



# URUGUAY ONE UN COHERENCE FUND

## Annual Progress Report

Reporting period: July 2008 – December 2008

<b>Joint Programme Number:</b>	66247 (Other: F2)		
<b>Joint Programme Title:</b>	Support for the strengthening of public institutions that work in the social area.		
<b>Participating UN Organization(s):</b>	ILO, UNFPA and UNOPS	<b>Cluster / Priority Area:</b>	Social Services
<b>Implementing Partner(s):</b>	Office of Planning and Budget (OPP) Ministry of Public Health (MSP) Bank of Social Provision (BPS) National Drug Board (JND)		

### I. PURPOSE

<b>Programme Description:</b>	<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>The project will strengthen the capacities of the public institutions that manage social policies. Create an Institute for Social Security, Health and Administration Studies. Support the institutions in charge of administering low income, senior citizen housing facilities. Installation of a centre of the availability and safety of medicines. Impact evaluation of social policies.</p>
<b>Development Goal:</b>	UNDAF 2. By 2010, the country will have advanced in the design and management of policies to eradicate indigence and reduce poverty.
<b>Outcome:</b>	One UN Programme 2.6 “Institutions in the social policy system (education, employment, health and social security) have been strengthened.”
<b>Outputs and Key Activities:</b>	<p>The project has the following components.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Creation of an “Institute for the study of social security, health and administration”.</li> <li>2. Support for the public institutions in charge of administering housing solutions for retired and pensioner persons with low income.</li> <li>3. Installation of a “Centre of biodisponibility and bioequivalence of medicines”.</li> <li>4. Creation of a “Unit of prospective evaluation for public policies”.</li> <li>5. Strengthening for the community and for the centres of primary assistance for addressing the problems of drugs, investigation, diagnostics, campaigns, training of trainers, prevention programmes, strengthening of health centres of the penitentiaries, and strengthening of community and youth promoters to conduct activities in the prevention of drug consumption.</li> </ol>

**Outputs for the Joint Project F2 and their relation to the One UN Programme and the UNDAF**

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Joint Project F2: Support for the strengthening of public institutions that work in the social area.

Output 1:  
Creation of an “Institute for the study of social security, health and administration”. (ILO-UNOPS)

Output 2:  
Support for the public institutions in charge of administering housing solutions for retired and pensioner persons with low income. (ILO)

Output 3:  
Installation of a “Centre of biodisponibility and bioequivalence of medicines”. (ILO-UNOPS)

Output 4:  
Creation of a “Unit of prospective evaluation for public policies”. (ILO-UNFPA)

Output 5:  
Strengthening for the community and for the centres of primary assistance for addressing the problems of drugs, investigation, diagnostics, campaigns, training of trainers, prevention programmes, strengthening of health centres of the penitentiaries, and strengthening of community and youth promoters to conduct activities in the prevention of drug consumption. (UNFPA)



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#### II. RESOURCES

Participating UN Organization(s)	Approved Joint Programme Budget	Approved Disbursements (2008)
ILO	703,717	153,599
UNFPA	249,546	74,365
UNOPS	437,737	432,708
<b>Total:</b>	<b>US\$ 1,391,000</b>	<b>US\$ 660,672</b>

#### III. RESULTS

##### **Output 1: Creation of an “Institute for the study of social security, health and administration”. (ILO-UNOPS)**

Two main results are expected for this output. One is the procurement of equipment and refurbishing of the physical space to be utilized by the institute. The other is the development of the procedures and strategic plans for the institute.

- A bidding and evaluation process proposals was elaborated between the national associate in the implementation (Bank of Social Prevision [BPS]) and UNOPS. Excellent performance of BPS in providing technical and formal support to UNOPS.
- Agreement between ILO and the University of the Republic was signed to develop the institute.
- A public presentation of the Institute for Social Security, Health and Administration Studies was held.
- Two Requests for Bids were published; IT Equipment and Civil Works.

##### **Output 2: Support for the public institutions in charge of administering housing solutions for retired and pensioner persons with low income. (ILO)**

- Creation of an intra-institutional and multidisciplinary high level working team to participate in the development of the studies.
- Coordination and cooperation activities were held with public sector institutions and civil society.
- Selection and signing of contracts between ILO and two consulting firms committing 100% of the funds to implement this effect. The consulting firms will generate a report and make recommendations on the best strategy to implement the housing solutions for the elder.

