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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Meeting of Representatives of African
Portuguese-speaking countries on
Statistical Training Programme

Addis Ababa, 20 - 22 October 1980

DRAFT MODEL PROJECT DOCUMENT FOR
OPERATIONAL SUPPORT TO IMPROVEMENT OF
THE STATISTICAL TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR
MIDDLE LEVEL PERSONNEL

(Regional Project)

REGIONAL PROJECT

Title: Operation Support to the Training of Statistical Personnel Duration: 5 years (1983-1987)

Number:

Primary function: Institution building

Sector: Economic Planning

Sub-sector: Economic and Social Policy

Government co-operating Agency:

Executing Agency: United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation and Development

Estimated starting date: January 1983

Donor agency inputs: i) U.S. Dollars 4,116,000 (proposal A)
ii) U.S. Dollars 1,933,500 (proposal B)

Government inputs:

Signed: _____ Date: _____
On behalf the Government

_____ Date: _____
For the Executing Agency

_____ Date: _____
On behalf the Donor Agency

A. ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW CENTRE

I. BACKGROUND AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1. Since independence, African countries have made considerable efforts to establish satisfactory development programmes. The result has been an increasing pressure for the expansion of national statistical services in order that more comprehensive and reliable data can be provided as a guide to effective planning. This expansion, however, is hampered by an insufficiency of trained personnel.
2. The Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) represents the latest development in African efforts to provide opportunities for the training of adequate numbers of staff required to produce the statistics needed for economic and social development.
3. It may be recalled that STPA was formulated as a 10-year programme which aims at making Africa self-reliant in producing an increased number of statistical personnel, improving and maintaining the quality of statistical personnel already in service, and ensuring that the centres participating in the programme become self-supporting.
4. In discussing this principal objective of the STPA, the tenth session of the Conference of African Statisticians identified, among others, the following specific requirement which should receive urgent attention:

the newly independent Portuguese-speaking countries require special help and a separate project should be undertaken because of their specific problems.
5. Discussions were organised in October 1977 and April 1980 between representatives of the countries concerned and the officials from the Statistics Division of ECA in order to examine the necessary ways and means of implementing this recommendation.
6. It was also realised that the statistical training centres participating in the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) have an important role to play to satisfy the needs of the countries in this group in statistical personnel. It is for this reason that it was deemed necessary to include this item in the agenda of the meeting of directors of STPA centres held in Addis Ababa in October 1979.
7. The outcome of discussions held is that various solutions must be considered in order to meet the statistical personnel requirements of these countries. These solutions include :

- (a) the establishment of one or two statistical training institutes which could be used by the countries in the group;
- (b) the utilization of STPA centres;
- (c) the utilization of statistical training centres outside the region; and
- (d) the organization of local on-the-job training.

8. A needs assessment mission was undertaken in those countries in June-July 1980 to discuss with appropriate officials ways and means to implement these solutions and to evaluate in each country the existing arrangements for statistical training in view of meeting national target requirements for statisticians.

9. The main findings of the mission were discussed in a meeting of representatives of the countries concerned convened in Addis Ababa from October 20 - 22, 1980.

10. It was pointed out that the entry requirements to existing statistical training centres and the fact that prospective candidates with the required minimum qualification cannot be released for full time studies at middle-level and professional levels make the use of STPA training centres and training facilities outside the region not feasible at the moment. Furthermore it is clearly stated that Portuguese is the preferred language of instruction.

11. Therefore, it was felt essential to put emphasis on the implementation of the following solution:

- i) strengthen and expand in-service training,
- ii) establish a middle-level training centre or expand the Lubango centre; and
- iii) encourage attendance at short-term courses and seminars.

12. The national requirements of the countries concerned in the course of the next ten years are as follows :

	Professional staff			Sub-professional staff		
	CBS and other governmental services	other sectors	Total	CBS and other governmental services	other sectors	Total
Angola	50	10	60	100	25	125
Cape Verde	15	-	15	25	-	25
Guinee Bissau	15	5	20	50	10	60
Mozambique	40	10	50	109+55 ^{1/}	15	179
Sao Tome & Principe	18	12	30	20	10	30
	138	37	175	359	60	419

1/ 109 district offices and 55 for the others

13. In view of the urgency for these countries to have adequate statistical personnel and owing to the lack of qualified candidates to be trained at the top level, emphasis would probably have to be placed on the training of intermediate level staff. Consequently the estimates given above for this training should be considered as minimum.

II THE PROJECT

Description of the project

14. The basic recommendations of the meeting of African Portuguese-speaking countries were, (i) that national projects be implemented to strengthen and expand in-service training for statistical assistants and clerks, (ii) that an Institute of Economic and Social Statistics should be established to cater for their national trainees and (iii) that attendance to short-term seminars should be developed.

