



United Nations Uruguay
Delivering as One

Uruguay One UN Coherence Fund Final Project Narrative Progress Report

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Country and Thematic Area:

Uruguay, Environment and climate change response

Programme No: C

MDTF Office Atlas No: 66243

Programme Title: Development of instruments for monitoring the environment and territory.

Participating Organization(s):

Resident Agency: UNESCO

Non-Resident Agency: UNEP

Implementing Partners:

Office of Planning and Budget (OPP)
Ministry of Transportation and Public Works (MTO)
Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries (MGAP)
Ministry of Housing, Territorial Planning, and Environment (MVOTMA)
National Emergency System (SNE)

Programme Budget (from the Fund):

UNEP	220,099
UNESCO	401,571
Total:	US\$ 621,670

Programme Duration (in months): 19

Start date¹: 25-Jul-2008

End date: 10-Feb-2010

Original end date: 31-Dic-2009
Revised end date: 10-Feb-2010 in accordance with the ToRs of the One UN Coherence Fund and grace periods it granted.

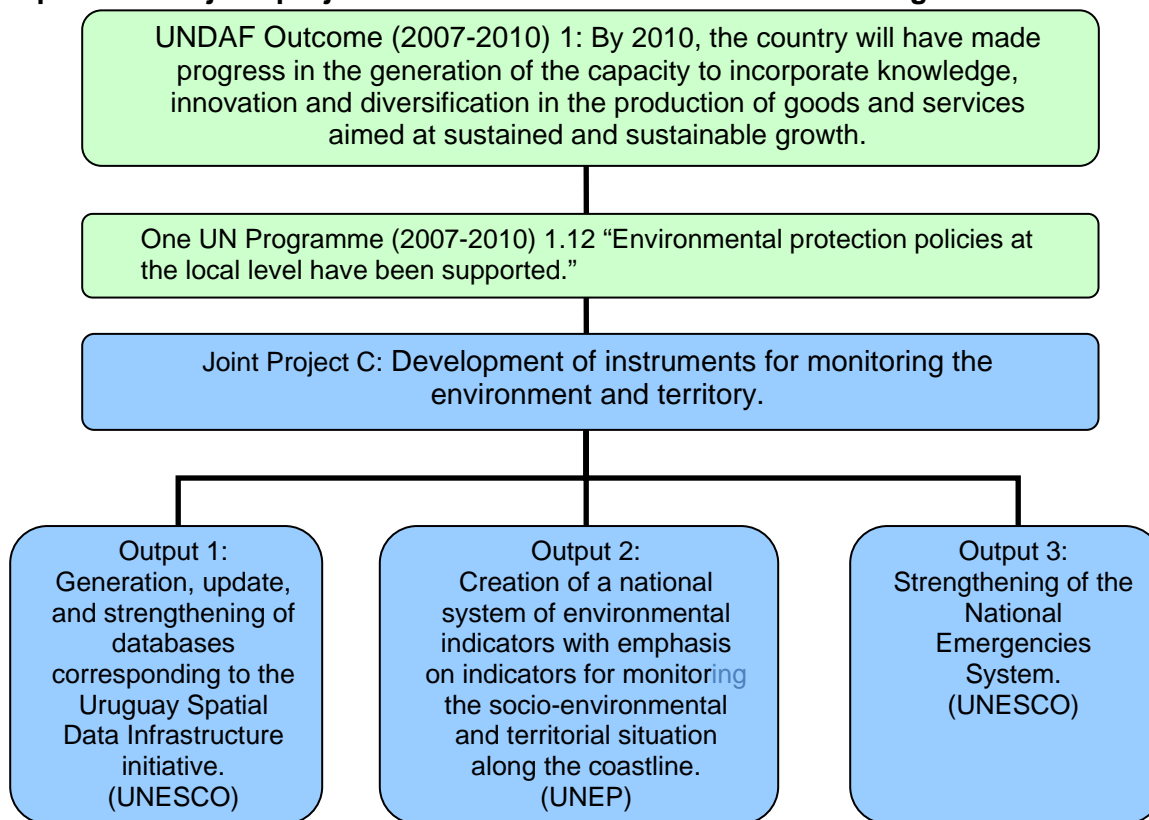
No budgetary revisions.

