



URUGUAY ONE UN COHERENCE FUND

Annual Progress Report

Reporting period: July 2008 – December 2008

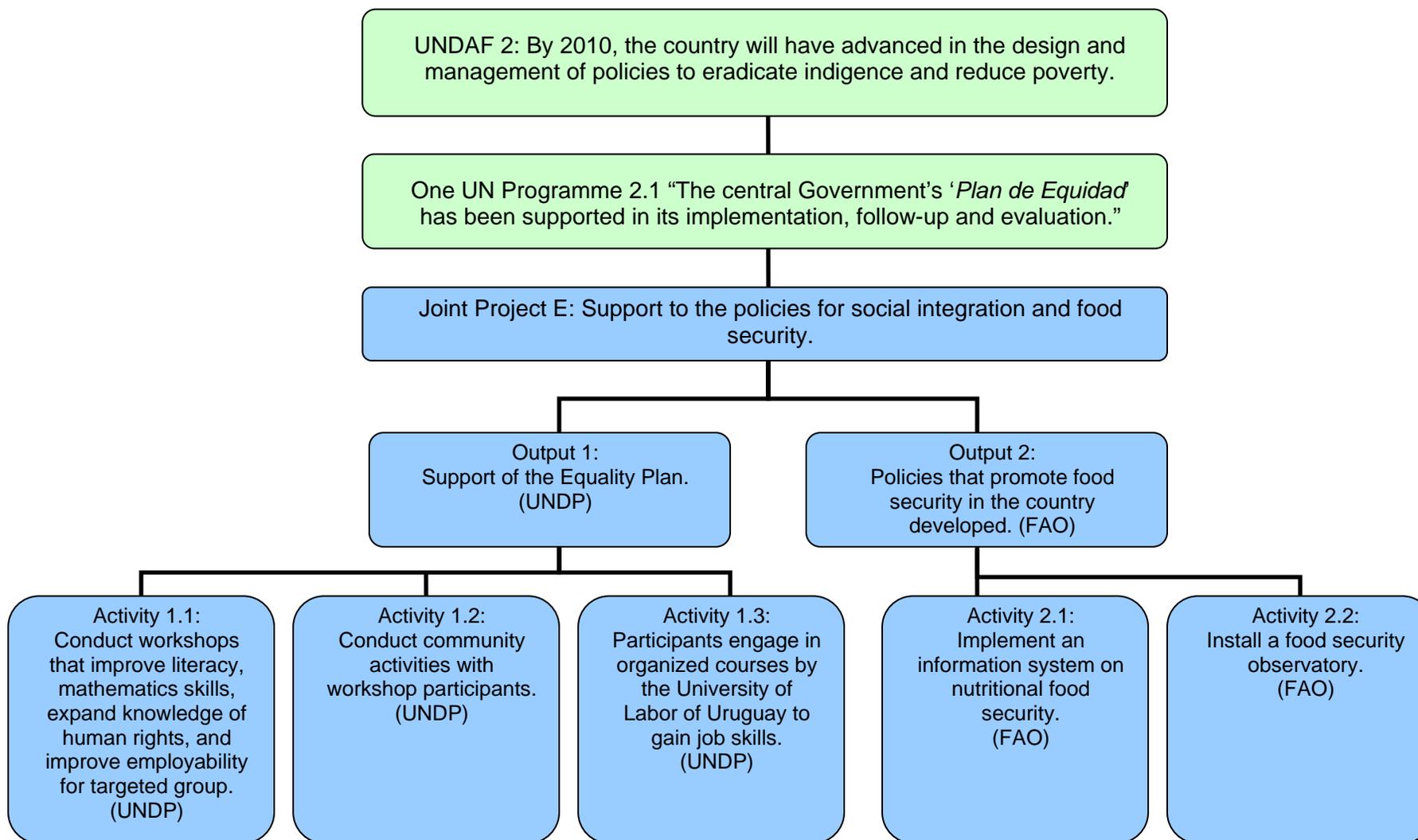
Joint Programme Number:	66245 (Other: E)		
Joint Programme Title:	Support to the policies for social integration and food security.		
Participating UN Organization(s):	FAO and UNDP	Cluster / Priority Area:	Reducing indigence and poverty; food security
Implementing Partner(s):	Office of Planning and Budget (OPP) Ministry of Work and Social Security (MTSS) Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) National Nutrition Institute (INDA)		

I. PURPOSE

Programme Description:	<p>This project was developed as one of the objectives of the One UN Programme 2007-2010 “Building Capacities for Development” in Uruguay.</p> <p>This project seeks to enhance social integration processes for the poor, particularly the young population (19 to 29) with children. The project will also contribute to reduce the significant poverty levels recently observed in Uruguay.</p>
Development Goal:	UNDAF 2: “By 2010, the country will have advanced in the design and management of policies to eradicate indigence and reduce poverty.”
Outcome:	One UN Programme 2.1 “The central Government’s ‘ <i>Plan de Equidad</i> ’ has been supported in its implementation, follow-up and evaluation.”
Outputs and Key Activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support of the Equality Plan. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Conduct workshops that improve literacy, mathematics skills, expand knowledge of human rights, and improve employability for targeted group. 1.2 Conduct community activities with workshop participants. 1.3 Participants engage in organized courses by the University of Labour of Uruguay (UTU) to gain job skills. 2. Policies that promote food security in the country developed. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Implement an information system on nutritional food security. 2.2 Install a food security observatory.



