

INVENTORY OF
INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION
EXPERIENCES
IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- MIREX -

INVENTORY OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION EXPERIENCES



IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
MIREX

CREDITS



INVENTORY OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION EXPERIENCES

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- Photos provided by institutions
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This document has been produced thanks to the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), as a result of the project “Strengthening the Management of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs”, approved by the two institutions in February 2016.

The views expressed in this publication are those of the author or authors, and do not necessarily represent those of the United Nations, including the UNDP, or those of the Member States of the UN.

MIREX and UNDP thank all the institutions for the information and images that have been provided, which enabled the successful realization of the present inventory.

This first Inventory of Cooperation Experiences is a first edition, being indicative but not exhaustive. New experiences will be made available in the online version of the inventory that will be regularly updated by the Directorate of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



United Nations Development Programme
Dominican Republic

*Al servicio
de las personas
y las naciones*

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FOREWORD
BY THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

“The history of Latin America and the Caribbean is a history of solidarity and commitment, knowing that to share what we have helps us to be better every day. ”

The Dominican Republic has been a country of solidarity with all the peoples and countries with which we have had the opportunity to interact. Beyond political will or State decisions, the cooperation and collaboration that we have shown throughout our history testifies to the nature of a people that has known, in the precariousness of shortages and in the vicissitudes of their existence, how to share little or much of what nature has wished to bestow upon us.

If, in other times, we managed to contribute our modest efforts to the process and to wars of liberation in different countries of the continent, decades later we are still the same people, able to give of what little we have, and we have learned to do it because we have also received help from friendly countries.

As a nation, we are privileged witnesses to this fact. We have been recipients of grants, aid, support and, above all, of the transfer of knowledge, technology and resources. This has resulted in a substantial improvement of our infrastructures, in our human resources and, ultimately, in our way of doing things and dealing with problems and challenges.

For a time, bilateral cooperation was marked by a centre-periphery approach, with the quantitative logic that underdevelopment was a matter of capital and resources, and so it made sense that cooperation would be a mere transfer of capital, resources, goods and services. However, as we went deeper into the complexities inherent in the current system of competitiveness, in a multipolar world, we also started to appreciate other types of cooperation: ones that seek to transfer best practices – successful, measurable, replicable and sustainable – which

have been designed and implemented in countries with not only the same characteristics and similar economic variables as ours, but also with similar socio-cultural contexts.

It is in this context that South-South cooperation acquired its dimension and its significance, and thus was integrated into the National Development Strategy 2030, defined as “the exchange of national capacities to cooperate with other countries”. To this end, since 2014 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MIREX) and the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development (MEPD) - with the collaboration of the Ministry of Finance (MH) – agreed to establish a Policy of International Cooperation for Development (PCID) in the Dominican Republic, in order to help position the country abroad, through the creation of new schemes in international relations, by way of the South-South and triangular cooperation mechanisms.

As noted in the International Cooperation Policy, the country needs to consolidate a coherent and attractive package of cooperation initiatives based on the capabilities and successful experiences existing in the country through (i) the systematization of the Dominican cooperation initiatives, (ii) the dissemination in regional and international forums, (iii) the identification of the degree of feasibility and viability of the best practices presented by establishing technical and financial criteria and (iv) the definition of processes and budget lines for the incorporation of Dominican officials and experts in South-South and triangular cooperation actions.

In accordance with legal provisions and institutional mandates, in 2015 MIREX launched the Strategic Plan 2015-2020, which represents a new approach to the Foreign Relations policy of the Dominican Republic, within the framework of the external relations of the country, and from among its six main components defines courses of action and highlights Development Cooperation.

Based on the above, MIREX and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) approved the “Institutional Strengthening of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic” project, in order to create an inventory of best national practices related to social initiatives, institutional strengthening, productive sectors, gender, environment, risk management – among other topics – to systematize experiences to facilitate their replication and implementation.

This Inventory of Cooperation Experiences of the Dominican Republic includes some of our best experiences with

successful initiatives that have been adopted by the public administration in its role as manager and facilitator of processes to address the various problems faced in each of the different areas that make up the Dominican State.

This inventory, rather than being a systematization of experiences, constitutes a recognition of the work of Dominican women and men who believe that the creation of a better Dominican Republic is possible and that, with their ongoing efforts, have built durable, verifiable and replicable solutions to everyday challenges, here and elsewhere.

Compiling information in an organized, systematic manner --- and giving meaning to this information by providing access not only to knowledge, but also to experience -- implies a qualitative and quantitative leap of enormous proportions since, in some cases, the difficult experiences and lessons learnt from the learning process, have already been assumed by the Dominican State institutions that paved the way for practical solutions in the midst of changing, dynamic environments.

With the availability of this inventory of experiences, the Dominican State presents to the world a never-before seen image, one that is already known by the Dominican people: the image of a country that wants to share its experiences and successes with other countries of the continent, with the aim of making a modest contribution to the construction of a more supportive and prosperous Latin America and Caribbean region.

Andrés Navarro,

Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Dominican Republic



REMARKS

BY THE RESIDENT COORDINATOR
OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM
AND RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE UNDP IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

For the UNDP, this Inventory of International Cooperation Experiences of the Dominican Republic, comprised of a compilation of best practices that over the years have been developing in various State institutions in different areas, represents the culmination of a great deal of effort, since it is the realization of a political will that permeates the State institutions: Do things well with a marked commitment to excel.

This inventory is aimed at systematizing actions that have already been developed and implemented through years of work, demonstrated not only over time, but according to criteria such as sustainability, replicability and the constant improvement of the proposed solutions to meet the various challenges posed by a dynamic reality.

None of the actions enumerated here would have been possible without the cooperation and the efforts of all the men and women who work in the participating institutions, since it is only when there is an actual ownership of the changes and procedures that involve new ways of looking at a problem, that one can really speak of an organizational change and, above all, of the consolidation of a more all-round and inclusive vision, through the construction of a paradigm of excellence in public service.

Latin America faces major challenges within the context of a society that becomes more complex, because the environment has become more and more competitive. There is the challenge of being more effective and efficient with increasingly fewer available resources, and it is in that context that the Dominican Republic - a country of average incomes with a unique history and socio-political reality - has been able to cope with initiatives and policies which, in some cases, were merely attempts to do things differently, but, in others, to do things better, towards the creation of a culture of service and efficiency. These recent successful examples are those which have been collected in the present Inventory of Experiences.

The commitment of the UNDP to support the efforts made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at the time of identifying, compiling, systematizing and making available to the public the present inventory of experiences, is made because our history and *raison d'être* is to serve people and nations by accompanying the processes of building a more just and equitable society whereby democracy is the norm, where respect for the fundamental rights of human beings is a constant, and where solidarity is a culture, rather than a commitment.

For the UNDP, to support this effort is to be consistent with our mandate, which rallies us to support States in different parts of the world which require our support through technical assistance, the promotion and dissemination of best practices, and the maximization of cooperation in its various forms.

This Inventory of Experiences therefore becomes a valuable instrument for South-South cooperation, which positions the Dominican Republic as both a cooperation recipient and as a donor. Beyond the constraints imposed by limited human, technical and financial resources, the lessons compiled here are a valuable testimony to the fact that planning, organization, commitment and will can make a difference.

UNDP thanks the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the opportunity to participate in the realization of this initiative, which undoubtedly constitutes a valuable contribution to regional development and that demonstrates –yet again– the Dominican people’s vocation to serving others.

Lorenzo Jiménez de Luis,

Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System and
Resident Representative of the UNDP in the Dominican Republic.

SIGNING

PNUD - MIREX



Photo of the signing of the UNDP-MIREX agreement



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION STRATEGY

The year 2015 marked a milestone on the path to international development. The celebration of three historic summits redefined the architecture of the global development framework. The Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which provides a global framework for financing the new international development agenda, was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in July. In September, the 193 Member States of the United Nations, including the Dominican Republic, adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. And, the United Nations Climate Change Conference, during which a global agreement was reached to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, was held in December in Paris.

However, to reach these goals, the exploration and identification of the financial and non-financial resources required for the implementation of this agenda are of the utmost importance, as well as the generation of synergy across all the goals and among the various development stakeholders—government, civil society and private sector - that will make it possible.

Governments comply with their obligations in the field of international development in that they guarantee the development of their countries and contribute to the preservation and generation of global public goods through their international cooperation actions. International cooperation serves as an implementing means through which countries support the attainment of the SDGs.

In this scenario, our vision is to promote international cooperation as a tool to foster peace and solidarity among nations and the consolidation of our international relations for the fulfillment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The newly released International Cooperation Policy spearheads the development of an International Cooperation Agenda for the Dominican Republic, not only in but also out of the country.

We are putting this first inventory of experiences at your disposal that presents a group of programs and projects that have helped the development of the Dominican Republic in several areas. This inventory of experiences has been developed as one of the first actions with which it is intended to provide operability to the International Cooperation Policy of the country, so that this tool will contribute to the strengthening of the capacities that the Dominican Republic has in different areas of development.



NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The National Development Strategy (END) is a frame of reference that sets out priorities in which efforts and resources should be invested to achieve the social, economic, environmental and institutional advancement of the country. According to the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development, a catalyst for the efforts to implement the project that is now a law, END *is the basis for establishing a culture of planning and public policy action with a long-term vision of the development of the country, the eradication of poverty and the raising of the standard of living of the Dominican population.*

END is based on four strategic goals, each with its own specific objectives.

The first strategic goal calls for the establishment of a social and democratic State governed by the rule of law, understood as having institutions that act ethically and with transparency and effectiveness in the service of a responsible and participatory society that guarantees security and promotes equality, governance, peaceful coexistence and national and local development.

The second strategic goal advocates for a society with equal rights and opportunities, enjoying education, health, decent housing and basic quality services, that promotes the progressive reduction of poverty and social and territorial inequality. The third strategic goal relates to the achievement of a competitive, comprehensive and sustainable economic system, based on a territorial and sectorally integrated economy, which is innovative, diversified, pluralistic, quality-oriented and environmentally sustainable, that creates and distributes wealth fairly, generates a high, sustained level of growth with equality and decent employment, and that leverages and enhances the opportunities in the local market and is competitive in the global economy.

Finally, the fourth strategic goal refers to the establishment of a society of environmentally sustainable production and consumption that adapts to climate change, which means that it manages with equality and effectiveness the risks to, and the protection of, the environment and natural resources. Each goal has its objectives, lines of action, indicators and targets.

Taking into account the priorities stated in the END, the initiatives presented in this document identify the END strategic lines of action to which they contribute, as well as the objective of maintaining coherence and alignment with the roadmap defined by the Dominican State.

IMPLEMENTING INSTITUTIONS

MINISTRY OR INSTITUTION	INITIATIVE, PROGRAMME OR PROJECT
1. Ministry of the Presidency	Integral Emergency Response System 9-1-1
2. Ministry of the Interior and Police	Citizen Security Observatory
3. Ministry of the Interior and Police	Biometrics and Ballistics Laboratory (LABBS)
4. Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources	The National "Quisqueya Verde" Plan
5. Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources	Sustainable management of the basins of the Sabana Yegua dam
6. Ministry of Women	Seals of Gender Equality in enterprises and organizations
7. Chamber of Accounts of the Dominican Republic	Control Table
8. Chamber of Accounts of the Dominican Republic	Youth Auditor's Programme
9. Central Electoral Board (JCE)	Women's Political Participation Observatory
10. Central Electoral Board (JCE)	Electoral Training School (EFEC)
11. Attorney General of the Republic	Model of the Prison System
12. Social Subsidies Administration (ADESS)	Social Supply Network (RAS)
13. Center of Attention to Disability (CAID)	CAID
14. Community Technology Centers (CTC)	Country Strategy to close the Digital Knowledge Gap

IMPLEMENTING INSTITUTIONS

MINISTRY OR INSTITUTION	INITIATIVE, PROGRAMME OR PROJECT
15. The Chamber of Deputies Gender Commission	Permanent Committee on Gender Affairs of the Chamber of Deputies
16. National Council for Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism	"Hackathon" on climate change
17. National Council for Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism	Resilient and Low Carbon Development Plans
18. Corporation of State Electrical Enterprises	Micro centers in remote rural communities
19. Budget Directorate-General (DIGEPRES)	Country Budget, as related to citizens, presented with transparency and accountability
20. Presidential Special Programmes Directorate-General	National Literacy Plan "Quisqueya Learns With You"
21. Directorate General of Public Procurement	Procurement as a base for the development for micro, small and medium enterprises, women, productive sectors
22. National Fund for the Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA Fund)	The MARENA Fund
23. Cabinet for the Coordination of Social Policies	A floor dedicated to Social Gender Protection
24. Cabinet for the Coordination of Social Policies (GCPS)	Internships relating to Strategic, Conceptual and Operational Aspects of the Dominican Social Protection System
25. Local Development Agencies Network	Network of Local Development Agencies in the Dominican Republic
26. Dominican Rural Tourism Network.	Dominican Rural Tourism Network
27. National Geological Service	Programme of Soil Characterization for the mitigation of the effects of an earthquake
28. Unique System of Beneficiaries (SIUBEN)	Vulnerability Index of Climatic Shocks (IVACC)
29. Unique System of Beneficiaries (SIUBEN)	Focus on Beneficiaries of Social Policies



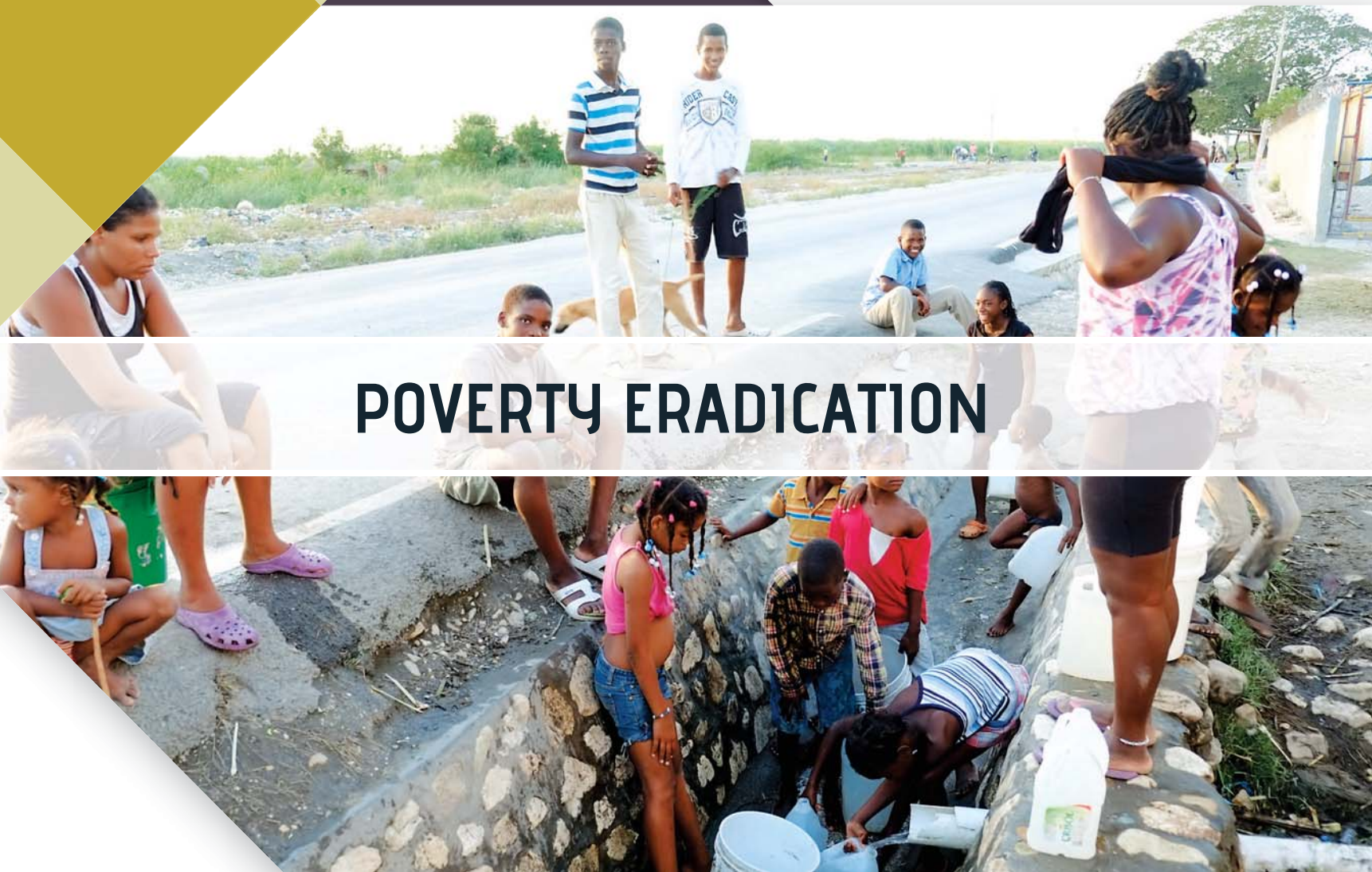
SUCCESSFUL COOPERATION EXCHANGE

A SHARING OF EXPERIENCES BETWEEN BELIZE AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC RELATING TO CITIZEN SECURITY, MARCH 2016.

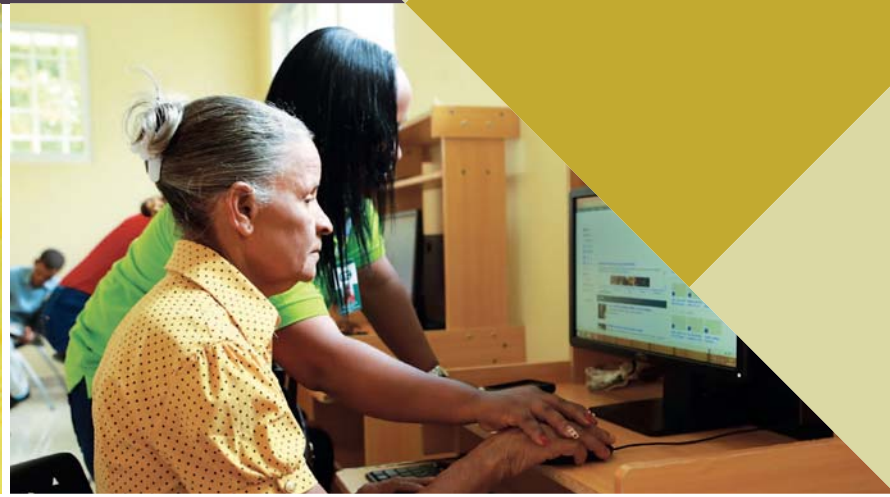
Under the agreement between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MI-REX) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to promote South-South cooperation, the country received a delegation from Belize for the sharing of best practices, and to learn about policies and practices implemented in the Dominican Republic in the field of citizen security. The delegation was led by the Deputy Coordinator at the National Security Council Secretariat in Belize, Nicole Haylock-Rodriguez, and was hosted by Cesar Dargam, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The mission visited the Citizen Security Observatory, the National 9-1-1 Emergency Response System, the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, the Ballistic and Biometric Laboratory (LABBS), the Observatory of the National District, and the National Institute of Forensic Science (INACIF). At the close of the mission, the representative of the Government of Belize expressed her satisfaction with the information provided, and said that the next step would be an exchange of technical representatives between the Dominican Republic and Belize.