¹ The start date is the date of the first transfer of funds from the MDTF Office as Administrative Agent.

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 supported the policies for environmental protection through the development of monitoring instruments that incorporate socio-economic, environmental, and territorial indicators at the national scale along with a strong component on the Uruguayan coast. It also strengthened the National Emergency System with information and data to improve its operations, decision making ability, and management.</p>
Development Goal:	UNDAF (2007-2010) 1. By 2010, the country will have made progress in the generation of the capacity to incorporate knowledge, innovation and diversification in the production of goods and services aimed at sustained and sustainable growth.
Outcome:	One UN Programme (2007-2010) 1.12 “Environmental protection policies at the local level have been supported.”
Outputs and Key Activities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Generation, update, and strengthening of databases corresponding to Spatial Data Infrastructure.2. Creation of a national system of environmental indicators with emphasis on indicators for monitoring the socio-environmental and territorial situation along the coastline.3. Strengthening of the National Emergency System.

Outputs for the joint project C and their relation to the One UN Programme and the UNDAF



II. RESOURCES

Participating UN Organization(s)	Approved Joint Programme Budget	Approved Transfers to PUNOs (2008)	Approved Transfers to PUNOs (2009)
UNEP	220,099	73,766	146,333
UNESCO	401,571	144,022	257,549
Total:	US\$ 621,670	US\$ 217,788	US\$ 403,882

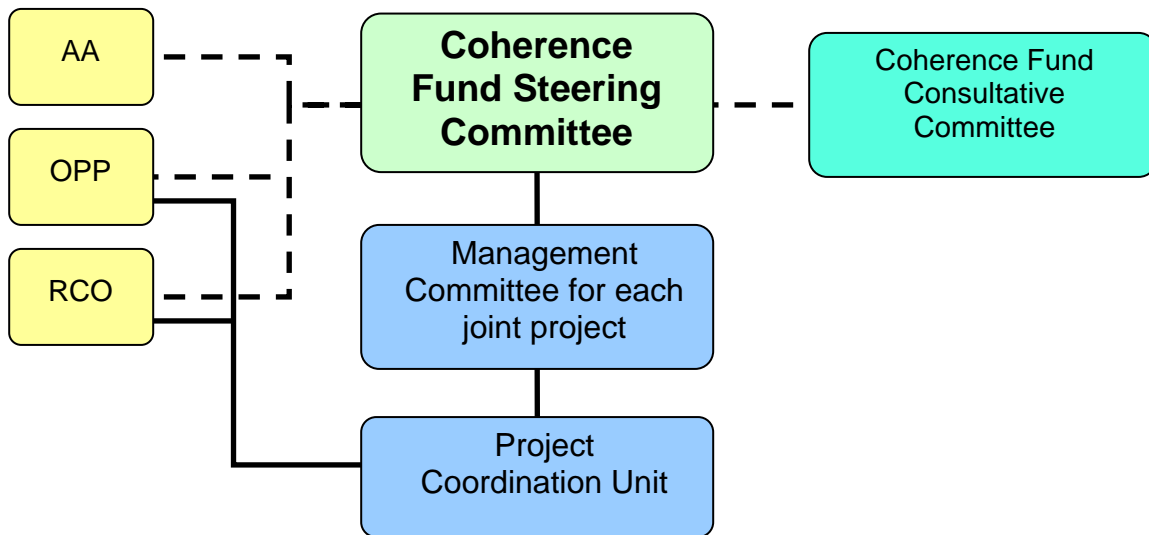
III. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

To support the One UN Programme (2007-2010), the Government and the UNS in Uruguay agreed to establish the Uruguay One UN Coherence Fund; a common, un-earmarked, development fund, under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator. The Uruguay One UN Coherence Fund supports the coordinated resource mobilization, allocation and disbursement of donor-contributed resources for the unfunded elements of the One UN Programme.

The Uruguay One UN Coherence Fund has several governance mechanisms to ensure proper management of funds, supervision of project execution, and monitoring of results. The mechanisms are: The Coherence Fund Steering Committee, The Coherence Fund Consultative Committee, The Management Committees, and the Administrative Agent (AA).