15. The project provides for the establishment of an Institute of Economic and Social Statistics to supply sub-professional staff needed in this field by African Portuguese-speaking countries.

16. The Institute will offer a four year training programme in economic and social statistics to personnel admitted at 8th grade level (8 years schooling) or equivalent level, which is the normal entrance qualification for middle-level training in the education system of the countries concerned.

- A -

17. To achieve the output of 45 successes a year as recommended by the meeting, the estimated enrolment will be a little more than 50 students a year allowing for wastage. This means that the capacity of the Institute should be 200 students. The higher number seems desirable to ensure the fullest possible utilisation of teaching staff and because more than 45 sub-professionals a year are likely to be needed for some time to come.

18. The four year training syllabus for the Institute has not yet been worked out in detail. However, it is envisaged that, during the first two years, trainees will receive basic instruction in mathematics, economics country's official language and possibly one UN language, which will equip them for more specialised training in the two final years. An important place will be given in Statistical Methods and Applied Economics and other essential tools which form the statistical background to development planning.

19. At the end of their studies, the trainees will be examined for a diploma qualification, which will enable them to enter employment at the sub-professional level in their own government services immediately.

20. It is likely that computer programming will be a normal part of the instructions of all trainees. At a later stage it has to be envisaged that the Institute will be called upon to organise short-term seminars in the more specialised fields of statistics; e.g. national accounts, household surveys, etc....

21. Although the administration and operation of the Institute will be the executive responsibility of an appropriate authority of the host country, provision will be made for an advisory council to assure its scientific standing and its special character as serving the five countries of the group. The membership of the council will include representatives of the user countries, the financing bodies and the Economic Commission for Africa.

The host Government contribution

22. The host government contribution to the project will be for the various items listed below:

- . Personnel: administrative and subordinate staff
- . Land and building
- . Equipment and supplies
 - teaching and office furniture
 - library equipment and supplies

. Administrative and running costs:

- building maintenance
- equipment and vehicle running and maintenance.
- documents and stationery

23. The donor agency contribution

- Experts
 - . Project Manager
 - . Full-time lecturers (4)
 - . Consultants
- Equipment and supplies

A. Estimating expert costs for budgeting

24. Since the posts are not yet occupied and it is impossible to determine the grade and the eventual experts, level 5, step 5 (at dependency rate) is used for budget calculations.

	<u>Months of service</u>					<u>Total</u>
	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	
1. <u>Internationally recruited</u>						
<u>experts</u>						
Project Manager/Chief Adviser	12	12	12	12	12	60
Lecturers:						
- Statistical methods	7	12	12	12	5	48
- Applied statistics	7	12	12	12	5	48
- Mathematics	7	12	12	12	5	48
- Economics	7	12	12	12	5	48
	<u>40</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>252</u>
Cost in 000 US\$						
at 72,000 a man-year	<u>240</u>	<u>360</u>	<u>360</u>	<u>360</u>	<u>192</u>	<u>1,512</u>
2. <u>2 Consultants m/m</u>	2	4	4	4	-	14
cost in 000 US\$ at						
6,000 a man-month	12	24	24	24	-	84

B. Equipment and supplies

25. The constituent items have not yet been determined. But if the Centre has to secure her own independent premises, then the following estimates of capital development expenditure can be used as a guide:

1. Accommodation (including external works and furniture)	<u>in 000 US\$</u>
Classroom/Laboratory facilities	400
Administrative/office facilities	250
Academic support facilities	70
Students Residence (200 students)	1,160
Dining/recreation	320
Staff houses (5)	260
	<u>2,460</u>
2. Vehicles (3)	60
Total	<u>2,520</u>

26. All cost and other estimates given above, are subject to revision when detailed plans for the project are finalised.

B. EXPANSION OF THE LUBANGO CENTRE

I. BACKGROUND AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

27. c.f. chapters 1 - 13 above.

28. While contemplating setting up a new statistical training centre, the following requirements were considered:

- i) such a centre should be attached to an existing training institution in order to avoid duplication of administrative services,
- ii) the establishment of such a centre should be envisaged in a city where there are already training facilities in connected subject areas (mathematics, economics, etc....).
- iii) the project should be implemented in a country which demonstrates its readiness to shoulder its own share of the responsibility by contributing in kind or in cash towards local operating costs,
- iv) there will be considerable advantages for the centre to be established in a country where the statistical apparatus is likely to be expanded with respect to the possibility of improving the provision of better research facilities,
- v) the extent to which living accommodation could be made available for both the teaching staff and the trainees of the centre.

