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Committee on Poverty Reduction

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**PROGRAMME PLANNING AND EVALUATION**

(Item 7 (a) of the provisional agenda)

**REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM  
2008-2009 IN RESPECT OF THE SUBPROGRAMMES ON POVERTY AND  
DEVELOPMENT, STATISTICS AND DEVELOPMENT OF PACIFIC  
ISLAND COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES**

*Note by the secretariat*

**SUMMARY**

The present document contains the initial drafts of the proposed programme of work for 2008-2009 in respect of subprogramme 1, Poverty and development, subprogramme 2, Statistics, and subprogramme 3, Development of Pacific island countries and territories. These drafts are currently under review in the secretariat for finalization and eventual submission to the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts, Department of Management, United Nations Headquarters.

The document contains: (a) subprogramme objectives; (b) expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement; and (c) output citations by subprogramme. It does not provide information on resource requirements, as United Nations Headquarters has advised that this information may not be presented to any intergovernmental body until after review, analysis and approval by the Secretary-General.

The Committee is invited to review the document and to provide guidance on the proposed programme of work for 2008-2009, as input to the finalization of the document by the secretariat in advance of its consideration by the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission, later in 2006.



1. The ESCAP secretariat submits to the Committee the initial draft of the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2008-2009 in respect of subprogramme 1, Poverty and development, subprogramme 2, Statistics, and subprogramme 3, Development of Pacific island countries and territories, as contained in annexes I, II and III. It has been formulated drawing upon the programme overview of the draft strategic framework for the biennium 2008-2009 as endorsed by the Commission at its sixty-second session, held in April 2006,<sup>1</sup> and by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-sixth session.<sup>2</sup> The recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination will be transmitted to the General Assembly for consideration, at its sixty-first session, of the Secretary-General's proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2008-2009.
2. Asia and the Pacific is a region of diversity and disparity. The region has some of the world's fastest growing economies, largest production bases and consumer markets, and most active trading partners. It has achieved a spectacular reduction in income poverty. However, the economic prosperity and dynamism of parts of the region conceal the destitution of the 680 million people who constitute two thirds of the world's poor. The region has 36 least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing States.
3. Subprogramme 1, Poverty and development, has the overall objective of ensuring progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals through the adoption and implementation of policies and programmes for economic growth, development and poverty reduction, by Governments, civil society and the private sector in Asia and the Pacific, particularly in the least developed countries.
4. With its substantive focus on poverty reduction, the subprogramme will promote pro-poor economic growth, the provision of basic services and good governance as a means to tackle the three dimensions of poverty, namely, lack of income and productive assets, lack of access to basic services and lack of participation in decision-making.
5. The subprogramme will increase the capacity of Governments, civil society and the private sector to design and implement policies and programmes for social and economic development and poverty reduction through a combination of normative-analytical and capacity development activities.
6. With regard to subprogramme 2, Statistics, the overall objective will be to improve the production, dissemination and use of key demographic, social, economic and environmental statistics, including the Millennium Development Goals indicators, by National Statistical Systems in Asia and the Pacific, in accordance with internationally agreed standards and good practices.

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<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 19 (E/2006/39-E/ESCAP/1390)*, para. 281.

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/61/16)*, paras. 215-230.

7. The subprogramme will focus on assisting the development of social and demographic statistics, and promoting the improvement of data and measurement for assessing the role of the informal economy on economic growth, poverty reduction and gender equality.

8. The objective of subprogramme 3, Development of Pacific island countries and territories, will be to develop and implement policies for the achievement of relevant development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in the Pacific, taking into account the special needs of the small island developing States, as contained in the Mauritius Strategy.

9. The subprogramme will strengthen the capacity of Pacific island policymakers to develop and manage economic and social policies, with a view to achieving the Millennium Development Goals targets by 2015.

10. All three subprogrammes will accord priority to developing countries, especially least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, countries with economies in transition and small island developing States.

11. To ensure systemwide coherence and avoid duplication, ESCAP will undertake work in close cooperation and coordination with other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies. As an active member of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs, ESCAP will devote attention to ensuring clarity in the roles and responsibilities of global and regional bodies with regard to follow-up to the outcomes of major global conferences. ESCAP will continue to collaborate with regional, subregional and national organizations, and, at the request of members and associate members, with civil society institutions and the private sector.

