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PROJECT APPRAISAL REPORT (PAR)

1. PROJECT NO. 514-11-120-184	2. PAR FOR PERIOD: July 1975 to April 1977	3. COUNTRY COLOMBIA	4. PAR SERIAL NO.
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5. PROJECT TITLE
NATIONAL SOILS FERTILITY

6. PROJECT DURATION: Began FY 75 Ends FY 77	7. DATE LATEST PROP 4/30/75 (5/21/76)	8. DATE LATEST PIP	9. DATE PRIOR PAR
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10. U.S. FUNDING	a. Cumulative Obligation Thru Prior FY: \$ 130,000	b. Current FY Estimated Budget: \$ -0-	c. Estimated Budget to completion After Current FY: \$
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11. KEY ACTION AGENTS (Contractor, Participating Agency or Voluntary Agency)

a. NAME North Carolina State University	b. CONTRACT, PASA OR VOL. AG. NO. Contract (Task Order)
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I. NEW ACTIONS PROPOSED AND REQUESTED AS A RESULT OF THIS EVALUATION

A. ACTION (X)			B. LIST OF ACTIONS	C. PROPOSED ACTION COMPLETION DATE
USAID	AID/W	HOST		
X	X		1. Extend life of project to 6/30/78 for total of three years rather than two years. a) Amend PROP to provide for observation/consultation on contractor's campus.	NLT 6/30/77
X	X	X	b) Amend Pro-Ag to extend FCD only c) Amend PIO/T to extend completion date of services, extend contract and provide for Colombian consultation on contractor's campus.	
X	X		2. Decrease funds available for consultant services and increase funds for commodities to make adequate laboratory facilities more readily available geographically.	
X	X		3. Decrease funds available for contractor consultant services in Colombia so as to make provision for Colombian technicians short-term observation/consultation on contractor's campus.	Same
None of the above actions require additional funding and may in fact permit a de-obligation of a portion of the funds currently obligated in the contract.				
See narrative statement attached.				

12. PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

REVISOR: (NAME)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROP	<input type="checkbox"/> PIP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRO AG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PIO/T	<input type="checkbox"/> PIO/C	<input type="checkbox"/> PIO/P	E. DATE OF MISSION REVIEW
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PROJECT MANAGER: TYPED NAME, SIGNED INITIALS AND DATE Phillip J. Smith April 25/77	MISSION DIRECTOR: TYPED NAME, SIGNED INITIALS AND DATE James Megellas, April 29, 1977
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II. PERFORMANCE OF KEY INPUTS AND ACTION AGENTS

A. INPUT OR ACTION AGENT CONTRACTOR, PARTICIPATING AGENCY OR VOLUNTARY AGENCY	B. PERFORMANCE AGAINST PLAN							C. IMPORTANCE FOR ACHIEVING PROJECT PURPOSE (X)				
	UNSATISFACTORY		SATISFACTORY			OUTSTANDING		LOW		MEDIUM		HIGH
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5
1. North Carolina State University					X							X
2.												
3.												

Comment on key factors determining rating

Contractor provided 10 m/m services of resident advisor in accordance with original project plan. Balance of 24 m/m of resident advisor was converted to short term consultant services in May 1976. As of this date no of these services have been provided.

4. PARTICIPANT TRAINING	N.A.											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5

Comment on key factors determining rating

5. COMMODITIES					X			1	2	3	X	5
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Comment on key factors determining rating

Contractor provided commodities from non-project resources, for soils laboratory and assisted in the installation and operation of the equipment.

6. COOPERATING COUNTRY	a. PERSONNEL					X			1	2	3	4	X
	b. OTHER				X							X	

Comment on key factors determining rating

Due to internal problems in ICA, key personnel assigned to this project activity resigned mid-way in the project. A period of difficulty was experienced by contract advisor to regain project momentum and interest.

7 OTHER DONORS	N.A.											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5

(See Next Page for Comments on Other Donors)

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II. 7. Continued: Comment on key factors determining rating of Other Donors

III. KEY OUTPUT INDICATORS AND TARGETS

A. QUANTITATIVE INDICATORS FOR MAJOR OUTPUTS		TARGETS (Percentage/Rate/Amount)					END OF PROJECT
		CUMU- LATIVE PRIOR FY	CURRENT FY 77		FY 78	FY ____	
			TO DATE	TO END			
Develop improved Soils Laboratory facilities - by Sept. 1976.	PLANNED	X	-	-	-	-	X
	ACTUAL PERFORMANCE	X	-				
	REPLANNED						
Identification of economic technologies. <u>Analyze Existing Data</u>	PLANNED	30%	50%	80%	-	-	80%
	ACTUAL PERFORMANCE	30%	10%				
	REPLANNED			40%	30%	-	70%
Crop technology Basic data by Area Reports 5 crops/20 Departments	PLANNED	7	13	20			20
	ACTUAL PERFORMANCE	2	5				
	REPLANNED			7	3		10
	PLANNED						
	ACTUAL PERFORMANCE						
	REPLANNED						
B. QUALITATIVE INDICATORS FOR MAJOR OUTPUTS	COMMENT:						
1.	a) Laboratory capable of servicing; 20 Departments for 5 major crops.	Central laboratory equipped and functioning effectively; however, due to geographical limitations, transportation, communication, etc. not feasible to service 20 Departments. Additional laboratory facilities at Palmira and Montería required to cover area.					
2.	b) Identification of economic technologies - Analyze existing data	Additional central laboratory facilities for micro biological analysis required. Specific consultant services for special soil problem areas required.					
3.	c) Basic data on crop technologies.	Additional specific consultant services required for more effective data analysis.					
	d) Soils analysis personnel	Comment: Additional laboratory facilities and observation training of personnel on contractor campus required in conjunction with specific consultant services which have been identified.					

