



Sistema de las Naciones Unidas en Uruguay
UNIDOS EN LA ACCIÓN

URUGUAY ONE UN COHERENCE FUND

Annual Progress Report

Reporting period: July 2008 – December 2008

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| Joint Programme Number: | 66250 (Other: "I") | | |
| Joint Programme Title: | Support for the decentralization processes and promotion of citizen participation as part of the reform of the State. | | |
| Participating UN Organization(s): | UNDP and UNESCO | Cluster / Priority Area: | Decentralization and citizens participation |
| Implementing Partner(s): | Office of Planning and Budget (OPP) Ministry of Education and Culture (MEC) Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MRREE) Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) National Parliament | | |

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>The project will: strengthen the process of decentralization and promotion of citizen participation throughout the country; improve the process of coordination and interaction of social, cultural, and international involvement policies; and ensure greater social and political participation through strengthening the Departmental councils of social policies.</p> |
| Development Goal: | UNDAF 4. By 2010, the country will have advanced in the adjustment of national legislation and practices to its international commitments, and in the strengthening of public and civil institutions for the design, execution, monitoring and evaluation of public policies. |
| Outcome: | One UN Programme 4.2 "Policies on decentralization and promotion of citizen participation in the territory will have been supported by 2010." |
| Outputs and Key Activities: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 The coordination of social public policies throughout the country has been strengthened by 2010. 1.2 The capabilities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs related to the promotion of commerce and investment by implementing local Government initiatives and supporting the formation of diplomatic personnel have been strengthened by 2010. 1.3 The coordination of public policies that promote social integration and citizenship throughout the country has been strengthened by 2010. 2.1 The participation by citizens in the identification of priorities for the social policies throughout the country has been strengthened by 2010. 2.2 The spaces for citizen participation throughout the country have been supported by 2010. 2.3 By 2010, the link between Parliament and the community, in particular local governments and youth throughout the country, has been strengthened. |



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Outputs for the Joint Project “I” and their relation to the One UN Programme and the UNDAF

UNDAF 4. By 2010, the country will have advanced in the adjustment of national legislation and practices to its international commitments, and in the strengthening of public and civil institutions for the design, execution, monitoring and evaluation of public policies.

One UN Programme 4.2 “Policies on decentralization and promotion of citizen participation in the territory will have been supported by 2010.”

Joint Project “I”: Support for the decentralization processes and promotion of citizen participation as part of the reform of the State.

Output 1:
The decentralization and coordination of policies throughout the country supported.
(UNESCO-UNDP)

Output 2:
Citizen participation throughout the country promoted.
(UNESCO-UNDP)

Activity 1.1:
Strengthening of the coordination of social public policies throughout the country. (UNDP)

Activity 1.2:
Strengthening of the capabilities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs related to the promotion of commerce and investment by implementing local Government initiatives and supporting the formation of diplomatic personnel.

Activity 1.3:
Strengthening of the coordination of public policies that promote social integration and citizenship throughout the country. (UNESCO)

Activity 2.1:
Strengthening of the participation by citizens in the identification of priorities for the social policies throughout the country. (UNDP)

Activity 2.2:
Support of the spaces for citizen participation throughout the country. (UNESCO)

Activity 2.3:
Strengthening the link between Parliament and the community, in particular local governments and youth throughout the country. (UNDP)

II. RESOURCES

| Participating UN Organization(s) | Approved Joint Programme Budget | Approved Disbursements (2008) |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| UNDP | 478,526 | 207,452 |
| UNESCO | 297,225 | 97,103 |
| Total: | US\$ 775,751 | US\$ 304,555 |

III. RESULTS

Components common results

- Qualified human resources were incorporated into the permanent management team of each of the local counterparts.
- Institutional capacities in project management were developed and incorporated into the national counterparts.
- Programmes were coordinated among the different organizations.
- Actions that encouraged citizen participation were developed.

Limitations and lessons learned

Management capacities difficulties were encountered in some national partners, resulting in some delays during the first months of implementation.

- The Management Committee allowed for the cooperation of the components in the overall logic of the Project, addressing issues related to implementation.
- The Administrative Agent and the Resident Coordinator's Office facilitated the positive and effective development of the project.
- Regular opportunities of programme and financial planning enabled for proper project monitoring.
- Throughout the process there was a growing cooperation among the national and local level organizations, which resulted in a greater involvement of the United Nations System (UNS) Agencies in the territory.