12. The Committee is invited to review the present document and to provide guidance on the proposed programme of work for 2008-2009 in advance of its consideration by the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission, and its subsequent submission to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the General Assembly later in 2006.

*Annex I*

**DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK, 2008-2009**

**Subprogramme 1: Poverty and development**

**Objective for the biennium, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement**

<b>Objective of the Organization:</b> to ensure progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals through the adoption and implementation of policies and programmes for economic growth, development and poverty reduction, by Governments, civil society and the private sector in Asia and the Pacific, particularly in the least developed countries	
<b>Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat</b>	<b>Indicators of achievement</b>
(a) Increased national capacity to formulate and implement effective, sustainable and gender-responsive economic and development policies for achieving the Millennium Development Goals, particularly in the area of poverty reduction	(a) Increased number of measures taken by policymakers and planners to ensure that economic and development policies for achieving the Millennium Development Goals, particularly those related to reducing poverty, are more effective, sustainable and gender-responsive
(b) Increased capacity of Governments, civil society and the private sector in Asia and the Pacific, particularly the least developed countries, to formulate and implement poverty reduction programmes that are effective, sustainable and gender-responsive and that focus on economically vulnerable groups	(b) Increased number of measures taken in countries to formulate and implement poverty reduction programmes that are effective, sustainable and gender-responsive
(c) Improved national capacity to formulate and implement development policies, projects and/or research programmes that reduce rural poverty through the sustainable development of secondary crops	(c) Increased percentage of participants in ESCAP activities who are able to formulate and implement rural development policies, research programmes or projects that include sustainable development of secondary crops

**Strategy**

The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the Poverty and Development Division, with support from the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific. The strategic direction of the subprogramme derives mainly from the internationally agreed development goals, including those on poverty reduction, contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the Monterrey Consensus on financing for development, the 2005 World Summit Outcome, the Economic and Social Council mandate on the Centre for

Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific, ESCAP resolution 62/1 on achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCAP region and other relevant mandates. With its substantive focus on poverty reduction, the subprogramme will promote pro-poor economic growth, the provision of basic services, and good governance including the right to access services as a means to tackle the three dimensions of poverty, namely, lack of income and productive assets, lack of access to basic services and lack of participation in decision-making. The subprogramme will increase the capacity of Governments, civil society and the private sector to design and implement policies and programmes for social and economic development and poverty reduction through a combination of normative-analytical and capacity-development activities. In order to broaden the impact of its activities and to support replication and upscaling of good practices, ESCAP will collaborate with other entities and agencies in the United Nations system, other bilateral and multilateral agencies and regional, subregional and national intergovernmental, private-sector and civil-society organizations and networks in Asia and the Pacific.

### **External factors**

The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and accomplishments on the assumption that (a) the global and regional economy continues to grow, (b) national economic, social and political conditions in the target countries remain stable, and (c) government institutions and civil society organizations have the necessary human and financial capabilities to ensure successful cooperation.

### **Outputs**

During the biennium 2008-2009, the following final outputs will be delivered:

**Expected accomplishment (a):** increased national capacity to formulate and implement effective, sustainable and gender-responsive economic and development policies for achieving the Millennium Development Goals, particularly in the area of poverty reduction.

### **Intermediate result a1**

Government policymakers are knowledgeable of current socio-economic trends as well as issues and strategies related to pro-poor economic growth.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result a1 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

#### **(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):**

- (i) Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific:
  - a. informal meetings on countries with economies in transition;
  - b. Parliamentary documentation: reports on the current economic situation and policy issues;
- (ii) Ad hoc expert groups: expert group meetings on development issues and policies; meetings of eminent persons on economic and social performance and issues;

**(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):**

- (i) Recurrent publications: *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*; *Asia-Pacific Development Journal*; *Key Economic Developments and Prospects*;
- (ii) Special events: Launching of the annual *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific* in selected member countries of ESCAP and United Nations organizations;
- (iii) Technical material: background paper for the *World Economic Situation and Prospects*;
- (iv) Audio-visual resources: ESCAP web page on poverty and development ([www.unescap.org/pdd](http://www.unescap.org/pdd));
- (v) Substantive servicing of inter-agency meetings: preparing forecasts of major Asia-Pacific countries for LINK project;

**(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):**

- (i) Training courses, seminars and workshops: regional workshop on debt management for ensuring macroeconomic stability; subregional workshops on the policy recommendations on key socio-economic issues contained in the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*.

