

# **Report on the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP)**

*Prepared by*

*J.C. Rodriguez-Arias*

*Joint Inspection Unit*



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STATISTICAL INSTITUTE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC  
(SIAP)

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## P r e f a c e

1. This study is part of a series of assessments the JIU initiated in 1978 on selected regional training and research institutes which were established or are assisted by United Nations organizations. In addition to making proposals on each institution, the purpose of this exercise is to provide insights for an analysis to be made later of the nature and extent of the impact of investments made in this field, and particularly on the potential of these regional centres to foster and facilitate co-operation and co-ordination in the context of TCDC, within their own regions and/or in inter-regional efforts.

2. The analysis will also extend to the substantive and the financial and management aspects of these endeavours, taking into account the technical requirements for regional programming and the nature of the support needed, including the eventual participation of UN organizations in the establishment and initial maintenance of regional centres, and/or in assisting their programme activities.

3. In the opinion of the JIU, regional training and research institutions fall within the concept of TCDC when they are managed by the participating countries and their main financing is also assumed by the related governments. Accordingly, the TCDC potential of these institutes could be developed further and fully utilized.

4. The Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) was selected and included in this exercise as an interesting case study and a model of regional operation in its field, in view of its distinctive characteristics, geographical coverage and its present drive to establish itself as a regional focal point for inter-change of ideas, experiences and information, suitable for the promotion of innovative methods for the better use of statistics for development.

5. The Inspector visited the SIAP in October 1979 and discussed its organization and activities with the Institute's authorities, specialists and other members of the staff. In consultation with officials of the UNDP Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, and of the Programme Division of the Economic and Social Commission for the area (ESCAP), he had also the opportunity of reviewing the programme and many other issues concerning the facilities and the problems of the Institute. This inter-change of views, as well as the valuable assistance provided by the UNDP Liaison Office in Tokyo, greatly facilitated the Inspector's mission and made this study possible.

## I. PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

### A. Origin and Duration of the Project

6. The need for a statistical training and research service for the Asian region was stressed in 1964 at the Conference of Asian Statisticians, which recommended the appointment of an Expert Group to draw up a plan for the establishment of such a regional centre. The Expert Group was appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and met in Bangkok in 1966. Taking into consideration the shortage of trained statisticians in the region and the inadequacy of statistical training facilities in many of the Asian countries, the Group recommended the establishment of an Asian Institute for the training of professional personnel in this field.

7. The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), formerly ECAFE, adopted resolution 64(XXII) in 1966 which requested the Executive Secretary of the Commission to examine the possibilities of giving effect to the recommendation of the Expert Group. In another resolution, 75(XXIII), adopted in 1967, the Commission accepted an offer by the Government of Japan to provide host facilities for locating the Institute at Tokyo and further called for UNDP assistance in establishing the project, which became operational on 3 June 1970 under the name of Asian Statistical Institute(ASI).

8. The plan of operations for the first phase of a UNDP regional project document prepared to that effect was originally signed by twenty ESCAP member governments<sup>1/</sup>, as well as the United Nations as the executing agency<sup>2/</sup> in association with UNESCO and FAO. The first phase of this project had a five-year duration and ended in September 1975.

9. The second five-year phase commenced on 1 October 1975 as project number RAS/75/047, which was revised in August 1969 under project number RAS/77/025/C/01/53 and scheduled to end on 30 September 1980. The project document for the third phase of five years' duration, starting in October 1980, is now being prepared for submission.

10. In February 1977 the Advisory Committee of the Institute met for the first time. In the same year the project was renamed the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP).

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<sup>1/</sup> The document for the second phase of this project was signed by the following participating countries: Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Hong Kong).

<sup>2/</sup> This function was delegated to ESCAP in January 1977.



## B. Objectives

11. The main purpose of the Institute is to contribute to meeting the needs of professional personnel in government and development statistics in Asia and the Pacific, to strengthen statistical training facilities in the region, and to assist in related operational research in order to bring about adequate regional co-operation in statistical activities.

12. The long-range objectives are: to improve the standards of statistics in the countries of the ESCAP region through training and related research in applied statistics; to serve as a centre for training the statistical personnel of the participating countries in order to meet their needs for trained personnel at intermediate and senior levels in the field of applied statistics; to assist in promoting and strengthening training programmes and related research in applied statistics in the region; and in collaboration with the Statistics Division of ESCAP and other regional institutions to undertake research and provide advisory services in connection with its training functions.

13. The immediate objectives listed in the Project Document for its second phase aim at selecting programme activities to meet the needs of the countries of the region in general, and of the statistically less developed countries in particular. These activities shall consist of: a general training course with practical orientation for statisticians for government service; advanced courses, seminars and/or workshops for professional statisticians in specialized fields of statistics; country or sub-regional courses, seminars and/or workshops in specific subjects; facilities for preparation of manuals and other training expositions required for training, including dissemination of training material to member countries and research for preparation of training materials; facilities for officials deputed from countries to carry out special studies of an applied nature; and providing advisory services for the improvement of statistical training at national centres, in collaboration and co-operation with the Statistics Division of ESCAP, other regional institutions, United Nations Statistical Office and specialized agencies.

14. The above objectives furnish a broad basis upon which SIAP has organized a sound and comprehensive work programme. However, in the Inspector's view, sustained and expanded efforts are still required if the Institute is to execute fully such a complex range of activities.

