



INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO)

UNIVERSITAS PROGRAMME

**Progress Report for 2006 and Proposed Work plan for July
2007-June 2008**

Project Number: INT/01/075/ITA

Project Title: Global Partnership for skills development using
University network (delivered by Universitas)

Review Period Covered: January 2006 - January 2007

Total Budget: US\$ 1.690.510 \$ dollars of the actual phase (of which
1,275,510 \$ approved in May 2006 plus the difference
of 415,000 \$ carry over from 2005).

Effective starting
Date: January 9, 2006 for the described activities

End Date: December 31, 2008 June 15,2007

Evaluation Date ILO Universitas

Implemented by: Government of Italy

Donor:

Prepared by: Giovanni di Cola Reviewed by:

Place: ILO Geneva

1. Outputs and Activities

Output A: Certificate and Master's on Disaster Management for Sri Lankan officials and students prepared and delivered through the University network, as well as other certificate/master's on selected economic clusters prepared and submitted for funding.

Activity 1: Certificate on Disaster Management

Universitas developed training related to the Decent Work Agenda (DWA) and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) topic areas to input a Certificate on Disaster Management in cooperation with ILO Colombo, Sri Lanka's Ministry of Disaster Management and Human Rights, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Italian University Network represented by La Stranieri University di Perugia and by Ancona University, Politecnica delle Marche.

The Certificate training which began on January 22nd, 2007 in Perugia, after a preparatory period of nearly four months (September to December 2006) trained 30 high-level officials in the areas of disaster management including prevention, mitigation, preparation, rescue, recovery, and reconstruction. Twelve (12) university faculties and four (4) research centers from all over Italy participated in the above training activities as well as ILO officials who lectured on issues related to the DWA and ILO response to crisis situations.

The ILO Director in Colombo and the Minister of Human Rights and Disaster Management of Sri Lanka participated in the Opening Ceremony which took place in Perugia on January 22nd, 2007. They both pointed out the importance of such training's ability to give participants from both sides different perspectives on crisis and post-crisis situations as well as disaster management. For example, by enhancing the capacities and the skills of those involved both at the local and national levels.

The certificate is a three week program for 30 central and local government officials (local and national public administrators) from Sri Lanka. The certificate started on January 22, 2007 and ended on February 9, 2007 in Perugia at Water Resources Research and Documentation Centre (WARREDOC) of La Stranieri University di Perugia. There are twelve (12) modules in the Certificate, each one taught by a separate faculty member: Perception and Mitigation of Natural Hazards and Framework for Emergency Preparedness, Technology Transfer and Capacity Building in Disaster Management, Computational Methods in Disaster Assessment, Wave Risk and Hydraulic Measurements, Real Time Monitoring and Disaster Mitigation, Legal and Institutional Aspects of Disaster Management, Emergency Management: Experiences, Considerations and Standards, Tsunami Hazard Risk Assessment and Mitigation, and Disaster Damage Assessment, Decent Work and FLO Response to crisis situations in a wider UN approach to crises (see Annex I for press releases on the Certificate).

Activity 2: Master's on Disaster Management

The Master's program is an eighteen month program, in which the last three months are dedicated to a research project to be prepared at the University of Ancona Politecnica della

Marche. The above research period is completed with lectures from various faculties from Italian Universities, Italian Civil Protection, and from Peredenya University (Sri Lanka), as well as ILO officials. The part of the Master's that is actually being carried out in Ancona is due to start on February 8 and is due to end May 12, 2007.

Ten modules for the master's program were prepared and will be taught by more than 30 professors in the field of disaster management, and by ILO officials. The modules include training in Emergency Management, Humanitarian Crisis and International Cooperation, Industrial and Technological Hazards, Land Use and Regional Planning, Natural Hazards, Public Health Emergencies, and Socio-economic Impact of Disasters, Knowledge Sharing, UN Reform and MDG tools, and DWA and ILO response to crisis as part of the UN Humanitarian Response and Early Recovery Cluster.