POVERTY ERADICATION





CENTRE FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE CARE OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The Centre for the Comprehensive Care of People with Disabilities (CAID) is a project implemented by the Office of the First Lady, with the primary aim of providing a comprehensive space for the care, education, rehabilitation and attention of children with different abilities, accompanying them in the process of growth and treatment both in the cognitive, physical, emotional, and creative areas, as well as in their relation to their surroundings.

MISSION



Provide comprehensive and quality service in the evaluation, diagnosis and therapeutic process of children from 0 to 10 years old with Down's syndrome, Autism Spectrum Disorders and Cerebral Palsy, ensuring greater development of their potential to achieve better social inclusion.



VISION



To be an institution for national and international reference in caring for children with Down's syndrome, autism spectrum disorders and cerebral palsy through the excellence of its human resources and its intervention processes.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE CENTRE FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE CARE OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (CAID)

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

The CAID is a project primarily aimed at providing a space for the care, education, rehabilitation and attention to children with different abilities, accompanying them in the process of growth and treatment in the cognitive, physical, emotional, and creative areas, as well as in their relation to their surroundings. Therefore, this project is of the utmost importance for Dominican children, seeking the inclusion of boys and girls as well as their access to assistance as needed.

BACKGROUND

The Ninth National Population and Housing Census conducted in 2010 found that 5% of the population residing in the Dominican territory is affected by some form of disability, which represents approximately 450,000 people. Of these, 64,800 are children and adolescents aged 2 to 19 years.

Although it was found that approximately 60% of the population with a disability is attending a school, their level of school attendance is significantly lower than the total population in the same age group. While in the total population attendance accounts for 86%, among those who have some kind of disability attendance drops to 62.3%. The same behaviour is observed in the dropout rate which, for the total population aged 2 to 19 years who do not attend school but who attended at some point, accounts for 8.7%, and in the case of children and adolescents with disabilities, 26.1%.

The CAID originated as an initiative of the First Lady of the Republic, Cándida Montilla de Medina, with the aim of establishing a model of care for disabled children from 0 to 10 years old, based on a multidisciplinary intervention to enhance and develop to the fullest their cognitive, socio-emotional, adaptive, psychomotor and communicative skills through educational and therapeutic strategies that involve the family and the community.

BENEFICIARIES

Boys and girls from 0 to 10 years old with disabilities.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE CENTRE FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE CARE OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (CAID)

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE

The first Centre has been operational since 2013 in Santo Domingo Oeste. Later, two other centres were inaugurated, one in Santiago in December 2015 for the Cibao region, and the other in San Juan for the southern region, which was inaugurated in February 2016. Soon the construction of a fourth centre will be initiated in Santo Domingo Este and a fifth, in San Pedro de Macorís.

Therapies provided at the centre include psychomotor therapy, speech therapy, behavioural therapy, psycho-educational family programme, early stimulation, pedagogical levelling, and play therapy, among others.

The CAID has successfully served 49,904 boys and girls with disabilities in the 2012-2015 period.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION

Objective 2.3.6: Ensure equal opportunities for people with disabilities, to promote their social and economic inclusion and protect those in conditions of vulnerability.

METHOD OF COOPERATION

Information and experience sharing.

WEB PAGE

www.primeradama.gob.do





COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY CENTRES (CTCS)

CTCs are facilities that provide free access to technology to men, women, and children, making Internet, community radio and library services available to women at risk, people with low-income, people with disabilities and socio-economic difficulties, as well as technology training, talks and workshops.

CTCs use information and communication technologies to promote human development in communities through the delivery of services that meet their needs and provide for the economic sustainability of each centre.

MISSION



We are a responsive and efficient governmental institution that reduces the digital divide, builds and improves capabilities, and promotes the acquisition of knowledge in favour of comprehensive development, with human sensitivity and based on the values of Dominican families.



VISION



Dominican families comprehensively developed and living according to their values, within a framework of equity, solidarity and social justice.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY CENTRES

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

The Community Technology Centres (CTCs) are facilities that democratize training in and access to information and communication technology (ICT), to ensure that the entire population possesses the digital capabilities that are required to be part of society and the 21st century economy.

These centres are established in the most impoverished areas; each centre has a management committee composed of leading community representatives who are responsible for ensuring the good operation, maintenance and quality of services delivered, and operate under an ISO 9001: 2008 quality certification, which ensures a single standard of quality in the provision of services throughout the national territory.

Services appropriate to the needs of each community are provided, thus facilitating access for people with limited resources to services, such as: fax, telecommunications, teleconferences, technological, cultural and technical training, information, library and play centres, Internet, job placement, conference and meeting rooms, community radio station and cinema forum.

Also, early stimulation programmes are developed for children under five years old, through the Espacios de Esperanza. The CTCs offer a wide selection of courses, activities and special programmes through local and international partners.

BACKGROUND

During the 1996-2000 period, the Little Intelligent Communities (LINCOS) project was developed for the purpose of democratizing access to information and contributing to reducing the digital divide in the country. This project consisted of five 70 m² trailers installed in an equal number of communities. Each centre had six computers, a server, a radio station and two phones. Later, by means of Decree No. 489-12, the President of the Republic transferred the administration of these centres to the Vice-Presidency, which were then renamed Community Technology Centres, as part of the Social Protection Network of the Dominican State. This change responds to the Dominican Government's poverty reduction strategy to facilitate access to ICT by the vulnerable population.

The evolution experienced by the CTCs since their inception has been taken to several international scenarios, for example: workshops conducted jointly with the



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY CENTRES

ANTECEDENTES

IDB on telecentre sustainability, with the participation of 15 telecentre projects in Latin America; the World Summit on the Information Society and Knowledge in Tunis; the preparatory meeting for the Regional Summit on Information Society and Knowledge in Guatemala; the Regional Summit on Information Society and Knowledge in Rio de Janeiro; as well as other international panels.

BENEFICIARIES

Population in conditions of economic and environmental vulnerability; men, women, and children, citizens with low income, women at risk, people with disabilities and socio-economic difficulties.

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE

In 2007 the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) presented the Vice-President of the Republic with the World Information Society Award; later, this same organization recognized her as the sponsor of the Tech Needs Girls project. Also, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation granted the Centres the 2012 Access to Learning Award, which included the donation of software for the CTCs. Currently, there are agreements in place with educational and civil society organizations to contribute to strengthening services in the country and with entities and international organizations such as Microsoft and The Trust for the Americas that is affiliated with the Organization of American States.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION

Objective 3.3.5: Achieve universal access and productive use of information and communication technologies (ICTs).

METHOD OF COOPERATION

Information and experience sharing.

WEB PAGE

www.ctc.edu.do/



SINGLE SYSTEM FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF BENEFICIARIES

Single System for the Identification of Beneficiaries (SIUBEN)

The Single System for the Identification of Beneficiaries (SIUBEN) is an institution of the Dominican Government attached to the Social Policy Coordination Cabinet, which functions as a dependency of the Vice-Presidency of the Republic. SIUBEN was created by Executive Branch Decree No. 1073-04, dated August 31, 2004.

SIUBEN provides socio-economic information to quantify the deficiencies in the living conditions of families living in poor areas, as a platform for the implementation and monitoring of focused interventions to obtain a greater impact on overcoming poverty.

MISSION



To meet the demand for demographic and socio-economic information regarding the population targeted by social policies in the Dominican Republic.



VISION



To be the best-valued source of socio-economic and demographic information for the development, implementation and evaluation of targeted social policies in the Dominican Republic.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE SINGLE SYSTEM FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF BENEFICIARIES (SIUBEN)

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

The Single System for the Identification of Beneficiaries (SIUBEN) is the Social Policy Coordination Cabinet's mechanism responsible for creating and managing the database of poor households throughout the country and for developing a register of eligible households to guarantee their access to the benefits of social and subsidy programmes implemented with public resources.

The system seeks to build a mechanism for targeting beneficiaries of social policies as well as to show the evolution and results obtained in social protection since its inception.

BACKGROUND

SIUBEN was created in 2004 by means of Decree No. 1073-04 as the Government's main tool for targeting social policy.

Scope

The database allows for:

- A multi-dimensional approach to poverty
- A differentiated approach to poverty in metropolitan, medium and small urban, and rural areas.
- Measuring households according to their levels of needs, based on the Quality of Life Index (QLI), which ranks households from the most disadvantaged (QLI 1), to the least disadvantaged (QLI 4).
- Geographical disaggregation of family needs per province and municipality, as well as specific communities, including the geo-referencing of a portion of all registered households.
- Meeting specific needs faced by poor households.
- Identifying conditions of increased vulnerability (geographical, economic and physical) for the family.

BENEFICIARIES

Economically and environmentally vulnerable population.

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE

The development of a register of persons eligible for social programmes was developed through:

- 1) references taken from the map of poverty in the Dominican Republic to identify households in the most disadvantaged areas.
- (2) the collecting of data on housing taking into account the structure of the house and the individuals composing the household, as follows.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

SINGLE SYSTEM FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF BENEFICIARIES (SIUBEN)

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<p>Regarding housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Type of dwelling - Wall material - Roof material - Floor material - Access to basic services - Head of household <p>About the household members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Educational level - Occupational status - Identity documents <p>Information about households and their members was used to confirm a Quality of Life Index (QLI), which allows measuring the levels of deprivation or vulnerability of households with indicators that approximate income levels. The QLI generates four categories, from the most disadvantaged (QLI 1) to the least disadvantaged (QLI 4). Categories QLI 1 and QLI 2 are eligible to benefit from social programmes.</p> <p>Data Collection Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Determination of areas for data collection. - Updating of mapping data. - Development of data collection tools. - Definition of training plan. - Recruitment of personnel for data collection
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	<p>2.2.2.7 Strengthen the single system for the registration of beneficiaries of social protection programmes.</p> <p>2.3.3 Reduce poverty through an effective and efficient social protection system that takes into account the needs and vulnerabilities throughout the life cycle.</p>
WEB PAGE	<p>www.siuben.gob.do/ www.gabinetesocial.gob.do/</p>
METHOD OF COOPERATION	<p>Information and experience sharing.</p>

Index of Vulnerability to Climate Shocks (IVACC)



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE INDEX OF VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE SHOCKS (IVACC)

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

The IVACC is a tool for the incorporation of environmental and climate variables to measurements of poverty, in order to allow a more comprehensive approach that reflects the vulnerability to shocks suffered by different countries, such as the Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

BACKGROUND

The Dominican Republic is the second Caribbean country most vulnerable to seismic and meteorological events. It is located in the path of hurricanes and its condition as a small island-state subject to the impact of climate change determines its exposure to the occurrence of potentially disastrous climate events.

In its efforts to reduce poverty, the country found it necessary to implement social protection strategies addressing these vulnerabilities and supporting the building of resilience to climate shocks, which required information about the dynamics of poverty and environment.

Through periodic data collection (sweeping method), the Single System for the Identification of Beneficiaries (SIUBEN) – the body responsible for the database of poor households and the register of households eligible for social programmes - updates its database and includes, to the extent possible, additional poverty-related variables. At present, it has entered 2.5 million households, more than 80% of the population, according to the 2010 Census.

In its efforts to reduce poverty, the country found it necessary to include in variables those related to environmental issues and climate change. Thus, the goal of developing a measurement that would complement the quality of life index (QLI) was set, since, as it is known, a household with the characteristics of a poor household, according to the QLI, is more likely to be impacted upon the occurrence of extreme weather events.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

INDEX OF VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE SHOCKS (IVACC)

BACKGROUND

In 2014 UNDP, jointly with the SIUBEN and the Vice-Presidency of the Republic, launched the Index of Vulnerability to Climate Shocks (IVACC) to measure the vulnerability of a household to the occurrence of hydro-meteorological shock (in this case, a storm, flood or hurricane.)

The IVACC, as applied to the households in the SIUBEN database, highlighted the significant correlation between this and the QLI: households with a lower QLI tend to have a higher IVACC. In other words, households at the greatest disadvantage tend to be those located in areas closer to sources of hazards that, due to their internal and structural conditions (low level of education, precarious construction materials, high number of dependents, etc.), are in a more difficult position to deal with any hydro-meteorological shock.

While SIUBEN is responsible for data collection and index calculation, the goal is to make the IVACC available to different institutions as they relate to the reduction of poverty, disaster mitigation and response or territorial planning.

For the National Emergency Commission (CNE), the IVACC has proven to be an extremely useful tool for obtaining valuable information, particularly for the actions undertaken by the Civil Defence.

During the passing of Erika, the storm most recently affecting the country, in the last quarter of 2015, a joint effort was made between the SIUBEN, the Cabinet for the Coordination of Social Policies and the CNE to evacuate poor families based on their level of vulnerability as indicated by the IVACC.

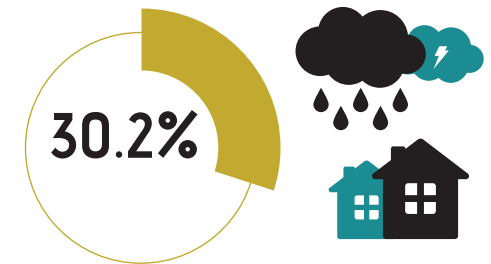
BENEFICIARIES

Population in conditions of economic and environmental vulnerability

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE

- The IVACC estimates the likelihood of a household being vulnerable to hurricanes, storms and floods, given certain socio-economic characteristics. It provides knowledge of the areas with increased risk to climate shocks, floods, storms and rainfall.
- Also, in the social policy field it allows for:
 - ° Optimizing resources
 - ° Targeting actions

30.2% of all households registered in **SIUBEN** report high levels vulnerability to climate shocks (e.g., storms, floods, hurricanes).



48.3%

of all households registered in **SIUBEN** have a higher probability of having their **assets and livelihoods compromised** due to the occurrence of a hydro-meteorological shock than the national average.



Households in the countryside report a higher **IVACC** than those in urban and metro-politan areas of the country.



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE INDEX OF VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE SHOCKS (IVACC)

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Supplementing the QLI ◦ Avoiding losing the social investment - The IVACC has been used in the country to promote inter-operability with civil protection and rescue institutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Submission of the index to the National Commission of Emergencies' technical team ◦ Upon the occurrence of storm Erika, provision of information to the CNE for action plans ◦ Member of CNE's PMR Technical Committee - Sharing of experiences with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Delegations from countries: Bolivia, Panamá, Surinam. ◦ Representatives of the Caribbean-Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogue (CCELD) - New questions about vulnerability have been included in the SIUBEN questionnaire
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	Objective 2.3.3: Reduce poverty through an effective and efficient social protection system, taking into account needs and vulnerabilities throughout the lifecycle.
METHOD OF COOPERATION	Information and experience sharing.
WEB PAGE	www.siuben.gob.do/



With the **IVACC** the Dominican Republic becomes a global pioneer in the calculation and implementation of an environment vulnerability index applied to **homes**.

This allows for a **geographical breakdown**, from a country level to the home.





CABINET FOR THE COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICIES (GCPS)

Cabinet for the Coordination of Social Policies (GCPS) Professional Internship Programme

The Cabinet for the Coordination of Social Policies, created by means of Decrees No. 28-01, 1082-04 and 1251-04 and composed of a technical office, an administrative and financial office, a Civil Society Advisory Council, and of affiliated public institutions, coordinates the processes of development, implementation and evaluation of the Dominican Government's social policies.

In addition, it is responsible for designing, establishing and following-up on a social sector strategic agenda, informing

MISSION



We work to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of the Government's strategy and social policies, by coordinating programmes and actions that, in terms of social demand, are formulated by the institutions that make up the Cabinet, with a focus on having an impact on the comprehensive development of Dominican families in a situation of vulnerability and poverty reduction.



VISION



Protection, promotion and development of families by promoting progress in overcoming poverty in the Dominican Republic.

the President of the Republic of its evolution and knowing, serving and giving an effective response to the social demands in matters related to its field of action.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE CABINET FOR THE COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICIES (GCPS) PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

Provision of professional internship opportunities to learn about the Cabinet for the Coordination of Social Policies' work on strategic, conceptual and operational aspects of the Dominican social protection system.

The professional internship uses an inter-agency coordination approach, in the context of the various interventions carried out by the Cabinet that complement each other into one single strategy to end poverty.

BACKGROUND

The GCPS is a body for articulating the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Dominican Republic's Social Protection System programmes that are based on three main core areas: conditional transfers, human and social development, and economic inclusion.

Our country hosted the first internship programme on social protection for public officials in coordination with the Central American Secretariat for Social Integration (SISCA), implemented within the framework of the Central American Integration System (SICA) in October 2014.

BENEFICIARIES

Population in conditions of economic and environmental vulnerability; men, women, and children, citizens with low income, women at risk, people with disabilities and socio-economic difficulty.

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE

Based on the evident results favourable for inter-agency collaboration and transparency in social action management, the Cabinet made the decision to replicate the internship experience for national actors associated with the fight against poverty and social exclusion.

To date, six professional internships have been offered for specific groups:

- For technicians and officials from institutions that are members of the Red Operativa de Protección Social del Gabinete (Cabinet's Operational Network for Social



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE CABINET FOR THE COORDINATION OF SOCIAL POLICIES (GCPS) PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE

Protection]: PROSOLI, SIUBEN, ADESS, CTC, and the Technical Directorate. Santo Domingo, Boca Chica and El Seibo. March 18-20, 2015.

- For journalists from the national media and from Cabinet institutions. El Seibo. April 16, 2015
- For technicians and officials from institutions affiliated with the Cabinet. Santo Domingo, Boca Chica and El Seibo. July 22-24, 2015.
- For journalists from the national media. Santo Domingo and Boca Chica. September 18-19, 2015.
- For technicians and officials from organizations that make up the Cabinet's Civil Society Advisory Council. Santo Domingo and Boca Chica. November 19-20, 2015.
- For technicians and officials from the Greater Santo Domingo local governments. Santo Domingo and El Seibo. March 16-18, 2016.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE ACTION

Objective 2.3.3: Reduce poverty through an effective and efficient social protection system taking into account needs and vulnerabilities throughout the lifecycle.