15. The training of technical personnel is the first priority, as rightly decided by SIAP authorities. Research and advisory services could follow, now that a substantial number of statistical officers are available within the member countries and regional co-operative links have gained in strength, thanks to the success of the Institute's training programmes.

## C. Location

16. Following the 1969 agreement between the Government of Japan and UNDP, the plan of operations for the first phase of the project

established the Institute in Tokyo. In 1979 the Inter-Governmental Governing Council considered the recommendations of the Task Force appointed by UNDP/ESCAP on Regional Training and Research Institutions, and decided that SIAP should remain autonomous and maintain the present organization and location, operating within the geographical scope of the Regional Commission for Asia and the Pacific. For that purpose the Government of Japan provides land, buildings, equipment and services of national project personnel. The Administrative Management Agency, of the Office of the Prime Minister, was appointed as the co-operating agency responsible for the implementation of the contribution of the host country to SIAP.

17. The Inspector thinks that the location of this Institute was wisely decided. Considering a regional training centre mainly as a focal point, it would be theoretically easy to identify an ideal geographical location. But besides distances there are many other practical factors worth considering for the success of a professional training centre in making an impact in its region. The facilities provided by the host country largely compensate for additional travel and living costs of the participating fellows; and for professional courses of middle and post-graduate level, the quality and quantity of the technical facilities made available are decisive values.

18. In accordance with paras 10-15 of the Project Document for the second phase, the contribution of the Japanese Government has been increased in addition to the above mentioned facilities, to provide fellowships, hostel and other facilities for the benefit of the Institute's services to the member states of ESCAP. The capability of the host country and the willingness manifested in support of SIAP are conclusive evidence that in this case the location of the centre was well chosen, both from the point of view of the available technical facilities and of the living conditions of the participants, whose accommodation costs have been reduced to a reasonable level.

#### D. Legal Status and Administration

19. The Institute was originally established by a Plan of Operation provided for in the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). It entered into force in 1970 with the agreement and signature of the participating governments as well as the Executing Agency and UNDP.

20. For the second phase of the project (1975-1980) a similar legal formality and process was followed. A project document which referred to the original agreement between the Japanese Government and UNDP as well as the agreements between UNDP and the other participating governments were signed.

21. Although considered to be an inter-country Asian regional activity, from a legal point of view the Institute is not yet entirely an inter-governmental organization but has the status of a UNDP project requested by the participating countries. UNDP institutional

support is provided as seed money for initial establishment of the Institute. This being the case, at the end of the present phase in September 1980, or at the completion of any other subsequent phase which might be approved, when UNDP assistance ceases, a new kind of legal instrument will be necessary to ensure the continuation of this regional activity, either as a purely inter-governmental operation or on the basis of a co-operation agreement worked out under the auspices of ESCAP and other bodies of the UN development system.

22. The Inspector is aware that the first solution would require numerous separate negotiations and that its implementation would probably be time consuming and might not be completed in time to permit uninterrupted operation of the Institute, which is of the utmost importance.

23. In view of this circumstance the Inspector thinks that an ad interim legal solution could be put forward in the context of TCDC to provide an adequate framework for the continuation of the Institute's activities. Such an instrument might take the form of a multilateral co-operation agreement to be executed with the support or under the umbrella of the United Nations development system. The Buenos Aires Plan of Action adopted by the UN Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, particularly Recommendations 15, 32 and 35, provides a useful framework for regional co-operation. Such agreement could serve as a legal basis for the third phase of SIAP, starting October 1980, until a proper inter-governmental institution can be formally established.

24. This problem has been anticipated in fact to a certain extent in ESCAP Resolution 158(XXXI), which requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission, in consultation with the governments concerned and in particular with the host Government, UNDP and the appropriate offices of the United Nations, to take the necessary steps to, inter alia, prepare for the gradual tapering off of institutional support provided by UNDP and effect the appropriate changes in the legal instruments and plans of operation governing the regional institutions "in order that these institutions may become inter-governmental entities".

25. In regard to the organization and administration of SIAP - subject to the modifications which may be required in implementation of the above mentioned Resolution - the Project Document presently in force asserts the autonomy of the Institute and stipulates that the participating governments, UNDP and the executing agency "shall be jointly responsible for the execution of the project and the realization of its objectives".

26. Within the United Nations, the executing agency's substantive responsibilities are carried out by ESCAP in consultation with the UN Statistical Office, FAO, UNESCO and other specialized agencies and originally exercised under the supervision of the Advisory Council.

27. The Advisory Council was established as part of the administrative arrangements devised for the guidance of the Institute in the Plan of Operation during the project's first phase. It was composed

of the Executive Secretary of the Regional Commission as Chairman and five representatives from the Commission's member and associate member countries, the Project Manager/Director of the Institute, the Chief of the Statistics Division of the Commission, a representative of UNESCO and one of FAO.

28. Some of the responsibilities of SIAP's Advisory Council were transferred in 1976 to a single Inter-Governmental Governing Council set up for the supervision of the five regional ESCAP institutes, in pursuance of ESCAP Resolution 158(XXXI), and others to an Advisory Committee then established to assist the Institute in its own substantive area. But in fact the Advisory Committee - composed of six specialists appointed by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP on recommendation of the Director of the Institute - only met twice, in 1977 and 1978. In 1979 the Inter-Governmental Governing Council decided that SIAP should not be integrated with the other Institutes but should remain autonomous.