Partnerships and inter-agency relationship. Impact on results

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

Moreover, it is noteworthy the cooperation between the management of the project components with other initiatives that UNDP, in particular, and the UN system in general, are implementing.

Cross-cutting issues to be highlighted

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



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Output 1: The decentralization and coordination of policies throughout the country supported. (UNESCO-UNDP)

Activity 1.1: Strengthening of the coordination of social public policies throughout the country. (UNDP)

- A national-level seminar to exchange experiences, involving civil society actors (450 people participated from 84 municipalities, as well as representatives from 21 Local Social Councils [LSCs] across the country) was held.
- Training and dissemination materials were printed on citizenry development and citizen participation (three publications on active citizen participation, LSC presentation and summary of the day).
- A national seminar of inter-institutional working groups was held.
- Training of members of the inter-institutional working groups was conducted.

Activity 1.2: Strengthening of the capabilities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs related to the promotion of commerce and investment by implementing local Government initiatives and supporting the formation of diplomatic personnel. (UNDP)

- Equipment was procured to strengthen agencies capacities, for the implementation of their actions throughout the country.
- Restoration and maintenance of bibliographic heritage of the MRREE. Restored 370 publications.
- Adaptation and modernization of a virtual communication system (web pages, database) were conducted. A website was developed and updated its database. 3,000 companies in the country have access to updated data for accessing State dependencies, exporters, importers, local government and diplomatic missions of the Republic abroad.

Activity 1.3: Strengthening of the coordination of public policies that promote social integration and citizenship throughout the country. (UNESCO)

MEC-Centres-and Monitoring Equipment

Project Coordination Unit is in close coordination on administrative and financial management issues with the Area for Projects and International Relations of the MEC. Work was conducted with 10 coordinators from MEC Centres. These MEC Centres were supported by acquiring the following equipment:

- Fourteen beams (input essential for the implementation of cultural and educational activities in the localities).
- Four computers for the image centres.

Human Rights, Training in Human Rights and Citizenship –

Objective: To raise awareness on human rights, train local staff on the issue, coordinate with other local organizations and encourage citizen participation.

- Held 37 workshops and participation in 2 local fairs were conducted in a total of 18 locations (including 5 Departmental Capitals). The locations were: 25 de Agosto, Arrozal, Belen, Blanquillo, Cerro Chato, Cerro Colorado, Chamizo Chico, Chuy, Corner, Durazno, Florida, Lascano, Salto, Santa Clara, Sarandí de Yí, Treinta y Tres, Villa del Carmen, Villa Constitución.



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- The workshops addressed the following themes: Human Rights Awareness, Citizen Participation, Gender and Diversity, Sexual and Reproductive Rights, Discrimination.
- More than 800 people (teachers, stakeholders and general public of all ages) participated.
- The networking included local organizations, and schools; the workshops attained the cooperation of Municipal Governments and the Primary School Council authorities.
- Outreach materials were developed (folders, leaflets, brochures, publications).
- We worked closely with the country's National Commission for UNESCO.

Right to Identity Report.

Objective: To investigate the current law on civil registry. Report on the activities of the Directorate.

- "Agreement of Academic and Scientific Cooperation" signed with the Faculty of Law (University of the Republic) to conduct an investigation in order to collect, systematize and explore the different existing rules on Civil Registration "For the purpose of determining whether they fit the current reality and the policy of modernization that is taking the direction." It is hoped that this process would lead to the actualization of current law.
- A leaflet was produced with the purpose of informing the public about the steps to register the newborn.

Output 2: Citizen participation throughout the country promoted. (UNESCO-UNDP)

Activity 2.1 Strengthening of the participation by citizens in the identification of priorities for the social policies throughout the country. (UNDP)

This activity is closely linked and is being executed in conjunction with Activity 1.1.

Activity 2.2: Support of the spaces for citizen participation throughout the country. (UNESCO)

Cultural Workshops, exhibitions and cultural shows

Culture Factories

Objective: To strengthen the human and productive capital through the formation of small businesses.

- Factory 1: Sarandí of Yi (Durazno). Training parents through the Uruguayan National Institute for the Child and Adolescent (INAU for its acronym in Spanish) was conducted; also the necessary equipment was provided (in this case forms for clothing design).
- Factory 2: Castillos (Rocha). Members of the art crafts Working Cooperative of Palmar, Ltd (CODELPA, for its acronym in Spanish) were trained in Marketing and Economic Feasibility Analysis.

From each payment, a singer.

Objective: To promote the participation of musicians from the interior of the country



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under a decentralization concept of cultural development.

