

**AIRGRAM**

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

*Proj. 5960029 (2)*  
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TO - AID/Washington CAPTO A - 217

*PD-AAB-485-B1*

1970 SEP 23 PM 12 51

A.I.D.  
COMM DR

9p.

DATE SENT

Sept. 25, 1970

FROM - ROCAP/Guatemala

SUBJECT - Noncapital Project Paper (*PROP*)

REFERENCE - CAPTO CIRC. A-70, dated April 17, 1969 *find this*

Project Title: Regional Education Planning and Research

Project Number: 596-11-690-029

Activity Title: Development of Regional Education Planning Office (OCEPLAN)

Submission date: September 23, 1970

U.S. Obligation Span: FY 1969 through FY 1973

(Financed in FYs 69 and 70 as a subactivity of Project 596-11-640-006, Textbook Development.)

Physical Implementation Span: FY 69 through FY 74

Gross Life of Project Financial Requirements:

U.S. Dollars.....\$396,000

Cooperating Countries..... 213,000 plus

Other Donors.....

Total.....\$609,000 plus

I. Summary Description

This project, being carried out with the six national Ministers of Education of Central America and Panama as represented by OCEPLAN (Central American Education Planning Office) a unit of ODECA, is directed toward promoting integration and meeting regional manpower needs through improvement and standardization of pre-university education. U.S. assistance (Contract with the University of Kansas) is aimed at making OCEPLAN the region's primary and effective staff resource for education planning. Studies are being carried out, a data bank organized, personnel given on-job training and experience, and OCEPLAN recommendations are being implemented at the national level.

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PAGE 1 OF 8 PAGES

DRAFTER BY P: Mingle: dwe <i>Wp</i>	OFFICE program	PHONE NO. X 46	DATE 9/23, 70	APPROVED BY: DD: JLRoush <i>L</i>
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AID AND OTHER CLEARANCES  
CHRD: AJRavelli  
ADDP

PO: McCloskey *MC*

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NONCAPITAL PROJECT FUNDING (OBLIGATIONS IN \$000)

2 Table 1  
Page 1 of 2  
COUNTRY: ROCAP/Regional

Project Title: Regional Education Planning and Research

PROP DATE: 9/23/70  
Original: X  
Project: 596-11-690 029

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ROCAP/Guatemala CAPTO A - 217

Fiscal Years	Ap	L/G	Total	Cont <sup>1/</sup>	Personnel Serv.			Participants		Commodities		Other Costs	
					AID	PASA	CONT	U.S. Agencies	CONT	Dir. US Ag.	CONT	Dir & US Ag.	CONT
Prior through Act. FY 70	AG		158.0	144.0	-	-	144.0	-	-	-	-	14.0	-
Oper. FY 71	AG	-	113.0	95.0	-	-	95.0	-	-	-	-	18.0	-
Budg. FY 72	AG	-	65.0	50.0	-	-	50.0	-	-	-	-	15.0	-
B+1 FY 73	AG	-	60.0	50.0	-	-	50.0	-	-	-	-	10.0	-
B+2 FY	AG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B+3 FY	AG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Subs.	AG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Life	AG	-	396.0	339.0	-	-	339.0	-	-	-	-	57.0	-

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<sup>1/</sup> Memorandum (nonadd) column

Table 1  
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Exchg. rate \$1 - Q1

Project No. 596 11-690 029

Fiscal Years	AID-Controlled Local Currency		Other Cash Contribution Cooperating Country*	Other Donor Funds (\$ Equiv.)	Food for Freedom Metric Tons (000)	Freedom Commodities	
	U.S. owned	Country owned				CCC Value & Freight (\$000)	World Market Price (\$000)
Prior through Act. FY 70	-	-	84.0	-	-	-	-
Oper. FY 71	-	-	42.0	-	-	-	-
Budget FY 72	-	-	42.0	-	-	-	-
B+1 FY 73	-	-	45.0 plus	-	-	-	-
B+2 FY 74	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-
B+3 FY NA	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-
All Subs. NA	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-
Total Life	-	-	213.0 plus	-	-	-	-

\*Commitment of six Ministers of Education to each provide \$7,000 in cash or staff services annually.