29. For the remainder of the present phase as well as for the future, it seems advisable to revert to the initial arrangement by re-establishing the Advisory Council as it existed during the first phase. Such a move would be predicated on the assumption that SIAP would continue its activities as a regional inter-governmental institution based on a TCDC co-operation agreement and operating under the aegis of ESCAP. This solution would emphasize the autonomy of the Institute as an inter-country project and strengthen the policy support provided through the inter-governmental mechanism of ESCAP.

30. The administration and technical supervision of the Institute has been entrusted to a Project Manager/Director, who is also responsible for the custody, installation and maintenance, insurance and replacement of all equipment provided to the project from UNDP funds. This international official is appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on recommendation of ESCAP in consultation with the Advisory/Governing Council. He submits a general report on the activities of the Institute to the annual sessions of ESCAP. The Project Manager/Director represents SIAP and is responsible for communication with the competent authorities of the participating countries as well as other regional or international organizations with activities relevant to those of the Institute.

#### E. Staffing

31. The staff of the Institute during phase I comprised a Project Manager/Director, two Deputy Directors (Training and Administration), six lecturers, some guest lecturers and supporting national personnel.

32. The composition of the staff during phase II, which is basically the same as in phase I, may be summarised as follows:

- (a) United Nations' Staff
  - A project Manager/Director
  - A Deputy Director (Training)
  - 5 Lecturers/Statisticians
  - An Administrative Officer
  - Short-term consultants/guest lecturers
  - 3 Administrative support personnel
- (b) National Staff
  - 1 Project Co-Manager/Deputy Director (Administration)<sup>3/</sup>
  - 1 Administrative Co-ordinator
  - 1 General Affairs Officer
  - 1 Assistant Administrative Co-ordinator
  - 1 Assistant General Affairs Officer
  - 1 Librarian
  - 6 Administrative support personnel
- (c) Other International Staff
  - 2 Lecturers/Statisticians (full time)
  - 2 Guest Lecturers (each for six months)

33. The United Nations and the other international staff are financed by UNDP funds, UNFPA (one post), governments cash counterpart contributions, and by the governments of France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. The national staff is provided through the in-kind contribution of the host Government.

34. The Institute does not appear to have faced any special problems in recruiting competent staff to carry out its training and research programmes.

35. The UN system remains the principal source of its international staff. As the member governments progressively take over full responsibility for the operation of the Institute as called for by ESCAP

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<sup>3/</sup> He concurrently holds, in the Administrative Management Bureau, Administrative Management Agency, Government of Japan, the post of Director for International Training Co-operation, the duties of which are "to take charge, under the direction of his superiors, of those functions of the Administrative Management Bureau which are stipulated in Article 2-9-2 and Article 2-14 of the Law establishing the Administrative Management Agency" (Article 9 of the Ordinance on Organization of the Administrative Management Agency).

That Law defines the scope of AMA's functions, of which those relevant to ASI are "to perform matters related to co-operation in the training conducted at the Asian Statistical Institute in accordance with the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the United Nations Development Programme concerning Assistance for Establishment and Operation of the Asian Statistical Institute" (Article 2-9-2) and "to collect information and material necessary for performing the function" (Article 2-14).

Resolution 158(XXXI), a formula might have to be devised for continuing to secure, at governments' cost if necessary, high calibre international staff. Also, it might be necessary to recruit a greater number of qualified nationals from the participating countries of the region so that they, rather than the international staff, should carry out the basic teaching and research functions of the Institute.

36. In examining the nature and significance of the tasks assigned to the staff provided to the Institute from different sources, it seems important to note that present UNDP staff inputs are for key positions. They are responsible for most of the substantive activities, while the majority of the staff inputs from participating countries are filling administrative jobs. This is a situation which could be easily modified during the planning and execution of the proposed third phase - as an intermediate step towards an entirely inter-governmental operation - since, as at present, most of the "international" staff, lecturers and specialists, are in any event nationals of the participating countries (in particular from Australia, India, Japan, Pakistan, Philippines and Thailand).

37. This observation is also worth mentioning from the point of view of the origin and relative amount of funds made available for the payment of the Institute's staff costs (salaries). Out of a total of approximately \$ 3,200,000 budgeted for these items in the second phase of the project, 55% is from UNDP and 45% from contributions of participating countries, of which 75% is the input (in-kind and cash) of the host Government.

38. It is expected in the future that there will be a substantial increase in the participation of countries of the region, other than Japan. This participation, including qualified personnel, either on a short or long-term basis, could contribute not only to increasing the effects of regional co-operation in statistical activities - a basic objective of SIAP - but also to compensate the gradual tapering off of existing UNDP assistance which might be ultimately limited to the support of programme activities in the field.

39. The organization and approval of new projects in the specific field of SIAP could greatly increase the present amounts budgeted for programme activities for the second phase (actually \$ 110,500 only 7.5% of the total UNDP input), allowing in the future the financing of most of the technical staff costs on a more viable basis and diminishing proportionately the general cost of the Institute's establishment.

40. The present financing of the majority of technical staff (7 out of 11)<sup>4/</sup> is based on the institutional support provided by UNDP and budgeted as institutional costs.

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<sup>4/</sup> The Deputy Director (Training) post is partially covered by the UNDP contribution and the Government counterpart cash contribution (24 and 16 m/m each).

F. Sources of Financing Government's  
Participation and Support

41. As provided for in the present Project Document, the Institute is a joint responsibility of the parties. Most member countries provide a cash contribution. The contributions in-kind, additionally provided by the host Government (office space, equipment, hostel facilities, fellowships and twelve nationals) are of basic importance not only for their financial value but also for the quality of the facilities made available.