**Intermediate result a2**

National policy makers are knowledgeable of key long-term development policy issues and challenges relating to Millennium Development Goals, poverty reduction and financing for development.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result a2 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

**(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):**

- (i) Committee on Poverty Reduction:
  - a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary;
  - b. Parliamentary documentation: reports on pro-poor economic growth and strategies; reports of the Committee on Poverty Reduction;

**(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):**

- (i) Non-recurrent publications: Innovative sources of financing for infrastructure development;
- (ii) Technical material: working paper series on development issues, including those related to the Millennium Development Goals; socio-economic policy briefs, including those related to the Millennium Development Goals;

**(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):**

- (i) Training courses, seminars and workshops: regional seminar on innovative sources of financing for infrastructure development; workshop on capacity building for bond market development;
- (ii) Field projects: fiscal policy recommendations for promoting growth and reducing poverty; regional and subregional initiatives in support of promoting development dialogue for achieving Millennium Development Goals.

**Expected accomplishment (b)**: increased capacity of Governments, civil society and the private sector in Asia and the Pacific, particularly the least developed countries, to formulate and implement poverty reduction programmes that are effective, sustainable and gender-responsive and that focus on economically vulnerable groups.

**Intermediate result b1**

Enhanced regional cooperation in poverty reduction.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result b1 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

**(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):**

- (i) Ad hoc expert groups: expert group meeting on trends and practices in poverty reduction;

**(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):**

- (i) Audio-visual resources: public information materials on the work of the subprogramme (including brochures, folders, exhibition materials, flyers about projects);
- (ii) Substantive servicing of inter-agency meetings: Regional Thematic Working Group on Poverty and Hunger; Regional Inter-agency Consultative Meeting on Good Urban Governance;
- (iii) Special events: International Day for the Eradication of Poverty; World Habitat Day; Fourth World Urban Forum to be held in Nanjing.

**Intermediate result b2**

Increased knowledge and understanding, regarding poverty reduction and enhanced skills and tools to address this issue.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result b2 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

**(a) Other substantive activities (regular budget):**

- (i) Non-recurrent publications: Regional trends, issues and practices in rural poverty reduction; Regional trends, issues and practices in urban poverty reduction;
- (ii) Technical material: online working papers on emerging issues on poverty reduction: pro-poor water management policies, urban safety, participatory approaches to rural poverty reduction, urban governance reforms in conflict/post conflict countries, promoting access to markets and market information by the rural poor;

**(b) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):**

- (i) Training courses, seminars and workshops: regional seminar on replication and upscaling of good practices on poverty reduction;
- (ii) Field projects: development of modalities for the dissemination of good practices in poverty reduction through regional networks.

### **Intermediate result b3**

An increased number of good and innovative practices in poverty reduction (including their enabling environment) tested and available for replication and upscaling.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result b3 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

**(a) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):**

- (i) Training courses, seminars and workshops: subregional/national training on rural and urban community development; regional workshop on effective policies and approaches to pro-poor post-conflict recovery; workshop on promoting access to markets, market information and credit for the rural poor with a gender focus;
- (ii) Field projects: integrated pro-poor water and wastewater management in small towns; community development initiatives; poverty reduction through rural-urban linkages; replication of best practices on rural community development.

**Expected accomplishment (c):** improved national capacity to formulate and implement development policies, projects and/or research programmes that reduce rural poverty through the sustainable development of secondary crops.

