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GHANA

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AGRICULTURE EXTENSION AND PRODUCTION

Non-Capital Project PaperSummarized Financial Requirements FY1966-FY1972

U.S. Dollars ... \$1,392,000

Government of Ghana Contribution 464,000

Summary Description:

This project was initiated in FY1958 and has been USAID's primary effort aimed at increasing Ghana's agricultural production. It has been geared to work closely with the Agricultural Extension Division of the Ministry of Agriculture in five regions and on the specific activities of seed multiplication and vegetable production. The emphasis in the past has been on institutional development and technical advice. Recent changes in the Ministry of Agriculture open the way for greater emphasis on achieving improved final results from Ministry programs. AID advisors will assist in planning, programming, and administration to a larger extent than they have previously.

This project seeks to improve those programs of the Ministry of Agriculture the collective purpose of which is to enable farmers to increase production. Most of these programs are designed to foster increased use of agricultural inputs and services so as to fully exploit the production potential of the agricultural sector. To accomplish this, the project will be divided into two major activities: (1) the production support implementation program, and (2) the focus and concentrate program. To measure the success of these joint efforts, certain indicator crops have been selected mutually with the Crop Production Division of the Ministry of Agriculture.

This project is now headed by USAID/Ghana's newly arrived Agricultural Production Advisor, who will work closely with the Chief of the Crops Division of the Ministry in framing, coordinating, and backstopping the production support measures to be carried out under the joint implementation effort. At the regional level, the present four U.S. extension advisors will become Agricultural Advisors attached to the Ghanaian Regional Agricultural Coordinators. In this capacity they will provide agro-administrative support to the Regional Coordinators' efforts to give field direction to the various production support programs while continuing to work on the focus and

concentrate area program as required. Working both at the national and regional levels will be four U.S. advisors in functional areas. These include an agronomist engaged in re-organizing seed multiplication and operations, an agricultural economics advisor working on farm management and planning aspects of the focus and concentrate program, a mechanization advisor working with the Farm Mechanization Unit, and a horticulturalist engaged in the development of vegetable production. In March 1969 the horticulturalist will be replaced by an agronomy advisor/cereals, who will assist in the development of an improved cereals program. In January 1969 an agricultural equipment advisor will be transferred from Project 008, Vocational Agriculture Education, to this project. If this project proves successful, USAID may recommend adding area agricultural advisors to cover other regions.

This project's two major activities can be described in summary as follows:

a. Production Support. This activity addresses itself to the primary project goal of substantial and measurable increases in overall agricultural production as measured by specified indicator crops. The means by which this will be accomplished is to substantially increase the timely availability of essential inputs such as: improved seed, fertilizer, mechanization, and improved production techniques. Apart from technical assistance to the Farm Mechanization Unit, the Seed Multiplication Unit, and the Extension Service (at the top only), this aspect will consist largely of agro-administrative assistance to the Chief of the Crop Production Division and four Regional Agricultural Coordinators in planning for and managing increased availabilities of inputs.

The benchmark for evaluating the success of this effort will be countrywide statistics for indicator crops production averaged of 1965-67 (3 years), as reported by the Agricultural Economics and Statistics Division.

b. Focus and Concentrate. The focus and concentrate activity will be carried out in six districts in four regions already mutually determined and delineated. This activity demonstrates the maximal use of agricultural inputs, including the Extension Service in an organizational and catalytic capacity, properly integrated for maximum production. The focus and concentrate (F&C) districts are to receive priority attention on inputs and services by the Ministry. The benchmark statistics to be used will be the 1968 total production figures in the F&C districts, and the "check-plot" or control statistics will be average

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production of the other districts. This evaluation should provide a proven methodology for widened Extension Service efforts to promote intensive use of inputs by farmers.

Setting:

The salient aspects of the setting of this project and the overall tenor of the USAID strategy for agriculture are set forth in Annex I of the FY1970 Program Memorandum. Nevertheless, some of the recent changes in the Ministry of Agriculture which set the stage for the reorientation of this project are summarized below.