42. However, while policy support of the participating governments seems to be strong, the financial constraints experienced by SIAP since its inception suggest that although substantially increased in the second phase, contributions of governments, except in a few cases, have not always reflected the Institute's budget requirements and the continuing need of the region for its valuable services.

43. At present SIAP is dependent for its budget on four main courses of funds: the host Government contributions (in-kind and cash), the contributions of the other participating member governments, the contributions of UNDP and contributions of fellowship funds and personnel from other sources, mainly the governments of the Netherlands and France, and UNFPA. UNDP undertakes to complement and supplement the governments' participation, providing, through the executing agency, the required expert services, equipment and other services within the funds approved for the project.

44. For phases I and II of the project the financial resources of the Institute were budgeted as follows (amounts expressed in US dollars):

	Phase I <u>1970-75</u>	Phase II <u>1975-80</u>
(a) In-kind contribution by the host Government	1,385,911	2,604,000
(b) In cash contributions by participating governments	330,733	1,031,310*
(c) UNDP contribution	<u>2,415,900</u>	<u>1,777,290</u>
Total	<u>4,132,544</u>	<u>5,412,600**</u>

\* amount pledged

\*\* host Government contribution (in-kind plus cash) approximately 55%; other participating countries 12% and UNDP 33%.

45. ESCAP Resolution 151(XXI), entitled "Financing the Asian Statistical Institute during its second phase", requested the governments of member and associate member countries of the Commission to consider

increasing their contributions to the levels proposed for each of them by the Executive Secretary and endorsed the recommendation of the Mid-Project Review Meeting that the Executive Secretary seek extra-budgetary assistance from other sources for the continuation of the Institute and the possible expansion of its activities. The implementation of this Resolution would go a long way towards strengthening the financial base of SIAP, particularly in view of the fact that its continuation would have to be financed primarily by the participating countries after UNDP assistance is phased out.

46. The table in Annex I shows the amounts pledged by each participating government for the second phase. Annex II details the in-kind contribution of the host country for the same period.

47. During the first phase of the project the Institute also received bilateral assistance from the Federal Republic of Germany, which provided an expert for two years at an estimated cost of \$ 60,000 and from the Netherlands which provided fellowships at an approximate total cost of \$ 50,000. Short-term lecturers, some of them on a non-reimbursable basis, were made available to SIAP by the governments of Australia, Canada, France, UK, USA and the USSR<sup>5/</sup>. The Asian Development Bank, the ESCAP Secretariat, FAO, ILO, UNESCO and WHO also contributed to the work of the Institute. For the second phase, bilateral and special assistance of this kind has continued to be provided. In subsequent phases it could strengthen the activities of the Institute in the field, to increase sub-regional and in-country courses, workshops and seminars.

48. The possibility of using regional IPF and country IPFs to contribute to the support of regional projects, or to facilitate the participation of nationals in regional activities, should perhaps be explored together with the use of new criteria for programme-budgeting, particularly in the case of an Institute such as SIAP which at present receives such a large proportion of its financial support from the host Government and UNDP (88% of its total cost).

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<sup>5/</sup> France, the Netherlands, USA, UK and the USSR are associate members of ESCAP.



## II. PROGRAMME

### G. Scope

49. SIAP was created to serve the countries of Asia and the Pacific, within the so called geographical scope of ESCAP. This is a huge region with extremely large distances from one place to another and a total population of more than 2,000 million inhabitants. Most of ESCAP member countries are developing countries which can greatly benefit from SIAP services. At present 20 countries out of the 37 member and associated member countries of the ESCAP system are regularly contributing to the budget of SIAP, which is serving 29 countries in the whole region.

50. Considering the limitation of its resources - only approximately US\$ 127,000 was budgeted for the last five-year phase for travel of the staff - SIAP is successfully trying to cover this territory serving as many countries as possible through the general course, specialized advanced courses and country courses. As a matter of fact since its inception the Institute has been consistently increasing its country courses, from five in 1970-75 to eighteen in 1976-79.

51. The following table shows the number of countries served, the location of the activity and the subjects covered, and gives a comprehensive picture of the scope of the Institute, both geographically and substantively:

Countries served (1976-79)

Year	Place	Subject
1976	Papua New Guinea	Statistical Operation and Procedures
	Nepal	Statistical Indicators
	Afghanistan	Demographic and Social Statistics
1977	Sri Lanka	Agricultural Statistics
	Iran	Price and other Index
	Philippines	National Accounting Statistics
	Bangladesh	Sample Surveys
1978	Indonesia	Distributive and Service Trade Statistics
	Korea	Sampling Methodology
	Malaysia	Evaluation, Analysis and Use of Socio-Economic Data
	Thailand	Socio-Economic Data
	Sri Lanka	Demographic and Social Statistics
	T.T.P.I. <sup>6/</sup>	Basic Statistics
1979	T.T.P.I.	Statistical Operations and Procedures
	Pakistan	Sample Surveys
	Bangladesh	Management of Statistical Operations
	Sri Lanka	National Accounting Statistics
	Philippines	Workshop for Census Co-ordinators

<sup>6/</sup> Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

52. In addition to the above-mentioned services there are courses and studies provided by UNDP programme support, e.g. the Programme on "Training of Trainers in Statistical Operations", specifically geared to the needs of Indonesia, Korea and Bangladesh, the Seminar on "Statistical Organization" (for inter-country exchange of experiences), and the Programme on "Statistics for Rural Development" comprising a series of case studies in countries of the region engaged in rural development and subsequent training activities. The extent of the scope of the Institute is also shown briefly in Annex III.

