

To: Ms. Luiza Carvalho
UN Resident Coordinator
Costa Rica

Date: 07 June 2012

From: Ms. Sigrid Kaag
Assistant Secretary-General
Assistant Administrator of

File: MDG-F-1961

Subject: Approval of additional funding for the joint programme of Costa Rica "*Networks for coexistence, communities without fear*"

Country:	Costa Rica
Window:	Conflict Prevention and Peace Building
Title:	<i>Networks for coexistence, communities without fear</i>
Supplementary Budget:	\$300,000
Agency:	UNDP

In line with the Steering Committee decision of December 2011 to provide with supplementary funding to selected joint programmes, the MDG-F Secretariat has met to review your proposal according to the following criteria:

- Demonstrated performance and contribution to results;
- Clear national ownership, commitment and leadership of interventions;
- Consolidation of the experience and advocacy strategy for replication and scaling up and clear commitment from national counterparts;
- Consolidation of innovative work at the local and community levels, if applicable;
- Ensuring the sustainability of results.

The MDG-F Secretariat has reviewed the proposal for supplementary funding of the Joint Programme, and considers it ready for approval and funds-release.

The great success of the initiatives promoted by the Joint Programme has raised an unprecedented interest of the Government in supporting their continuation. This interest has crystalized in the commitment of an important budget **USD 40,734,603** for continuing and scaling up those initiatives that have proved to be successful. These are: 1) local community networks for pacific coexistence, 2) civic centers and 3) the recovery of public spaces for community recreation purposes.

In parallel, the Ministry of Justice has committed USD 627,000 to be spent during 2012 to continue with the implementation of the National Policy for Conflict Prevention (POLSEPAZ), which was developed with the support of the Joint Programme. The additional funds will also serve to ensure the consolidation and sustainability of the local conflict prevention plans.

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These funds come both from international organizations (IDB and WB) and from national and local government budget's: 1) **IDB**, \$39,000,000; 2) **World Bank**, \$1,232,000; 3) National Direction for Community Development (**DINADECO**); \$100,000; 4) **Ministry of Justice**, \$5,000; 5) **Ministry of Education**; \$ 47,500 and 6) **Municipalities**, \$55,000.

The World Bank funds have been already disbursed and implementation will start in the coming months. The following tranche from the IDB (\$39,000,000), will be available starting in November 2012. The rest of the funds will be available starting 2013.

The proposal for the supplementary funding is aimed at maintaining the continuity of key social processes and activities promoted by the JP, during the time gap between the expected JP end date (May 2012) and the time when the Government will get the new funds. The joint programme has therefore been granted a six month no-cost extension until the 30th of November 2012 that will allow for the implementation of the work plan and the final evaluation.

The proposal builds on lessons learnt during the implementation of the JP, and integrates the good practices identified so far. The proposal clearly outlines the activities that will be conducted, and a work plan with the respective budget and time frame for implementation of all activities that will be completed by end of November 2012.

Relevance and National Ownership

The Joint Programme and the proposal for supplementary funding are firmly aligned with national government's priorities to bolster and consolidate a conflict pre-emptive approach, which has been reflected in the new National Policy for Conflict Prevention. Since its inception, the joint programme's ownership at both national and local levels has been very high, and has been critical to establish the legislative pillars necessary to produce a change in the way to deal with insecurity at the national and local level.

Effectiveness of the JP

With three years into the implementation of the joint programme, some activities of the Joint programme are already showing important results. These achievements include the National Plan for the Prevention of Violence and the Promotion of Peace and Public Safety, and the National Integral and Sustainable Policy of Public Security and Promotion of Social Peace (POLSEPAZ), which are already being implemented by the national government institutions. At the local level networks for peaceful coexistence have been created and/or strengthened in each of the 9 cantons of intervention. A high number of activities have been led by these networks and are contributing to develop a culture of peaceful coexistence. Public spaces have been recovered and equipped for art, recreation and sports purposes contributing to strengthen social cohesion and peace culture. Seven Justice Centres have been established that are offering services to the community for conflict resolution.

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Sustainability

As a consequence of the success of the Joint Programme, national and international funds have been committed to continue and scale up the most successful initiatives promoted by the programme. The contribution of US\$39 million from the Inter-American Development Bank will be the main source of funding to continue with the promotion of a preemptive approach in the next five years. However, national and local institutions are also making big efforts to continue with national budget the most important activities initiated by the joint programme.

Approval

The MDG-F Secretariat approves the release of the supplementary funding of the Joint Programme. The funds will be disbursed to UNDP (Resident Coordinator Office).

cc:

Mr. Bisrat Aklilu, Executive Coordinator, Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
Mr. Heraldo Muñoz, Assistant Administrator and Director Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, UNDP New York
MDG-F Secretariat