Chief among these changes are new leadership, decentralization of administration, and increased emphasis on planning and administration. With the advent of the Ministry's new leadership there has been a noticeable quickening of activity. In the past year, the COG has developed and refined programs for subsidizing fertilizer and mechanized services and for purchasing rice and corn at support prices. The delegation of authority over Ministry programs to Regional Agricultural Coordinators has favorable prospects for improving the pace and volume of production support programs in that decision-making will be more responsive to field problems. The Development Coordination Unit will be the main instrumentality for rendering more rational planning and administration. It has a clear mandate for a vigorous role in translating policies into programs, targets and budgets and for monitoring implementation.

Viewing agriculture as a system, this project is geared to improving and stepping up the implementation of those production support programs which fall under the Crop Production Division of the Ministry of Agriculture. This project will be closely coordinated with the new National Agriculture Planning project, which is to provide two OPEX consultants to the Development Coordination Unit (DCU) of the Ministry. Activities under this Project will be carried out in close liaison with the DCU and its AID-financed OPEX staff. Assistance to the DCU will support the aims of this project by improving overall Ministry of Agriculture planning, programming and budgeting, all of which are presently deficient and limit the effectiveness of Ministry operations. Liaison between the DCU and the COG and USAID/Ghana staff involved in this project will be particularly stressed where the Ministry's price support programs, import pricing policy, and budgeting problems are concerned.

Planned Targets and Results

The overall goal for this project is to achieve a five percent per annum increase in agricultural production during the period from 1968 through production year 1972. Specifically, the target is to achieve higher per annum increases, of perhaps 7.5 percent, for selected high priority food crops such as rice and corn.

a. Production Support. The overall purpose of this activity is to strengthen Ministry programs for supplying production inputs and services to the farmers. The operational targets of this activity will relate to inputs and services provided. These will be formulated in joint USAID-COG work plans to be developed early in FY 1969. An effort will be made to program realistically, in view of physical (storage, transport, etc.), timing, and staff constraints, the maximum possible increases in availabilities of inputs and services.

The allocation of inputs and services will have to be targeted in view of the requirements of the Y&C areas and the rice production program, both of which will have priority. The Ministry of Agriculture has named rice as the number one priority crop. To date, this is the only crop on which a comprehensive production paper has been prepared.

b. Focus and Concentrate. The short-run operational targets of this activity are two-fold: (1) to assist cooperators in obtaining and using production inputs and services and (2) to get other farmers to emulate the original cooperators.

The long-run operational target is to achieve levels of production in the Y&C areas which are higher than the average for all of the areas not included in the Y&C program.

Course of Action

a. Production Support. The units of the Crop Production Division will play the major role in this activity by making available inputs and services to farmers.

1. Central Administration and Backstopping: The Crop Production Division will play the key role in production support. It is in this division that plans will be prepared for the overall supply of inputs and services. The USAID Agriculture Production Advisor will work closely with the Chief and Deputy Chief of the Division in developing a program for importing agricultural supplies, producing seed, and providing farm mechanization services.

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An important aid to production support is the flow of improved production techniques generated from applied research and distributed by the Extension Service to the farmers. To expedite this flow in an orderly programmed manner, USAID plans to request the TDY services of an Extension Information Advisor, preferably from West Africa, to evaluate the present facilities and determine what improvements can be made.

To make a major contribution to production support, it is essential that the Division develop a competent staff of subject matter specialists. Because rice is the number one priority crop, the Division is searching for a competent subject matter specialist in agronomy as its first staff specialist. To assist with this effort, USAID plans to establish a position for an Agronomy Advisor/Cereals to replace the present Horticultural Advisor in February 1969. The advisor would work very closely with the research workers at the Crops and Soil Research Institutes and the Faculties of Agriculture. From the research facilities he would obtain the latest research findings and assist in preparing materials for presentation to farmers by the Extension Division. The materials would take the form of farmers' bulletins and result-demonstration trials. This will add considerable impetus to the rice program and concurrently assist the Division to develop a competent staff of subject matter specialists in cereals.