#### H. Activities and Impact

53. The regular current activities of SIAP are an annual General Course, for mid-career statisticians; Advanced seminars (two each year) for senior professionals in this field, and Country courses, on topics selected by the national authorities. They also include the production of training materials and some research activities connected with training and assistance with Statistical Development Programmes. Additionally, activities such as panel discussions, joint activities with other institutions and agencies, and a ten-week Workshop on Population Census have been conducted ad hoc.

54. The basic structure and content of the programme for the first phase, namely a ten-month general course, one advance course and one country course each year, was maintained throughout that phase. However, in the second phase the Institute restructured the training courses by adopting a flexible work-plan to enable it to meet the needs of countries at different levels of statistical development, particularly the need for more country courses.

55. Policies concerning the location and content of the training activities are in constant review by the Institute's Faculty and advisory bodies, in order to develop an articulated and integrated syllabus of practical value for the participating countries. The Inspector was pleased to note the efforts made by SIAP to adapt its activities to the needs of the region by increasing systematically its special, advanced and country courses, concentrating on concrete development problems of the region while reducing the duration of general training.

56. Emphasis is now given to intensified or advanced and country courses, in which participants are offered an opportunity to deepen their knowledge in subject-matter areas. It is equally the intention of the Institute's authorities, subject to the availability of resources, to articulate and integrate the training functions with relevant applied research and advisory services. Finally, in accordance with the modifications agreed upon by the governments, the UNDP and the executing agency, the Institute is expected to enhance its co-operation with other Institutes in the region, as well as with national and international organizations in statistical training and research.

57. The Institute's general and advanced courses provide training for statisticians at middle and professional levels. The general course furnishes a "broad-based knowledge of applied fields of statistics so that the government statisticians may acquire a fundamental understanding of the inter-relationship of various applied statistics". The country courses seek to cater to the training needs on a specific topic and are primarily geared towards the practical problems facing statisticians involved in the subject area.

58. The full impact of the Institute on the statistical training requirements in the Asia and Pacific region may be too early to assess. There is no doubt, however, that the Institute has so far contributed substantially to meeting both country-specific and regional training needs in applied fields of statistics.

59. SIAP has particularly addressed the problems of statistically less developed countries lacking national training facilities. Its renewed efforts in rural and social statistics proved the capability and vitality of the Institute to attend to the most pressing needs in this field.

60. Indications of effectiveness may be discerned from the previous examination of the Institute's scope, and the impact of the Institute can be appreciated in the following table showing the number of fellows trained and the relative importance of the courses offered to 29 countries:

Year	Courses	Fellows	Man-Months
1970-75	General Courses (ten-month per year)	161	1,610
	Advanced Seminars	89	134
	Country Courses	140	210
1975-76	General Course (six-month)	31	186
	Advanced Seminars	29	44
	Country Courses	81	122
1976-77	General Course (six-month)	31	186
	Advanced Seminars	29	44
	Country Courses	88	132
1977-78	General Course (six-month)	30	180
	Advanced Seminars	27	40
	Country Courses	89	133
1978-79	General Course (six-month)	30	180
	Advanced Seminars	28	35
	Country Courses	76	91
	Census Workshop	25	51
	Totals	984	3,378

61. SIAP has now the capability to increase its effectiveness and become fully a centre of excellence, particularly in its role as a focal point in a network of national statistical institutions. The proposed development of its activities in the field of statistical development programmes, involving research, preparation of course materials, training and regional advice (in association with ESCAP) would greatly enhance its role in the future.

62. Attendance at the courses is well distributed among the participating countries and corresponds in general to the relative size of their population, perhaps with the sole exception of India. Distance to and from SIAP's headquarters does not seem to affect the volume of its services to the whole region.

63. Candidates for the courses are selected from member and associate member countries within the geographical scope of ESCAP, and participants from the developed countries in the region, or from other regions, are also admitted occasionally but at their own cost and according to the availability of facilities. For more details up to 1978 see Annex III. The number of fellows from the most developed participating countries is relatively low: approximately 2.5% of the total trained.

64. Fellowships funds for advanced courses are provided through bilateral assistance (e.g. from Australia and particularly the Netherlands). General course fellowships are provided by the host Government under its technical co-operation scheme, as part of its in-kind contribution to SIAP.

#### 1. Working Relationships

65. Working relationships with statistical bodies in the region are essential for the achievement of the Institutes' objectives. One of the important effects expected as a result of SIAP's work in the region is to bring about an active co-operation of the participating countries in statistical activities organized as a basic tool for development. To this end the Institute is actually joining efforts with the Statistical Division of ESCAP, the UN Statistical Office and the Specialized Agencies (particularly FAO, ILO and UNFPA) and the national statistical offices, and should continue to develop its working relationships with other training and research organizations in the field. This is an important condition particularly for country and sub-regional activities on specific technical subjects.

66. Permanent and close co-operation should be also established between SIAP and the new Centre created as a result of the proposed amalgamation of ESCAP's other regional training institutes.

67. The acceptance of nationals of the participating countries as research workers temporarily associated with the Institutes programme of activities - as has been already anticipated in the Project Document - is an adequate procedure for contributing to establish these links on a sound basis.