It should be noted that the 30 Sri Lanka master's students are being selected on the basis of their technical capacity, expertise, and actual role in disaster management in their country. The experience of both the master's and certificate students and officials will be enriched by sharing and exchanging with the Italian Civil Protection in achieving internationally recognized standards in the management of crisis and post-crisis situations.

Relevance of the above training for the ILO Decent Work Agenda (DWA)

The training activities as described above are directly contributing to the Decent Work Country Program for Sri Lanka, which is oriented towards considering post-disaster (Tsunami) and post-crisis situations as an opportunity for enhancing skills and social insertion while protecting human rights and labor standards.

The training carried out for both the certificate and the master's are technically qualifying the DWCP through the UN System in Sri Lanka. Furthermore, they are innovative tools for cooperation not only with the UN System at large, but also with the ILO social partners, local entities, and universities involved in disaster management issues in Sri Lanka.

It should also be noted that as a result of the UN Humanitarian Response Reform, the ILO is an active member of the IASC Early Recovery Cluster and is accountable for two major areas of work: post-crisis livelihood recovery (jointly with FAO) and capacity building and training of national and local actors in close collaboration with the International Training Centre.

In this respect, the ILO Program on Crisis Response and Reconstruction, which also serves as focal point for the ILO within the cluster, is fully participating in the delivery of the above training with lectures related, among others, to progress made on the aforementioned UN cluster.

Effectiveness, difficulties encountered and sustainability

It should be said that it did take more effort and time than expected to get the training up and running and quite a lot of preparatory work to get the University partners to understand that: a) the project was to be executed according to ILO rules and regulations; b) the training was supposed to include areas related to the ILO mandate and other relevant UN topic areas; c) the modalities for the execution of the training for both the certificate and the master, would have been set ahead according to the ILO circular 75.

It took four full months to prepare the 20 training modules as indicated according to a new modality in delivering training (ILO circular 75 of 2006), so to avoid heavy subcontracts with the Universities of Perugia and Ancona. Each training module includes the: a) resume of each professor; b) topic areas to be developed; c) list of participants and c) details of the budget per module d) complete time table of activities.

In November 2006, major challenges were avoided when ILO Colombo and ILO Crisis were informed and fully involved in the delivery of the training programs. Indeed, without the involvement of ILO Colombo the training could not have been delivered effectively.

The cost of the training

The overall cost of the training for both the certificate and the master's was scaled down tremendously (for example, travel for a trainee from Colombo was reduced from an estimate of 1,500 euros to 530 euros). As a result the workload for the program increased, while initially these tasks should have been carried out by the University of Perugia.

Yet, the end result of the intense preparatory work is that the cost of both training activities could be reviewed carefully so as to ensure that the Universitas present budget allocations could cover the cost of both training programs.

The total cost of the Certificate is estimated at 101.975, 07C (with an average cost of 130,36C per student/day), while the final three-month period for the master's cost is estimated at 399.874,23 C (with an average cost of 75,25C per student/day).

The cost of the Master's (the part of it that is taking place in Ancona) seems at this stage comparatively lower than the Certificate and this is due to a very good organizational setting offered by Ancona University. Perugia "La Stranieri" is a small University which tends to outsource a number of sendees such as travel, catering etc.; while Ancona University is a large public university with facilities adapted to receive large number of students simultaneously. Additionally, the cost of accommodation for

the high-level officials was obviously higher in a hotel outside Perugia than the cost of a good residence for the students in the center of Ancona.

The cost of the training programs in Italy, although probably higher than in Sri Lanka, has the advantage of great exchanges with professionals from the Italian Civil Protection. In fact, a number of study tours were arranged to Operational Centers of the Civil Protection in Venezia, Roma, and Falconara, among others. It should be noted that the best faculties and specialized centers from all over Italy were brought together to deliver lectures for the certificate and master's.

It must be said that the review of each single training module and the review of the budget in such detail was not always appreciated by the relevant administrative partners, who claimed that support cost should be distributed equally to all partners. However, all possible misunderstandings were resolved through negotiation following ILO rules and procedures.

