

6. Distance Education - \$1.7 million

Recently approved, this project is designed to provide the Central American University Confederation, a regional institution based in Costa Rica, with a simple and comparatively inexpensive telephone-based distance education system. Once operational, this system will enable courses to be communicated to students in seven regional universities.

7. Public Administration - 4.4 million

This project is being implemented by the Central American Public Administration Institute (a regional institution based in Costa Rica), and the Ecole Nationale d'Administration Publique of Quebec. Training and curriculum development is being provided to strengthen development planning and administration in Central America.

Future Programming

The general objective of the bilateral program, as currently defined with the Government of Costa Rica, is to support Costa Rica's structural adjustment efforts, which are aimed at short-term economic recovery, and sustainable, balanced economic and social growth over the longer term. Within this context, the following sub-objectives have been identified:

- to assist the poorest groups to improve their standard of living;
- to assist the country to meet its needs in the housing and human settlements area;
- to support small enterprise development.

In support of these objectives, it is expected that future programming activities in Costa Rica will concentrate on lines of credit, with local funds generated being applied to priority economic and social projects such as small enterprise development and housing.