68. The working relationship of SIAP with institutions of the host country are well established and supported. The SIAP is housed in the building of the Institute of Developing Economics (IDE) and has easy access to its library and computer facilities, which are important features for its effective operation.

69. Through its Project Co-Manager/Deputy Director (Administration), a member of SIAP's full-time staff, a permanent liaison is established with Japan's International Co-operation Agency and other local organizations concerned with the Institute's activities, in particular the International Statistical Affairs Division of Japan's Administrative Management Agency, which is specially responsible for legal and financial aspects of the host Government's support to SIAP. Thanks to these facilities the trainees benefit from field work and demonstration projects such as the recently organized study tours to visit the 1978 Exhibition of Statistical Graphs (at Kotsu Kaikan); the Statistical Office of the Nara Prefecture; the Statistical Division of the Aichi Prefecture, to observe the conduct of the monthly Family Income and Expenditure Survey.

70. The Inspector was also pleased to note that the SIAP is organizing a follow-up for establishing and maintaining contact with its trainees, publishing and providing systematic information about their current activities. This is also a valuable step towards a strengthened professional working relationship and the eventual establishment of an adequate network for inter-change and co-operation within the region.

J. SIAP in Prospective: TCDC Potential

71. After examining various similar institutes in other geographical areas, the Inspector is quite convinced of the practical value of regional co-operation in the field of professional training, as an effective means to foster development and inter-country self-help.

72. Some of these operations might seem too expensive, but they are a good investment for the UN development system considering their multiplier effect and their lasting favourable influence for the international community.

73. UNDP invested in nine years approximately US\$ 4,000,000 in SIAP, supporting with these funds the training of about 1,000 statisticians and serving almost 30 countries in one of the most populated regions of the world.

74. The total cost of SIAP appears to be quite reasonable taking into account the long range and the immediate objectives of the Institute, which are training plus the promotion of regional co-operation for development in statistical matters "to provide a firm base for the formulation of economic and social development plans", and for decision making in these fields. It seems so even if the financial assessment is limited to the computation of the per capita cost of the trainees only, but the Inspector thinks it is relevant to analyze further the other benefits which could be expected from this kind of regional effort.

75. The training of a certain number of specialists, to alleviate the shortage of intermediate or senior professionals in a given area of Government service, could be by itself an objective worth recommending to the attention of the UN development system. But at the present stage of the international communities efforts to foster co-operation and mutual help, the whole range of the activities of regional training and research centres is now of fundamental significance, even if some of these activities are still considered in some cases as a potential and collateral product.

76. In this regard it is fair to note that SIAP, in addition to its training function, has been able to initiate some basic efforts to fulfill its role as a regional focal point. The Institute is in fact ending its second phase, and arriving at a critical turning point while preparing itself for a third stage in which regional technical co-operation is expected to be the ultimate aim, its raison d'être, mainly to stimulate and support national training and research activities not only as a complement but undertaking also the responsibility of co-ordination and technical leadership in the promotion of statistical studies. Here again the organization and support of regionally integrated operations seems advisable to maximize effectiveness. Along this line of thought a similar criterion was favoured on the occasion of the Mid-Project Review Meeting which recommended the continuation of SIAP as a permanent regional institution as already anticipated in ESCAP Resolutions 134(XXIX) and 151(XXX).

77. The Inspector has no doubts about the benefits which SIAP, if properly supported, could continue to provide through its training activities, particularly in advanced courses and special programme activities, but thinks that as much emphasis as possible is needed on promoting collaboration and co-ordination throughout the region.

78. It is worth noting in this regard that a provision has already been made to accept research fellows to work at the Institute on applied statistical problems of his or her own country. In the past, three such fellows have been accepted under the fellowships made available from multilateral and bilateral sources. Efforts of this kind could be perhaps expanded, in quantity and quality, to favour the building up of a sound basis for the establishment and leadership of a network for inter-change and mutual help at regional and sub-regional levels.

79. The effectiveness of the Institute in its nine years of operation contributed to and was consistent with, the efforts of the countries of the region to strengthen the training capability of their own national institutions and universities. Now SIAP, though still giving priority to its training function, could take advantage of the multiplier effect resulting from its privileged position as a regional centre of excellence, while avoiding duplication at country level and devoting more energy to strengthen its technical leadership role in the field of statistical studies.

80. Its endeavours in this direction, to seek greater collaboration with other regional and national organizations in statistical training and applied research, could make of SIAP not only more responsive

to the practical and immediate needs of the region but a mobilizing force for the full utilization of national capabilities through TCDC efforts, at least at a sub-regional level.

81. The TCDC potential of the Institute has already been demonstrated when discussing its scope, programme activities and working relationships in the proceeding chapters, but it could be developed to increase its role as a catalyst in a network so as to better contribute to the self-reliance of the participating countries. For this purpose, in planning the future activities of SIAP, collaboration of the Institute has been anticipated with the countries of the region in multi-activity statistical development programmes by strengthening its advisory and research services.

82. The network strategy is of course based on reciprocal responses of the participating organizations, but the Institute has proved the value of some interesting joint programmes undertaken in its field which show the potential of this operational strategy for combining, harmonizing and pooling existing capabilities to make these programmes more effective and less costly.

83. Taking into account the recommendations of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the re-establishing of SIAP's Advisory Council could also strengthen the participation of the governments in the management of regional technical co-operation. They would gradually take over the institutional responsibilities of the associated UN organizations and this might facilitate the increased support by these organizations for substantive backstopping and collateral financial assistance in programme activities.