Timing/Delivery

It should be noted that the starting dates for the training in Perugia and Ancona shifted for the Certificate from November 2006 to January 2007, and for the Master's from January to February 2007.

Thus, the time-frame for the report of activities and the financial reports due to be sent to the ILO by Ancona and Perugia Universities will be as follows: the deadline for Perugia is May 10th, 2007 and for Ancona is October 31st, 2007. The latter takes into consideration the end date of the entire Master's in Peredenya (Sri Lanka) scheduled for July 31st, 2007.

The aforementioned shifts have been considered for the Universitas work-plan in 2007. The same will be done for 2008, with consequent budget revisions and adjustments when needed.

Three missions were undertaken to prepare the training activities and discuss the modalities for delivering them. The first mission was carried out in Rome at the end of June 2006, the second in Perugia at the end of November 2006 and a third mission also to Perugia in mid-December 2006. The latter was carried out by the external collaborator, to review the details and cost of the Master's program. The services of the external collaborator were used to carry out consultations with both Universities in Italy and to review the 20 training modules (as reported in Annex II).

Visibility and Sustainability

Visibility and sustainability of the Master's would be enhanced with the production of a training manual that could be prepared with inputs from all faculties. Furthermore, the activity should be promoted within the UN System and in the university sector. In that respect, the Italian (MAE) network of Universities could play a role in the promotion of the Certificate and/or Master's beyond the relevant case of Sri Lanka. Additional funding will be needed to prepare a high quality training manual. Promotion and

interaction will be needed to ensure that the product is used throughout the UN system and in the University network.

Gender aspects of the training

As for gender aspects the women representation constituted 13% and 27% of participants in the certificate and master's, respectively. The relatively weak rate of participation of women in the courses is probably due to a general under-representation of women in the field of disaster management in Sri Lanka; however compared to global statistics for this type of training the certificate ranks fairly low, whereas the master's achieved the average rate for female participation, in situations such as this the 50-50 distribution indicator is more an objective than a target.

Recommendations

Increasing the number of certificates (once a year over a period of three years) could also be useful for reviewing methodology so far developed and applied in other countries. Therefore, the participation of the Minister of Human Rights and Disaster Management makes him a leader in crisis situations for his own country, as well as Southeast Asia.

A certificate in particular, as a kind of on the job training, is definitely an opportunity to shape the local and national capacities raising them to international standards including labour standards.

Finally as the UN Cluster is trying to reinforce knowledge sharing and joint university work; the experience with Sri Lanka could boost the existing (small) university network. This will largely depend on the promotion that FLO Crisis Program and ILO ITC will make around the experience gained with from results in the certificate and master's.

Activity 3: Preparing a project proposal for a Certificate in entrepreneurial management in the textile sector in India

In consultation with ILO New Delhi, ILO Universitas was asked to provide support for preparing a project proposal that relates to a certificate in entrepreneurial management of the textile sector (productive niche of fashion and design) of India. The training activity may be carried out in partnership with the Indian Institute of Fashion and Design, the University of Bocconi as well as other Indian partners, including the Ministry of Industry and the Federation of the Chambers of Commerce of India (FICCI) and Altagamma (Italy). A draft project document was prepared for the Certificate in August 2006 and submitted to the Italian MAE/DGCS for review. If approved the budget and the modalities for delivering the certificate would need to be adapted to ILO Circular 75 (to avoid the sub-contract terms). The same modality that was successfully used in the delivery of the university programs with Perugia "La Stranieri" and Ancona "Politecnica delle Marche" as indicated in Activity 1 and 2.

Activity 4: Preparing a project proposal for a Master's in Business Management and Tourism

Universitas also began its partnership with Luiss Guido Carli University of Rome. A project document was prepared for a possible Master in Business Management specifically related to tourism, his meetings with representatives from LUISS, Universitas provided information on past and ongoing projects with the university network and university partners as well as project document guidelines. The project proposal was prepared by late September 2006 and submitted to the Italian MAE/DGCS for review.