- Nine groups and / or soloists participated from Tacuarembó, Canelones, Salto, Durazno, Montevideo and Paysandú.

Touring exhibition

Support for "touring exhibition of photographs on Traditional Festivals Uruguay". This effort supports a programme from the Directorate of Cultural and Heritage Commission to build an area of intangible heritage. This was the first festival of Uruguayan traditions. The tour will travel through various departments of the interior (so far Paysandú and Rocha).

Education -

Objective: Develop Distance Education Program through the strengthening of the web.

- Four tutorial courses conducted.
- Four teachers were recruited and provided distance learning courses to more than 75 people. Following the success of these projects, a new call for "Summer School" is expected to take place.
- A symposium on Enhancing Portals was conducted. It included the participation of 37 people. It also addressed topics such as: teachers, information and communications technologies, digital resources, networks, portals, and the experience of Argentina and Chile on Science and Technology.
- Printed publication on Science, Technology and Education.

Ministry of Public Health-Health Education –

OBJECTIVE: To provide information to various population groups in small communities through workshops, seminars and support material.

- Twenty workshops were conducted and participated in a fair in 11 Departmental locations: 25 de Agosto, Arrozal, Blanquillo, Cerro Colorado, Chamizo Chico, Durazno, Florida, Rincon, Sarandí de Yi, Treinta y Tres, Villa del Carmen.
- The workshops addressed the following topics: Sexual Rights and Health, Masculinity, Aggressiveness and Alcoholism, Sexuality (and diversity, gender, child gender and parents, and prevention male female).
- More than 1,700 people (teachers, stakeholders, general public) attended.
- Reprinted 13 Health Promotion publications.

Training Workshops-MIDES

Objective: To strengthen the officers from the Inter-institutional Social Policies Roundtables (MIPS for its acronym in Spanish) processes citizenship.

- Trained MEC centres coordinators in Project Management.

Activity 2.3: Strengthening the link between Parliament and the community, in particular local governments and youth throughout the country. (UNDP)

- Communication strategy carried out. Acquisition of technology for institutional archive (3 professional cameras to national archive regarding Parliament sessions and historical facts available to the 19 Departments).
- Permanent parliamentary staff was trained.

IV. FUTURE WORK PLAN

Output 1: The decentralization and coordination of policies throughout the country supported. (UNESCO-UNDP)

Activity 1.1: Strengthening of the coordination of social public policies throughout the country. (UNDP)

- Train additional LSCs through meetings involving Councils and Sub-councils and publications on citizen participation, citizens' rights and participatory democracy.
- Organize inter-institutional working groups trained and local action plans developed. (MIDES, National Directorate of Territorial Coordination).
- Strengthen coordination mechanisms between inter-institutional working groups and the LSCs.

Activity 1.2: Strengthening of the capabilities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs related to the promotion of commerce and investment by implementing local Government initiatives and supporting the formation of diplomatic personnel. (UNDP)

- Preservation of Library and bibliographic materials updated (acquisition, recovery and improvement of database and currently held material).
- Improve communication, socialization and democratisation of the Artigas Foreign Affairs Institute reaching all of the country.
- Strengthen the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in promoting trade and investment, to enhance initiatives received from local governments.

Activity 1.3: Strengthening of the coordination of public policies that promote social integration and citizenship throughout the country. (UNESCO)

- Prioritize institutional decentralization and citizen participation throughout the country.
- Maximize joint proposals and joint work of the planning area.
- Promote areas of exchange with other components of Project I, enhancing the added capacities of the MEC Centres.

Output 2: Citizen participation throughout the country promoted. (UNESCO-UNDP)

Activity 2.1 Strengthening of the participation by citizens in the identification of priorities for the social policies throughout the country. (UNDP)

This activity is closely linked and is being executed in conjunction with Activity 1.1.



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Activity 2.2: Support of the spaces for citizen participation throughout the country. (UNESCO)

- The, Ministry of Education and Culture will work in seven (7) departments with MEC Centres: Florida, Durazno, Treinta y Tres, Salto, Rocha, Cerro Largo Paysandú and approximately 35 villages with fewer than 5,000 inhabitants.
- Coordinate strategies between the MEC, and the Ministry of Public Health (MSP for its acronym in Spanish) and MIDES.

Activity 2.3: Strengthening the link between Parliament and the community, in particular local governments and youth throughout the country. (UNDP)

- Implement a communication strategy through three main highway corridors for the entire national territory. Main target: 19 local councils, 19 local governments, schools throughout the country.