

SOURCE: Americas Regional Office (February 2010)

TITLE: Complementary Information to reference document RPM-AMS09/03-E referred to in the Report on Implementation of Doha Action Plan (DAP) Programmes, Study Groups, Activities and Initiatives in the Americas Region

I Background

The main objective of this document is to complement the information of reference Document RPM-AMS09/03-E, considering that several activities were implemented in the Americas Region after the preparation of the said document (22 July 2009) and after the realization of the Americas Regional Preparatory Meeting that was carried out in Santa Marta, Colombia, from 9 to 11 September 2009.

This document refers to reference document RPM-AMS09/03-E, respecting its numbering and only provides information on those activities which status differ from the information provided in the reference document.

I Introduction (as from paragraph 4, page 01 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

"The AM region is one of five regions in which the BDT implements telecommunications/ICT-related projects and activities. This work is undertaken within the context of the ITU's dual responsibility as a United Nations specialised and executing agency for implementing projects under the United Nations development system and/or other funding arrangements to facilitate and enhance telecommunications development by offering, organizing, and coordinating technical cooperation and assistance activities."

BDT has assisted ITU members through Direct Assistance within the framework of FIT Technical Cooperation Projects.

In 2009, the Americas Region worked in close collaboration with the Administrations to develop activities in the framework of Technical Cooperation Projects and in several cases, prepared Closure Reports for inactive projects. The following countries received assistance related to FIT projects:

- Argentina:** Project 9-ARG/01/010 and 9-ARG/98/008 on Information and Communication Technology applied to the Information Society
- Bolivia:** Ongoing coordination with government authorities for the preparation, approval and signature of closure documents related to Project 9-BOL/99/004.
- Brazil:** Project 9-BRA/98/006 - Assistance to Anatel for the preparation of the final version of Terms of Reference on Cost Models to be used in a future tender to be organized by the ITU; Contract execution for the planning, development and implementation of an advanced Special Qualification Programme for the Brazilian National Telecommunication Agency (Anatel).
- Colombia:** Project 9-COL/04/033 - A bid process was recently concluded and the contract with the winning company has already been signed and work started. BDT started coordination with corresponding counterparts for the closure of Projects 9-COL/99/026, 9-COL/03/030, 9-COL/93/005.
- Ecuador:** Project 9-ECU/04/008 - Preparation and signature of Revision D and coordination for an assistance to the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Society to select a strategic partner to establish a Business Plan for a public operator; Consultant was identified and recruitment will take place in early 2010; Project 9-ECU/94/004 - An agreement was signed with national counterpart and closure documents were prepared. Remaining funds to be returned to counterpart in early 2010 and Project to be considered officially closed.
- El Salvador:** In the framework of Project 9-ELS/02/007 assistance has been provided to SIGET (*Superintendencia General de Electricidad y Telecomunicaciones*) on Numbering Portability and International roaming services.
- Guatemala:** BDT started coordination with national authorities for the preparation of Closure Report of Project 9-GUA/94/003.
- Honduras:** A budgetary revision was prepared and signed by the Parties as to include additional activities to Project 9-HON/98/015 and assistance on several issues have been provided to Honduran counterparts; BDT started preparation of Closure Reports for Projects 9-HON/96/009; 9-HON/97/03, 9-HON/98/014 and 9-HON/98/018.
- Nicaragua:** BDT started preparation of Closure Reports for the closing of Project 9-NIC/92/001.
- Panama:** Closure Report of Project 9-PAN/94/005 was prepared and is currently under

Contact point: Name/Organization/Entity: E. Behdad, Chief, BDT/PRIITU
Phone number: +41 22 730 5448
Email: behdad@itu.int

analysis.

Paraguay: BDT started coordination with national counterpart for the preparation of Closure Report of Project 9-PAR/96/002.

Peru: Assistance has been provided to the Peruvian Regulatory Body (OSIPTEL) for the closure of several Technical Cooperation Projects. Closure Report of Projects 9-PER/94/011, 9-PER/95/012; 9-PER/95/013 and 9-PER/95/014 has been prepared and currently is under analysis of corresponding ITU Services. A budgetary revision of Project 9-PER/04/026 was prepared to reflect actual needs of OSIPTEL.

Uruguay: Project 9-URU/96/012 was officially closed in May 2009.

Venezuela: Project 9-VEN/00/006 – Considering the wish of national counterpart to continue implementing additional activities with remaining funds, BDT has started a Project revision to reflect actual needs.

II. DAP Programmes and Study Groups (page 02 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

2 Programme 2: Technologies and telecommunication network development (page 4 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

2.6.3 Year 2009: (page 7 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

- ITU Regional Development Forum for the Americas Region was carried out in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic from 25 to 27 November 2009.
- Assistance was provided to individual countries of the Americas region, on Spectrum Management; Broadband Services; Non Ionizing Radiation Regulation and Deployment of Antennas, as well as on Satellite registration procedures

3 Programme 3: E-Strategies and ICT Applications (Page 7 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

3.6.2 Year 2009: (page 10 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

- Seminar on Bridging the Digital Divide through e-strategies development took place in Quito, Ecuador from 25-27 November 2009 and was jointly organized with ASETA and the Ministry of Telecommunication and Information Society of Ecuador.
- E-strategies and Cybersecurity Workshop took place in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, from 23 to 25 November 2009.
- Study on e-strategy of ICTs in the Americas Region: BDT Funds assigned to this action were transferred to the implementation of the E-Strategy and Cybersecurity Workshop carried out in Santo Domingo.