METHOD OF COOPERATION

Information and experience sharing.

WEB PAGE

www.gabinetesocial.gob.do/

Social Protection Floor and Gender Project



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOOR AND GENDER PROJECT

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

The main objective of the initiative is to contribute to the redefining of a social protection floor in the Dominican Republic that considers the inequality of people, both in socio-economic terms and gender, throughout their life cycle, ensuring universality from a human rights-based approach.

In addition, the initiative envisages the coordination of social policies from a gender perspective for the planning of actions that contribute to accelerating the achievement of equality and development.

This project is the first experience to be implemented in countries that participated in the study from which it originated. Therefore, it will serve as a model and will contribute to the validation at the global level of the creation of the social protection floor as established by the United Nations.

BACKGROUND

Based on the sub-regional report entitled "Fighting inequality from the basics. The social protection floor and gender equality", a joint initiative of UNDP, UN women and the ILO, the goal of contributing to the reflection around the social security models was set, as well as of expanding research and analysis around their frames of reference, methodology and practical application, always from a perspective of gender equality.

The document, presented in the Dominican Republic in June 2013, includes a gender-based analysis of official data produced from Panama, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic, and indicates that in general there is a low public investment in health, education and social security, which increases the lack of social protection of men and women, in many cases exacerbating their conditions of poverty

Women are the most affected, with less access to social security from the labour market; with greater vulnerability and lack of protection due to the fact that they almost exclusively take on household responsibilities and devote themselves mostly to the role of caretaker (domestic workers, for example), and greater social exclusion as a result of their limited access to resources and power.

The Cabinet for the Coordination of Social Policies (GCPS) of the Dominican Republic considered paramount the mapping and analysis of programmes with a focus

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOOR AND GENDER PROJECT

BACKGROUND	on social protection, social security and gender that meets the specific needs of Dominican women, for the construction of a protection floor. Also, the review of the impact of existing programmes on gender equality, in order to define and transform those which consolidate gender discriminatory situations, while promoting and expanding those that help to transform them.
BENEFICIARIES	Women and groups in situations of vulnerability
METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<p>The following was accomplished under the Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mapping and analysis of 27 policies, programmes and initiatives of protection and social security from a gender perspective, based on the four guarantees proposed by the United Nations protection floor. - Definition of scenarios and their costs to implement the closure of gender gaps in protection and social security. <p>The specific results are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of critical aspects in each programme from a gender perspective to determine if their approach was responding, since its inception, to the social protection floor framework; whether it guaranteed the equal participation of women and men, and whether it reproduced or altered the sexual division of labour. - Consultations and sharing with the institutions responsible for the implementation of public policies based on the identified gender gaps. - Identification and prioritization of policies that close gender gaps and expand the social protection branches to meet priority national needs in the three identified groups and based on three lines of action: income generation, health services and care services. - Evaluation of the costs and financial sustainability in the long term of the policy and/or programme options previously identified.
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	Article 12: all plans, programmes, projects and public policies must incorporate a gender perspective in their respective fields of action, in order to identify situations of discrimination between men and women and to take actions to ensure equality and gender equity. Strategic Goal 2: A cohesive society, with equal opportunities and low levels of poverty and inequality.
METHOD OF COOPERATION	Information and experience sharing.
WEB PAGE	www.gabinetesocial.gob.do/



DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR BUDGET (DIGEPRES)

The Directorate-General for Budget (DIGEPRES) was established from the promulgation of Organic Law No. 423-06 for the Public Sector Budget, November 17, 2006, thus replacing the National Office for Budget (ONAPRES). This law provides for DIGEPRES to be the Governing Body for the Budgetary System, thus making it a dependency of the Ministry of Finance. This event represented a new and modern budgetary system for the country, as part of its reform process.

MISION



To ensure the efficient allocation of public financial resources in order to contribute to economic and social development, in a context of fiscal sustainability and macroeconomic stability, through the regulation and administration of the State's budgetary system



VISION



To be an institution that administers a public, participatory and results-based budgetary system that improves the quality of spending through efficient and transparent management.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE CITIZEN BUDGET: A GUIDE FOR LEARNING ABOUT THE STATE GENERAL BUDGET

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

This initiative is aimed at providing citizens with access to budgetary information through documents detailing the way in which the State plans and allocates public resources for the benefit of the population in a manner that is understandable to the average citizen.

The proposal is promoted worldwide by the Open Budget Partnership, and has been welcomed by the Directorate-General for Budget as a flagship initiative for transparency and citizen participation.

The objective of the publication and dissemination of these public documents is a greater inclusion of citizens in order for them to better interpret budgetary information, understand how it affects them, assess what the Government does, and ensure the proper use of public resources.

BACKGROUND

The Directorate-General for Budget (DIGEPRES), among other bodies related to the Dominican public financial sector, has been in a process of legal and institutional reform since 2007. The reform, which has intensified in recent years, has made major changes in the formulation, implementation, evaluation and accountability processes, for the purpose of ensuring a more efficient, effective and transparent system of managing public finances. The more substantive changes that were introduced through the new legal text were:

- Setting of physical production goals associated with the allocation of resources for public entity programmes and projects.
- Formulation of the State's physical and financial budget in a multi-year scenario.
- Expanded analysis of the State's budgetary formulation and implementation; inclusion, in addition to the central Government, of decentralized and autonomous institutions, public enterprises, social security institutions and local governments.
- Presentation of public sector results on a consolidated basis.
- Establishment of results-based budget management.
- Evaluation of the public sector's programmes, projects and activities in terms of efficiency.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

CITIZEN BUDGET: A GUIDE FOR LEARNING ABOUT THE STATE GENERAL BUDGET

BACKGROUND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submission of periodic and accountability reports. <p>Important evaluations were conducted by international organizations in 2012 and 2013, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA), - Public Expenditure Management and Financial Accountability Review (PEMFAR). <p>These evaluations made evident the shortcomings of the budgetary process in the country, which was confirmed by the evaluation conducted of those years of the Open Budget Initiative. As a result, the DIGEPRES made the decision to prioritize efforts to make timely budget information available to citizens to a greater extent and degree of detail.</p> <p>In the year 2013, DIGEPRES launched a number of initiatives agreed upon and supported by the Government, as well as by the vast majority of civil society organizations, with the aim of increasing the levels of transparency and accountability to the public. As part of these initiatives, the “Presupuesto Ciudadano: Una guía para conocer el Presupuesto General del Estado 2014” (Citizens budget: A guide to learning about the State’s General Budget – 2014) was developed, which is a document made up of basic concepts for understanding the budget, as well as all data relating to the State’s General Budget, which are explained clearly.</p> <p>Also, comic book versions were developed that incorporate the graphic representation of day-to-day scenarios, such as school, technology centres or bus stops, in order to depict situations that allow for the readers’ instantaneous identification with the presented depictions of the accountability of public resources. Therefore, two comic book versions of the Citizens Budget: the State General Budget sent to Congress were developed; and a version of the Budget approved by the National Congress, whose publication made the country a pioneer in the development of two comic book depictions of the National Budget.</p> <p>Based on these and other initiatives carried out by DIGEPRES, the Dominican Republic increased by 22 points the Open Budget Index, from a score of 29 in the evaluation of 2012 to 51 in 2015, and from the category of countries that offer minimal budgetary information to those which provide budget information, according to the International Budget Partnership (IBP)’s Global Report on Open Budget Index.</p> <p>In this sense, the findings of the last four evaluations conducted by the IBP of the Dominican Republic demonstrate that the country is ranked third among the countries with greater growth in the Index out of the 102 countries evaluated, from a score of 12 in 2008 to 51 in 2015.</p>
BENEFICIARIES	General Population
METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<p>The process described below follows the guidelines and standards established by the International Budget Partnership guide.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducting of consultations with a sample of the population with different educational levels and age groups (university, graduate, secondary, primary studies) distributed to different professional and occupational groups (economists, teachers, doctors, janitors, housewives, lawyers, labourers, etc., as well as students and unemployed individuals), aimed at shedding light upon the following questions:

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

CITIZEN BUDGET: A GUIDE FOR LEARNING ABOUT THE STATE GENERAL BUDGET



METHOD AND EXPERIENCE

- How important is it that the Government inform the population of its expenditure/investment?
 - Would you be interested in learning more about how the Government spends/invests resources?
 - Which aspects would you value at the time of having the information presented to you?
 - What would you like to know?
- Once the document was prepared, a second consultation process is initiated with different specialized technicians and expert representatives of the Central Government, international organizations and organized civil society, in order to obtain feedback about the structure, content, presentation format and dissemination of the Citizens Budget, as well as a general assessment of the first version of the document, with a view to enriching it.
 - Wide national dissemination of the final product, in order to strengthen the transparency of public information through an increasingly fruitful and broad dialogue, both within the Government and among citizens who, by being informed about the destination and use of resources, can establish better criteria to evaluate the performance of the authorities.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION

Strategic Goal 1: A State with efficient and transparent institutions in the service of participatory and responsible citizens, that ensures security and promotes development and peaceful coexistence.

Objective 1.1.1: To structure an efficient public administration that acts with honesty, transparency and accountability, with an orientation towards the obtaining of results for the benefit of society and national and local development.

METHOD OF COOPERATION

Information and experience sharing.

WEB PAGE

www.digepres.gob.do/



DIRECTORATE-GENERAL OF SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL PROGRAMMES

The Directorate-General for Special Presidential Programmes (DIGEPEP) was created by Decree No. 491-12 with the aim of promoting the development of skills and opportunities that allow for reducing poverty and social exclusion, with a comprehensive and systemic rights approach and a territorial basis, based on the generation of social co-responsibility and of the promotion of coordinated and focused action from governmental bodies. For these purposes, the General Quisqueya sin Miseria Programme was created, which comprises

MISSION



We are a governmental entity that contributes to the achievement of the presidential goals of reducing poverty and social exclusion, through the development of skills and opportunities, with a focus on a comprehensive and systemic rights approach and with a territorial basis, by strengthening social co-responsibility and the coordinated action of society and governmental bodies.



VISION



To be an institution that is recognized for its contribution to the State-society articulation and the inter-sectoral coordination in the provision of decent living conditions to communities and families and in the consolidation of an institutional framework that promotes the construction of an active and participatory citizenship.

three basic components: Quisqueya Learns With You, Quisqueya Begins With You and Quisqueya is All of Us. DIGEPEP is a dependency of the Ministry of the Presidency.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

“QUISQUEYA LEARNS WITH YOU” NATIONAL LITERACY PLAN

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

The Quisqueya Learns With You National Literacy Plan mobilized all sectors of Dominican society to overcome illiteracy among young people and adults throughout the country, keeping within a two-year period.

This Plan is a component of the Quisqueya Sin Miseria strategy to fight poverty, which envisages, in addition to literacy, the generation of opportunities to continue and complete basic education through a flexible model that allows for adapting the educational offer to the daily life of participating young people and adults.

It also provides training to the literacy graduates in order to improve their quality of life and their qualifications for obtaining a better job. Finally, it promotes their involvement that will strengthen their levels of social and community participation.

BACKGROUND

The Quisqueya Aprende Contigo National Literacy Plan comes from an initiative of the Directorate-General of Special Presidential Programmes and the Ministry of Education of the Dominican Republic and is part of the actions to transform the Dominican education system and to ensure access of citizens to quality education. In fact, through Decree No. 546-12, in the year 2012, the literacy of persons aged 15 years or over was declared a national policy priority. The Plan aims at reducing the illiteracy rate of 12.83% (according to data from the 2010 National Census) to 5% or less.

BENEFICIARIES

Illiterate population aged 15 years and over.

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE

The implementation of this Plan is based on a decentralization strategy through the integration and involvement of all sectors of society, as well as the local authorities. 253 literacy boards were established for the Plan's sustainability and for encouraging the involvement of beneficiaries by taking advantage of the capabilities of so-



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

“QUISQUEYA LEARNS WITH YOU” NATIONAL LITERACY PLAN

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE

cial organizations, public and business entities in each geographical area. The provincial and municipal literacy boards make up a plural structure directed by the senators’ offices in the provinces and by the mayors’ offices in each municipality or municipal district. Each board’s secretariat is in charge of the regional and district Ministry of Education’s directorates.

The provincial and municipal literacy boards are led by the National Literacy Board, under the guidance of the National Technical Team, thus allowing for a broad process of location and registration of illiterate persons, in order to form the learning core units composed of volunteer literacy workers and persons who do not know how to read or write.

This Plan and its outcomes have achieved international visibility, so in February 2016 a UNESCO-La Havana mission visited the Dominican Republic to monitor the progress made by the country in the “Quisqueya Learns With You” Literacy Plan in reducing the number of illiterate people.

So far 965,070 people have benefited from the National Literacy Programme and the plan is in its second phase called Que Nadie se Quede Fuera (No one left behind) aimed at enrolling those people who have not registered voluntarily, but who also need to become literate. Que Nadie se Quede Fuera seeks to mobilize public, private and religious entities; social and community NGOs, and all concerned citizens, in order to find, encourage and enrol people they know who cannot read or write.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY’S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION

Line of action 2.3.2.2: To expand the coverage of adult literacy programmes until the eradication of illiteracy is achieved.

METHOD OF COOPERATION

Information and experience sharing.
Presentation of methodology

WEB PAGE

www.digepep.gob.do/quisqueya-aprende-contigo/



SOCIAL SUBSIDIES ADMINISTRATION (ADESS)

The Social Subsidies Administration (ADESS) was created on December 16, 2004 by means of Decree No.1560-04, as an agency of the Executive Branch with technical, administrative and financial autonomy, and with authority to act as a mechanism for unifying the payment of targeted social subsidies granted by the Dominican Government. In addition to the management and financial implementation of these subsidies, it is responsible for the oversight and

MISSION



Unifying and managing, in a streamlined manner, targeted social subsidies granted by the Government, ensuring their timely availability and proper use by the beneficiaries, in order to ensure social equity and the human dignity of Dominicans who live in conditions of poverty.



VISION



To become the only State body that manages all of the targeted social subsidies granted by the Government in a transparent and efficient manner.

verification of contracts and/or agreements with businesses and retailers affiliated to various social programmes.

The ADESS has institutional and functional linkages with the Cabinet for the Coordination of Social Policies and with all other State institutions responsible for determining, implementing and targeting social benefits.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE SOCIAL SUBSIDIES ADMINISTRATION (ADESS) SOCIAL SUPPLY NETWORK (RAS) PROJECT

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

The Social Supply Network (RAS) is composed of a large number of stores located throughout the national territory that enable the use of subsidies provided by the Government to people selected as beneficiaries of social programmes. It is attached to the Social Subsidy Payment System (SPSS) and offers the sale of goods or price compensation services for consumer goods or other services as provided for by the related programmes.

The platform for payment is comprised of establishments which, in addition to their geographical dispersion, have different conditions, qualities and characteristics; for example, retailers (grocery or convenience stores), shops, bookstores, college tuition payment facilities, electricity bill payment sites and liquefied gas packaging facilities. Therefore, each type of business deals with a type of subsidy:

- The grocery and convenience stores sell food under the following subsidies: Comeres Primero (Food Scheme), Incentivo a la Asistencia Escolar (ILAE) [Incentives for School Attendance], Subsidio Alimenticio a Envejecientes (Food Subsidy for Senior Citizens), Incentivo a la Policía Preventiva (monthly subsidy for police) and Incentivo a la Armada Dominicana (monthly subsidy for naval recruits).
- The liquefied gas packaging companies permit the use of the Bonogás Hogar and Bonogás Chofer (Gas consumption subsidy).

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE SOCIAL SUBSIDIES ADMINISTRATION (ADESS) SOCIAL SUPPLY NETWORK (RAS) PROJECT

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The electricity bill payment sites are linked to the Bonoluz (Energy consumption subsidy). • The bookstores, photocopying centres, college tuition payment facilities, university canteens and the Autonomous University's Econo-mato allow for transactions under the Incentive to Higher Education subsidy. • Shops sell school supplies and uniforms under the ILAE subsidy.
BACKGROUND	<p>The large number of targeted poor households which, due to their low income status, were eligible to be assisted; the potential need for implementing more than one subsidy, according to each social programme's model of intervention; and the Government's decision to count on the participation of the private financing sector to ensure the transparency of this aid made evident the need for creating a technically solvent entity to manage this payment system and ensure its effectiveness and transparency.</p> <p>Thus, a Dominican model of targeted social transfers was comprised of three separate programmes with specific functions and, at the same time, interconnected to attain common goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The first one, the cornerstone of the model, was the Single Identification System of Beneficiaries (SIUBEN), responsible for targeting and identifying eligible households; - The second was the Solidarity Programme, consisting of conditional cash transfers, aimed at promoting human development in beneficiary households and determining in each case their co-responsibilities and the amount of the applicable transfer; and - The third programme was the Social Subsidies Administration (ADESS), responsible for administering and managing the SPSS for targeted transfers –both conditional and non-conditional - as well as for organizing and supervising the RAS as an innovative channel for the implementation of cash transfers.
BENEFICIARIES	5,551 businesses enrolled in the RAS and 948,460 holders of social programme cards.
METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Definition of requirements and eligibility for the selection of businesses, operating rules for the provision of services and monitoring mechanisms. - Establishment of RAS - Creation of the Risk and Control Department for ongoing monitoring of participating businesses across the country.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

SOCIAL SUBSIDIES ADMINISTRATION (ADESS)

SOCIAL SUPPLY NETWORK (RAS) PROJECT

<p>METHOD AND EXPERIENCE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guaranteeing the delivery of adequate services to the beneficiary, as a condition for inclusion and retention in the Network. - Establishment of a limited number of participating businesses, based on the number of beneficiaries in each territory. - Creating a framework of restricted competition and a minimum level of transactions as an incentive to remain in the Network. - Establishment of a team for implementing crosscutting processes with businesses participating in the RAS through a training and awareness-raising programme to improve both the services they offer to the cardholder and their own business. - Certification and identification of participating businesses. - Implementation of two innovative projects related to Information and Communication Technologies: a) Guarantee of Ongoing Service and Recognition of Performance and b) Geo-referencing (for all participating businesses).
<p>NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION</p>	<p>Strategic Goal 2: A cohesive society with equal opportunities and low levels of poverty and inequality, with the specific objectives to:</p> <p>Objective 2.3.3: Reduce and alleviate poverty through an effective and efficient system of social protection.</p> <p>Objective 2.3.5: Protect vulnerable population groups and foster social inclusion.</p>
<p>METHOD OF COOPERATION</p>	<p>Information and experience sharing.</p>
<p>WEB PAGE</p>	<p>www.adess.gob.do/</p>





ENVIRONMENT AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION





THE NATIONAL FUND FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (MARENA FUND)

The National Fund for the Environment and Natural Resources was created to develop and finance environment and natural resource-related projects to benefit nature and people's communities. It has legal personality and its own administration, and jurisdiction throughout the national territory. It was created by means of Law No. 64-00 for the purpose of developing and financing programmes and projects for the protection, conservation, research, education, restoration and sustainable use of the environment and natural resources, and governed by Executive Branch Decree 783-09, dated October 21, 2009.