The members of the Management Committee were: Office of Planning and Budget (OPP), Ministry of Transportation and Public Works (MTO), Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MGAP), Ministry of Housing, Territorial Planning, and Environment (MVOTMA), National Emergency System (SNE), the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO), the executing Agencies (UNEP, UNESCO) and the associated UN Agencies (FAO, IOM, WHO, UNDP).

Governance mechanisms for the Uruguay One UN Coherence Fund.



IV. RESULTS

Joint work:

- The Management Committee has proven to be a useful tool for enhancing and promoting joint work between UN Agencies as well between local counterparts.
- Agencies and counterparts supported and assisted each other in overcoming challenges presented during the development of activities and achieving the established goals for the project despite the heterogeneous nature of each of the goals established for the project. However, UN Agencies still pose different procedures and requirements that often added complexity and restraints to the implementation of activities.

- The interagency and collaborative effort was presented at a Knowledge Fair in Turin, Italy.
- The project has effectively concluded and all Agencies are reporting successfully their progress and financial obligations. Despite the good will and efforts demonstrated in-country by the UN Agencies, it is necessary to note the difficulties encountered by Agency HQ units in the final financial rendition and the return of remaining funds to the Coherence Fund as agreed in the Terms of Reference.

The objectives of the project were achieved: road network databases as well as land cover databases had been generated or updated and will be linked to the Uruguayan Spatial Data Infrastructure initiative accessible from the Government's Geo-portal.

An agreed list of 103 sustainability indicators (environmental, socio economic and territorial) was created by means of meetings, courses, workshops and institutional exchange. Linked with the geospatial information, the information system is available for different types of web query.

National Emergencies System was strengthened; through more than 100 hours of training. A compilation of risk maps and valuable information was systematized by experts gaining an outstanding input for local and national risk assessment and management.

The project facilitated the availability of baseline information as a tool for policy making decisions.

A new phase of coordination and institutional cooperation among Government agencies, United Nations System (UNS) and the Agencies (UNEP and UNESCO for this project) was reached in this joint project.

Output 1: Generation, update, and strengthening of databases corresponding to the Uruguay Spatial Data Infrastructure Strategy. (UNESCO)

According to the work plan, local and national road network databases were updated. The databases encompass a comprehensive number of data including: bridges, sewers, gasoline stations, school buildings, police offices, pavement condition and railroads.

The information gathered by the Ministry of Transportation and Public Works (MTO) was included as a layer in the Uruguay Spatial Data Infrastructure initiative, and is available at the Uruguayan Government Geo-portal:

<http://www.agesic.gub.uy/innovaportal/v/679/1/agesic/descargas.html>

The joint project facilitated 173 hours of training lectured by national and international experts to support the Uruguayan land cover classification process. Training activities were attended by many national agencies and local Government officers:

WORKSHOPS:

- **Geographic Information System -- gvSIG**

19 participants, 5 institutions, 21 hours.

gvSIG is a tool (free software, open source) specialized for the management of geographic information. It is characterized by a user-friendly interface, with a quick access to the most usual raster and vector formats. It is aimed at users of geographic information, whether professionals or civil servants (city councils, councils, regional councils or ministries).

- **Land Cover Classification System**

10 participants, 3 institutions, 80 hours.

Objective of the workshop was to introduce and train a group of national photo interpreters and Geographic Information System (GIS) experts in the Global Land Cover Network (GLCN) mapping methodology and standards, focusing on mapping software and procedures that implement this methodology. Land Cover Classification System (LCCS): http://www.glcn.org/activities/URY_training_en.jsp

- **Geonetwork Open Source**

18 participants, 7 institutions, 42 hours.

Standardized and decentralized spatial information management environment, designed to enable access to geo-referenced databases, cartographic products and related metadata from a variety of sources, enhancing the spatial information exchange and sharing between organizations and their audience, using the capacities of the internet. This approach of geographic information management aims to facilitate a wide community of spatial information users to have easy and timely access to available spatial data and to existing thematic maps that might support informed decision making.

- **Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI)**

25 participants, 12 institutions, 30 hours.

The aim of the course is to get the basic knowledge, skills and attitude necessary to develop and to support the Uruguay SDI-strategy (network facility for accessing and sharing spatial data).