One participant is being trained in vegetable breeding. Upon her return to Ghana, she will be assigned to the Crop Production Division and will initiate a program to improve both the quality and the yield of the five vegetables commonly grown in Ghana.

2. Farm Supplies - Seed Multiplication: Fertilizers, other agricultural chemicals, and seeds have been in short supply in Ghana and not readily available to farmers. One of the objectives of this activity is to assist the Ministry of Agriculture in importing increased amounts of agricultural chemicals and distributing them in such a fashion that they are readily accessible to the growers.

Rice has been named the number one priority crop. The Seed Multiplication Unit will make a major contribution to production support by increasing seed of improved rice varieties and distributing it to farmers. The COG will import initially approximately two tons for immediate multiplication. It is expected that the Unit will have

100 tons of seed for distribution to farmers and for further increase for the main crop planting season in the spring of 1969. Seed multiplication will be a major factor in attaining the COG's goal of becoming self-sufficient in rice by 1973, at which time it is planned to produce 90,000 tons of milled rice.

The USAID Agronomy Advisor/Seed Improvement has initiated a program for the Unit to reduce its seed farms from 28 to 4 so that it can adequately staff and equip them. One of these four farms has been selected as the apex center to be used for training staff for the other farms. It will also be set up to demonstrate how pure seed of the four cereal crops and peanuts can be multiplied and processed for distribution to farmers.

Two participants will be trained in the Special Course in Seed Improvement in FY 1969. Upon their return to the country, they will be assigned to work at two of the four seed farms upon which the Unit is now concentrating its efforts and manpower.

3. Farm Mechanization: The primary contribution of this unit is to provide mechanized agricultural services to farmers on a timely basis as needed. The immediate problem is to make as many tractors and implements operational as possible. To assist with this effort, it is planned to properly equip one of the six regional repair shops as a training center for mechanics and tractor operators. The Ministry of Agriculture has on hand or on order tools, shop equipment, and spare parts. USAID plans to use approximately \$15,000 during FY 1969 to supplement this supply of tools and shop equipment for one shop only. Only those items that are not available from the Ministry will be purchased.

To further assist this effort, it is planned to add a second Agriculture Equipment Advisor to assist the Unit in its spare parts inventory control. This position will not add to the USAID manpower ceiling since one position in Project 008, Vocational Agriculture Education, will be E'd in January 1969. Farm mechanization cannot make any material progress until acceptable spare parts inventory control is instituted.

The Agriculture Equipment Advisors will provide training for tractor drivers so that their work in the field will be more efficient and effective. The drivers and mechanics will also be trained in preventive maintenance. A schedule for maintenance and overhaul of tractors and implements will be devised.

4. Planning and Administration of Regional

Production Support Programs: The Ministry of Agriculture has delegated the authority to the eight Regional Agricultural Coordinators to be responsible for the agricultural development of their assigned regions. In four Regions the Coordinators and the four USAID Agricultural Advisors will be involved in planning and administering improved supplies of inputs and the mechanization services to farmers. This will be the major contribution to production support. The Coordinators have to determine the amounts and kinds of fertilizers and seeds as well as the work to be performed by the mechanization services. The Chief of the Crop Production Division and the USAID Agricultural Production Advisor, working together at the center, will backstop and coordinate production support activities at the regional level.

The Coordinators must plan for the marketing and storage of the agricultural commodities produced in their regions. They will examine and keep close surveillance on the price support scheme initiated by the COC in 1968. If the price support scheme needs to be altered, they will advise the Ministry so that the necessary adjustments can be made to insure that the farmers have the proper incentives for increased production.

It is planned to send four Coordinators to the U.S. to attend the short course, Agricultural Leaders Training. Two are to be sent in FY 1969 and two in FY 1970. They have the agricultural training and experience to satisfactorily fulfill this portion of their duties, but at the same time they are lacking in administrative and managerial background. They need to learn how to coordinate the various activities of a development and production support program.