MISSION



To promote public and private investment for the development and financing of environment and natural resource-related projects that contribute to the country's sustainable development.



VISION



To be the national institution of reference for the obtaining and management of financial resources aimed at supporting strategic environmental management which contributes to the improved quality of life of the Dominican people.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

MARENA FUND

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

The National Fund for the Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA Fund) is a multi-purpose institution designed to channel resources to:

- The sustainable financing of biodiversity in the Dominican Republic
- The strengthening of institutional capacities
- The empowerment of communities
- The involvement of local governments

BACKGROUND

The MARENA Fund was conceived as one of the instruments for environmental management in the country.

It is a decentralized institution of the Dominican State, created by means of the General Law on the Environment and Natural Resources (Law 64-00), dated August 18, 2000, to promote public and private investment aimed at supporting initiatives that promote human development, while helping to maintain the integrity of the ecological processes that contribute to the health and quality of life of the population.

The MARENA Fund is an institution created to :

- Contribute to the efficient and effective environmental management in the country.
- Promote the protection, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the natural resources of the Dominican Republic.
- Be an instrument for the achievement of the objectives of environmental policies adopted by the Ministry for Environment and Natural Resources.
- Promote the building of systems and institutional capacities for the acquisition of financial resources; programme and project management, monitoring and evaluation; and the establishment of private-public partnerships with local, national and international organizations.
- Promote the understanding and economic valuation of goods and services offered by ecosystems.

BENEFICIARIES

The entire population.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE MARENA FUND

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<p>Organizations can access MARENA Fund services by means of the following methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grant funding The submission of proposals through a grant award process is intended to promote and partially or totally finance the initiatives focused on environment research, education, restoration, protection and conservation, as well as the sustainable use of natural resources. - Non-refundable micro financing A special programme aimed at providing financial resources for specific activities. - Endowment for Protected Areas A financial engineering instrument designed to support the management and strengthening of capacities of the National System of Protected Areas (SINAP) of the Dominican Republic.
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION (END)	<p>The MARENA Fund's work is linked to three of the four strategic goals in the National Development Strategy (END), through the financing of projects that address the following lines of action:</p> <p>Goal 1: A State with efficient, transparent institutions at the service of a participatory and responsible citizenry, which ensures security and promotes development and peaceful coexistence.</p> <p>1.3.1.4 Consolidate and promote the participation of civil society organizations in public management.</p> <p>Goal 3: An integrated, innovative and sustainable economy, with a production structure that generates high, sustained levels of growth, and decent jobs, and that is integrated into the competitive global economy.</p> <p>3.3.5.5 Encourage the use of ICTs as a competitive tool in the management and operations of the public and private sectors.</p> <p>3.5.3.2 Implement crop zoning according to the characteristics of agro-productive resources and environmental and risk conditions.</p> <p>Goal 4: Sustainable management of the environment and adequate adaptation to climate change.</p> <p>4.1.1.4 Strengthen the National Protected Areas System as a means of conserving Nature's heritage, and empower communities to receive its benefits.</p> <p>4.1.3.4 Promote the practice of reducing, reusing and recycling waste products.</p> <p>4.3.1.4 Foster the decarbonisation of the national economy through the use of renewable energy sources.</p>
METHOD OF COOPERATION	Information and experience sharing.
WEB PAGE	www.fondomarena.gob.do info@fondomarena.gob.do



NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND MECHANISM FOR CLEAN DEVELOPMENT

The National Council for Climate Change and Mechanism of Clean Development (CNCCMDL) was created by Presidential Decree 601-08, dated September 20, 2008, with the aim of bringing together the joint efforts of the various institutions that comprise the country's developing sectors, to combat the global climate change issue.

Its main function is to formulate, design and implement the public policies needed for the prevention and mitigation of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and for adap-

MISSION



The CNCCMDL formulates policies and strategies for the prevention and mitigation of greenhouse effect gases (GEG) and for adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change. It ensures that public entities and key civil society actors have access to a high level of information, awareness-raising, education and commitment regarding climate change, and its causes and consequences, thus enabling them to implement actions that integrate socio-economic development with environmental protection.



VISION



By 2030 the Dominican Republic will have improved the quality of life of its people and the health of its ecosystems by increasing their ability to adapt to climate change; will have reduced vulnerability to climate change, and will have contributed to the stabilization of greenhouse gas effects, without compromising its efforts to fight poverty and maintaining its sustainable development by promoting the transition to economic growth with low carbon emissions.

ting to the adverse effects of climate change, as well as to promote the development of climate-related programmes, projects and strategies in compliance with the commitments made by the Dominican Republic under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its related instruments.

In addition, since its inception the Council serves as the Designated National Authority (AND) for the Clean Development Mechanism (MDL) projects and as the focal point for the UNFCCC. Also, it is the focal point for the Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) projects, the national focal point for Article 6 of the Convention on Education, Training and Public Awareness and the focal point for the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC).

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE CLIMATE CHANGE HACKATHON (CLIMATHON)

DESCRIPTION OR OBJECTIVE

The CLIMATHON is a climate change hackathon² aimed at educating Dominican youth on climate change through innovation. Through this initiative, young people are expected to understand the usefulness of national information and communication technologies and the actions they can undertake to deal with the issue of climate change in their everyday lives.

BACKGROUND

The Dominican Republic has been singled out for actively promoting and implementing commitments made under Article 6 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change relative to the training of human resources, awareness-raising and empowerment of citizens, as well as to the dissemination of, and progress made towards the issue of climate change.

² A hackathon is a multi-disciplinary activity aimed at building collaboration for innovative solutions, prototypes and models for sustainable development low in carbon by means of technology and civil participation.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE CLIMATE CHANGE HACKATHON (CLIMATHON)

ANTECEDENTES	<p>During the process of preparation for the Third National Communication to be submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the need for creating opportunities for communication was identified as a priority to facilitate the dissemination and adoption of advancements and technical outputs that have been generated during its development.</p> <p>The use of technology - an essential tool to deal with the issue of climate change - was conceived to promote the interest of the population group that uses it (mainly young people); to help establish a linkage between these users and the development of ideas that can be used to provide solutions to this problem in the Dominican context. Educating this population group about public policy and about the actual situation of climate change both at a global level and in the Dominican Republic is also sought.</p> <p>After several months of coordination, under the leadership of the National Council for Climate Change and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, the first climate change hackathon in the region was held in Santo Domingo in March 2016.</p>
BENEFICIARIES	<p>The entire population, with special emphasis on youth and persons related to technology.</p>
METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<p>The Dominican Republic has the experience of having successfully carried out the first climate change hackathon in the region. This process encompassed the following :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Involving in this initiative public and private institutions, Academia, international cooperation agencies and civil society organizations, which collaboratively worked to define specific challenges to be addressed by the participants, as well as the minimum criteria for their selection.• Definition of project categories such as devices, platforms, and field projects, among other projects.• Introduction to the issue.• Pre-selection of participants and projects.• Development of ideas and proposals, which included three days of joint intense work with the technological resources available.• Coordination of a mentoring team who were constantly interacting with the participants.• Final presentations of projects and their evaluation.• Selection and awarding of the winners.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE CLIMATE CHANGE HACKATHON (CLIMATHON)

NATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY'S
STRATEGIC LINE
OF ACTION

The initiative relates to the following strategic goals and lines of action:

Goal 3: An integrated, innovative and sustainable economy, with a production structure that generates high, sustained levels of growth, and decent jobs, and that is integrated into the competitive global economy.

3.2.1.1: Promote diversification of electric power generation stations, with an emphasis on the sound use of renewable sources and lower environmental impact, such as solar and wind power.

3.2.1.5: Develop a civic culture to promote energy saving and the efficient use of the electric power system.

3.2.1.6 : Promote a civic and business culture for the efficient use of energy, by encouraging the rational use of electricity and promoting the use of equipment and processes that provide a lower, or more efficient use of energy.

3.2.2.6: Encourage the rational use and responsible consumption of fuels at the national level.

3.3.4.2 : Prioritize and encourage research, development and innovation (RDI) programmes and technological adaptation in those areas and sectors with the potential to significantly impact improved production, the sustainable use of natural resources and the quality of life of the population.

Goal 4: Sustainable management of the environment and an adequate adaptation to climate change

4.1.2.1: Support the development and adoption of environmentally sustainable production and consumption technologies and practices, as well as discouraging the use of pollutants and mitigating harm associated with highly polluting activities.

METHOD OF
COOPERATION

Information and experience sharing.

WEB PAGE

www.cambioclimatico.gob.do
www.do.undp.org/content/dominican_republic/es/home/presscenter/articles.html





DOMINICAN CORPORATION OF STATE ELECTRIC COMPANIES

The Dominican Corporation of State Electric Companies (CDEEE) is the administrator of all the companies in the energy sector in which the Dominican State is an owner or a majority shareholder, and it also functions as the regulator of power generation, distribution and transmission in the Dominican Republic.

MISSION



To lead the management of State-owned electric companies to guarantee continuous and efficient electricity service.



VISION



To achieve a self-sustainable power sector that contributes to the development of the country.

RURAL AND SUBURBAN ELECTRIFICATION UNIT

The Rural and Suburban Electrification Unit (UERS) was created in accordance with Article 138 of the General Law on Electricity No. 125-01, as an agency of the Dominican Corporation of State Electric Companies (CDEEE). It is aimed at promoting, discussing and submitting for the consideration of the Corporation's Executive Vice-President and Board of Directors, electrification programmes for the country's rural and suburban areas that are populated by families with limited economic resources, as well as any other matters relating to the electrification of rural areas.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE MICRO HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER STATIONS IN REMOTE RURAL COMMUNITIES

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

This initiative seeks to provide access to electricity services in rural communities through micro hydro-electric power stations, while contributing to reducing the emission of greenhouse gases, through the generation of clean energy on a community self-management basis.

BACKGROUND

The provision of electricity is one of the main structural problems facing the Dominican Republic, since the national electric grid has major problems regarding stability, quality of service and inadequate supply. Despite the fact that the installed capacity of 3,005 MW exceeds the national demand by 1,800 MW, the average power generation is below 1500 MW. In addition, the Dominican Republic has one of the most expensive electrical supply systems in Central America and the Caribbean, since consumers pay more than US\$ 0.20 per kWh.

In this situation, the rural areas are the ones most impacted by the lack of an adequate supply, and it is estimated that more than 5% of the population does not have access to electricity.

In this context, there have been favourable, synergistic situations. In 2007, Law No. 57-2007 on Renewable Energy Incentives was enacted. Later, as a result of the synergy created between different entities from the private and public sectors, international cooperation and the civil society, a successful model was developed for the sound use of small water sources for micro hydroelectric power generation, under a community self-management mechanism.

Currently, 42 micro hydroelectric power stations are in operation and another 20 are under construction or are being considered. During the past 18 years, under the leadership of the Global Environment Fund's Small Grants Programme (SGP), a highly successful model for the provision of basic electric services has been promoted, while addressing adverse threats to climate, through reduced emission of greenhouse gases as a result of the generation of clean energy.

BENEFICIARIES

People living in rural mountain areas.



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE MICRO HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER STATIONS IN REMOTE RURAL COMMUNITIES

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE

The basis for the work is the notion that development begins with a decision made by individuals and by local communities to improve their living conditions by breaking down the barriers that prevent them from living a good life. Therefore, each intervention starts with a specific request from a local group.

The actions go beyond the funding of specific initiatives. During the process of implementation, local groups supported and trained with the aim of strengthening their organizational structures and management capacity. In this way, the project becomes a scenario for testing alternatives and for capacity building.

A key aspect is the development of synergy between the various stakeholders who play a role in the development of initiatives (government, national and local institutions, civil society organizations, universities, private companies and international organizations). This synergy encompasses the creation of a national network that connects all community groups engaged in the management and/or implementation of this kind of initiatives, so that their management capacity is strengthened and the vulnerability of each system reduced.

Participation is encouraged at different levels: in democratic and equitable conditions, special attention is paid to removing the barriers that reduce human development among the groups with whom work is being done and that limit people's ability to express themselves freely.

The intervention methodology is based on key elements, such as community commitment; valuation of human capital; sustainable environmental management; participatory planning; learning by doing; learning from mistakes; solidarity; sharing of knowledge and experiences; adaptive management; and the highest standards of quality.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

MICRO HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER STATIONS IN REMOTE RURAL COMMUNITIES

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	<p>Interventions are consistent with the objectives promoted by the National Development Strategy and more specifically with the following strategic goals:</p> <p>Goal 2: “A society with equal rights and opportunities, in which the entire population has guaranteed education, health, appropriate housing and basic quality services, and which promotes the progressive reduction of poverty, and social and territorial inequality”.</p> <p>Specifically, contributions are made to improving access to basic services for the more disadvantaged and vulnerable people (Objectives 2.3: equal rights and opportunities, 2.5: decent housing in healthy environments).</p> <p>Goal 3: A territorial economy which is sectorally integrated, innovative, diversified, pluralistic, quality-oriented and environmentally sustainable, that creates and fairly distributes wealth, generates increased and sustained growth with equity, and opportunities for decent employment, and that capitalizes on, and enhances local market opportunities that can be competitive in the global economy”.</p> <p>Objective 3.2: Reliable, efficient and environmentally sustainable energy.</p> <p>Goal 4: A society with a culture of sustainable production and consumption, which manages equitably and effectively the risks to, and the protection of the environment and natural resources and which promotes an adequate adaptation to climate change.</p> <p>Objective 4.1 Sustainable management of the environment</p>
METHOD OF COOPERATION	<p>Information and experience sharing.</p>
WEB PAGE	<p>www.ppsdom.org/</p>



NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND MECHANISM FOR CLEAN DEVELOPMENT

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VISION



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COOPERATION EXPERIENCE LOW-CARBON, CLIMATE-RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT PLANS

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

This initiative is aimed at supporting other countries in the development of their low-carbon, climate-resilient development plans from top-down and bottom-up approaches to decision making and for the management of their climatically sustainable development models.

BACKGROUND

Since 2008, the Dominican Republic has been developing a number of strategic and innovative actions, adapting its institutional and legal frameworks to facilitate the making of joint decisions to address the multiple challenges posed by climate change across the various dimensions of development.

To this end, in 2011 the country developed an Economic Development Plan Compatible with Climate Change, which identified, from a strategic approach, opportunities for moving towards a low rate of emissions for some sectors of the national economy.



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE LOW-CARBON, CLIMATE-RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT PLANS

BACKGROUND

The Plan is the basis for the implementation of actions consistent with the situation of vulnerabilities to which the country is susceptible, the Constitution and the National Development Strategy that include adaptation to climate change as an essential part of the development model adopted for the long term.

BENEFICIARIES

Governing public policy bodies and economic sectors.

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE

In order to respond to national strategic planning and to be consistent with the Country's Vision for 2030, a number of processes are being implemented, including:

- Conducting a number of analyses and studies to support the realization of advances towards key development indicators and to respond to national priorities.
- Development of a proposed road map defining strategic actions for the sectoral discussions on how to meet the national goals, as well as development of a portfolio of climate change initiatives, and a suggestion for the identification and prioritization of initiatives.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION

Due to the nature of the intervention, this initiative will have an impact on:

Strategic Goal 1: A State governed by a social and democratic rule of law, with institutions acting ethically, with transparency and effectiveness in the service of a responsible and participatory society which guarantees security and which promotes equity, governance, peaceful coexistence and national and local development.

General Objective 1.4: Security and peaceful coexistence

Specific Objective 1.4.2: Strengthen international relations as an instrument for the promotion of national development, peaceful coexistence, sustainable global, regional and insular development and a just international order, in line with democratic principles and international law.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE LOW-CARBON, CLIMATE-RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT PLANS

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	<p>1.4.2.5 Line of Action: Efficiently manage international cooperation in favour of national development, including the exchange of national skills to be able to cooperate with other countries.</p> <p>Strategic Goal 4: A society with a culture of sustainable production and consumption, which manages fairly and effectively the risks to, and the protection of, the environment and natural resources, and which promotes an adequate adaptation to climate change.</p> <p>General Objective 4.3: Adequate adaptation to climate change.</p>
METHOD OF COOPERATION	<p>Information and experience sharing. Provision of technical training</p>
WEB PAGE	<p>www.cambioclimatico.gob.do</p>





THE NATIONAL GEOLOGICAL SERVICE

The National Geological Service (SGN) was created by means of Law No. 50-2010, to ensure the updating of geological and environmental knowledge of the national territory. Its main roles are:

1. To provide the knowledge necessary for the administration of geological resources, ensuring the protection and sustainable exploitation of the geological heritage of the Dominican Republic.
2. To contribute to national development, through research, study and the provision of information on:

MISSION



Generate, store, update and disseminate national geological knowledge for the well-being of society, in addition to learning about the geological heritage of the country, which is a right and a duty of the State. The Geological Service is the organization responsible for managing the information about these assets and making them available to Dominican society.



VISION



To be the leading agency in producing up-to-date information on the basic geological characteristics of the national territory and of the processes affecting their formation, in order to promote the sound use of natural resources and the land, based on Earth Sciences information infrastructures.

- (a) the exploration and sustainable exploitation of the country's natural resources (mining, hydrocarbons, minerals, etc.), and
 - (b) geological threats and the design of preventive measures, thus contributing to the welfare and security of society.
3. To raise the awareness of Dominican society of the importance of knowing about the country's geological heritage and geodiversity.
 4. To study and map the current geological processes likely to endanger property and people, especially those associated with slope instability, seismic activity and floods, as well as to develop and implement techniques to prevent and mitigate damages that may occur, and install earthquake and tsunami early-warning systems.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE SOIL CHARACTERIZATION PROGRAMME FOR THE MITIGATION OF THE EFFECTS OF AN EARTHQUAKE

DESCRIPTION

The effects produced by an earthquake are varied. These effects depend, among other factors, on how the vibration produced by the earthquake is transmitted through the ground to buildings. By means of the South-South cooperation, the Dominican Republic through this programme offers other countries in the region its experience in the research of these phenomena and how this research can be used in mitigation, through the implementation of standards and land use planning, which take into account the seismic fragility of the land depending on soil characteristics.