Recommendations

As indicated in the draft project proposal, the textile sector is an important sector for the ILO for building knowledge and sharing experiences, in May 2006 the ILO hosted a Sectorial Tripartite meeting on the status of the textile sector, including a review of the on-going projects. Furthermore, the DWCP in Morocco regards the textile sector as a priority industry. The textile sector is one of the two priority areas for India's industrial and economic development. Furthermore, the workers organizations in India are conducting a training certificate on the social impact of global economy, which could include specific references to a productive niche of the sector that cannot operate without a true knowledge and application of international fundamental labor standards. For all the above reasons it would be interesting to carry out the project proposals described above with the support of the Italian Government, perhaps promoting them at the international level as opposed to a stand-alone nationally oriented products.

Output B: Training methodologies developed and disseminated through Universitas network and innovation transferred for the revision of university curricula.

Activity 1: Research work on youth skills development and youth employment opportunities

After almost two years of research work, which included four training activities carried out in the field (Albania, Senegal, Salvador and Mozambique), surveys on 360 projects around the world (220 of which were held in the EU), information sharing and dialogue with labor institutions, ILO social partners, UN partners, sport institutions, faculties and universities, the ILO was able to release the publication: "Beyond the Scoreboard: Youth employment opportunities and skills development in the sports sector". The book focuses on youth skills and their impact on leadership and employability as part of the DWA.

The English edition was published in August, 2006 and it was presented at the International Olympic Committee World Forum "Sport and a World of Harmony: The Role of Olympic Education and Culture" which took place in Beijing from October 22-24, 2006. The Italian edition, which was translated and published through a licensing agreement with Edus Law International, free of charge for the ILO, was released in

January 2007. The Italian version of the book was presented in February 2007 at the University of Salerno. The foreword for the Italian edition was prepared by the Italian Minister of Youth and Sport. The Ministry of Labor for Spain has agreed to translate "Looking Beyond the Scoreboard" into Spanish and publish it for further dissemination throughout Spain and Latin America.

Relevance for the ILO mandate and beyond

The outcomes of the research are framed into the ILO Human Resources Development Training and Life-long Learning Recommendation, 2004 (No 195). The research is also relevant in light of the forthcoming EU White Paper on the European Sports Sector started in 2007. The EU has requested a contribution to the White Paper from the Universitas program coordinator. The success of the publication has allowed Universitas to pursue other areas of research that are related to Universitas training activities and to the DWA, such as local territorial development tourism and cultural initiatives and the social impact of globalization and youth skills development. There are already requests to use the results of the research in both academic and non academic environments.

As a result of the above research outputs, it would be worth considering a certificate program developed around selected employability skills that are rarely enhanced in typical academic curricula. In fact, those skills such as managing technology and performance, team work, respect of rules mediation and resolution of conflicts are in most cases neglected by formal educational institutions and universities. The issue of developing skills in an educational environment and beyond should be discussed with the Group of Mentors that supported the UN Youth Summits and with the network of Madrid Universities at the initiative of the Comunidad Autonoma de Madrid.

Activity 2: Training Workshop in Lima on the occasion of the IIRA World Congress of the International Industrial Relations Association (September 13th, 2007)

At the specific request of the International Industrial Relations Association, Universitas and fLO HIV/AIDS co-organized the "Youth Insertion, Skills Development and Prevention of HIV/AIDS through Sport" workshop in Lima (Peru) held on September 13th, 2006. The workshop which was held at the Universidad de Lima was integral part of the 14th World Congress of the International Industrial Relations Association. The workshop was held in response to the growing youth employment crisis, the challenge of creating decent and sustainable jobs in the labour market of both developing and developed economies. The presentations focused on how sport-specific skills and values contributed to the employability framework, helping young people to not only find jobs but address significant social issues, such as HIV/AIDS prevention. The local partners of the above initiative were the Institute Peruano del Deporte (IPD), USA Academy for Sport (USSA) and Pern Runners all of which use sport as a means to develop youth skills and maintain peace, dialogue, and a healthy lifestyle. The former Minister of Sport for Peru and IOC member Ivan Dibos, participated in the workshop and presented the activities of the IPD. The ILO Regional specialist on Youth Employment took part in the workshop and opened the event on behalf of the Regional