84. The Inspector was pleased to note that SIAP is already playing a promising role as catalyst of regional and sub-regional co-operation for the promotion of statistical studies, developing in this regard valuable channels of communication and linkage at professional and institutional levels.

### III. MAIN OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

85. The Institute has organized a sound and comprehensive programme of activities and is performing a useful work in the region, particularly in meeting the needs for trained personnel at intermediate and senior levels (para. 14).

86. Although training is SIAP's first priority, to fully execute the complex range of the objectives included in its Project Document the Institute should strengthen its research and advisory services in applied statistics and for the improvement of training at national centres (paras. 15 and 77/78).

87. The location of SIAP was wisely decided taking particularly into account the quality and quantity of the facilities made available by the host country. It may facilitate as well the Institute's working relationships and the build up of a statistical network to promote regional collective self-reliance (paras. 17/18).

88. At the end of the present phase of the project, or at the completion of any other subsequent phase which might be approved, to facilitate the uninterrupted operation of this regional centre when UNDP assistance ceases, an ad interim legal solution could be put forward in the form of a co-operation agreement of ESCAP member and associated member countries, under the umbrella of the UN development system. The Buenos Aires Plan of Action provides a useful framework in this regard for the continuation of the Institute's activities (paras. 21/24 and 85).

89. The re-establishment of the Advisory Council seems advisable, not only for the remainder of the present phase but also for the future guidance of the Institute, to emphasize its autonomy and strengthen the policy support of the participating governments (paras. 27/29).

90. It is expected that in the future there will be a substantial increase in the co-operation of participating countries, including the provision of qualified personnel for the substantive activities of the Institute (paras. 35/40).

91. The organization and approval of new programme activities and specific projects could also contribute to reducing the institutional cost of the Institute, at present greatly sustained by UNDP inputs (paras. 39/40 and 48).

92. With a few exceptions the contributions of participating countries do not seem to reflect the Institute's budget requirements nor the continuing use of its valuable services (para. 42).

93. The cost of SIAP activities seems quite reasonable, even if the financial assessment is limited to the computation of the per capita cost of the trainees. A better distribution of the financial burden is still necessary, as recommended by ESCAP. The possibility for the participating countries of using their IPFs should be explored (paras. 38, 42/45, 48 and 76).



94. Bilateral assistance could greatly strengthen the impact of the Institute facilitating inter-country and sub-regional activities (para. 47).

95. The present trend emphasizing advanced and country courses, and increasing co-operation with national institutes within the region, is a commendable policy adopted by SIAP to adapt its activities to the needs of the participating countries (paras. 54/60).

96. SIAP has now the capability to become a centre of excellence, particularly in its role as focal point in a network of national statistical institutions. The proposed development of its activities involving research, preparation of course materials, training and regional advice would enhance this role in the future (para. 61).

97. The working relationships established with statistical bodies in the region are essential for the achievement of the Institute's objectives as a whole. The linkage is an important condition particularly for country and sub-regional activities, and the basis for a much needed network for inter-change in SIAP's field (paras. 65/68).

98. The TCDC potential of the Institute could be developed further, to increase its role as a regional catalyst and to better contribute to the self-reliance of the participating countries (paras. 80/84).



ANNEX I

PHASE II (1975-1980) COUNTERPART CONTRIBUTIONS  
IN CASH PLEDGED BY THE GOVERNMENTS

(In U.S. Dollars or equivalent in national currency)

Democratic Republic of Afghanistan	5,000
Australia	111,480
Bangladesh	11,000
Fiji	5,000
Gilbert Islands	2,600
Hong Kong	30,000
India	50,000
Indonesia	140,000
Islamic Republic of Iran	50,000
Japan	400,000
Lao People's Democratic Republic	2,000
Malaysia	36,000
Nauru	1,000
New Zealand	40,000
Pakistan	15,000
Papua New Guinea	2,000
Philippines	20,000
Republic of Korea	60,000
Samoa	2,000
Singapore	12,000
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka	15,230
Thailand	20,000
Tonga	1,000
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TOTAL	1,031,310
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NOTE: Negotiations are under way for additional contributions to finance the Institute's programmes for the second phase, from some of the above donors, as well as from other governments and agencies.



ANNEX IIPHASE II (1975-1980) HOST GOVERNMENT IN-KIND  
CONTRIBUTION (in local currency)

	m/m	1000Yen
<u>PROJECT PERSONNEL</u>		
Project Co-Manager/D.D. (Administration)	45	22,500
Administrative Co-ordinator	45	20,200
General Affairs Officer	45	20,200
Asst. Administrative Co-ordinator	45	9,800
Asst. General Affairs Officer	45	15,000
Librarian	45	9,800
Clerks (two)	90	14,200
Typists (three)	135	21,000
Driver	45	7,500
Guest Lecturers	11	5,500
Component Total	551	145,700
<u>TRAINING</u>		
<u>Group Training</u>		
General Course		117,000
Component Total		117,000
<u>EQUIPMENT</u>		
Expendable Equipment and Supplies		31,500
Non-expendable Equipment		-
Premises: Rental for SIAP Premises		128,300
Component Total		159,800
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>		
Operating Cost of Hostel		28,800
Sundry		89,200
Component Total		118,000
GRAND TOTAL		540,500



Number of Participants by Country in the Different Training Courses  
offered by Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific, 1970-1978  
研修生国別コース別参加状況(昭和45-53年)