##### **Output 3: Installation of a “Centre of bio-disponibility and bioequivalence of medicines”. (ILO-UNOPS)**

- Coordination took place between the Ministry of Public Health and the School of Chemistry to begin defining the strategies and policies of the centre.
- Introduction of analytical techniques in bioequivalence studies.
- Requests for bids were published for analytical equipment and evaluation of tenders: Laboratory Equipment for the biodisponibility and bioequivalence Centre.



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#### **Output 4: Creation of a “Unit of prospective evaluation for public policies”. (ILO-UNFPA)**

This component is based on the creation of the unit of prospective analysis for public policies. It intends to implement an integrated information system in order to allow to simulate the potential effects of changes in the matrix of policies (ex ante evaluation) to assist in making better decisions.

Several tasks and documents were prepared during this period:

- Preparation of a report of systematic studies of monitoring and evaluation of national and international policies.
- Preparation of an evaluation report that studies the impact of reforms ("The combined impact of structural reforms and some components of the Network of Assistance and Social Integration of the Equity Plan, on poverty and income distribution").
- Public presentation of the Unit and its progress in December 2008.
- Consultants were hired and the team was formed.
- Acquisition of computer equipment and office supplies.
- Preparation of documents: Systematization of monitoring studies and assessment of national and international policies. Studies assessing the impact of reforms. Making event for the public presentation of the Evaluation Unit.

#### **Output 5: Strengthening for the community and for the centres of primary assistance for addressing the problems of drugs, investigation, diagnostics, campaigns, training of trainers, prevention programmes, strengthening of health centres of the penitentiaries, and strengthening of community and youth promoters to conduct activities in the prevention of drug consumption. (UNFPA)**

This component is based on the prevention of drugs consumption. The activities that are being carrying up are based on a local and community level, building capacities in young people who are working as promoters in preventing drug consumption.

Different kinds of materials were produced in the period in order to facilitate the workshops, trainings, etc.

One of the main achievements in the period was the good level of coordination of the different actors involved in this process: OSC, the Uruguayan Institute for the Child and Adolescent (INAMU, for its acronym in Spanish), the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Public Health, the National Board for the Imprisoned and Released, the rehabilitation centre *Portal Amarillo*, the Municipal Government of Montevideo, seven other municipalities, community youth leaders.

#### **Challenges and lessons learned**

The late signing of the project (September 3, 2008) and the delayed recruitment of the Coordinator (October 9, 2008) were two of the weaknesses at the moment when the Project started. The project execution recuperated form this delay in the initiation of the project.



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The main difficulties encountered in implementing the project are focused on the time it takes the different stages of the bidding processes by UNOPS as they exceeded those expected by national partners. This has created concern among national partners.

In particular, the team of the BPS participated actively in the preliminary design of civil works for tender, as well as in preparing the tender specifications and the technical and formal evaluation of bids, contributing to accelerate various stages of the bidding process.

Therefore, one of the main lessons learned in this first stage is that the collaboration between national partners and agencies can make a valuable contribution to strengthen the management capacity of all involved actors.

Improving effective collaboration among national partners and UNS Agencies has helped in achieving consistency in the project and in the One UN Programme.

With regard to national partners, their role and participation has not yet been consolidated since, in the first stage, the emphasis of the work focused on constituting institutional teams, reformulation activities, contracting and procurement, to meet the expected budget performance.

Finally, given the characteristics of this project in terms of its diversity, the heterogeneity of its components, and the subject areas, ownership by the various stakeholders is still in early stages. It is expected to begin the cross-cutting issues coordination of the various components following the lines proposed by the Government and the UN system (human rights, gender, etc.).

#### IV. FUTURE WORK PLAN

The planned activities aim at contributing to the Project / Program prospect by national partners and participating agencies in order to promote the inter-agency and inter-Effect collaboration.

The annual work plan includes the following:

- Conclude procurement and refurbishing activities by UNOPS; in particular two “Request For Quotations” (simplified procurement processes) are to be done, being related to IT Equipment and Videoconference Equipment.
- Defining, together with national partners and participating agencies, the design and specific work plans, identifying activities and their schedule.
- Begin working on the six cross-cutting priorities set by the Government and UN System.
- Capacity building around social policies evaluation, workshops, seminars and methodological discussions will take place during 2009.
- Prevention, rehabilitation and social inclusion of people who are drugs consumers will be the main issues in 2009.