabilidad Social Empresarial - CENARSECS" to continue supporting the Network of universities with capacities on CSR, now that the TF will conclude its support.

We have also some initiatives awareness-raising and /or advocacy based, that contribute to develop specific capabilities like analysis, informed dialogue, deliberation, and concertation (consensus building) among participants and key actors of social development.

In 2010 a TF's evaluation was carried out as part of the Mid-Term Evaluation of the Regional Program in Latin America and the Caribbean concluding that "*The Spain-UNDP Trust Fund is a strategic instrument of Spanish cooperation in Latin America. The Fund more than achieved the results expected at the time of its creation as a Permanent Fund for an integrated and inclusive development in Latin America*". Its recommendations were already taken into consideration for the 2011 AWP (as the full alignment of the TF with RBLAC's strategic objectives for the regional programme). In 2012 the TF intends to develop a study on the impact and main achievements of the regional programme supported. In addition, an audit exercise for RBLAC is scheduled by the end of April 2012; the TF is expected to be audited since it supports a significant volume of RBLACs regional initiatives.

Justification for Direct Execution

On March 27th, 2007, the Associate Administrator approved the Direct Execution for this project (please see OSG#722 8-8-2007). The justification for the extension is as follows:

- 1.) This project responds directly to the institutional priorities, expressed jointly by both AECID UNDP's strategic plans, to reduce poverty and inequality and deepen democratic governance in the



Latin-American region. A DEX authorization is needed in order to **provide technical and administrative support in the implementation of this common agenda.**

- 2.) Such political alignment between these actors and the high-level political and technical debates that will include the AECID, UNDP and the LAC region highlights the need for UNDP to manage the project to **ensure effective delivery.** The past year's success under DEX authorization reinforces the need to continue the successful delivery of proposed outcomes.
- 3.) The success of the project will depend on the **coordination** of the individual initiatives and projects that will take off under the umbrella of the Spain-UNDP Trust Fund as well as the support we are able to obtain from a number of regional and national actors in the region.
 - a. Coordination is required among numerous countries, as well as between both regional and national initiatives.
 - b. Coordination is also required among prestigious institutions in the region, UN agencies, and civil society actors.
- 4.) UNDP has a unique **comparative advantage in building networks** amongst leading institutions in the economic and political spheres across the Latin American and Caribbean community, which is a core activity throughout the life of the Trust Fund. The credibility and neutrality of the UNDP is key in supporting these strategic alliances.
- 5.) In line with Donor expectations and to ensure continued results, **rigorous monitoring** of Trust Fund activities is essential; which requires the UNDP execution.


Direct Execution by UNDP RBLAC is thus advisable, since it has the credibility, the capacity (technical and administrative) and the necessary networking resources to carry out the consultations with experts and practitioners throughout the region.

Consequently, I would appreciate your authorization to extend direct execution of this project from April 1st 2012 until December 31th 2013.

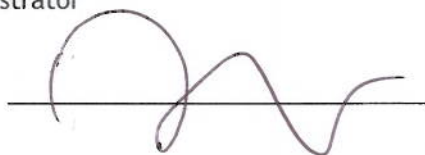
Thank you.

Best regards.

Attached: Former DEX request, Project Document, Annual Workplan for 2012 and 2013 and Progress Report for 2011.


Rebeca Grynspan
Associate Administrator

Date: 27/3/12

Cleared by OSG: 

Date: 26 Mar 2012