

## Methodology

### Remittances estimates by the IDB:

The data in this overview have been drawn from calculations provided by central banks of remittance-receiving countries through 1999, and publications of the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and United Nations. However, as many remittances flow through private networks connecting expatriate communities with their homelands, experts believe that available statistics seriously under-report the actual volume of transfers. Therefore, in this analysis, the figures reported by central banks and published by the World Bank for data for the years 1995 to 1999 were increased by 15%.

### Official Development Assistance (ODA):

In this study, official development assistance figures are reported as net. Net official development consist of disbursements of loans (net of repayments of principal) and grants made on concessional terms by official agencies of the members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC). Loans with a grant element of more than 25% are included in ODA, as are technical cooperation and assistance.

### Gross Domestic Product:

IDB Statistics and Quantitative Analysis Unit Calculations are based on official statistics of member countries.

## Sources

- (1) Data for:  
Population / Gross Domestic Product / Agriculture / Main Industry Exports: **Inter-American Development Bank Statistics**. (Migrant population estimates for Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Haiti, and Honduras were provided by the Embassies of those countries. Often U.S. Census data is less than Embassy figures.)
- (2) Data for:  
Remittances' estimates / Foreign Direct Investment / Foreign Aid: **World Bank, World Development Indicators 2000 and 2001**.
- (3) Tourism: **ECLAC/CEPAL 2000 Report**.
- (4) Exports (f.o.b.): **International Monetary Fund, International Financial Statistics March 2001**