BACKGROUND

In recent years, the main cities of the Dominican Republic have experienced accelerated and uncontrolled urban growth, with a tendency for buildings to be constructed without adequate technical standards. This is more evident in the poorer districts, where new housing construction or expansion of existing buildings is made by foremen who, in the majority of cases, do not use plans made by engineers.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

SOIL CHARACTERIZATION PROGRAMME FOR THE MITIGATION OF THE EFFECTS OF AN EARTHQUAKE

BACKGROUND	<p>When taking into account the seismic regulations adopted by the country, they do not comply with minimal security requirements for these structures.</p> <p>In the Dominican Republic the construction sector, until March 2011, had been regulated by a seismic code established in 1979, whose recommendations were not developed with the minimum construction requirements for buildings to withstand earthquakes.</p> <p>This inadequacy of the standards and rules and regulations which govern and guide the appropriate earthquake-resistant design of structures so that cities would be more resilient to seismic events, has led the National Geological Service (SGN) of Dominican Republic to support and implement a number of initiatives that have enabled the country to have more detailed knowledge about the behaviour of earthquakes in some specific areas of the country.</p> <p>The following are some of the activities carried out :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SYSMIN II project (year 2005-2010) for the geologic mapping of the Dominican Republic on a scale of 1 : 5,000; • The study of seismic microzonation in the city of Salcedo in 2004; • The study of seismic microzonation of the city of Santiago de los Caballeros in 2011; • The study of seismic microzonation of Greater Santo Domingo in 2016. <p>These studies have been conducted by using the most recent and up-to-date techniques in seismic research, and their findings are being used for the updating of seismic rules and regulations, and for the incorporation of these findings into the development of land use plans, so that the seismic threat be taken into consideration for the development of non-urbanized areas and seismic risk for the development of already urbanized areas.</p> <p>The use of just these three research studies in land development benefits nearly half of the country's population.</p>
BENEFICIARIES	The entire population
METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<p>The process for the provision of support begins with :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The identification of participating institutions. • The signing of agreements. • The definition of a joint plan of action.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

SOIL CHARACTERIZATION PROGRAMME FOR THE MITIGATION OF THE EFFECTS OF AN EARTHQUAKE

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The collection of information. • A joint action plan, which includes field as well as desk research. • The definition of relevant milestones requiring support of the SGN. • Establishment of regular meetings for follow-up on progress. <p>Ongoing processes and processes to be developed:</p> <p>On-site missions with Dominican institutions involved: National Geological Service.</p> <p>Internship programmes for key stakeholders from participating governmental institutions to learn first-hand about procedures and techniques for the collection of existing seismic data.</p> <p>Field research techniques to supplement existing information with the information necessary to carry out subsequent desk research.</p> <p>Implementation of techniques to determine the seismic hazard.</p> <p>Implementation of techniques for the microzonation of a specific area.</p> <p>Implementation of techniques for the study of induced effects.</p> <p>Presentation of the results, such as reports and maps, in a user-friendly format.</p> <p>Application of findings in the implementation of adequate seismic standards and land use planning in accordance with the seismic conditions of each site.</p> <p>The National Geological Service will be involved in each of these processes so that the desired final results may be achieved, which in turn will ensure an effective application of scientific research to seismic risk reduction.</p>
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	<p>Strategic Goal 4: A society with a culture of sustainable production and consumption, which manages fairly and effectively the risks to, and the protection of, the environment and natural resources, and which promotes an adequate adaptation to climate change.</p> <p>General Objective 4.2: Effective risk management to minimize human, economic and environmental losses.</p>
METHOD OF COOPERATION	Information and experience sharing.
WEB PAGE	www.sgn.gov.do



MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

“Quisqueya Verde” National Plan

The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources is the institution responsible for the development, implementation and overseeing of national policies relating to the environment and natural resources by promoting and encouraging actions for their preservation, protection, restoration and sustainable use.

MISSION



To be an effective, efficient and transparent institution that brings together and incorporates in a participatory manner, the environmental dimension into the decisions and actions of society to contribute to sustainable development.



VISION



To govern the management of the environment, the ecosystems and natural resources in order to contribute to sustainable development, in accordance with the responsibilities conferred on the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources in General Law No. 64-00 on Environment and Natural Resources.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE “QUISQUEYA VERDE” NATIONAL PLAN

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

This social investment initiative, carried out by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, is aimed at alleviating extreme poverty through the creation of jobs for the reforestation and rehabilitation of natural green areas. In addition, it has contributed significantly to the country's increased vegetation cover.

The main components of the Plan are the following :

- Social Forestry (reforestation with community participation).
- Creation of multiple-use forests.
- Recovery of national and municipal natural areas.
- Environmental education through reforestation campaigns.

BACKGROUND

“Quisqueya Verde” is the first nation-wide massive reforestation plan. It was conceived from the conviction that the deterioration of natural resources is rooted in the socio-economic problems affecting the population that have a direct impact on natural resources, adding to a lack of knowledge about their sustainable management.

The Plan was created by Executive Branch Decree No. 138-97, dated March 21, 1997, as an initiative of the Dominican Government to counteract the accelerated process of the deterioration of natural resources and the high rates of poverty among families living in the rural areas of the Dominican Republic.

The first stage was carried out from 1997 to 2000. During that period, Quisqueya Verde planted more than 26 million trees, with the participation of numerous government and non-government organizations, at a rate of 5,000 hectares per year, in the main river basins of the country.

With the creation of the Ministry of Environment in the year 2000, the programme became the Reforestation Directorate of the Vice-Ministry of Forestry Resources.

BENEFICIARIES

Poor families who live in the rural areas of the country's major watersheds.



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE “QUISQUEYA VERDE” NATIONAL PLAN

<p>METHOD AND EXPERIENCE</p>	<p>The National Quisqueya Verde Plan has worked in reforestation fronts throughout the national territory, focusing mainly on the main river basins of the central and northern mountain ranges.</p> <p>The reforestation fronts are management units comprising one or more brigades exclusively devoted to the replanting of degraded and deforested areas.</p> <p>Reforestation brigades operate under the administration and responsibility of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, and through the Provincial Directorates of Environment and Natural Resources which are responsible for the operational work. Some of these brigades are managed in coordination with non-government organizations.</p>
<p>NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION</p>	<p>The Quisqueya Verde Plan is linked specifically to Strategic Goal 4 of the National Development Strategy, addressing the following lines of action :</p> <p>4.1.1.8: Restore and preserve the services provided by ecosystems, with an emphasis on the river basins, and design and implement mechanisms for the payment of environmental services to communities and the productive units that protect them.</p> <p>4.1.1.9: Manage forest resources in a sustainable manner, and promote the reforestation of the territories with endemic and indigenous forest species.</p> <p>4.1.1.11: Promote environmental education and the involvement of the population in the assessment, protection and defence of the environment, and in the sustainable management of natural resources, including education on the causes and consequences of climate change.</p>
<p>METHOD OF COOPERATION</p>	<p>Information and experience sharing.</p>
<p>WEB PAGE</p>	<p>www.ambiente.gob.do</p>

Sustainable Management of the Upper Basins of Sabana Yegua Dam



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF THE UPPER BASINS OF SABANA YEGUA DAM

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

This project improved the technical capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA) and of the local communities to promote sustainable land management and consolidate a land management model based on integrated river basin management, community participation, the development of innovative incentives and the establishment of public – private partnerships between users of the resources of this basin for their sound use and conservation.

BACKGROUND

In the 1940s, approximately 70% of the national territory of the Dominican Republic was covered with forests. The forest cover had been reduced to 14% during the 1980s due to the cutting-down of trees for commercial purposes, the development of farms, slash and burn agriculture, damage caused by a succession of hurricanes and forest fires affecting the availability of water resources and services provided by ecosystems for economic and social development. Additionally, the mountain areas most affected by the degradation of natural resources were inhabited by persons in conditions of poverty and marginality.

The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources established a partnership with the Sur Futuro Foundation, responsible for the sustainable management of the upper basin of the Sabana Yegua dam, to develop and implement a plan for the sustainable management of this basin. In order to ensure the sustainability of proposed actions, a strategy was established based on participatory management and the development of measures that contribute to fight poverty and to recover degraded lands and forests in a manner consistent with national and local needs.

BENEFICIARIES

52 communities located in the Upper Basin of the Sabana Yegua Dam

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE

Through this model:

- Local and municipal development planning instruments were developed.
- Contribution was made for inter-agency coordination and the establishment of synergy in sectoral investment to improve the conditions of the population living in the basin.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF THE UPPER BASINS OF SABANA YEGUA DAM

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE

- Tools for governance of the basin were developed, involving communities, water users and other stakeholders involved in decision making.
- Models of sustainable production in mountain areas based on agroforestry systems and the establishment of irrigated agriculture were promoted.
- About 3,000 hectares of degraded land were recovered through agroforestry systems, forests, and other crops such as coffee.
- Contribution was made to the National Plan for Forest Fire Management by providing training and equipping forest fire brigades.
- An extensive program for raising awareness and providing training to over 10,000 students, teachers and producers was implemented to promote sustainable land management.
- An erosion monitoring system was established that allowed for monitoring the improvements reached as a result of the changes in the forest cover of the basin.
- The first environmental fund of the Dominican Republic was created, which includes an environmental service payment and compensation approach.
- Incentives, including financing for the development of productive practices and small green enterprises were established.

Through this project, a river basin management model was established to a large extent, with high community participation, through the provision of improved technical support for the practice of irrigated agriculture, agro-forestry, reforestation, monitoring, prevention and control of forest fires, erosion control, among others.

As a result of these activities, the forest cover has increased not only in the area of direct influence, but in other mountain areas of the country, contributing to the governance of the natural resources in these areas, improving the condition of natural resources, ensuring the provision of ecosystem services, and contributing to the improvement of the living conditions of the populations living in these isolated areas of the country.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION

Objective 1.1.2. Foster development at the local, provincial and regional levels by strengthening the planning and management capabilities of municipalities, the participation of stakeholders, and coordination with other State agencies, in order to enhance local resources and take advantage of the opportunities provided by global markets.

1.1.2.3 Establish mechanisms for permanent participation and communication channels between the municipal authorities and the inhabitants of the municipality to promote continuous, active and responsible participation in the local government's consultation and consensus-reaching scenarios, through the development of a culture of compliance with rights and duties of the residents, and the strengthening of organizations representing the various sectors that interact in the municipality, with an emphasis on children, young teenagers and women.

Objective 2.4.1. Incorporate a territorial cohesion concept in the design and management of public policies

2.4.1.7 Promote comprehensive and sustainable development of coastal shorelines, river basins, mountains, valleys and plains, considering their environmental and socio-economic potential.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF THE UPPER BASINS OF SABANA YEGUA DAM

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	<p>Objective 3.5.3. Increase the productivity, competitiveness and environmental and financial sustainability of agro-productive chains, in order to contribute to food security, take advantage of the export potential and generate employment and income for the rural population.</p> <p>3.5.3.3 Promote and strengthen practices for the sustainable management of natural resources, degraded land and land in process of desertification, through training and extension programs and the promotion of productive species that allow for adaptation to climate change, respect biodiversity and meet criteria for risk management.</p> <p>Objective 4.1.1. Protect and use in a sustainable manner the goods and services provided by ecosystems, biodiversity and the natural heritage of the nation, including marine resources.</p> <p>4.1.1.8 Restore and preserve the services provided by ecosystems, with emphasis on river basins, and design and implement mechanisms for the payment of environmental services to communities and productive units that are protecting them.</p> <p>Objective 4.1.4. Manage the water resource in an efficient and sustainable manner to ensure water security.</p> <p>4.1.4.2 Plan in a coordinated and comprehensive manner the management of water resources, with river basins as a core element, for a sustainable human, environmental and productive use, and to support decision-making in the planning of regional development.</p>
METHOD OF COOPERATION	<p>Sharing of experiences</p> <p>Sharing of information</p>
WEB PAGE	<p>www.ambiente.gob.do</p>



THE DOMINICAN RURAL TOURISM NETWORK

The Dominican Rural Tourism Network (REDOTUR) is a non-profit association, incorporated by Resolution No. 057 dated September 11, 2009, in accordance with Law No. 122-05.

MISSION



Promote the organizations in the Dominican ecotourism sector, their services and products in national and international markets in a joint process of inter-institutional coordination, by promoting environmental, social and cultural responsibility in a competitive and sustainable environment, while ensuring quality and security in enterprises in order to contribute to a better quality of life.



VISION



To become a rural tourism network that promotes sustainable development at the national level and its products and services at a global level with high standards of quality.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE DOMINICAN RURAL TOURISM NETWORK (REDOTUR)

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

This initiative aims to promote community-based rural tourism by offering a complementary but alternative range of choices to the conventional sun-and-beach tourism, while contributing to the economic and social development of the rural communities of the country.

BACKGROUND

In recent years, major changes have occurred in the social valuation of natural resources and also in the way to appreciate actions taken by rural populations. The countryside, which was previously valued only for its ability to supply agricultural products to the urban areas, is today also viewed as an area of treasured tranquillity, nature, pure water, traditions and many other riches, which are worth protecting for present and future generations.

In the Dominican Republic, conventional tourism has enjoyed significant development. Important tourist destinations have developed, with large hotel complexes, under the concept of Sun and Beach tourism. This all-inclusive tourism is oriented towards an important segment of the world's population. Notwithstanding this development, in some countries a trend has been growing which demands alternative tourism more in harmony with the environment, and where one can come to know and appreciate the natural resources, while creating benefits for local communities.

Rural tourism is an activity that stands out as a new option in the rural sector. This development aims at complementing the Sun and Beach tourist destinations of some countries. This type of tourism also serves to rehabilitate economically depressed agricultural areas and to counteract the recurring crisis in this sector caused by migration from rural to urban areas, and to generate new sources of work and diversify the income of rural populations.

Since the mid-nineties, through the Global Environment Fund's Small Grants Programme (PPS-SGP/FMAM/PNUD), initiatives have been developed in the Dominican Republic that seek to provide a complementary, but alternative range of choices to the conventional tourism of Sun and Beach. This sector is led by non-profit associations (ASFLs) and community-based organizations (CBOs).

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE DOMINICAN RURAL TOURISM NETWORK (REDOTUR)

BACKGROUND

In this context, the sector has counted on favourable scenarios for creating synergy. A draft law is currently being studied in the Dominican Congress which aims to designate 14 provinces in the country for ecotourism. This has been made possible thanks to the initiative of various organisations and institutions in the public and private sectors, of international cooperation and of civil society. Together, they have developed successful models to build on the potential and natural attractions for the creation of community enterprises with a self-management approach.

At present, the Dominican Network of Rural Tourism (REDOTUR) is a second-tier organization that brings together more than 40 organizations and community-based enterprises that promote rural tourism. This network has been able to unite the sector in order to offer high quality products and services to national and international tourists.



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE DOMINICAN RURAL TOURISM NETWORK (REDOTUR)

BENEFICIARIES	Families in rural and suburban areas linked to nature reserves with potential for the promotion of rural tourism.
METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<p>The basis for the work is the notion that development begins with a decision made by individuals and by local communities to improve their living conditions by breaking down the barriers that prevent them from living a good life. Therefore, each intervention starts with a specific request from a local group.</p> <p>The actions go beyond the funding of specific initiatives. During the process of implementation, local groups supported and trained with the aim of strengthening their organizational structures and management capacity. In this way, the project becomes a scenario for testing alternatives and for capacity building.</p> <p>A key aspect is the development of synergy between the various stakeholders who play a role in the development of initiatives (government, national and local institutions, civil society organizations, universities, private companies and international organizations). This synergy encompasses the creation of a national network that connects all community groups engaged in the management and/or implementation of this kind of initiatives, so that their management capacity is strengthened and the vulnerability of each system reduced.</p> <p>Participation is encouraged at different levels: in democratic and equitable conditions, special attention is paid to removing the barriers that reduce human development among the groups with whom work is being done and that limits people's ability to express themselves freely.</p> <p>The intervention methodology is based on key elements, such as community commitment; valuation of human capital; sustainable environmental management; participatory planning; learning by doing; learning from mistakes; solidarity; sharing of knowledge and experiences; adaptive management; and the highest standards of quality.</p>
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	<p>Interventions are consistent with the objectives promoted by the National Development Strategy and more specifically with the following strategic goals:</p> <p>Goal 2: "A society with equal rights and opportunities, in which the entire population has guaranteed education, health, appropriate housing and basic quality services, and which promotes the progressive reduction of poverty, and social and territorial inequality".</p> <p>Specifically, contributions are made to improving access to basic services for the more disadvantaged and vulnerable people (Objectives 2.3: equal rights and opportunities, 2.4: territorial cohesion and 2.6: culture and national identity in a global world).</p> <p>Goal 3: A territorial economy which is sectorally integrated, innovative, diversified, pluralistic, quality-oriented and environmentally</p>



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE DOMINICAN RURAL TOURISM NETWORK (REDOTUR)

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION

sustainable, that creates and fairly distributes wealth, generates increased and sustained growth with equity, and opportunities for decent employment, and that capitalizes on, and enhances local market opportunities that can be competitive in the global economy".

Objective 3.1: An integrated, innovative and environmentally sustainable economy, with a productive structure that generates high, sustained growth and dignified work, and that is incorporated competitively into the global economy.

Objective 3.3: Competitiveness and innovation in an environment favourable to cooperation and social responsibility.

Objective 3.4: Sufficient dignified job opportunities.

Objective 3.5: A productive structure which is sectorally and territorially coordinated, which can compete in the global economy and that can take advantage of the opportunities in the local market.

Goal 4: A society with a culture of sustainable production and consumption, which manages equitably and effectively the risks to, and the protection of the environment and natural resources and which promotes an adequate adaptation to climate change.

Objective 4.1 Sustainable management of the environment.