### **Intermediate result c1**

Policymakers and planners have clear and up-to-date knowledge and understanding of the poverty conditions among growers, traders and processors of secondary crops and of policy and programme options for poverty reduction through the development of secondary crops.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result c1 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

**(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):**

- (i) Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific:
  - a. Parliamentary documentation: reports on the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific (CAPSA);
- (ii) Assistance to representatives, rapporteurs: CAPSA governing council;

**(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):**

- (i) Technical material: information services and database development on secondary crops' development for poverty reduction;

**(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):**

- (i) Training courses, seminars and workshops: in-country seminars on pro-poor policy and analysis, diversification of agriculture and local level interventions;
- (ii) Field projects: diversifying agriculture, reducing risk, expanding food security and income in local communities; improving local livelihood through participatory action research in isolated and poor areas; transforming local economies: analysis of long term dynamics in poverty reduction, towards long term pro-poor policy; improving access to renewable energy for the poor; improving value added through improvement in marketing and product certification.

*Annex II*

**DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK, 2008-2009**

**Subprogramme 2: Statistics**

**Objective for the biennium, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement**

<b>Objective of the Organization:</b> to improve the production, dissemination and use of key demographic, social, economic and environmental statistics, including the Millennium Development Goals indicators, by National Statistical Systems in Asia and the Pacific, in accordance with internationally-agreed standards and good practices	
<b>Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat</b>	<b>Indicators of achievement</b>
(a) Increased national capacity in Asia and the Pacific, particularly the least developed countries, to provide data required for measuring progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals	(a) Increased number of national statistical systems, benefiting from ESCAP and Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific assistance, that are able to provide data according to international statistical standards for measuring progress towards achieving national and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals
(b) Increased access to comparable development and short-term indicators for policymakers, the development community and the public at large	(b) Increased number of freely accessible websites providing official statistics that conform to international standards and good practices, reflect gender concerns and indicate progress towards achieving national and internationally agreed development goals
(c) Increased knowledge and understanding of key national and regional socio-economic trends, especially progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, by national official statisticians and policymakers in the Asia and Pacific region	(c) Increased percentage of national statisticians and policymakers who indicate that they found ESCAP analytical outputs on national and regional socio-economic trends, especially progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, relevant and useful

**Strategy**

The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the Statistics Division, with support from the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific. The strategic direction of the subprogramme derives mainly from General Assembly resolutions on the Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome, especially as they relate to monitoring of the internationally agreed

development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals; and ESCAP resolutions on the statute of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific, and on strengthening statistical capacity in Asia and the Pacific. The objective of the subprogramme will be achieved through a balanced combination of normative, analytical and technical cooperation activities to strengthen the capacity of national statistical systems to measure the achievement of their national and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. The availability of data and analyses for regional reviews on the progress in achieving the development goals will also be improved.

During the biennium 2008-2009, the subprogramme will focus on assisting the development of social and demographic statistics, and promoting the improvement of data and measurement for assessing the role of the informal economy on economic growth, poverty reduction and gender equality. In addition, it will continue to facilitate the implementation of existing and new classifications of economic and social statistics, including national accounts, and to promote the improvement of health information, measurements on migration, data on gender-related issues and other social statistics. To enhance coherence across the United Nations system, ESCAP will work in close cooperation and coordination with other multilateral bodies and specialized agencies in coordination and collaboration with relevant international organizations, including the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations specialized agencies, development banks and funds, subregional organizations and statistical partnerships and networks. Internal statistical information and advisory services will contribute to various outputs of other subprogrammes of ESCAP.

#### **External factors**

The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) national institutions and local authorities are willing to collaborate and provide relevant information; and (b) there are no significant shortfalls in funding.

#### **Outputs:**

During the biennium 2008-2009, the following final outputs will be delivered:

**Expected accomplishment (a):** increased national capacity in Asia and the Pacific, particularly the least developed countries, to provide data required for measuring progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals.

#### **Intermediate result a1**

National official statisticians have increased knowledge of international standards and methodology and know how to implement them to produce data for measuring national and internationally agreed development goals.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result a1 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

**(a) Other substantive activities (regular budget):**

- (i) Technical material: web-based knowledge sharing facilitates related to targeted training courses, seminars and workshops;

**(b) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):**

- (i) Training courses, seminars and workshops: regional/subregional seminars/workshops on the implementation of global guidelines for population and housing census; regional/subregional workshops on best practices in applying information and communication technology for population and housing census; regional/subregional workshops on economic and environmental statistics, including national accounts; regional and interregional workshops on methodologies and best practices in collection and dissemination of data on informal sector and informal employment; regional/subregional workshops on social statistics, including poverty statistics, health statistics and statistics on migration and gender issues, with special reference to Millennium Development Goals;
- (ii) Field projects: country pilot tests of disability question sets based on international classification of functioning, disability and health.