Country 国	Course コース	General Course - 一般コース											Advanced Course/Seminar 上級コース											Country Course カントリーコース											Grand Total 合計		
		First Phase 第1期					Second Phase 第2期					Total 合計	First Phase 第1期					Second Phase 第2期					Total 合計	First Phase 第1期					Second Phase 第2期					Total 合計			
		70-71 346 6 ~46 3	71-72 146 6 ~47 3	72-73 247 7 ~48 4	73-74 348 8 ~49 5	74-75 349 9 ~50 6	Total 合計	75-76 350 11 ~51 4	76-77 351 10 ~52 3	77-78 352 11 ~53 3	78-79 353 12 ~54 3		Total 合計	今 今	71-72 2-3	72-73 3-4	73-74 4-5	74-75 5-6	Total 合計	75-76 6-7	76-77 7-8	77-78 8-9		78-79 9-10	Total 合計	今 今	72-73 47 48	73-74 48 49	74-75 49 50	Total 合計	75-76 50 51	76-77 51 52	77-78 52 53	Total 合計		今 今	今 今
Afghanistan アフガニスタン		3	3	2	1	1	10	1	2	2	5	15	1	1	1	1	5	1	2				6	11			19	19	25			25	44	70			
Australia オーストラリア														1	1		2						2										2				
Bangladesh バングラデシュ		1			2	2	5	1	2	2	5	10	1		1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	9					18		18	18	37				
Brunei ブルネイ			1				1				1																						1				
Burma ビルマ									2	2	4	4							1				1	1									5				
China a/ チャイナ a/		3	3				6					6	1	2			3						3										9				
Cook Islands クック諸島																		1					1	1									1				
Democratic Kampuchea カンボジア				3	2	2	7				7				1	1							1										8				
Fiji フィジー			1	1	1		3		1		1	4				1	1				1	1	2	3	12 <sup>b/</sup>		12					12	19				
Gilbert Islands キルバート諸島				1 <sup>c/</sup>		1	2				2																						2				
Hong Kong 香港		1	2	2	2	2	9	2	1	2	5	14		1	1	1	3	1	1	1		1	5	8									22				
India インド		3	2	3	3	2	13	3	2	1	6	19	2	2	2	2	3	11	1	1	2		1	6	17								36				
Indonesia インドネシア		2	3	3	2	2	12	2	2	2	6	18	1	2	1	2	1	7	1	1	1	1	2	6	13		26	26			16	16	42	73			
Iran イラン		3	3	2	3	2	13	3	2	2	7	20	1	1	1	2	1	6	1		1		3	9	34 <sup>d/</sup>		34		19		19	53	82				
Japan 日本					1	1	1	1	1	1	3	4	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	5	11									15				
Korea Republic of 韓国		3	3	3	3	2	14	2	1		3	17	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	5	10	22		22			28	28	50	77				
Lao People's Dem Rep ラオス		2	1		2	1	6				6																						6				
Malaysia マレーシア					2	2	2	2	2	2	6	8	1		1	1	1	4		1	1	1	4	9									16				
Nepal ネパール		1	1	1		2	5	1	2	1	4	9	1	1	1		1	4	1			1	1	3	7			30			30	30	46				
Pakistan パキスタン		1	2	1	3	2	9	1	2	2	5	14	1		1	1	2	5	1	1	1		4	9									23				
Papua New Guinea バブアニューギニア					1		1	2	1	1	4	5								1			1	1			26			26	26	32					
Philippines フィリピン		3	2	1	3	3	12	3	2	2	7	19	1	2	1	2	1	7	1	1	1	1	2	7	14			28		28	28	61					
Singapore シンガポール					1	1	1	2	3	5	6		1	1			1	3	1	1	1		1	5	8								14				
Socialist Rep of Viet Nam ベトナム		1	1		2	4					4		1					1					1										5				
Sri Lanka スリランカ		2	3	3	1	2	11	3	2	2	7	18	1		1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	6	10		27	27		23	18	41	68	96			
Thailand タイ		2	1	3	3 <sup>c/</sup>	1	10		1	2	3	13	2	2	1	1	1	7	1	1	1	1	5	12					27	27	27	52					
Trust Territory of Pac Is 太平洋信託地域							1		1	2	2																						2				
Western Samoa 西サモア		1	1	1		1	4	2	1	1	4	8		1	1		2					1	1	2	4								12				
Nigeria f/ ナイジェリア f/																				1			1										1				
Total 合計		32	33	30	32	34	161	31	31	30	92	253	16	19	17	19	18	89	14	15	17	12	16	11	85	174	34	34	19	53	140	81	88	89	258	398	825

a/ This term has its pre October 1971 connotation.  
b/ Belonging to seven member countries of the South Pacific Commission including Fiji, Gilbert & Ellice Islands, Papua New Guinea and Western Samoa.  
c/ Fellowship awarded by UNDP Regional Representative for the Western Pacific.  
d/ Including nine observers.  
e/ One fellowship awarded by ESCAP.  
f/ Observer.

a/ 昭和45年10月以前の台湾を示す。  
b/ フィジー、キルバート、エリス諸島、バブアニューギニア、西サモアを含む南太平洋7カ国。  
c/ UNDP 南太平洋地域代表の奨学金を受ける。  
d/ 9名のオブザーバーを含む。  
e/ ESCAP奨学金を受ける者1名を含む。  
f/ オブザーバー。