METHOD OF COOPERATION

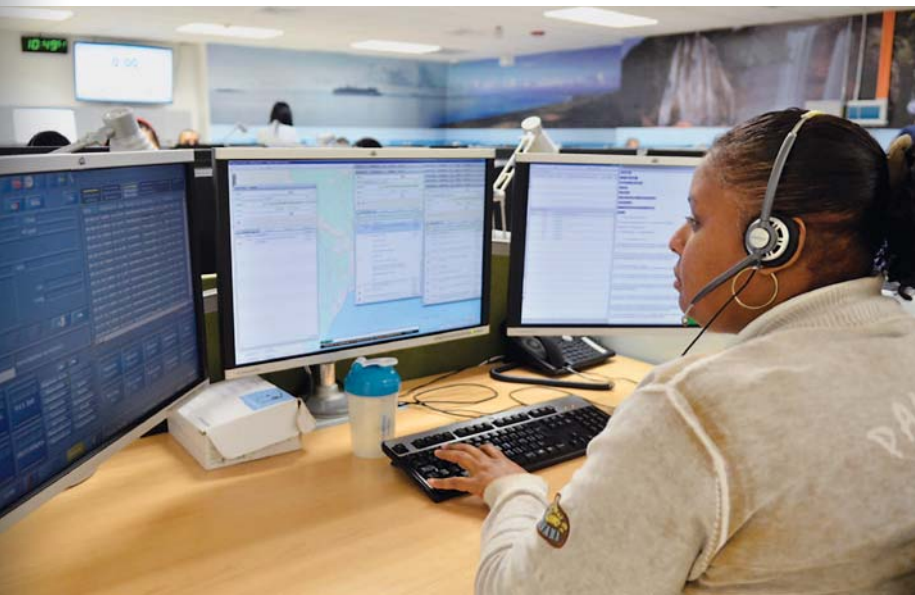
Information and experience sharing.

WEB PAGE

www.ppsdom.org/
www.redotur.org



DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE





CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Chamber of Deputies Committees

Article 120 of the Rules of Procedure of the Chamber of Deputies stipulates that the committees are substantive bodies composed of a maximum of fifteen deputies and a minimum of five, whose essential mission is to facilitate the decisions made in plenary sessions relating to legislation, oversight and representation, through the study, investigation, consultation and reporting on draft laws, draft resolutions, international instruments, related information, and other

MISSION



To represent the Dominican people and legislate on their behalf, for the development and strengthening of the democratic and social rule of law, as well as to strengthen the constitutional powers of controlling and overseeing the other powers of the State.



VISION



To be the organization of representation, legislation and effective dynamic and proactive oversight, that looks after the interests and aspirations of the Dominican people, through the constitutional exercise of its functions, and of the Chamber of Deputies of the Dominican Republic.

matters within the jurisdiction of the Chamber of Deputies, which are submitted as provided for in the Rules of Procedure.

Chamber of Deputies Standing Committee on Gender Equality

The Gender Equality Committee is responsible for dealing with legislation from a gender perspective, promoting equal and equitable opportunities for women and men, and the overseeing of public policies for gender equality that are implemented by the Executive Branch through the Ministry of Women.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE SUPPORT FOR THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES STANDING COMMITTEE ON GENDER EQUALITY

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE	This initiative seeks to support the establishment of mechanisms and procedures that promote gender equality objectives and ensure a legislative agenda on gender equality. This is achieved through the successful implementation of the parliamentary structure for gender equality of the Chamber of Deputies Standing Committee on Gender Equality.
BACKGROUND	<p>The political empowerment of women is essential for the fundamental principles of democracy and sustainable development. The fact that women have a low level of representation in decision-making scenarios questions the legitimacy of our democratic systems. The global, regional and national commitments to increase the number of women in politics have been reaffirmed for decades. Although progress is evident at some levels, women still account for less than a quarter of all members of national parliaments.</p> <p>Efforts to increase the political representation of women should be accompanied by the promotion of gender equality objectives in parliaments. Some studies have shown that gender equality is sought more by female parliamentarians than by male parliamentarians.</p>

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

SUPPORT FOR THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES STANDING COMMITTEE ON GENDER EQUALITY

BACKGROUND	<p>In addition, there are three important factors that help institutions to mainstream gender equality:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) to have mechanisms in place targeting attention to gender issues; (2) to have parliaments implementing gender equality strategies; and (3) to support and collaborate with institutions outside the Congress, which will be a key factor in the achievement of gender equality objectives. <p>The Legislative branch plays a fundamental role in the advancement of gender equality and democratic governance. In this regard, it is essential to perform their legislative, representational and oversight responsibilities taking into account gender perspective. Female politicians and legislators have been protagonists in promoting standards and programmes linked to gender equality, through forms of joint work such as legislators, gender committees, and political women’s networks, thus transcending partisan and ideological divisions and revitalizing linkages between political representation institutions and the citizens.</p> <p>The DR Chamber of Deputies Standing Committee on Gender Equality has been seen as one of the most active in Congress and as having significantly contributed to making gender equality a matter of concern in the public agenda. Consequently, new and better laws have been developed to defend the human rights of women and to seek to maintain an equitable balance of opportunities between women and men.</p> <p>The Chamber of Deputies has complied with the establishment of the above-mentioned factors, which are necessary for the achievement of gender equality. The following results have also been attained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of the Committee as a permanent mechanism devoted to gender equality in the legislative field; • Establishment of a resolution declaring gender perspective mainstreaming as a priority for this legislative body, integrating it as a crosscutting issue in planning; • Establishment by the Committee of linkages between female parliamentarians, women’s groups, and feminist organizations, civil society, Government institutions and Academia to promote and defend the gender agenda. • Definition of processes that establish the basis for the achievement of internal gender policy, such as an institutional diagnosis of gender, the offer of gender training to technical and legislative staff, and the preparation of reports and studies.
BENEFICIARIOS	Congress

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

SUPPORT FOR THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES STANDING COMMITTEE ON GENDER EQUALITY

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<p>The process to provide support encompasses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An institutional diagnosis of gender • The identification of gaps and the development of plans for internal and external strengthening • The identification of opportunities to establish a gender agenda • The promotion of opportunities for exchange of ideas. <p>The following are the processes that have been established:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional diagnosis of gender • Diploma course on gender for technical and legislative staff • Promotion of the sharing of experiences with other countries in the region for strengthening of, and learning about, good practices in the mainstreaming of gender perspective in parliaments. • Promotion of a gender agenda • Provision of support to the establishment of a bicameral parliamentary group for gender equality and women's empowerment • Provision of technical support and lobbying for the promotion of laws • Conducting studies of the contributions of women to the legislative agenda • Political participation: revision of laws, creation of opportunities for dialogue, provision of training and for increased visibility of female politicians in the face of the coming general elections
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	<p>This initiative focuses on Strategic Goal 2 of the National Development Strategy (END): A cohesive society, with equal opportunities and low levels of poverty and inequality.</p> <p>Specific Objective 2.6: Building a culture of equality and equity between men and women.</p>
METHOD OF COOPERATION	Information and experience sharing.
WEB PAGE	www.camaradediputados.gob.do/app/app_2011/cd_frontpage.aspx



MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND POLICE

SISNA's Ballistic and Biometric Laboratory (LABBS)

The main objectives of the Ministry of the Interior and Police are: ensuring the maintenance of public security throughout the country within a framework of respect for human rights, social peace, dialogue and consensus, citizen participation and institutional transparency; provide advice to the administrative bodies in the provinces and municipalities, and to monitor migratory activities.

MISSION



Ensure citizen security and the exercise of rights by the population, promoting public order through a culture of peace and a policy of institutional integrity that involves society and to maintain democratic values.



VISION



To be a comprehensive institution committed to citizen security through the professionalization of human capital and responsible, effective and efficient action in the performance of its duties, and to ensure the rule of law.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE SISNA'S BALLISTIC AND BIOMETRIC LABORATORY (LABBS)

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

The National Weapons System's Ballistic and Biometric Laboratory (LABBS) is one-of-a-kind in the country due to the combination, in one single service, of state-of-the-art technology both in ballistics and biometrics.

LABBS creates a record of the ballistic fingerprint which is unique to every firearm, while registering the owner's biometric data such as fingerprints and facial morphology. Finally, the certification authority links both sets of data, providing for safe consultation in an accurate database.

The National Weapons System (SISNA) in general, and LABBS in particular, comply with the purpose of ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of the entities responsible for seeking citizen security, ensuring law enforcement and the avoidance of impunity.

This is accomplished by conducting reliable testing and using advanced technology throughout all aspects related to the test, which is the legal element of greatest relevance for prosecution in the criminal system.

BACKGROUND

Due to the fact that 66% of the homicides occurring in the Dominican Republic are committed with firearms, and 84% of these with firearms that are legal, and to honour the commitments made with the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention), signed by the Dominican Republic in 2000, actions are being undertaken to meet the needs for:

- generating a database of ballistic data on registered firearms;
- having a biometric registry available of owners of firearms, and
- Having accurate information readily available for the investigation of crimes and offences.

BENEFICIARIES

The entire population.



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE SISNA'S BALLISTIC AND BIOMETRIC LABORATORY (LABBS)

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE

- Registering ballistic fingerprints from firearms in order to develop a more accurate investigation process, without the need of having a suspect to initiate an investigation, resulting in greater efficiency and effectiveness and, therefore, lower levels of impunity.
- To have a reliable and identifiable database containing serial numbers, calibres, brands and models of firearms, as well as biometric, demographic and contact information on related owners.
- To make criminal investigations more professional.
- Separate investigation tasks from security tasks.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC APPROACH

Strategic Goal 1: A State with efficient and transparent institutions at the service of a participatory and responsible citizenry that ensures safety and promotes development and peaceful coexistence.

METHOD OF COOPERATION

Information and experience sharing
Technical Assistance

WEB PAGE

www.labbs.com.do
www.mip.gob.do/index.php/sobre-el-programa-armas
 Twitter: @atencionlabbs
 Facebook: Laboratorio de Balístico y Biométrico del SISNA – labbs

Citizen Security Observatory

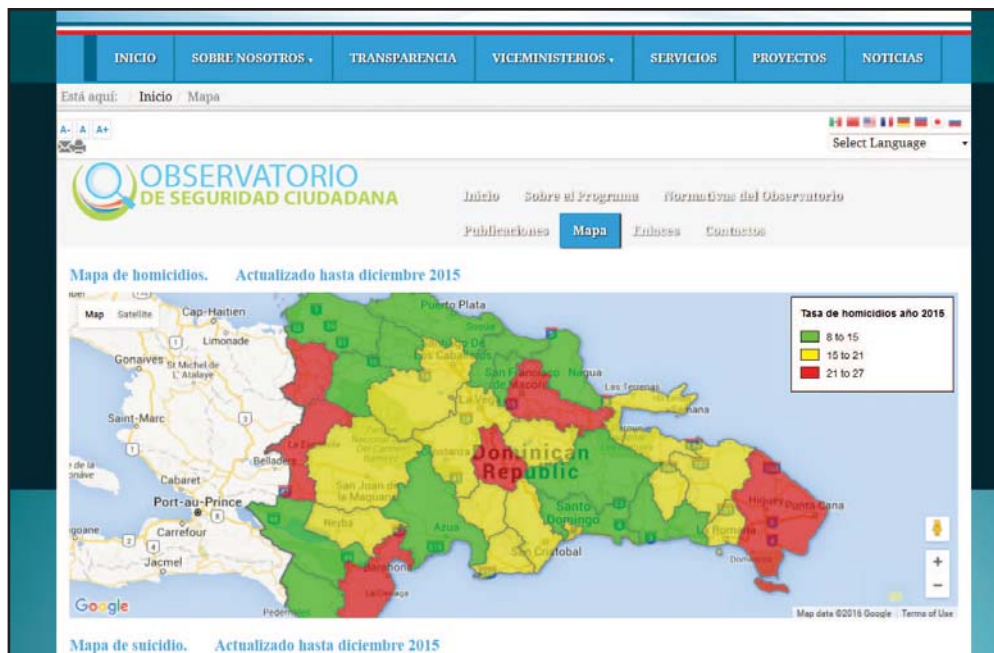
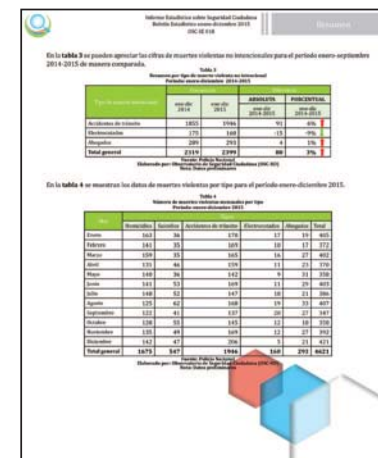
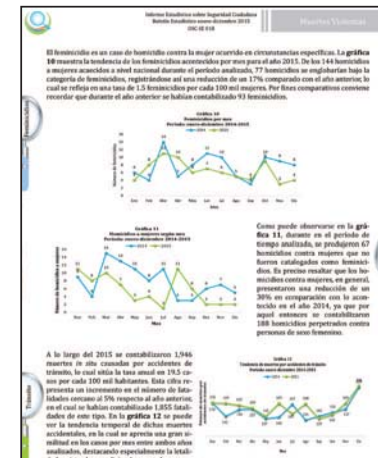


COOPERATION EXPERIENCE CITIZEN SECURITY OBSERVATORY

<p>DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE</p>	<p>The Citizen Security Observatory is the Dominican institution that aims to analyse and publish the number of crimes and cases of violence in the country in order to have the information available in an official, timely and reliable manner.</p> <p>For this, its technical secretariat (coordinated by the Ministry of the Interior and Police) collects data provided by the eleven government institutions that make up its external structure: the Ministry of the Interior and Police, the National Police, the Public Prosecutor’s Office, Institute of Forensic Sciences, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the National Directorate for Drug Control, the Observatory of the National Council on Drugs, the National Office of Statistics, the Ministry of Women, the National Council for Childhood and Adolescence, and the Observatory of the City Council for the National District.</p>
<p>BACKGROUND</p>	<p>Founded in 2012, the Observatory on Public Security is the primary response to the need to cover the deficit of information on security that prevented the proper characterization of crime and violence in the country for the development of public policy.</p>
<p>BENEFICIARIES</p>	<p>The general population, public authorities and, specifically, the National Citizen Security Council.</p>
<p>METHOD AND EXPERIENCE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consolidate the statistical data for further analysis from the quarterly meetings held by the eleven institutions that produce and supply information to the Observatory on Public Security. These meetings are also the basis for the main publication of the institution: the Statistical Newsletter. - Develop sectoral and thematic analyses on the various topics which, in some way, affect or have an impact on public security. To do so, a methodology, validated internationally in relation to the leading indicators is used, which allows comparison of the national situation with that of other countries and with its own, in chronological order. - Use of statistical tools by qualified personnel who, independently, publish four categories of documents: (a) statistical newsletters (b) thematic reports for the public, (c) internal strategic analysis for the National Security Council, and (d) mis-

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE CITIZEN SECURITY OBSERVATORY

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	cellaneous documents (tables, maps, abstracts, information requested through the Free Access to Public Information Office, etc.)
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC APPROACH	General Objective 1.1 Efficient, transparent and results-oriented public administration. General Objective 1.2 The rule of law and citizen security
METHOD OF COOPERATION	Information and experience sharing.
WEB PAGE	observatorioseguridadrd@gmail.com





THE CHAMBER OF ACCOUNTS OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Board of Control-related Organizations (Board of Control)

The Chamber of Accounts is a constitutional body for the external control of public resources, administrative processes and the State heritage. It is of a technical nature, and has legal personality, as well as administrative, operational and budgetary autonomy.

As the supreme body of the national control and audit system, it has the power to issue mandatory standards and

MISSION



As an entity responsible for the oversight of the national system for the control and audit of general and specific accounts of the Republic, its mission is to serve its citizens with integrity, objectivity, ethics, transparency and effectiveness, and the State and National Congress through audits, special investigations and analysis of budget execution, for accountability purposes as per the Constitution and the law.



VISION



To become, during the 2010-2016 period, a model entity exercising external control through the effective oversight of public resources; in a transparent manner, with a professional, ethical, technically qualified team with high technological standards. In this way only will we be worthy of our citizens' trust.

promote and articulate inter-institutional coordination of institutions responsible for the control and audit of public resources.

It has the exclusive power to conduct external control through a professional, objective, independent, systematic and selective examination of the evidence supporting operations, records, reports, financial and budgetary statements prepared by the Governmental Accounting Directorate, and of all institutions and entities subject to the rule of law.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

BOARD OF CONTROL-RELATED ORGANIZATIONS (BOARD OF CONTROL)

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

The Board of Control represents a unique scenario for open and democratic dialogue among financial management and control system related institutions and agencies. This board allows for proposing, debating and agreeing on actions to improve the management of public finances.

This Board is basically composed of: (i) the agencies that are a part of the financial management system, such as: planning, budget, treasury, public credit, accounting, internal revenue, purchases, personnel, etc.; and (ii) institutions of control: internal control (General Comptroller of the Republic), external control (Chamber of Accounts), political control (Legislative Chamber) and social control through citizen representation.

BACKGROUND

The components of the financial management and control system had limitations in the interaction, communication, coordination and complementarity of activities. Feedback between the control bodies and the components of the financial management system responsible for legislating was inadequate.

In this context, the Board of Control emerged as a national forum for consensus and coordination, as conceived by the President of the Chamber of Accounts, and under the guidance of a specialist in the area, responsible for the coordination and follow-up on agreements made in each meeting of the Board. To date, one special and ten regular meetings have been held.

BENEFICIARIES

The entire Dominican population.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

BOARD OF CONTROL-RELATED ORGANIZATIONS (BOARD OF CONTROL)

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen interaction, coordination, complementarity and synergy of all the components of the financial management and control systems. - Coordinate actions between the components of the same system, complement activities, and unify criteria for the requirement of information, control, and others. - Provide feedback to the legislators based on the results of control actions. - Make the activities and needs of each of the parties transparent. - Coordinate actions across control elements - Empower the legislative and social control bodies about their oversight role. <p>Three key concepts were considered at the time of conceiving and implementing the Board of Control:</p> <p>1) the systems theory, in which all parts of a system (such as the financial management) interact efficiently, with internal, external, legislative and social control activities that ensure its proper operation;</p> <p>(2) Ongoing feedback, in order for the body responsible for legislating to know if matters legislated are actually being implemented and can act accordingly: improving legislation, expanding regulatory details, increasing training and/or sanctioning when applicable, and</p> <p>(3) Effective communication for the timely identification of the needs of one or more parties of the system, reducing formalities and adopting appropriate and timely decisions.</p>
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC APPROACH	Strategic Line of Action 1.1.1.3: Strengthen the internal and external control system as well as the mechanisms for access to public administration information, as a means of ensuring transparency, accountability and the quality of public expenditure.
METHOD OF COOPERATION	Training, information and experience sharing, and technical assistance
WEB PAGE	www.camaradecuentas.gob.do/ www.enc.ed.do/mesadecontrol

Young Auditors Programme of the Chamber of Accounts of the Dominican Republic



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE YOUNG AUDITORS PROGRAMME OF THE CHAMBER OF ACCOUNTS OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

Within the framework of the Project for the Institutional and Operational Strengthening of the Chamber of Accounts and the UNDP, a programme was designed with the aim of building new capabilities for the Chamber of Accounts of the Dominican Republic.