29. The five Portuguese-speaking countries endorsed the proposal that the Lubango centre should be expanded with a view of enrolling foreign students.

30. In fact the Angolan Government is prepared to enrol nationals from other Portuguese-speaking African countries in its national centre provided the selected candidates are holders of fellowships. The cost of such fellowships include among others the tuition fees covering part of the running cost of the centre.

31. The estimated cost of the main items covered by such fellowships is as follows (in Kwanzas per student per annum):

- monthly stipend:	(4000K x 12)	=	48,000 K
- accommodation allowance (boarding and lodging)	(9000K x 12)	-	108,000 K
- tuition fees		-	45,000 K
or approximately US\$ 6,786			<u>201,000 K</u>

32. Basic information on the Lubango centre

- . Name of the Institution: Institute F. ENGELS
- . Aims of the Institution: Training sub-professional personnel in statistical methods and in electronic data processing.
- . Date of establishment: February 1979
- . Student capacity: The current enrolment is
1st year: 82 students
2nd year: 28 students
- . Academic year: Starts in May
- . Source of financing: Angolan Government
- . Staff capacity: Not determined
- . Duration of the training programme: Four years (8 semesters)
- . Entry requirement: 8 years schooling
- . Training programme: The programme consists of a set of core subjects devoted to issues that are pertinent to all students enrolled regardless of their specialisation. This applies for the two first years of study. The last two years are devoted to specialisation in statistics or data processing.

Courses offered in statistics

33. c.f. mission report paragraph 15.

II. THE PROJECT

34. The long-term objective is to provide statisticians of all levels with a good statistical grounding for all aspects of development administration for the African Portuguese-speaking countries.

35. The immediate objectives include the implementation of the statistics training programme adapted to meet the actual conditions of all the countries of the group and geared to the needs for national planning and economic development. The actual syllabus of the centre should be revised accordingly.

36. Although the administration and operation of the Centre will be the executive responsibility of the Director appointed by the Angolan Government, provision will be made for an advisory council to assure its scientific standing and its special character as serving the five countries of the Group. The membership of the council will include representatives of the user countries, the financing bodies and the Economic Commission for Africa.

37. The counterpart contribution

The counterpart contribution of the Angolan Government will be as follows:

- The Director of the centre.
- The provision of suitable candidates for counterpart training, which of course is one of the principal difficulties which have to be faced in organising the project and it is for this reason that it is suggested to implement the training of trainers after the second year of life of the project.
- The centre will be housed in accommodation available in Lubango. If necessary, additional provision will be made for students' living accommodation.
- The Government also undertakes responsibility in respect of administrative and running costs and the stipends of Angolan trainees.
- It is understood that staff housing is not considered part of the project, but the Government will ensure that adequate housing is available for UN and other staff employed on the project.

38. The Donor Agency contribution

1. Experts

- . Project Manager
- . Full-time lecturers (4)
- . Consultants

2. Fellowships for training of teaching staff

3. Equipment and supplies

39. Estimating expert costs for budgeting

c.f. paragraph 24 above.

40. Fellowships for training of teaching staff

	<u>Man/Month</u>				<u>Total</u>
	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	
Statistics	6	12	12	6	36
Mathematics	6	12	12	6	36
Economics	6	12	12	6	36
	<u>18</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>108</u>
Cost in 000 \$ at 21,000 a man/year	<u>31,5</u>	<u>63,0</u>	<u>63,0</u>	<u>31,5</u>	<u>189</u>

41. Equipment

(a) Teaching and office furniture

The cost has been based on 15% of the cost calculated under paragraph 25 above. This comes to approximately US\$107,430.

Furniture should be made available at the beginning of the project.

(b) Vehicles

Provision is made for purchase of two vehicles at a cost of US\$41,500. This should be sufficient in view of the fact that the centre will be operating as part of a large college. Ad hoc arrangements have to be made for transport in field exercises and it is assumed that professional staff will purchase their own vehicles.

42. The total cost of the Donor agency contribution is estimated at US\$1,933,500. This could be considered as part of the regional component of the overall STPA in view of the implementation of the special assistance to African Portuguese-speaking countries. The Angolan Government will meet the running costs of the centre and provide stipends for her nationals. The other user countries will provide their candidates with UNDP fellowships financed out of their national IPFs or from other sources. Tuition fees will be paid to the centre aiming at covering part of the running cost and considered as one component of the fellowship estimate.

43. If and when it is decided to go ahead with the project, a draft project document will be made available in the appropriate format for subsequent endorsement and submission through normal channels.