Director of the ILO for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Relevance for the ILO mandate

The outcome of the workshop is a value chain on the development of skills to be filled according to a given situation (see report in Annex in). A second important result is the packaging of the response that can be used in establishing youth skills through sport ventures with curricula developed for selected stakeholders including universities. The third result is the fact the ILO Department of Social Dialogue and the ERA called upon the ILO/Universitas' capacity to prepare a workshop as part of the World Congress of Industrial Relations who is exploring new avenues for dialogue changes taking place in the global economy (See www.ilo.org/iira). The workshop was a good opportunity to transfer the aforementioned methodology and outputs to the ILO colleagues in Lima responsible for issues regarding Youth Employment in the region.

Difficulties encountered

The workshop was poorly organized by the local entity in charge with the overall organization of the Congress. Thus, taking into account the quality of speakers, the public attendance of workshop was quite disappointing.

Activity 3: Seminario « Fortaleciendo la participacion de la juventud sindicalista en las politicas de recreacion, salud y empleo », (Tegucigalpa, October 8-9, 2006) »

With the support of Universitas, a workshop was organized by the ILO Sub-regional Office in San Jose for representatives of workers unions from Central America on the topic: "Fortaleciendo la participacion de la juventud sindicalista en las politicas de recreacion, salud y empleo", (Tegucigalpa, October 8-9, 2006). The objective of the training activity was to evaluate policies on recreation, health, and employment for young people in Central America and the Caribbean. Presentations were given on the ability of sport to fight social exclusion and HIV/AIDS, as well as the "double discrimination" that young people with HIV/AIDS face. The seminar allowed for an exchange of practices and experiences among the 35 participants, 16 of which were women. Participants at the seminar from la Coordinadora Sindical de America Central y Caribe (CSACC) represented 7 countries in the region (see report of the workshop in Annex IV).

Relevance for the ILO/DWA and for the workers organizations.

It is the first time that the representatives of worker's unions in the sub-region ever discussed policies related to youth employment, which are often times not considered to be a top priority in the labour environment, despite its importance in ILO policy reviews. As a result of the training workshop, a specialist from ILO San Jose is working together with the Coordinadora Sindical para Centre America to develop a project proposal that would address youth employment policies and related issues from the workers perspective.

Activity 4: Workshop on "Sport, Ethics and Decent Work" took place on

December 15th, 2006 at the Military Academy of Saint-Cyr Coëtquidan (France).

A workshop on "Sport, Ethics and Decent Work" took place on December 15th, 2006 at the Military Academy of Saint-Cyr Coëtquidan (France). This seminar was organized in collaboration with the CREC (Research Center from Ecoles de Saint Cyr Coëtquidan). Representatives from a various disciplines participated in three round- tables, namely: "Citizenship and Military Values", "the Search for Wisdom", and "Peace Building, Youth and Decent Work". Participants included Professors and experts from Les Ecoles de Saint-Cyr Coëtquidan, the association of "Amis de la Fondation de Saint-Cyr", representatives from universities and professional sport federations, as well as government officials from Belgium, France, UK, USA, and India.

As the primary role of the CREC is to uphold the high standard of educational opportunities at St. Cyr and provide methodological support to its teachers and researchers; the training could lead to a possible review of CREC's curricula in Coëtquidan with input related to the DWA and MDGs. Preparation of a joint publication that will include contributions from all of the participants has already began. However, administrative and financial aspects (licensing and copy-rights) with regards to the publication need to be discussed and agreed upon by ILO PUBL with CREC.