This capacity-building should be attained by involving youth in the decision-making process, through the incorporation of a generation of professionals in accounting, law and engineering, with a high level of skills in information and communication technologies, and with no experience in the public sector, to be provided with three months of intensive training (both theoretical and practical), then becoming auditors general with the highest authority for overseeing public resources.

This will ensure transparency and a proper accountability of the resources invested by the State's general budget

BACKGROUND

Government audit for external control, an exclusive role of the Chamber of Accounts, has traditionally been a highly specialized area within the cycle of management of the Dominican State's public finances.

One of the main weaknesses found by analysing the Chamber of Accounts' institutional context in the last 8 years refers to the specialized training of human resources to meet one of the main statutory functions assigned to this entity as set forth by law and the Constitution: to ensure transparent use of national budget resources –the Nation's main instrument for development – according to established accountability standards.

Consequently, the project addressed this weakness in human resources, and a specialized both theoretical and hands-on programme was designed to ensure the necessary change in the generation of auditors and the sustainability of institutional strengthening.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

YOUNG AUDITORS PROGRAMME OF THE CHAMBER OF ACCOUNTS OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

BENEFICIARIES	Any citizen, male or female, of the Dominican Republic in general; specifically, intervention with a focus on youth, to convert young people into key stakeholders in the process.
METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure a generational change and train new professionals in specialized areas such as external control. - Design a training programme specializing in external control, in line with the specific work performed by the Chamber of Accounts and as part of the backbone of its internal training centre: the School of Accounts. - Transfer knowledge for such a generational change, both in theory and practice, from State auditors with greater skills and expertise and who hold high level leadership positions in the institution. - Promote the sustainability of all institutional strengthening efforts made for the past 8 years to secure the future of a highly specialized branch, such as the external control of the use of public resources. <p>Experiences in terms of perception:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding by the institution that institutional transformation and strengthening processes are made sustainable with the inclusion of human resources that guarantee the future. - Understanding that tangible results for the benefit of the institution's productivity are to be achieved internally –by drawing on the experience of the most skilled and by implementing a consistent transfer of knowledge. - Understanding that a generational change helps to consolidate and give significance to efforts proposed for institutional strengthening and modernization.
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	Strategic Line of Action 1.1.1.3: Strengthening the internal and external control system, as well as the mechanisms for access to public administration information, as a means of ensuring transparency, accountability and the quality of public expenditure.
METHOD OF COOPERATION	Information and experience sharing.
WEB PAGE	www.camaradecuentas.gob.do/



PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE / ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The Public Prosecutor's Office is an instrumentality of the Dominican Republic's judicial system for ensuring the rule of law and is independent in the performance of its functions. In representing society, this office is responsible for directing criminal investigations, and initiating public prosecution, as well as providing protection to victims and witnesses.

The powers of the Public Prosecutor's Office are as follows:

- Investigate crimes requiring public prosecution;

MISSION



As a representative of the State, we are the governing body for public prosecution, committed to the formulation and implementation of the policy against crime, to criminal investigation, the administration of the penitentiary and correctional system, the protection and care of victims and witnesses, as well as to the prosecution of corruption and fraud. We are also the institution providing administrative legal services as required by law.



VISION



To become a reference for excellence at the regional level and to have highly qualified human resources available and committed to the management of investigations, the prosecution of punishable acts, conflict resolution, the correction and reinsertion into society of convicted individuals and the effective rule of law.

- Represent and defend public interest in all offences and matters as required by law;
- Ensure compliance with, and respect for, the Constitution, the laws and fundamental public liberties throughout the national territory, seeking the timely and proper administration of justice in the processes whereby public order and morality are affected or compromised;
- Guarantee effective compliance with the rules of due process of law by protecting and respecting human dignity, without discrimination; and
- Exercise functional management, coordinate the investigations of crimes by the Judicial Police and by any other State security agency, and oversee the legality of their actions.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE NATIONAL PENITENTIARY SCHOOL - NEW MODEL OF PRISON MANAGEMENT

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

The New Model of Prison Management aims to humanize prisons through the implementation of a progressive system to deal with inmates, including post-penitentiary attention to those released to facilitate their adaptation to society and to prevent a recurrence, thus contributing to the reduction of crime and violence, and fostering a more secure society.

BACKGROUND

Since the inception of sanctioning for breaking the law, the Dominican prison system was structured on the basis of the deprivation of liberty of the guilty, as a consequence of committing an offence or a crime. Upon incorporation of a human rights-based approach and punishment regarded as a mechanism for enabling the reintegration of the individual into society, the time incarcerated should be taken as an opportunity for personal, human and professional growth.

The New Model of Prison Management is based on Law 224-84 on the penitentiary system and on the international treaties and agreements on the subject.



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

NATIONAL PENITENTIARY SCHOOL - NEW MODEL OF PRISON MANAGEMENT

BACKGROUND	From a doctrinal point of view, it welcomes the concept of restorative justice as an instrument for the improvement of life in society, while it is a valuable component of public security policy. It promotes the participation of key and supportive sectors of society as a guarantee of the sustainability of the reform. It is receptive to implementing good foreign prison practices and to international support that are in harmony with our national character, while performing within the framework of international prison and human rights standards.
BENEFICIARIES	Male and female adult population convicted of committing criminal offenses or while in detention or awaiting trial in a criminal proceeding.
METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	The National Penitentiary School provides technical training specialized in penitentiary matters for the personnel who will be working in the centres. Later, this highly trained personnel implement the acquired methodology. This progressive system is based on, and oriented to reverse the vicious circle of crime through the provision to inmates of various courses at the centres, so they can return to society having something worthwhile to offer.
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	Strategic Goal 1 Objective 1. Efficient and transparent results-oriented public administration. Specific objective 1.12 Line of action 1.2.1.6. Specific objective 1.4.2 Lines of action 1.4.2.1 and 1.4.2.5
METHOD OF COOPERATION	Information and experience sharing.
WEB PAGE	www.enap.pgr.gob.do/

Biblioteca Virtual



CENTRAL ELECTORAL BOARD (JCE)

Women's Political Participation Observatory

The Central Electoral Board (JCE) is an autonomous body with legal personality and technical, administrative, budgetary and financial independence, whose main purpose will be to organize, supervise and lead elections and other mechanisms for the people's participation, as provided for by the Constitution and the law. It has regulatory power for matters within its competence.

Since April 12, 1923, the Dominican Republic has had

MISSION



Ensure the integrity and security of the identity of citizens by having safe, reliable and permanent civil registration data, and providing efficient and quality services in compliance with existing legal regulations.

Organize elections with transparency so that the results represent the citizens' will, based on legitimacy and credibility; ensuring the political rights of citizens; consolidating democratic processes in the country and in political parties.

VISION



To be a model public service institution with national and international prestige, with a great sense of social responsibility, which efficiently uses cutting-edge technology and human resources, with the main objective of organizing elections fairly and transparently, whose results are based on credibility and legitimacy; and to manage civil registration and identity with a high degree of service, in compliance with the correct enforcement of the laws.

an institution specialized in electoral matters: the Central Electoral Board (JCE), which is the body responsible for organizing and leading elections as provided for by constitutional mandate (Art.92), guaranteeing the real exercise of citizenship in our nation.

Another important power of the JCE is to manage and regulate Dominicans' Civil Registration Acts. It is currently composed of a Chairman and four members and their alternates, elected for a four-year term by the Senate of the Republic.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OBSERVATORY

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE	The initiative is aimed at promoting gender equality and the elimination of gender gaps, specifically by a timely follow-up on women's political participation, evaluating progress towards the realization of their political rights.
BACKGROUND	<p>Despite significant progress made in the achievement of women's rights throughout the 20th century, women still do not have the same opportunities of access to decision-making positions or to participate in decision-making or to have their capabilities considered for holding public office, thus making evident the inequality and discrimination they face in their day to day work.</p> <p>The equal participation of women and men in public life is one of the fundamental principles of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1979 and of which the country is a signatory. Also, the Dominican Constitution provides for prerogatives of equal participation in Article 39, Paragraph 5:</p> <p>The State must promote and ensure a balanced participation of women and men in their candidacy for public office to hold leadership and decision-making positions in the public sector, in the administration of justice and in the State's regulatory bodies.</p>

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OBSERVATORY

BACKGROUND

Most Latin American and Caribbean countries have made significant, major reforms in their domestic legislation, with the aim of expanding the level of representation. The Dominican Republic has not been an exception; in recent decades the country has been immersed in a major process of reform in order to adapt the national legal framework to the international commitments to protect rights, ensure women's economic empowerment, and increase the social and economic participation of women.

In this sense, the Central Electoral Board (JCE), created by Resolution 02-2013 (March 1, 2013), the Commission on Gender Equality Policies with the aim of mainstreaming the gender perspective in the planning, implementation and evaluation of policies carried out by the institution, contribute to the strengthening of democratic processes from a gender perspective.

Also, a Reglamento de políticas de igualdad de género (Rules and regulations on gender equality policies) is in place, which sets forth a set of strategic actions, organized in priority areas of action, through which equal opportunities between women and men will be promoted and sought in an effective manner in policies, regulatory actions and projects as approved by the institution in the provision of services to the public and the internal operation of the various departments on which it is structured¹.

In this context, the JCE's Commission on Gender Equality Policies, with UNDP's technical support, established the Women's Political Participation Observatory, as a mechanism for making the situation of Dominican women in politics visible. It is of special interest to learn what the political parties are or are not doing in promoting and ensuring the democratic principles of equality and non-discrimination enacted in the Dominican Constitution.

The Observatory allows for the timely follow-up on women's participation in politics, evaluating progress made towards the realization of their political rights, the impact of quotas on the various levels of representation, and the advances made by political parties internally in terms of gender equality, through a number of indicators. The Observatory:

- Generates quantitative and qualitative information on women's and men's political representation.
- Measures the levels of compliance with international goals and objectives on gender equality and women's political rights.
- Makes developments in gender equality visible to political parties internally.
- Contributes inputs to conduct analysis and develop proposals and policy advocacy strategies, in order to overcome the obstacles and barriers faced by women in their political careers.

It also serves as a scenario for permanent exchange with political parties, related State institutions, the private sector, civil society, Academia and cooperation agencies in order to follow up on the information produced by the Observatory.

¹ Art.1. Concepto del Reglamento de Políticas de Igualdad de Género. JCE. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 2015

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OBSERVATORY

BENEFICIARIES	Women and men who are involved in politics, in political parties, in Academia, the population at large.
METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify the country's needs, situation and capacity to promote and establish this initiative. - Identify a counterpart institution that has the mandate, authority, and capacity to collect information on the seats obtained by women and men in elected positions, and on the political parties' operation and measures of participation. - Review national legal frameworks and international agreements of which the country is a signatory. - Conduct assessments of gaps in the participation of women in politics through document reviews and/or interviews. - Identify indicators. - Hold consultations with different interest sectors. - Design the Observatory and share it.
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	<p>The National Development Strategy (END 2010-2030) 's specific objective 1.3.2. Promote the consolidation of the electoral and political party system to ensure an accountable, democratic and transparent performance of the political system's actors and institutions.</p> <p>Line of action 1.3.2.2, which aims to: establish mechanisms that allow for greater openness of the electoral system for the inclusion and representation of new political and social actors, ensuring gender equity in terms of access to positions of decision-making and to party structures.</p>
METHOD OF COOPERATION	Information and experience sharing.
WEB PAGE	www.observatorioigualdad.jce.gob.do/

National School of Electoral and Civil Registry Training (EFEC) Central Electoral Board (JCE)



COOPERATION EXPERIENCE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF ELECTORAL AND CIVIL REGISTRY TRAINING (EFEC) CENTRAL ELECTORAL BOARD (JCE)

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

The National School of Electoral and Civil Registry Training (EFEC) is the academic institution of the Central Electoral Board, which is responsible for training, evaluation and updating of personnel of the Central Electoral Board and its dependencies, as well as awareness-raising and training citizens in aspects relating to civic and democratic culture and the rule of law, as well as in matters relating to electoral administration and civil registry.

BACKGROUND

In 2008, with the support of the Spanish Cooperation, a process to support the Central Electoral Board and the seven major political parties of the Dominican system was undertaken with the aim of improving the capacity of political parties to make programmatic commitments to the population. Also, to address issues relating to the internal functioning of political parties and electoral transparency.

The sectoral objective of the Spanish Cooperation in the Dominican Republic is to promote the quality of democracy and the exercise of the fundamental rights of the population, through three lines of action, one of the priority aims being the democratic governance strategy to promote transparency, efficiency and legitimacy of the system of democratic representation, thus improving the confidence of Dominican citizens in the party system.

In this context, the Project for Strengthening the JCE's EFEC was designed with the objective of supporting the EFEC's institutional development in order to facilitate the full and efficient performance of the training and updating responsibilities assigned by the Central Electoral Board in order to contribute to the improved quality of electoral processes in the Dominican Republic. In this way greater electoral transparency will be achieved, as well as the improvement of the internal functioning of the political parties, thus increasing the population's confidence in their representatives and in the electoral system.

BENEFICIARIES

The entire population

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

NATIONAL SCHOOL OF ELECTORAL AND CIVIL REGISTRY TRAINING (EFEC) CENTRAL ELECTORAL BOARD (JCE)

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<p>In the first phase, activities were conducted for the design of the structure and for organizing the School.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of a training policy and method for the validation of the School’s training programmes. • Design, formulation and definition of the strategy for implementing the School’s functional structure, process and procedure. • Development of a HR Manual. • Creation of the Observatory of Public Opinion and Electoral Political Behaviour (OBSEROP) for the collecting of data relating to public opinion and Dominican political behaviour. This Observatory is based on a series of surveys to provide the Dominican society with a forum for public discussion at a high level, to influence the political and electoral system, and academic and intellectual circles. In addition, the development of a database through the creation of an Internet domain, to provide data to researchers, academics, political parties, government officials and citizens about public opinion and political behaviour in the Dominican Republic. <p>Once the structure of the School was consolidated, the next step was to improve teaching capacity through :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Diploma Course in Democracy, Governance and Political Leadership. This programme was designed to provide skills and knowledge to leaders of political parties and leaders of community organizations, relating to citizens’ values and democratic culture. This training programme was evaluated by prestigious academics and consultants from the Complutense University of Madrid. It consists of 75 on-site hours, 5 hours of practices and 50 hours in a virtual network, divided into five (5) modules with core subjects, teaching resources, learning strategies, and assessment tools. 162 leaders of political parties and electoral officers have graduated from this programme. • A Master’s Degree in Political Electoral Studies (a pioneer programme). • On-line Courses: Master’s Degree in Political and Electoral Studies, a training course for Civil Registry officials. <p>Finally, the EFEC was granted certification as a Higher Academic Institution. Making the school an institution specializing in electoral studies and civil registration will allow for diversifying the training offer to be provided to Dominican citizens.</p>
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY’S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	<p>1.3 “Participatory democracy and responsible citizenship”</p> <p>1.3.2 “Promote the strengthening of the electoral system and of political parties to ensure the responsible, democratic and transparent performance of the actors and institutions of the political system”.</p>
METHOD OF COOPERATION	<p>Technical assistance Information and experience sharing.</p>
WEB PAGE	<p>info@efec.edu.do</p>



NETWORK OF LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES (ADEL)

ADEL is a network composed of public, private and social entities aimed at promoting territorial development in a participatory and concerted way. They draw on the endogenous potential in order to improve the quality of life from a human development perspective, to promote dignified work and to create wealth and opportunities for social inclusion.

They are mechanisms to support the coordination of international cooperation and accompany processes of mobilization

THE ADELDOM NETWORK

The ADELDOM Network is an inter-institutional entity aimed at networking, and establishing linkages and connections between territories through ADELs in six provinces (Bahoruco, Dajabón, El Seibo, Monte Plata, Sanchez Ramirez and Valverde), with more than 300 affiliates.

The ADELDOM Network - within the framework of supply and demand from the territories for basic, social and business development services - accompanies the ADELs in managing partnerships with government and private entities at the national and international North-South and South-South cooperation. Thus, through the coordination of multiple initiatives, it focuses on prioritized value chains (dairy, horticulture, bananas, cocoa, honey, tourism, pineapples, coffee, and grapes), on small and medium-sized enterprises, and on the vulnerable or disadvantaged sectors.



of national, public and private investments based on the needs of the territory. They operate mainly at the provincial level.

ADELs are governed by the framework of national public policy and by private law. Partners contribute resources for its sustainability, and as a guarantee to receive information, project formulation, training and technical assistance and other services.

The focus of an ADEL approach is territorial and cross-sectoral. ADELs also act within the international framework, promote decentralized cooperation and do networking.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE NETWORK OF LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES (ADEL) IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

ADEL is a networking institution which coordinates initiatives for the promotion of local economic development between areas in which there are local development agencies in the Dominican Republic. It provides technical assistance to new regions interested in implementing local economic development activities, and promotes national policies for taking advantage of the endogenous territorial potential.

The network has brought together six local development agencies with a membership of over 300 public, private and social institutions.

BACKGROUND

In recent decades the country has focused its economic development strategy on the promotion of foreign investment through tax and fiscal incentives, especially for free trade zones and tourism; provision of support to some traditional export categories and use of remittances from abroad. This vision focused on exogenous development and on large urban conglomerates weakening the institutional structures in mostly rural areas and many other potentialities in key areas of the national economy. As a result, the offer of regional services for the promotion of endogenous development has been limited, thus resulting in decreased opportunities for productive and business development at the local level.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE NETWORK OF LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES (ADEL) IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



ANTECEDENTES

In 2008 the UNDP proposed an alternative and started raising awareness of the interwoven local socio-economic network in the provinces and at the national level, with the purpose of promoting territorial structures and projects to promote local development, through their Programme for the Organization of Territorial Networks.

In 2010, three new ADELs were created in the provinces of El Seibo, Bahoruco and Dajabón; the two entities already existing in Monte Plata and Valverde were strengthened. The Network of Dominican Local Economic Development Agencies (Red ADELDOM) was established, and over 15 key projects have been implemented for the strengthening of value chains in each territory, directly benefiting more than 10,000 people.