Outputs for the Joint Project E and their relation to the One UN Programme and the UNDAF





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II. RESOURCES

Participating UN Organization(s)	Approved Joint Programme Budget	Approved Disbursements (2008)
FAO	76,612	24,610
UNDP	592,138	181,338
Total:	US\$ 668,750	US\$ 205,948

III. RESULTS

There has been a very good level of collaboration between the two implementing agencies (UNDP - FAO) that has facilitated the process of planning activities and monitoring of implementation towards expected results.

Moreover, it is worth underscoring the work between the management of projects' components with other initiatives that the United Nations System (UNS) is implementing.

The creation the Management Committee as a working space, in addition to the coordinator for the Joint Project, has enhanced the coordination of the Project as a whole -- as well as the joint work by all the actors involved (lead agency, associated organizations, national partners, and the Project Coordinator) -- the resolution to various issues related to management and implementation.

Support received from the Administrative Agent and the Resident Coordinator's Office, which accompanied various aspects of project management, played a key role in ensuring the proper execution of the project.

Regular opportunities of programme and financial planning have enabled for the proper monitoring of the project.

Cooperation among the national and local levels grew which resulted in a greater involvement of the UNS at the local level.

Output 1: Support of the Equality Plan. (UNDP)

Implement an information system on nutritional food security

- Job training programmes were strengthened on the coordination and management of Public Education institutions and inter-institutional agreements.
- Coordination meetings with Ministry of Social Development (MIDES for its acronym in Spanish) programmes carried out throughout the country: Ciudad del Plata (San José), East of Montevideo (community Zones 6 to 11) and *Barrios Blancos* (Canelones).
- Joint monitoring was conducted with other programmes of the MIDES in San José, Canelones and East of Montevideo where activities of the project are implemented.
- Coordination efforts were conducted with the Evaluation and Monitoring National Directorate of MIDES for further evaluation of the Project.



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- Baseline was identified and designed for a monitoring and evaluation strategy.
- Coordination efforts were conducted with the Information and Communication Unit of MIDES (Infocom) to develop communication strategies.
- Work with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) for training implementation was conducted.
- Training activities to three Civil Society Organizations were conducted.
- Brochures and awareness materials were produced to disseminate the Project.
- Labour University of Uruguay (UTU for its acronym in Spanish) was strengthened through the hiring of teachers CSOs. Discipline in which they were trained: Training in Food Preservation. Such training was coordinated within work lines for the socio educational component.
- Ministry of Education and Culture - Continuous Learning Programme (PAS for its acronym in Spanish) to cooperate during project's implementation. Agreement on exchange and coordination efforts between PAS educators and CSOs' technical teams was achieved.
- Certain CSOs were selected to carry out training proposals.

Cross-cutting issues to be highlighted

Awareness activities and training were developed at the Joint Project level for crosscutting approach on gender, human rights and local development.

Output 2: Policies that promote food security in the country developed. (FAO)

A framework document on the Observatory for Food and Nutrition Security was prepared.

A discussion panel and a workshop were held in Montevideo in September with the purpose of defining indicators of the Food and Nutrition Security situation in Uruguay, and the institutional role to assume within the Observatory and selection of indicators. Cooperation agreements were signed among organizations.

Six regional workshops were conducted to identify indicators on Food and Nutrition Security in the country. The achievements of these workshops were: regional support with great expectation and interest demonstrated by the institutions which participated in the workshops.

For the purpose of having the necessary tools, FAO provided software for the Observatory to be adjusted to the reality of the country.

The component surpassed the target of 70% at December 31st, and it reached 89% in January 2009.

• Weaknesses

It may become necessary to consider the institutionalization for the observatory and how to define a greater involvement from the National Nutrition Institute (INDA for its acronym in Spanish). Steps are already emerging in this regard for 2009.

A greater sustainable commitment among institutions over the time that enables the



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consolidation and maintenance of the Observatory is needed.

Regarding the lessons learned, there was difficulty in having a national expert on Food and Nutrition Security, and for this reason the FAO Technical Officer supported the beginning of activities. The joint work should be done at different levels such as politics, institutional and technical with territorial enclave. More inter-institutional agreements must be reached to ensure the flow of information. Strategies for business planning and budget will be flexible with institutional times and the requirements of the project. However, there were positive lessons learned in working in an interdisciplinary team involved in matters of Food and Nutrition Security for achieving the common objective and the need of creating Observatory for Food and Nutrition Security, expressed by participants.