Relevance for the DWA

The workshop is relevant to the ILO's strategy of enhancing competencies and skills for young people's social and economic insertion in labor settings including entrepreneurial ventures. It is also relevant for UN Reform in light of addressing the needs of peace-building and development first by those who provide, as St. Cyr does, the most important contingent of military officers to the UN peace keeping operations.

Activity 5: Follow-up to the Training activity carried out in El Salvador in January 2005 and partnership with MINTRAB and CREPS Grenoble

As a result of the training workshop carried out in San Salvador in January 2005, by ILO/Universitas, the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare (MINTRAB) of Salvador and the GOES a proposal was sent to the CREPS Grenoble by the Director of Training of the Ministry of Labor to carry out an inventory of sport related occupations in the country and to formulate appropriate training programs that would be used to uphold two training and recreational facilities run by the MINTRAB. It was requested by the parties that ILO/Universitas provide technical support to the initiative that could lead to a bilateral project between CREPS/MINTRAB.

Relevance

This activity is in accordance with the recommendations set forth in the Evaluation Report of the Universitas Pro gram. The first step could be a mission of CREPS to El Salvador to start formulating the training program that would include the participation of officials from the MINTRAB to training sessions in CREPS Voiron (France).

Activity 6: Follow-up to the Training activity carried out in Mozambique (Boane)

In cooperation with ILO Harare and ILO Lusaka, Universitas was asked to review the "Working out of Poverty" program (WOOP) in Mozambique in order to find a suitable strategic setting for the training that was supposed to be delivered to the cooperative of women in Boane to further strengthen the cooperative and its management.

The WOOP program is designed to contribute to the implementation of the Employment and Vocational Training Strategy (EVTS) and to apply the Decent Work Agenda at the national and local levels. The development objective of the program is to contribute to poverty reduction in Mozambique by promoting the creation of employment and income-generating opportunities for women and men in the context of the Decent Work Agenda.

The expected outcomes of the WOOP program are: (1) the creation of quality jobs for young people, women and people with disabilities in particular; (2) practical workplace initiatives to mitigate the risk of HTV and AIDS; (3) strengthened capacity of Government, and workers' and employers' organizations and national tripartite mechanisms to formulate and implement policies on job creation, gender equality and HIV/AIDS prevention and mitigation; and (4) improved mechanisms for the collection, analysis and dissemination of labour market information on the WOOP Program.

The following training activity was submitted for review by the ILO field offices and a national consultant was selected to deliver the training since October 2006.

Relevance and difficulties encountered

The above mentioned proposal which is a result of previous training undertaken in Mozambique by Universitas with FLO Harare and with the UN RC office as well as with the Ministry of Labor of Mozambique will require clearance from FLO Lusaka.

The above follows up to the recommendations of the Evaluation Report of the Universitas Program. The training activity although fully justified from the point of view of the beneficiaries does not seem to be a priority for the FLO field unit, contrary to what was indicated in the evaluation report. It could nevertheless be carried out as an advisory service undertaken by ILO/COOP. ***Output C: Global network of universities assessed to better contribute to disseminate DWA, the UN Reform and the UN training initiatives for the development of youth skills.***

Activity 1: Analysis of the Universitas network of universities

An analysis of the Universitas network of Universities was carried out between July and September 2006, with the assistance of an external collaborator. The aim of the analysis was to review the number of universities in the network, the geographical distribution of the network, the type of agreements established with its universities, its relevance to the

program and the topic areas and products the universities specialize in (see Annex V).

Relevance for the DWA and for the UN MDG's.

The Universitas network which spans 154 institutions, in five different regions including Europe, the Americas, Africa, Asia, and the Arab States, deals so far with three primary topic areas: a) Decent Work and Local Development, b) Development of the University Network for the Decent Work Agenda and c) Local Development, Research and Innovation.

By establishing a global network of universities, the Program was able to disseminate the decent work agenda through education, training, and innovation in university curricula. University networks help to facilitate one of ILO's core missions, to contribute to youth skills development, especially the enhancement of employability skills.