**Intermediate result a2**

High-level policymakers have a forum available for the discussion of issues related to the development of national statistical systems.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result a2 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

**(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):**

- (i) Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific:
  - a. Parliamentary documentation: reports on issues related to statistics; reports of the Statistical Institute of Asia and the Pacific (SIAP);
- (ii) Committee on Poverty Reduction:
  - a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary;
  - b. Parliamentary documentation: report on issues related to poverty statistics;
- (iii) Ad hoc expert group: analyzing and using population census data;
- (iv) Assistance to representatives, rapporteurs: Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific governing council.

**Intermediate result a3**

Official statisticians in the region are knowledgeable about internationally recognized statistical standards and know how to produce quality data required for measuring development.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result a3 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

**(a) Other substantive activities (extrabudgetary):**

- (i) Technical material: training materials on various aspects of official statistics;

**(b) Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary):**

- (i) Training courses, seminars and workshops: regional/subregional training courses on collection, compilation, processing, analysis, and dissemination of broad-based official statistics; regional/subregional/national seminars/workshops/training courses on various country-identified aspects of official statistics; regional/subregional workshops on the implementation of the new socio-economic classifications and economic framework including the System of National Accounts (SNA); regional/subregional workshops/training courses on improvement of disability measurement and statistics in support of the Biwako Millennium Framework and the Regional Census Programme.

**Intermediate result a4**

Senior statisticians are knowledgeable about operation management issues related to national statistical systems and are able to coordinate strategies and activities with partners.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result a4 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

**(a) Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary):**

- (i) Training courses, seminars and workshops: regional management seminar for the heads of national statistical offices; regional workshop on coordination of statistical training activities.

**Expected accomplishment (b):** increased access to comparable development and short-term indicators for policymakers, the development community and the public at large.

**Intermediate result b1**

Key socio-economic and environmental indicators produced by official statistical systems can be accessed in comparable, documented and user-friendly formats.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result b1 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

**(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):**

- (i) Ad hoc expert groups: expert group meeting on data exchange and sharing technologies;

**(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):**

- (i) Recurrent publications: *Asia-Pacific in Figures*; *Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific*;
- (ii) Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits: fact sheets and/or information kits on general/thematic statistics, including Millennium Development Goal indicators;
- (iii) Technical material: statistical indicators for Asia and the Pacific; ad hoc statistical information;
- (iv) Audio-visual resources: ESCAP webpage on statistics (<http://www.unescap.org/stat>); CD-ROMs on regional statistics.

**Expected accomplishment (c):** increased knowledge and understanding of key national and regional socio-economic trends, especially progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, by national official statisticians and policymakers in the Asian and Pacific region.

**Intermediate result c1**

Key and emerging socio-economic trends in the region are analysed, especially with regard to progress towards the Millennium Development Goals.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result c1 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

- (a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):**
  - (i) Ad hoc expert groups: expert group meetings on data and data analysis for the Millennium Development Goals, small area estimation techniques;
- (b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):**
  - (i) Technical material: statistical information of the progress made in achieving the Millennium Development Goals; statistical appendix of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*; regional studies on the availability and quality of development indicators; including indicators on Millennium Development Goals.

*Annex III*

**DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK, 2008-2009**

**Subprogramme 3: Development of Pacific island countries and territories**

**Objective for the biennium, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement**

<b>Objective of the Organization:</b> to develop and implement policies for the achievement of relevant development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in the Pacific, taking into account the special needs of the small island developing States, as contained in the Mauritius Strategy	
<b>Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat</b>	<b>Indicators of achievement</b>
(a) Improved national capacities to develop policies and strategies to improve the lives of vulnerable groups	(a) Increased number of effective measures implemented to improve the livelihoods of vulnerable groups
(b) Improved subregional cooperation to strengthen sustainable economic and social development of small island developing States	(b) Increased number of good practices shared between the Asia and the Pacific subregions in implementing the Millennium Development Goals and the Mauritius strategy

**Strategy**

The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme lies with the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre with cooperation from other ESCAP divisions. The Centre will work on attaining the objectives of the subprogramme in close collaboration with other United Nations entities, as well as international and regional agencies, including the Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific. The strategic orientations for the subprogramme are derived from the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, the 2005 World Summit Outcome, and ESCAP resolutions on the revitalization of the United Nations, the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre, the regional follow-up to the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and the strengthening of Pacific island developing countries and territories through regional cooperation.

