

1993/1994

**REGIONAL FRAMEWORK
DOCUMENT**

INTRODUCTION

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The "Regional Framework Document" (RFD) provides a regional perspective on issues relevant to your Local Planning Strategy (LPS). While the document is produced by the Programs Directorate, it is based on direction received from National Headquarters, via the Chairman's Planning Guidelines (CPGs), and reflects input from Regional Economic Services and Regional Operations. It contains economic and labour market information, client group trends, and, program issues and implications.

Structure

As in past years, the 1993/94 RFD has been organized by client group: UI Clients, Social Assistance Recipients (SARs), Aboriginal Persons, Designated Groups, Employers, and Communities. This was done to mirror the client-centred focus inherent in EIC's *Employment Programs and Services*. Each client section is further sub-divided into the following headings: (1) Overview; (2) Trends; (3) New Developments; (4) Issues; and, (5) Programming Recommendations.

Approach

This document focuses on providing a systematic analysis of the information available. Where possible, budget, human resource, and community impacts have been noted. This approach to planning is imperative if EIC is to meet its short-term goals (the effective functioning of the labour market) and its long-term objectives (Strategic Directives).

Given EIC's current resources, we can no longer attempt to be all things to all clients. For every client we include, another is excluded. Therefore, it is critical that both CRS and Consolidated Revenue Funds (CRF) selection processes identify those clients most in need relative to local labour market conditions.

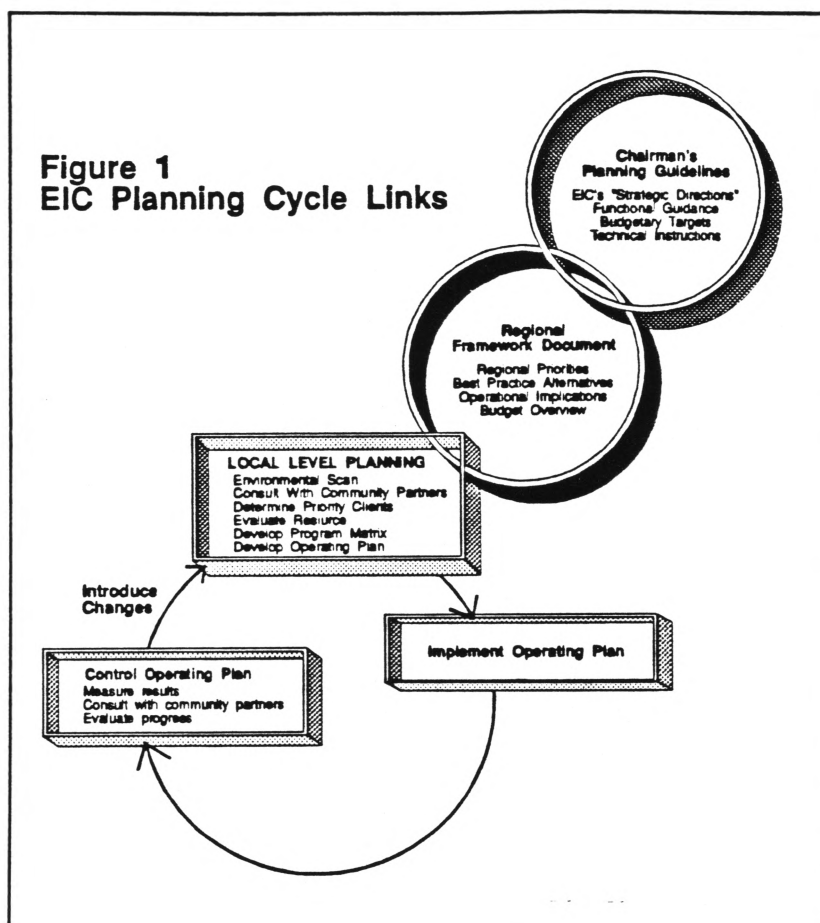
Document Boundaries

In 1993/94 local EIC offices will continue to experience increased decision-making flexibility and responsibility. In prior years, local objectives were designed under a more structured set of Regional objectives. Although Regional priorities still exist, the Labour Force Development Strategy (LFDS) allows local EIC offices to decide which course of action it will take to achieve these priorities given locally determined labour market needs.

Chairman's Planning Guidelines (CPGs)

Throughout the Framework specific reference will be made to directives outlined in the CPGs and the potential impact these directives may have on local level decision making.

The most significant change to the CPGs is the introduction of strategic directions covering the next three (3) to five (5) years. In the past, CPG directives have focused on one year intervals. This resulted in a disconnected year to year plan. By setting medium term objectives, short-term operational initiatives should accrue to achieve desired results.



Linking the CPGs With Local Planning Strategy

The RFD links the CPGs with the LPS process. As Figure 1 illustrates the RFD links the planning phase with "EIC's Strategic Directions". In particular, the RFD provides information for defining corporate environment, assessing community resources, and outlining specific operational initiatives to address specific labour market concerns. By linking the CPGs with the local planning process, the RFD integrates top-down strategic directions with bottom-up initiatives, which are designed to address local priorities.