By partnering with universities the ILO is at the heart of a knowledge- and resource-based sharing network that will lead to more dynamic and effective collaboration in disseminating the DWA in future. Thus, by taking local institutions and placing them in a global framework, Universitas is contributing to the establishment of mechanisms that will lead to conditions conducive to the achievement of the MDGs. Lastly, Universitas' ability to bring together universities around the world will help achieving consensus in regard to a comprehensive international strategy for youth employment and social inclusion.

Activity 2 Collaboration with the UN Office on Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP) and technical assistance provided for the preparation of the UN Youth Summits of Vienna (June 2006) and New York (October 2006).

Universitas worked with the UNOSDP and the UN Secretariat to help organize two UN major conferences, namely: the UN European Youth Summit in Vienna (June. 19-21, 2006) and the UN Youth Global Summit in New York (October 29-31, 2006). At the summits young leaders from around the world came together to represent their member states. During the Global summit at UN headquarters in New York, male and female representative, from each of the 192 United Nations Member States, met to share ideas and plans on ways to reduce poverty, build peace, and accelerate the achievement of the MDGs (see Annex VII).

The United Nations Global Youth Leadership Summit (GYLS) seeks to strengthen the worldwide movement and to engage young people in decisions about the future of their communities, regions, and the emerging global society. It called for the empowerment and capacity building of young leaders to proactively engage in the achievement of the MDGs. Furthermore, the summit urged young people to become more active in their governmental institutions, as well as their regional and international organizations and bodies. A project proposal with these goals in mind for collaboration with the UNOSDP or the UNCG Summits was prepared and submitted to the Italian MAE for funding.

At the request of the MAE/DGCS and of the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Italy, the

Italian Youth delegates were briefed by the Universitas Program which was also asked to sponsor their travel to New York by the MAE/DGCS and by the Cabinet of the Ministry of Youth and Sport.

Relevance for the DWA and for the ILO

Universitas' assistance in organizing the UN Global Youth Leadership Summit allowed for emphasis to be put on the work and programs carried out by different units of the ILO such as the Youth Employment network and the Youth Employment Strategies. Part of the summit was dedicated to using sport and culture as vehicles for reaching out to young people across the globe. Both the Executive Director Employment and the Director General's Chief of Cabinet and Executive Director attended the summit to represent the ELO.

Universitas would like to use the university network to wide spread the training methodologies carried out in the field. However, using the university network it is not yet clear whether the UNOSDP channel of communication is the best one to deal with the issues of concerns for the Youth.

Difficulties and challenges ahead

The experience of working directly with the above entity within the UN system was successful in terms of visibility for ELO Universitas activities, although time and resource consuming. Three full work months were used in 2006 to prepare the Vienna and the New York Youth Summits. Although Universitas benefited from the increased visibility and access to challenging and interesting partners, it required a heavy commitment in terms of both time and resources. The UNOSDP indicated that they would welcome the capacity of the Program to monitor the entire Business plan of the UNOSDP.

Perhaps a more concrete outcome could be developed as follows: a) to meet with the partners (Group of Mentors) that supported the UN Youth Summit to present a "master plan for youth training"; b) ILO YEN and ILO Universitas Youth training activities could engage in a dialogue with the UN partners individually including the private partners and no longer through the UNOSDP; c) the above may lead to very concrete training activities for the development of youth skills.

Activity 3: Maintain relations with Asian partners and preparing project proposals to be submitted to potential ILO/Universitas partners.

The Program Coordinator was invited on his way to Beijing and to New York in October to stop by in Seoul to hold discussions with the Director of the Youth National Council of Korea October 25-26, 2007. The discussion on youth skills development was an opportunity to review a collaboration with ILO Universitas, which was used to prepare a draft project proposal to be submitted to the Korean partners. This includes joint-work carried out with WTO-STEP Foundation on local development and tourism

related activities. A Ministerial meeting on Youth is scheduled to take place in Korea in October 2007.

Output D: Evaluating the Universitas program.

Activity 1: External-independent evaluation of the Universitas program's first phase (2001-2005).