As a result of the MGAP and MVOTMA, coordinated teams achieved 100% of classifying the entire Uruguayan territory according to the GLCN mapping methodology and standards. The product has been highly demanded by local governments, ministries and universities. It is available at [http://www.dinama.gub.uy/sia/sia/map_phtml] as well as in a printed version: “*Mapa de Cobertura del Suelo del Uruguay- Land Cover Classification System*”

Output 2: Creation of a national system of environmental indicators with emphasis on indicators for monitoring the socio-environmental and territorial situation along the coastline. (PNUMA)

An important advance was noticed regarding the sharing and exchange of information among local and Governmental agencies. Many meetings were held with the divisions that have the information necessary for the construction of the National Environmental Indicators System.

The list of 425 indicators (environmental, socio economic and territorial) issued from the workshops, meetings and institutional exchanges was reduced to 173 and then to 103 after the scoping exercise that was undertaken by experts and Governmental agencies officers during two workshops.

Advances were also made as methodological sheets for the defined indicators were reviewed and discussed. The information collected for indicators final selection and the methodological sheet review led to the modification of some indicators and the removal of others.

The project developed a tailored software to support the indicators system linked to the geospatial information available at the Uruguay Spatial Data Infrastructure Geo-portal. The information system allows web queries and is set to perform combinations of three indicators selection criteria: geographic, thematic and temporal. Information is displayed through tables, graphics, maps, texts and reports. Structure was defined to enable remote updating of data and loading of new indicators.

The information system is available at [<http://www.mvotma.gub.uy/indicadores/>]

Output 3: Strengthening of the National Emergency System. (UNESCO)

Many activities were successfully developed for the National Emergency System, strengthening and building capacities. Local emergency responders (police, army, firemen, local government members, social workers, health care workers, road authorities) from the 19 Uruguayan departments were trained:

WORKSHOPS:

- **Geographical Information Systems and Risk Assessments**
- **Operative tools for risk**
- **Forest Fires Prevention**
- **Hydrometeorological adverse events**
- **Floods: management and response**

The general purpose of the training activities was to provide an even level of qualification and foster the local emergency responders' information management capabilities. These tools are supposed to prepare them in the collect and use of local information aiming to a continual improvement of risk assessment and management. In addition, workshops to share lessons learned from disaster episodes were held.

Since the beginning of the project, it provided technical assistance to updated risk maps and collect and systematize valuable data. This information was compiled in a printed version titled "*Eventos adversos y gestión del riesgo-Hacia un Sistema de Información de Riesgos*".

Three local emergency committees were fully equipped by the joint project.

As a summary of the joint programme, a video was prepared to show the project outcomes: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dRAR8rUAnDk&feature=player_embedded]

V. MONITORING

Expected results	Indicators	Status/measure
Output 1: Generation, update, and strengthening of databases corresponding to the Uruguay Spatial Data Infrastructure initiative.	• Training hours provided by the project.	173
	• Number of participants in training workshops.	72
	• Coverage of territory classified through GLCN.	100%
Output 2: Creation of a national system of environmental indicators with emphasis on indicators for monitoring the socio-environmental and territorial situation along the coastline.	• Number of environmental indicators generated.	103
	• Percentage of methodological sheets for indicators discussed.	100%
	• Creation of the Uruguay Spatial Data Infrastructure Geo-portal.	Completed
	• Availability of Data at the portal.	Completed
Output 3: Strengthening of the National Emergencies System.	• Risk maps updated and published.	Completed
	• Emergency Committees in Departments of the interior that received support from the project.	3

VI. ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AA	Administrative Agent
CFCC	Coherence Fund Consultative Committee
CFSC	Coherence Fund Steering Committee
DaO	Delivering as One
FAO	United Nations Organization for Food and Agriculture
GIS	Geographic Information System
GLCN	Global Land Cover Network
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LCCS	Land Cover Classification System
MDTF	Multi-Donor Trust Fund
MGAP	Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries
MTOP	Ministry of Transport and Public Works
MVOTMA	Ministry of Housing, Territorial Planning and Environment
NES	National Emergency System
OPP	Office of Planning and Budget
PAHO-WHO	Pan American Health Organization-World Health Organization
PUNO	Participating United Nations Organization
RCO	Resident Coordinator's Office
SDI	Spatial Data Infrastructures
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNS	United Nations System