South-South cooperation actions were promoted with over ten countries in the region to strengthen national and territorial capacities, also promoting opportunities for dialogue and sharing regional information with other ADELs through the Latin American network.

In 2012, the ADEL network had technically supported the creation of a new ADEL in the province of Sanchez Ramirez. Between 2012 and 2016 the Government boosted local development through various initiatives such as a policy on small and medium sized enterprises, the National Plan for Local Development, the promotion of Local Development Councils and support for productive business projects through the Special Fund for Agricultural Development.

In 2016, with the technical assistance of the ADELDOM Network and the support of the UNDP Local Cross-Border Development Programme, the first Haitian ADEL was created in Ouanaminthe, Northeast Department in Haiti, reaching an important milestone in the promotion of endogenous development in the neighbouring country, in a context of political-institutional uncertainty.

BENEFICIARIES

Entrepreneurs and employees of micro and small enterprises (agricultural, agro-industrial, industry, business and services in the framework of territorial value chains), young people, women and persons who undertake new entrepreneurial initiatives, public and private officials who offer business services, and representatives of social organizations which encourage the local socio-economic process.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

NETWORK OF LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES (ADEL) IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the specific needs for cooperation. • Propose a work plan. • Agree on management arrangements. • Implement the initiatives contained in the plan. • Provide follow-up on actions. • Promote participation, consensus, joint management, the sharing of knowledge and practices between counterparts, the building of shared knowledge, action-research based on practical reality and the promotion of social innovation. <p>The above is being carried out by ADEL managers, technical assistants in specific areas, partners, allies and national and international experts from the ADEL network who provide their cooperation either by way of face-to-face contact or online. Assistance is also provided by national and international local economic development networks with the support of international cooperation organizations and key government bodies.</p>
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	<p>Strategic Goal 1. Objective 3. Participatory democracy.</p> <p>Strategic Goal 2. Objective 4. Territorial cohesion.</p> <p>Strategic Goal 3. Objective 5. Sectorally and territorially organized productive structure.</p> <p>Strategic Goal 4. Objective 1. Sustainable management of the environment</p>
METHOD OF COOPERATION	<p>Information and experience sharing.</p> <p>Technical assistance</p>
WEB PAGE	<p>www.redadeldom.org/ redadeldominicanas@yahoo.es</p>



MINISTRY OF WOMEN

The Ministry of Women has its origin in the Directorate-General for the Promotion of Women, an institution created by Decree No. 46, on August 17, 1982, which provided for attaching it to the Presidency of the Republic. On August 11, 1999 – and because of the need for creating a State agency to lead, rationalize and bring together efforts related to the promotion of gender equality and equity made by the existing governmental institutions and to coordinate efforts with civil society organizations – Law No. 86-99 was promulgated, and the Secretariat of State for

MISSION



Define and lead the implementation of public policies, plans and programmes that contribute to gender equity and equality and to the full exercise of citizenship by women.



VISION



To be a leading, innovative and plural Ministry, recognized for its ability to influence the transformation of society so that women and men enjoy equal rights and opportunities.

Women was created. Later, with the adoption of the new Constitution in 2010, it became known as the Ministry of Women.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE GENDER EQUALITY SEALS IN COMPANIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

This initiative aims to promote gender equality and the elimination of gender gaps – specifically for women in the workplace – through a process of certification and the granting of a Gender Equality Seal.

BACKGROUND

The Ministry of Women, with support from the Ministry of Labour, the National Council of Competitiveness, and the Dominican Institute for Quality (INDOCAL), are implementing the IGUALANDO RD initiative in order to establish management systems in companies and organizations to overcome gender gaps existing in the labour market and in Dominican organizations, fostering greater awareness and concrete and quantifiable measures. This is the only national certification programme for gender equality in the country.

The model comprises the following lines of action:

- universalize organizational best practices;
- eliminate cultural and organisational barriers;
- promote an organizational culture that integrates equity and equality as a value in quality processes;
- develop the capacity to learn in organizations;
- improve the image of the company or organization;
- promote organizations' social responsibility regarding their production throughout the entire process.

In addition, it integrates actions and policies to verify the elimination of gaps between men and women, ensuring greater job security for mothers during pregnancy and postpartum; implementation of policies for harmonization and co-responsibility

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

GENDER EQUALITY SEALS IN COMPANIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

BACKGROUND

between family, personal and work life; and implementation of programmes to combat sexual harassment and gender-based violence, including the availability of adequate facilities to comply with occupational safety regulations, and the revision of their gender policies.

These initiatives represent innovative proposals to eliminate gender inequalities in the workplace by transforming labour structures and human resources management in institutions and companies in a more just and equitable manner. At the same time, they contribute to calling attention to the issue of gender inequalities as a responsibility not only of the State, but also of the entities or companies themselves that may thereby become an active part of the solution.

It is a key initiative in promoting compliance with the SDGs and to help companies generate real and profound changes that allow them to report realities in their sustainability reports to the Global Compact, Dow Jones, and GRI.

A Country Standard for Gender Equality NORDOM 775 was approved for the country. This standard is the basis for the conducting of audits by the Dominican Institute for Quality (INDOCAL).

Moreover, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), by means of the Regional Hub's Gender Area and the various offices in the countries of the region, has been providing support for more than five years for the sharing of knowledge regarding the Gender Equality Seal with national governmental certification initiatives for public and private entities in Latin America.

Initially, participants in this regional process have included: Argentina (MEGA 2009), Brazil (Pro-Gender Equity Seal), Chile (Iguala Seal), Costa Rica (SIGEG), Mexico (MEG) and Uruguay (CGEG). Other countries have joined the process for adapting these experiences, such as Colombia, Cuba, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic.

All these countries are participating in the Gender Equality Seal Community, facilitated by UNDP with the objectives of: generating the transfer of information and knowledge between countries; producing knowledge that will help improve individual practices; developing mechanisms for technical cooperation among countries to set in motion or strengthen existing experiences, among other objectives.

In the Dominican Republic, UNDP has provided technical and financial assistance to the Ministry of Women for the implementation of the initiative by means of its IGUALANDO RD. Technical assistance has been provided, as follows:

- Training of advisers to support organizations that enrol in the process.
- Development of tools for the provision of training to advisers; audits; work plan for reduction of gender gaps.
- Development of logo.
- Visibility of the initiative and communication
- Participation in regional forums.
- Identification of partners and promotion of inter-institutional agreements with business organizations and the State.
- Development of a Country Standard and provision of support throughout the process and lobbying for approval.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

GENDER EQUALITY SEALS IN COMPANIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

BACKGROUND	<p>This initiative is in line with the National Plan for Gender Equality and Equity 2007-2017 (PLANEG II), specifically with topic No. 4: Strengthen economic empowerment and foster the overcoming of poverty among women.</p> <p>In the Ministry of Women's Strategic Plan, this initiative is part of one of its five major projects: Women's Participation and Leadership, which corresponds to Strategic Objective No. 1: To achieve the incorporation of a culture of equality and equity between women and men in Dominican society, and Strategic Objective No. 4: Consolidation and positioning of women's rights.</p>
BENEFICIARIES	Female workers
METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<p>Macro:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To know the country's needs, its situation and ability to promote and establish this initiative. - Identify a counterpart institution that has the mandate, capacity and political will to carry out the necessary actions and enter into institutional agreements that provide for the establishment of the Country Seal. <p>Micro:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sign an inter-institutional agreement with the institution that seeks certification. - Carry out a diagnostic study of gender gaps on the basis of indicators previously established by the country for the Seal. - Provide support to the organization and/or company in the development of the improvement plan. - Provide specific training for the organization and/or company as needed. - Conducting audits.
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINEA OF ACTION	<p>This initiative focuses on Strategic Goal No. 2 of the National Development Strategy (END): A cohesive society, with equal opportunities and low levels of poverty and inequality.</p> <p>Specific Objective 2.6: Building a culture of equality and equity between men and women.</p> <p>Line of Action 2.6.4: Create mechanisms that facilitate the inclusion of women in the labour market, without discrimination.</p>
METHOD OF COOPERATION	Information and experience sharing.
WEB PAGE	www.mujer.gob.do/



MINISTRY OF THE PRESIDENCY

The Ministry of the Presidency coordinates and controls the activities of the entities that are statutorily brought under the direct authority of the Executive branch. It ensures that every person, commission, office or entity that is not under the authority of another ministry complies with its mission.

It monitors compliance with the instructions given by the President of the Republic to the various agencies and informs the President what it deems necessary or convenient

MISSION



Assist the President of the Nation in achieving the objectives set forth in the National Development Strategy and in the Government Plan, through the implementation of the actions and projects prioritized by the President and in coordination with the various strata of the State, implement public policies with transparency, effectiveness and efficiency, as the foundation of a social and democratic state, subject to the rule of law.



VISION



To be a ministry with efficient, effective, modern and transparent management, and the ability to coordinate and bring together the actions of various public institutions for the fulfillment of the goals, plans and commitments of the President of the Republic and the Central Government.

for the proper performance of the functions of the Public Administration, autonomous institutions and other decentralized State entities.

It complies with the assignments of the President of the Republic regarding matters of any nature and to represent him as requested.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

THE NATIONAL 9-1-1 EMERGENCY SERVICE AND SECURITY SYSTEM

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

The National 9-1-1 Emergency Service and Security System routes to the same phone number any call regarding an event that requires immediate attention or treatment.

Its aim is to provide everyone who is in the Dominican Republic the attention required in situations of emergency and risk.

This integrated system provides a consolidated, coordinated and effective response to emergency calls made by Dominicans and foreign individuals in the Dominican Republic. Both technical and human resources are able to offer efficient and timely service.

BACKGROUND

The system was established to meet the needs for:

- Providing the nation with an emergency service system with a single, easy-to use, and accessible telephone number.
- Providing fast and efficient assistance in emergencies that endanger the life of a citizen.
- Improving inter-institutional coordination of the emergency assistance service providers.
- Improving the public's perception of security.

BENEFICIARIES

Any person in Greater Santo Domingo, which includes the municipalities of Santo Domingo Norte, Este and Oeste; Pedro Brand, San Antonio de Guerra, Boca Chica, Los Alcarrizos and the National District.

A second phase will include the municipalities of San Cristóbal, Bajos de Haina, Puerto Plata, Imbert, Sosúa, Luperón and Santiago.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

THE NATIONAL 9-1-1 EMERGENCY SERVICE AND SECURITY SYSTEM

METHOD AND EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effectively coordinate, since the implementation of the Integrated Emergency Response System, the actions of the response agencies, ensuring the provision of qualified personnel, high standards of quality, advanced technology, security and continuous improvement. - Manage emergencies in order to safeguard lives and property in urgent circumstances of need or catastrophe that compromise life, freedom, security or the integrity of natural or artificial persons or their property, and that require immediate aid. - Operate according to the highest international standards of quality, ensuring continuous improvement and efficiency of operations through the integration of a robust platform of technology and qualified personnel who possess the behavioural and technical skills required for the optimum performance of their duties.
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	<p>General Objective 1.1 Efficient, transparent and results-oriented public administration.</p> <p>General Objective 1.2 The rule of law and citizen security.</p>
MODE OF COOPERATION	Information and experience sharing.
WEB PAGE	www.911.gob.do/





GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

The General Directorate of Public Procurement (DGCP) is a Central Government institution and an agency of the Ministry of Finance, which is responsible for governing the National Public Procurement System. According to Administrative Law, the governing bodies are created to regulate relations between legal persons. In the case of the General Directorate of Public Procurement, the regulation of this interaction is carried out by dictating and updating principles, practices, standards, processes and information systems. In addition, it manages the system tools, encourages the public market and responds to international diagnos-

MISSION



Ensure transparency and equal opportunities in the procurement made by the Dominican State, through the promotion and regulation of the public market and the National Public Procurement System, as a tool for sustainable development.



VISION



To be an institution of national and international reference for the quality of the services delivered to all stakeholders; for innovation and transparent performance in the administration of the National Public Procurement System, achieving equal opportunities for vendors, with emphasis on women, MSMEs, and the participation and satisfaction of the society.

tics on procurement matters as part of the continuous improvement of its processes. Its responsibilities include:

- Recommending policies for the procurement of goods, services, construction works and concessions.
- Designing and implementing the Goods and Services Catalogue for common use.
- Designing and implementing a Price Information System.
- Establishing a methodology to prepare annual plans and programmes for the procurement of goods and services.
- Designing and putting in place Common Procedures Manuals.
- Ensuring that entities falling within the scope of Law No. ____ are in compliance with standards, rules, policies, plans and methodologies for the procurement of goods, services, construction works and concessions.
- Providing general and specialized training in the organization and operation of the system for their own personnel and the personnel from the implementing units
- Organizing, keeping and updating State Vendor and Consultant Register.
- Keeping a record of invalidated vendors.
- Receiving suggestions and complaints from vendors.
- Proposing the organizational structure for the Governing Body.
- Proposing regulations for the application of standards.
- Recommending sanctions provided for in Law No. 340-06.
- Managing and ensuring the complete and timely updating of an access-free website that concentrates the information on public procurement, which should include inter alia legislation in force on the matter, purchasing policies, procurement, requests for proposals, the results of the procurement processes, as well as the disabled vendors.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AS AN ENABLING TOOL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (MSMES), WOMEN AND PRODUCTIVE SECTORS

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

Since September 2012, the Dominican Government has been implementing a process to reform and streamline the National Public Procurement System based on total transparency throughout the processes, the removal of barriers to access, full advertising, and the provision of “How to Sell to the State” training and of technical assistance to women, MSMEs and productive sectors. In addition to being the governing body of the National Public Procurement System, Public Procurement is also a promoter of the public market.

The information in the procurement systems allows for analysing and identifying opportunities, after which productive sectors are sought in order to take advantage of the opportunity to sell to the State. An agenda has been coordinated that, taking the procurement system as an enabling tool, envisages building linkages with women, MSMEs and productive sectors.

In addition, performance bonds were reduced for MSMEs, and an advance payment of 20% was established for the sector after the award is made. The Directorate General of Public Procurement has continued to develop the inclusive and sustainable public procurement model that has characterized the Dominican Government and its policy of democratizing access to the public market, using it as an instrument for the development of MSMEs and women.

Over a three-year period, MSMEs have become the main suppliers to the State, increasing the amount contracted to enterprises certified as MSMEs, others that have not yet opted for certification, and to natural persons.

In 2012 the amount contracted to Certified and Non-Certified MSMEs and Natural Persons amounted to RD\$24,710,818,899.75, accounting for 78% of the total amount contracted by the State, which for that year was RD\$31,554,464,460.00.

During the year 2015, acquisitions by the State from this sector accounted for 94% of the total amount contracted as of November, which amounted to RD\$37,034,812,704.26. Of this amount, RD\$34,953,502,795.74 has been awarded to these sectors.

During the same period, acquisitions from large enterprises that in 2012 represented 22% of the total amount of purchases, in 2015 accounted for only 6 per cent, i.e., purchases to large enterprises have been reduced by 16% as compared to the baseline.

In general, during year 2015, the 20% preference given to MSMEs certified by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce was exceeded by 13%, as set forth by Law No. 488-08, amounting to a total of RD\$11,425,197,674.00, which accounts for 33% of the total amount awarded in that year.

BACKGROUND

The national procurement systems typically interact with institutions, and rarely with the market or society. These are neutral systems, whereby the only thing that matters and that cannot be measured is saving, when in a social and democratic rule of law, the State as such, on the one hand, has needs to meet, and on the other hand, people have demands. In all countries the State is the largest buyer, but that purchasing power is rarely used to foster national development.

Drawing on the experiences of the U.S. and Brazil, it was decided to radically change the Dominican procurement system to make it more inclusive and more transparent while promoting development and fighting corruption. Procurement is region-based, so purchases can be made throughout the country in order to support local governments and promote the equitable budgetary distribution throughout the territory.

COOPERATION EXPERIENCE

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AS AN ENABLING TOOL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (MSMES), WOMEN AND PRODUCTIVE SECTORS

BENEFICIARIES	Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises
EXPERIENCIA	<p>Results: Over 44 months, there has been an increase in the number of suppliers to the State from 19,800 to over 61,000, for an enrolment of more than 41 thousand new suppliers.</p> <p>Regarding women, in September 2012, there were fewer than 1,700 women registered as providers to the State. In 44 months, 14 thousand women were registered in the State Vendor Register, many of whom have been awarded contracts for over RD\$39 billion (US\$849 million).</p> <p>Traditional sectors, such as shoes, flour, small livestock cooperatives, as well as the textile sector, have been rescued from bankruptcy – going from importing to manufacturing for the national industry.</p> <p>This inclusive and sustainable procurement model is aimed at developing and strengthening the national public procurement system and at making it suitable for 97% of Dominican companies, which are MSMEs; of these, over 92% are micro-enterprises in order for the public market to be supportive of this sector.</p> <p>To this end, various support tools have been developed in the public sector to bring the offer closer to the demand.</p> <p>Behind every Government strategy or action, there should be a procurement policy that provides opportunities while meeting needs.</p>
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY'S STRATEGIC LINE OF ACTION	<p>Strategic Goal 1. Social and Democratic Rule of Law</p> <p>Specific Objective. 1.1 Structuring an efficient public administration acting with honesty, transparency and accountability and oriented to results for the benefit of society and of national and local development.</p> <p>Strategic Goal 3. Sustainable, Inclusive and Competitive Economy</p> <p>3.1.2 Consolidate a sustainable public finance management for allocating resources according to the national development priorities and is conducive to the equitable distribution of the national income.</p> <p>.4.3 Improved efficiency, investment capacity and productivity of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMES).</p> <p>Strategic Goal 4. Creating an Environmentally Sustainable Production and Consumption Society that Adapts to Climate Change.</p> <p>4.1.2. Promoting sustainable production and consumption.</p>
METHOD OF COOPERATION	<p>Technical assistance</p> <p>Sharing of experiences</p>
WEBPAGE	www.comprasdominicana.gov.do



Procedure

to request International Cooperation with
the Dominican Republic

- **Step 1.** The country interested in receiving cooperation with the Dominican Republic should submit, through the corresponding diplomatic channels, a Note Verbale to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic (MIREX) so stating.
- **Step 2.** Once the Note Verbale is received by the Ministry, the Inventory of Cooperation Experiences is reviewed to determine if the requested assistance is included therein. Inter-agency coordination will then be initiated internally to respond in a timely manner via the established diplomatic channels.
- **Step 3.** If cooperation is approved, the Parties shall agree on the formalization mechanism to be used.

In any case, MIREX will not recognize any action regarding the cooperation portfolio of the Dominican Republic that has not been processed according to this procedure.