According to the ILO procedures regarding the evaluations for projects above \$500,000, an external independent evaluation of the Program for its first phase 2001-05 was conducted by a team of two external consultants, Mr. Michel Buono and Mr. Marco Marchese. The evaluation was conducted from October to early December 2006 and the final report was submitted to the *ILO* Evaluation Unit on January 22nd, 2007. The initial phase of the evaluation began with a desk review of the program summaries and reports from 2001 up to June 2006 and other relevant documentation.

One of the evaluators conducted missions to Toronto, San Salvador, la Habana Cuba, and Atlanta to meet with relevant stakeholders and program partners of major Universitas activities.

In addition to interviewing international partners, the evaluators conducted interview's at ILO headquarters with more than 30 FLO officials who had during the period under review worked with ILO/Universitas. Furthermore, the evaluators met with the donor's representatives in Rome in November 2006 before finishing the draft report submitted in early December 2006 to the TLO.

Comments were made thereafter and submitted to EVAL who cleared the evaluation only by late January 2007. The report is due to be submitted officially to the Italian Government (see Annex VI).

Relevance and problems encountered

The report's recommendations are being reviewed in light of the present Universitas budget, which cannot support new training activities in the field. Action was already taken with respect to the web page of Universitas and discussions are being held with FLO Lusaka and ILO San Jose to follow up to the training initiated in Mozambique and Salvador in 2005 (see separate report, Follow up to the Conclusions and Recommendations of the Evaluation Mission of the ILO/Universitas Program).

2. Indicators

Gender aspects: It is Universitas' goal to achieve gender mainstreaming in all its participatory programs and projects (e.g. workshops, seminars, certificates, and

master's). Thus, in the UN Youth summits (New York and Vienna) the delegates are chosen on the basis of 50-50 per cent which is the highest possible level of participation of women complying with equal opportunity standards. At the New York summit 100 of the 200 delegates were women, while in Vienna 25 of the 50 delegates were female. In the same way, if we take the example of the workshop in Honduras, sixteen of thirty-five participants were women (46%). However, in the newly organized certificate and master's programs for Sri Lankan officials, women constituted 13% and 27% of the trainees respectively. As mentioned previously this is likely due to an underrepresentation of women in high-level employment in that field.

Universitas has worked to develop four (4) curricula in selected universities, oriented towards field needs and the UN reform agenda with specific mention of Decent Work strategies, a) The curricula for the Certificate and Master's on Disaster Management (2) for Sri Lankan officials and students is already completed. b) A new curriculum on youth skills through sport is being prepared, c) Universitas is also working on a revision of a curriculum with the University of Perugia "La Stranieri" related to the DWA and MDG topic areas.

Students are fully aware of the MDGs and DWA and willing to embed those into project schemes and proposals. Universitas has worked towards this end at various levels: a) at the European level with 50 delegates participating to the UN European Youth Summit in Vienna; b) at the world level with 200 delegates participating to the UN Youth Summit in New York; c) at the Italian level with 150 delegates from various Youth national university networks; d) with 100 students from the Italian University network in Salerno (Salerno, IULM Milano) In the future, a request from the University of Perugia may allow for the sponsorship of 20 interns in either the FLO or other organizations within the UN system.

Five ILO offices (ILO Colombo, FLO New Delhi, ILO Harare, FLO Lusaka, FLO San Jose) are fully aware of the established network of Universities, their relationship with FLO/Universitas and its relevance to the DWCP's. Three (3) UNCTs are involved in the program activity: San Salvador (El Salvador), Maputo (Mozambique), and Colombo (Sri Lanka).

In accordance with the tripartite structure of the ILO, Universitas collaborates with workers, employers, and governments who all participate in the dialogue as equal partners. Thus, Universitas ongoing discussions with different stakeholders and social partners include dialogue with: workers in Central America; employers in India; Government representatives from Korea, Peru, and Spain; ILO tripartite constituents for Mozambique, Sri Lanka, and El Salvador.