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IV. PROJECT PURPOSE

A. 1. Statement of purpose as currently envisaged. 2. Same as in PROP? YES NO

Project purposes as listed in PROP under B 1 a), b) and d). Purpose c) has been discarded as impractical mechanism. Except for sub-purpose c).

1. Conditions which will exist when above purpose is achieved.	2. Evidence to date of progress toward these conditions.
a) Develop laboratory facilities and procedures to permit fertility recommendations for 5 major crops in each Department.	a) Central laboratory is functioning. Capable of handling crop fertility recommendations for no more than 6-8 Departments on practical basis. Additional facilities required in other geographic areas to service all Departments.
b) Carry out technology evaluation program.	c) Technology inventory being accumulated through several projects. Soil service provides fertility recommendations on basis of technology evaluation.
c) Provide data on technology to be incorporated into sector analysis and planning.	d) Technology data available. Due to lack of coordinating mechanism between ICA and LINAG sector analysis group no assurance data will be incorporated in sector analysis work. Future of sector analysis/planning activities in doubt.

V. PROGRAMMING GOAL

A. Statement of Programming Goal

Development of more effective soil fertility services for Colombian farmers in order to expand domestic production of principal food crops.

B. Will the achievement of the project purpose make a significant contribution to the programming goal, given the magnitude of the national problem? (Cite evidence.)

Conditions which are expected to exist if the project purposes are achieved will be of direct benefit to farmers in most areas of Colombia who produce five major domestic food crops.

NATIONAL SOILS FERTILITY PROJECT

Project Appraisal Report (PAR) Narrative

1. This project provided for the continuation of an AID/W centrally funded activity of North Carolina State University at the Colombian national level under a USAID funded Task Order to the AID/W basic contract. In accordance with the PROP (page 4 - Project Purposes) the contractor would provide: 1) technical assistance to ICA's soil fertility program and 2) advisory assistance to an overall ICA data analysis activity. During the first ten months of the project considerable progress was made in expanding the equipment and capability of ICA's central soils laboratory at Tibaitatá (Equipment was made available under the basic AID/W contract), initiating a data analysis program and evaluating the implications for soil fertility recommendations in technological alternatives for major crops by ecological zone. The latter two activities were conducted between ICA's soils and statistics divisions and the Office of Planning of the Ministry of Agriculture. It was contemplated that these activities would continue for the two years of the project with the assistance of a full time contract resident advisor and two man/months of TDY assistance by a soils laboratory specialist.
2. At the end of ten months, however, the contractor, with AID/W endorsement, requested that the resident advisor Dr. Bob Gate be transferred back to its campus to assist with other projects and that work in Colombia continue with the occasional TDY assistance of Dr. Gate and other NCSU staff members. In May 1976 the Mission advised AID/W of a PROP amendment and in June 1976 executed an amended Pro-Ag and PIO/T to accommodate this request. The Task Order amendment was executed Dec. 27, 1976.
3. To date, in spite of several requests by the Mission to Dr. Gate, the contractor has taken no initiative in programming the additional services called for in the amended Task Order. The Mission also requested ICA to specify what consultant assistance it required to carry out the project. ICA has responded and identified the specific assistance required - in most cases identifying the individual - with suggested time periods and dates. The specialists are required to assist the soils division in improving two additional soils laboratories so as to permit more reasonable geographic coverage for soil testing; to assess recommended technologies from the standpoint of specific soils disciplines and to analyze the data relevant to recommendations for the major crops.

In addition to the consultant services ICA has requested the provision of approximately \$14,000 in laboratory equipment (an increase of \$10,000 above present provisions) and the financing of observation/consultation visits to the NCSU campus for two soils laboratory directors and a member of the statistics division to further the project purposes.

4. Due to changes in personnel and lack of dynamism in the Office of Planning of the Ministry of Agriculture, little further progress has been made since May '76 in incorporating soils fertility recommendations and technology evaluation in sector analysis activities. The continued development of these activities, however, on the part of ICA's soils division will have direct relevance to the AID/ICA Small Farmer Technology project and to the Colombian national integrated rural development program. Therefore, even though the utility of these efforts in the manner proposed by the original project will be minimal their potential effectiveness in the above mentioned action projects will be of more immediate and direct benefit.
5. The Mission has queried the contractor, NCSU, regarding its ability and interest in responding to ICA's request. We assume that the response will be positive and that they will provide estimated costs for these services as well as advise the current funding available in the contract. Upon receipt of a favorable response from NCSU it is recommended that the minimum changes necessary in the PROOP and other project documents be executed promptly in order to accommodate ICA's present project plans. The major changes required are: extend project life to June 30, 1978, reduce consultant services; increase commodity funding; and provide for Colombian technicians consultation on contractor campus. All of these modifications are considered useful to achieving the major purposes and outputs of the original project even though all of the purposes as originally intended may not be fully accomplished.