Focus and Concentrate. To insure the success of these comprehensive demonstrations it will be necessary to give priority to the F&C program in the allocation of inputs and staff time in the event of conflict between it and the wider production support effort. With good planning and follow-through, conflicts should not arise. The Extension Service is the line organization responsible for the management and operation of this activity. The four USAID Agricultural Advisors, in addition to working with the Regional Agricultural Coordinators, will assist the extension staff in the support of the F&C program. The USAID Agriculture Economics Advisor will assist in the training of the extension staff in farm management planning. Farm management plans will be developed for each cooperator in the F&C districts.

The Extension Service will train and develop a corps of local volunteers, using the F&C demonstrators as a nucleus. The USAID Agriculture Production Advisor will advise and assist with this training.

The Extension staff will see to it that priority is placed on making the inputs and services available to cooperators in the F&C districts. As a part of this program, the YAO will provide 2,250 tons of fertilizer during its three-year life and the Ministry of Agriculture will provide an equal amount. This will be sold to the farmers at a subsidized price and the funds put into a revolving fund. The Seed Multiplication Unit will increase seed and make it available to the farmers of the F&C districts for them to purchase. The Farm Mechanization Unit will offer mechanization services to these farmers on a priority basis.

The ultimate success of the F&C areas will be reflected in the changes which occur in the districts as a whole as inputs are applied by increasing numbers of farmers. The YAO project and the extension staff will encourage the formation of marketing cooperatives so that the farmers can obtain loans from the Agricultural Development Bank and other credit sources that may become available. To an even greater extent than the production support program, the F&C program will aim at saturating the F&C districts with inputs and services to facilitate rapid spread of intensified farming.

Three participants will attend the special course, Extension Education in Agriculture, Rural Youth and Home Economics. Upon their return, they will train other extension workers in the technique of using result demonstrations and how they should be applied to assist agricultural development. They will understand better the role of rural extension workers and subject matter specialists and how they assist rural families to improve rural life. Two other participants will be trained in extension administration at the short course at A.U.B.

Two participants will be trained in FY 1970 in the special course in Farm Planning and Management. As this activity begins to expand and other farmers begin to emulate the cooperators, farm management plans will have to be developed for these farmers. The two participants will train other extension workers as well as formulate plans.

During the third year of this activity, an evaluation will be made of the F&C program. The production data of the F&C districts will be compared with those of the other districts to measure the success of this program. The USAID Agricultural Economics Advisor will maintain close liaison with the Agricultural Economics and Statistics Division of the Ministry to guide their preparation of the statistics required for comparison of production trends in the F&C areas with those in other districts.

Funding Requirements:

1. Total Requirements (FY 1969 through FY 1972)

Title	USAID \$	COC \$	Other Donors \$
U.S. Technicians	1,286,000	198,000	-
Participants	54,000	66,000	-
Commodities	15,000	200,000	-
Other Costs	37,000	-	-
Total	1,392,000	464,000	-

2. U.S. Technicians

Grade	Position Title	Arrival and Departure Date	Funding Estimates		
			OY FY1969	BY FY1970	FY FY1971
FSR-03	Agric.Prod.Adv.	5/69 HL/R 6/72 ETD	931,000	29,000	31,000
FSR-03	Agric.Econ.	10/68 HL/R 6/72 ETD	35,000	33,000	30,000
FSR-04	Agron.Adv. (Seed Improv.)	7/69 HL/R 6/72 ETD	22,000	32,000	24,000
FSR-04	Hort.Adv.	2/69 ETD	25,000	-	-
FSR-04	Agric.Adv. (Ho)	12/68 HL/R 3/72 ETD	28,000	27,000	29,000
FSR-04	Agric.Adv. (Koforidua)	9/68 ETA 9/70 HL/R	28,000	26,000	32,000
FSR-04	Agric.Adv. (Dolgatanga)	12/68 HL/R 6/72 ETD	26,000	24,000	24,000
FSR-04	Agric.Adv. (Tamale)	9/68 ETA 9/70 HL/R	24,000	26,000	28,000