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## II. Setting

→ The inadequacy of trained human resources in Central America and Panama is increasingly recognized as one of the principal obstacles to economic development and social progress and to the success of the integration movement. A number of studies have dramatized the obvious fact that the region does not have the educated and skilled personnel, either in quantity or quality, needed to meet its requirements in the coming years.

At the root of the human resource problem is the educational system. In 1966 a CSUCA Human Resources study estimated that, over the period 1964-74, only 14.4% of children entering public school will finish the sixth grade. The number not completing high school will be substantially greater. Literacy rates now range from 38% in Guatemala to 84% in Costa Rica, averaging an unweighted 57% for the region as a whole (including Panama).

The Central American/Panama Educational Planning Directors, at their first meeting in January 1968, recommended the establishment of a regional planning office to work for the improvement of sub-university education. In February, 1968 the Cultural and Educational Council of ODECA agreed to establish a Central American Educational Planning Office (OCEPLAN) and approved a set of regulations for it. In April, 1968, the Council gave OCEPLAN the responsibility for coordinating the integration of CA/P educational activities. OCEPLAN was formally established in August, 1968, at ODECA headquarters in San Salvador with a professional staff of three funded by the CA/P Ministers of Education (cash and personnel contributions).

The principal purpose for which OCEPLAN was established was to prepare plans and implement the Treaty on Basic Unification of Central American Education which was signed by all C.A. Ministers of Education. This Treaty proposes the integration of education programs in C.A. countries, the development of a modern organizational structure, a modern regional curriculum, a modern teacher training program, and such auxiliary programs as a regional instructional materials center. More specifically, OCEPLAN's principal functions include:

- a) Coordinating all regional education activities (except University-level);
- b) Planning and conducting studies of the current status of education and its long term needs as related to the integration objectives for economic and social development in the C.A. region;
- c) Planning and conducting basic education studies aimed at integrating CA/P education systems/ and
- d) Advising and developing recommendations for consideration by the CA/P national education planning offices.

At the VI Meeting of the Cultural and Educational Council held in Panama in March 1969, OCEPLAN submitted a "work plan" to ODECA outlining its proposed activities through 1972. In the work plan OCEPLAN requested ODECA to develop a cooperative agreement with the University of Kansas and to negotiate with ROCAP and other institutions interested in supporting and financing technical assistance. The University of Kansas was requested because of its longstanding educational interest and involvement in C. A.

This project, formalized as such in FY 71, began as a subactivity of the Textbook Development project (596-11-640-006) in FY-69. The project is being supported through ODECA for administrative purposes and responds to the six national Ministers of Education of Central America and Panama, who are striving collectively to resolve common educational problems on a regional basis.

Since August, 1969 OCEPLAN has with the assistance of the University of Kansas successfully carried out the following activities:

- 1) A study on "The Status, Trends and Needs of Education in Central America" with copies to the Ministries of Education.
- 2) A seminar in Costa Rica from October 20-31, 1969, on organization and planning of middle level education. Attending were 27 Ministry of Education representatives as well as representatives of CSUCA (Superior Council of the Central American Universities), OAS, UNESCO, ROCAP and the University of Kansas. The working papers of the seminar, with recommendations of the participants were printed and distributed.
- 3) A curriculum study in the C.A. countries which has been well received by the Central American Ministries of Education. Two University of Kansas professors participated in the study.
- 4) Assistance to the Ministry of Education in Costa Rica in the organization of an Instruction Materials Department in its Office of Education Planning.
- 5) Assistance to the Department of Education and Culture of ODECA in preparing all the technical papers for a regional meeting in September, 1970, which will include reports on the progress of regional integration in the education field.
- 6) A work plan with the assistance of short-term advisors from the University of Kansas which was approved by the C.A. Ministers of Education for curriculum studies and program implementation. Four C.A. participants were sent to the University of Kansas for in service training in curriculum development.

### III. Strategy and Targets

This project supports the ROCAP goals of promoting regional integration and meeting manpower resource needs through the improvement and standardization of pre-university education. More specifically, the project is designed to result in the development and use of an effective central staff unit, OCEPLAN, for the joint planning and coordination of regional educational activities.