4 Programme 4: Economics and finance including costs and tariffs (Page 11 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

4.6.3 Year 2009: (Page 13 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

- Study on Harmonization on Number Portability in Central America was fully implemented in November 2009.
- Central American Workshop on Number Portability - Economic and Regulatory Implications: ITU Area Office in Honduras canceled this activity due to the political situation in the country. Coordination between ITU Headquarters and Regional Office agreed to use part of the allocated funds to provide assistance to Brazil with the preparation of the Terms of Reference on Cost Models that will be used by ITU to launch an international bid in the framework of Project 9-BRA/98/006.
- Training Regulatory Capacity Building Initiative - Cost Modelling for Spanish-Speaking Countries: This training has been successfully organized from 14 to 19 September 2009 by the Centre of Excellence for the Americas Region (AMS CoE), in collaboration with ITU Focal Point of Programme 4. The training accounted the participation of 48 delegates from 15 countries from the Latin American Region. Information on the course can be found at <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/finance/work-cost-tariffs/events/tariff-seminars/BuenosAires09>.
- Training on Regulatory Accounting: The training on the implementation of a Regulatory Accounting system was successfully implemented from 21 to 23 September 2009. This activity was jointly coordinated with CITEL, the Chairman of the SG3RG-LAC and the ITU Americas Regional Office. The training accounted the participation of 49 delegates from 15 countries from the Latin American Region.

Information on this course can be found at: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/finance/work-cost-tariffs/events/tariff-seminars/BuenosAires09>.

- A study on the contribution of mobile services to improving connectivity and broadening use of telecommunication services for the Andean countries initiated in 2008 was concluded in 2009. Report has been published and can be found at: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/finance/>.

5 Programme 5: Human capacity building (Page 13 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

5.5.4 Year 2009: (Page 16 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

- ITU Regional Forum on Human Capacity Development in Latin America and Caribbean Region was successfully implemented from 18 to 20 November 2009. Information on the Forum can be found at: <http://academy.itu.int/course/view.php?id=130>
- A Virtual Forum on Career Management for Latin America was successfully implemented from 17 November to 28 December 2009: Information on this Forum can be found at: <http://academy.itu.int/course/enrol.php?id=186>.
- A face-to-face training on e-learning Management System was delivered to Latin American countries from 16 to 17 November 2009. During this course, representatives from the Nodes of the AMS CoE were trained as trainers in the use of the Moodle tool.

5.5.5 Centre of Excellence (CoE) for the Americas Region Project (Page 16 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

In 2009, the AMS CoE - in partnership with its 23 Nodes - delivered 35 online and face-to-face training activities - including 2 online post-graduation courses - in benefit of more than 650 participants. It is important to highlight the valuable collaboration of OAS/CITEL, which granted more than 129 fellowships.

In 2009 the ITU started the consolidation of a "Global Network of Centers of Excellence" by taking on board all CoE Projects as a regular activity of the ITU Regional Offices around the world. This decision aimed at ensuring the survival of all Centers of Excellence despite their financial reality. As from August 2009, the AMS CoE was officially transferred to the Americas Regional Office in Brasilia, Brazil. The essence of the CoE will be kept and strengthened as to build on and consolidate the gains and benefits derived from the success of its implementation.

6 Programme 6: Special programme for least developed countries, small island developing states, and emergency telecommunications (Page 16 of the Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

6.3 Emergency Telecommunications: (Page 18 of the Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

6.3.1 Disaster Preparedness and Early Warning (Page 18 of the Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

(i) Central American Workshop for Disaster Management. This activity was successfully carried out from 21 to 23 September 2009, in San Salvador, El Salvador. The event hosted more than 50 participants and several international and regional organizations dedicated to disaster management and telecommunications.

(j) Training workshop on Disaster Management to integrate Emergency Telecommunications Plans into National Disaster Management Plans. This activity took place in Montego Bay, Jamaica, from 7 to 12 December 2009, co-organized by CDMA.

IV. Special Initiatives (page 27 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

2 Special Initiatives on Gender, Children and Youth, Indigenous People, Persons with Disabilities and Rural, Isolated and Poorly Served Areas and Indigenous Communities (Page 27 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

2.3 Initiative 3: Youth & Children (page 28 of Document RPM-AMS09/03-E)

BDT contributed to ICT access of public schools children in low-income communities in Brazil - Luziania, Goias and Unaí- Minas Gerais. These activities created an Informatic laboratory and telecentre in public schools for the access of students and citizens of both communities. In one of the schools BDT donated equipment for the creation of a school radio for internal broadcasting of events, activities and projects.