Grade	Position Title	Arrival and Departure Date	Funding Estimates		
			OY FY1969	BY FY1970	FY FY1971
FSR-04	Agric.Equip.Spec.	9/68 EOD 9/69 HL/R	323,000	331,000	330,000
FSR-04	Hort.Adv. (Trop.)	9/68 ETD	25,000	-	-
FSR-04	Agric.Adv. (Sunyani)	7/69 ETA 7/71 HL/R	-	29,000	26,000
FSR-04	Agron.Adv. (Cereals)	3/69 ETA 3/71 HL/R	8,000	30,000	24,500
FSR-04	Extension Adv. (Information)	7/69 ETA 7/71 ETD	-	30,000	26,000
FSR-04	Agric.Equip.Spec. (Inventory Control)	1/69 EOD 6/69 HL/R 3/72 ETD	17,000	25,000	24,000
TOTAL			\$292,000	\$342,000	\$326,000

3. Participants

No.	Field	Type of Training	Duration	Funding Estimates		
				OY FY1969	BY FY1970	FY FY1971
1	Veg. Breeding	University M.S.	Sept. 1963 June 1970	\$ 6,000*		
2	Seed Prod.	Special Course	May 1969 Aug. 1969	5,000		
1	Marketing Agt. Products	Special Course	Aug. 1969 Jan. 1970	3,000		
2	Agric. Leaders Training	Special Course	May 1969 July 1969	6,000		
3	Agric. Extension	Special Course	April 1969 Aug. 1969	15,000		
1	Editor Course	Special Course	May 1969 Aug. 1969	2,400		
1	Grain Storage & Marketing	Special Course	June 1969 Sept. 1969	2,600		
1	Public Admin. in Agric.	Special Course	July 1969 Sept. 1969	4,000		

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No.	Field	Type of Training	Duration	Funding Estimates		
				OY FY1969	BY FY1970	PY FY1971
2	Extension Admin.	Special Course (A.U.B.)	July 1970 Aug. 1970		\$ 2,000	
2	Agric. Leaders	Special Course	May 1970 July 1970		6,000	
2	Farm Planning & Management	Special Course (A.U.B.)	July 1970 Aug. 1970		2,000	
Total				\$44,000	\$10,000	-

* denotes extension

4. Contract Services

None

5. Commodities

Category	Delivery Schedule	Funding Estimates		
		OY FY1969	BY FY1970	PY FY1971
Shop Equipment	March 1969	\$15,000	-	-
Total		\$15,000	-	-

6. Other Costs

Only small amounts of items essential for teaching and demonstrations will be provided by USAID for the technicians' use.

	Funding Estimates		
	OY FY1969	BY FY1970	PY FY1971
Demonstration Supplies	\$7,000	\$10,000	\$11,000

7. Cooperating Country Contribution

The COG contributes from the Trust Fund an estimated \$7,000 per technician-year for the technicians' housing, transport, and maintenance charges. The COG is also maintaining salaries and paying the international travel for participants as well as contributing to other recurrent costs. The COG is procuring \$200,000 worth of repair tools, agricultural equipment and spare parts to rehabilitate the Farm Mechanization and Seed Multiplication Units' operations.

	Funding Requirements		
	OY FY1969	BY FY1970	PY FY1971
U.S. Technicians	\$45,000	\$51,000	\$51,000
Participants	45,000	21,000	-
Commodities	200,000	-	-
Total	\$290,000	\$72,000	\$51,000

8. Contributions from Other Sources

None directly.

9. Related Projects

Project Number	Project Title
641-11-620-008	Vocational Agriculture Education
641-11-110-041	Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ghana
641-11-140-040	Agricultural Development Bank
641-11-190-048	National Agricultural Planning
641-15-199-053	Agriculture Advisory Services and Staff Support

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