The subprogramme aims to strengthen the capacity of Pacific island policymakers to develop and manage economic and social policies, with a view to achieving the Millennium Development Goals targets by 2015. To achieve this goal, the subprogramme will provide assistance to policymakers in integrating the Millennium Development Goals into national development plans and strategies; build capacity to develop measures to improve the livelihoods of vulnerable groups and strengthen urban planning and management capabilities; and promote sustainable development in line with the Mauritius Strategy. Particular emphasis will be placed in the least developed countries in the subregion and to sharing best practices between the Asian and Pacific subregions in implementing the Millennium Development Goals and the Mauritius Strategy. Particular emphasis will also be placed

on ensuring that gender analysis is included as an integral part of all work carried out by the subprogramme.

### **External factors**

The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and accomplishments on the assumption that (a) national institutions and local authorities are willing to collaborate and provide relevant information; and (b) there are no significant shortfalls in funding.

### **Outputs:**

During the biennium 2008-2009, the following final outputs will be delivered:

**Expected accomplishment (a):** improved national capacities to develop policies and strategies to improve the lives of vulnerable groups.

### **Intermediate result a1**

Improved capacity of Pacific island developing countries and territories to develop and implement sound sustainable development policy.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result a1 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

#### **(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):**

- (i) Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific:
  - a. Parliamentary documentation: reports on issues related to Pacific island developing countries;
- (ii) Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries:
  - a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary;
  - b. Parliamentary documentation: reports on issues related to Pacific island developing countries; report of the Special Body on Pacific island developing countries;
- (iii) Committee on Poverty Reduction:
  - a. Parliamentary documentation: reports of the working group of the Advisory Council for the Pacific Island Developing Countries;
- (iv) Assistance to representatives, rapporteurs: Advisory Council for the Pacific Island Developing Countries;

#### **(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):**

- (i) Non-recurrent publication: Policy guide for the development and implementation of sound sustainable development policy in the Pacific island States, with a focus on the Mauritius Strategy and the Millennium Development Goals;

#### **(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):**

- (i) Advisory services: advisory service for building capacity and know-how among Pacific island Governments, particularly LDCs, for the implementation of sound sustainable development policy, with a focus on the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy and the Millennium Development Goals in the Pacific island region;

- (ii) Training courses, seminars and workshops: subregional workshop to review the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy in the Pacific island States (ESCAP resolution 62/9).

### **Intermediate result a2**

Pacific island developing countries and territories implement an increased number of measures to improve income and employment opportunities for vulnerable groups.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result a2 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

**(a) Other substantive activities (regular budget):**

- (i) Technical material: training material on income and employment generation for vulnerable groups, with a particular emphasis on youth employment;

**(b) Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary):**

- (i) Advisory services: advisory service for building capacity and know-how among Pacific island governments, particularly LDCs, on implementing good practices in income and employment generation for vulnerable groups, with an emphasis on youth employment;
- (ii) Training courses, seminars and workshops: subregional workshop on sharing experiences between Asian and Pacific countries to improve income and employment opportunities for vulnerable groups;
- (iii) Field projects: Pacific island youth employment project; development of national coordination mechanisms for disabled persons.

**Expected accomplishment (b):** improved subregional cooperation to strengthen the sustainable economic and social development of small island developing States.

### **Intermediate result b1**

Establishment of a Pacific island knowledge centre on economic and social policy development and implementation.

During the biennium 2008-2009, Intermediate result b1 will be achieved through the delivery of the following outputs:

**(a) Other substantive activities (regular budget):**

- (i) Audio-visual resources: web page of the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre (<http://www.unescap.org/epoc/index.asp>);

**(b) Technical cooperation (extrabudgetary):**

- (i) Field projects: establishment of a Pacific island knowledge centre on economic and social policy development and implementation; development of gender measures and indicators on the status of women in Pacific small island developing States.