• Key associations

With MTSS; MSP; Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries (MGAP for its acronym in Spanish); Directorate General for Trade; MIDES; Governments Administrations; National Statistics Institute (INE for its acronym in Spanish); Technological Laboratory of Uruguay (LATU for its acronym in Spanish); University of the Republic (UDELAR for its acronym in Spanish); Model Market; Centres of Integral Attention to the Infancy and the Family (CAIF for its acronym in Spanish); National Institute of Agriculture (INIA for its acronym in Spanish); National Institute of Meat (INAC for its acronym in Spanish); OPP; State Health Services Administration (ASSE, for its acronym in Spanish); Retailers, Barkeepers, Self-service and Related Services Centre (CAMBADU for its acronym in Spanish), Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Cooperation (IICA, for its acronym in Spanish), Farmers Associations.

• Cross-cutting issues:

In general, cross-cutting issues were related to the following aspects that have been relevant for the purpose of generating installed capacities:

1. Institutional coordination at several levels: political, institutional and technical with territorial enclave.
2. Strategic business planning and budget are flexible with the established time frames the institutions involved.
3. The characteristics of the project are very compact in structure. The outstanding experience from the implementing agencies, associated agencies and national partners, are considered strengths that complement the operations and generate good results from the Management Committee.

• The progress of the component, in terms of expected results and products, has been positive as indicators for monitoring and knowledge of the situation of Food and Nutrition Security in Uruguay were established and technology for the Information System was attained.

Install a food security observatory

Initial meetings were held with Institutions to reveal perceptions and possible contributions about the creation of the Observatory of Food and Nutritional Security – OPP, FAO, MPS, MGAP, LATU, INIA, Directorate General for Trade, Treasury (MEF for its acronym in Spanish).



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Began drafting of a document on the Observatory Food and Nutrition Security. An Expert on Food Security from FAO participated, in order to unify and socialize the theoretical framework of the Food and Security Nutrition.

A discussion panel and a workshop were held in Montevideo on September 17th and 24th, in order to define indicators of the situation of Food and Nutrition Security in Uruguay, and the institutional role to assume within the Observatory and selection of indicators (MTSS, MSP, MGAP, Directorate General for Trade, MIDES, INE, LATU, UDELAR, IMM, Model Market, FAO, CAIF, among others), and signing of agreements among organizations at the end of the day.

A consultant in design and project development and information systems for the Food and Nutrition Security was contracted for the preparation and analysis of the logical framework of the Observatory.

The Food Security consultant prepared various reports particularly the development of matrices of national and regional indicators which is subject to the approval of the Technical Officer in Food Systems of FAO.

Six Regional Workshops were conducted to identify Food and Nutrition Security indicators:

1. Region Tacuarembó, Rivera, and Cerro Largo (held in Tacuarembó, 14-MAR-08)
2. Region Rocha, Maldonado, Treinta y Tres (held in Rocha, 21-OCT-08)
3. Region Artigas, Salto, Paysandú and Rio Negro (held in Paysandu, 3-NOV-08)
4. Region Durazno, Flores, Florida (held in Trinidad, 11-NOV-08)
5. Region Soriano, Colonia, Lavalleja (held in Colonia, 18-NOV-08)
6. Metropolitan - Montevideo, Canelones and San José (held in Montevideo, 19-DIC-08)

An Information Systems Consultant and Web Designer for the Implementation of a computerized system for managing the database of the Observatory was contracted to train technical and administrative staff of the Observatory in managing the systems and to design, install and maintaining the Observatory's website.

The Information Systems and Web Designer made the server configuration, software installation and the Web site is being developed, which is expected to be launched in March 2009.

In terms of equipment, a server, three computers and a multifunction computer were acquired.

The terms of reference and the call for nine consultants for Operation in Information System Food and Nutrition Security were prepared, to play in nine regions of the country. The call was spread through National Food Institute (INDA for its acronym in Spanish) Website and through people who participated in various activities of the Observatory.

Meetings were held between the Directorate General of Trade (Ministry of Economics and Finance), Farming Observatory, Agro-meteorology Masters Programme (Faculty of Agriculture, UDELAR), and Agro-Meteorology (INIA) to assess the potential effects of drought on food security



IV. FUTURE WORK PLAN

Output 1: Support of the Equality Plan. (UNDP)

Conduct community activities with workshop participants. (UNDP)

- Training activities for local counterparts.
- Publication of communication products for the observatory and food security issues.
- Conduct a seminar for disseminating the programmes' results.
- Assessment and monitoring.
- Expand coverage of Uruguay Integra groups from 20 to 26 approximately. A public call from the Uruguay Integra programme of MIDES will be carried out where the following departments are prioritized: Soriano, Colonia, Rocha and Maldonado. It will provide institutional capacities within MIDES and therefore, optimise project's results.

Output 2: Policies that promote food security in the country developed. (FAO)

OBSERVATORY OF FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SECURITY						
Schedule of activities						
Activity	Months 2009					
	January	February	March	April	May	June
Design matrix and indicators. Final Report of Consultant			-----			
Implementation of Software (Consultant)	-----	-----	-----	-----		
Web Site design (Consultant)	-----	-----	-----			
Contact with participants institutions in the Observatory			-----	-----	-----	-----
Nationals Consultants: Design, selection and Training	-----	-----	-----	-----		
Operation of the Website				-----	-----	-----
Consultants in business				-----	-----	-----
Workshop on Observatory				-----		
Movement of data and reports SAN Uruguay						-----