A. The following overall objectives will be sought by the end of FY 1974, when U. S. assistance is due to terminate:

1. On the basis of its performance during project life, the recognition and significant use of OCEPLAN by the several Central American and Panama Ministries of Education as the primary planning resource for regionally standardized and coordinated educational activities.

2. The establishment and maintenance of a regional education "data bank" consisting of data series on educational activities. These series will serve as the basis for future studies. The Ministries will periodically generate and provide information for this data bank.

3. Staff, Managerial and budgetary self-sufficiency (through ministerial support) of OCEPLAN at a level adequate to initiate and carry out studies and to make recommendations leading to changes in the national educational systems.

B. Specific output targets in the achievement of the objectives shown above are:

1. The development of a system in OCEPLAN and in the national Ministries, by December 1971, for generating and compiling regional education data series, and full functioning of this system as a permanent data bank by June 1974.

2. Identification and organization of skilled technicians, in each national ministry, to participate professionally in OCEPLAN regional studies, and to implement OCEPLAN recommendations at the national level.

3. Completion of specific studies and recommendations on the following:

- a. Status of education needs in Central America - (completed).
- b. Future structure and activities of the regional materials center - (completed).
- c. Special education - (completed).

- d. Regional vocational education - December 1971.
- e. Potential for financing of education from private sources December 1971.
- f. Regional curriculum coordination June 1972.

4. Acceptance for implementation by national Ministries of a substantial portion of OCEPLAN recommendations by end of project.

#### IV. Course of Action (Inputs)

A. The national Ministries of Education will:

1. Each provide cash or professional manpower contributions to OCEPLAN amounting to at least \$7,000 annually, with some increase probable in the latter part of the project.

2. Conduct an annual review of OCEPLAN activities, evaluating the previous year's work, approving a detailed work plan for the following year, and assuring that OCEPLAN staff/managerial and budget resources are adequate for workplan implementation.

3. Provide, as needed, the services of Ministry experts in gathering and submitting education information to OCEPLAN and in carrying out regional studies.

B. OCEPLAN will provide the necessary staff resources, supplemented by the University of Kansas contract Team, to:

1. Carry out the studies listed in III B.3 above.

2. Recommend changes upon the basis of the studies described in III B.3 above, and assist the national Ministries in administering these changes.

3. Develop basic education data series from the studies listed in III B.3 above and ensure, in collaboration with the national Ministries, that these series are updated periodically.

4. Train national ministry employees who will provide data series inputs.

5. Establish, from these systems, a permanent data bank by June 1973.

C. The U.S. will, through ROCAP:

1. Provide a technical assistance team through FY 1974 to assist OCEPLAN in the course of action described in IV.B. above. This team, fielded by the University of Kansas, consists of one resident advisor and such short-term advisors as are necessary to the carrying out of the OCEPLAN course of action. During the first two years (FYs 70 and 71) contract efforts are essentially operational in nature; during FYs 72-74 the contract scope will reflect phased withdrawal from operations and increased emphasis on institutional capability and continuity.

2. Provide budget support for statistical services and invitational travel as related to project activities.

DAVIS

(don't change anything)

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29 Oct  
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TO - GUATEMALA

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TOCAP A. 63p-4

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10-29-70

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FROM - AID/Washington

SUBJECT - Regional Education Planning and Research PROP 596-11-690-029

REFERENCE -

TOCAP 8

1. AID/W Evaluation Panel reviewed this PROP on October 9, 1970. It is approved for the life of the project (through FY 1973).
2. The Panel believed that the Mission had written an excellent PROP for this project and commends the Mission especially on the specificity of its targets and the brevity of its presentation.
3. Considering the importance of the overall subject, the Panel felt that ROCAP was devoting an extremely small amount of money to this subject. It questions whether in view of the limited resources, the quality of the studies produced by OCEPLAN will be of a professionally acceptable level. It encourages ROCAP to work with the Education Ministries to increase their contributions to this project on an annual basis, as OCEPLAN gains in stature and acceptance.

ROGERS

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DRAFTED BY AMHughes:mew	OFFICE LA/OPNS	PHONE NO. 29882	DATE 10/19/70	APPROVED BY LA/DP: JHeller
AID AND OTHER CLEARANCES				
LA/CEN: JLockard	LA/DP: CJohnson	LA/DR: JCo		

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