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FROM - USAID MOGADISCIO

SUBJECT - Project 649-11-110-038 (Agriculture Services)

REFERENCE - M.O. 1393.1 (Control No. U-520)

Following is the Technical Assistance Project History and Analysis Report called for by M.O. 1393.1 (Control No. U-520) for the Research Station at Afgi. This report outlines the situation as it existed before the arrival of the Wyoming team.

A separate report will be submitted for the part of the project that concerns the Farmers' Training Center at Baidoa.

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Attachment:
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PAGE 1 OF 1

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PHONE NO. DATE 6-21-65

APPROVED BY John W. Robison
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ATTACHMENT

Technical Assistance Project History 1/

and

Analysis Report

- 1. Name of Country: Somali Republic
- 2. Project Title: Agriculture Services
(The Research Station and
Farmers' Training Center) 2/
- 3. Project Number: 649-11-110-038
- 4. Project Initiated: 1962
- 5. Planned Termination Date; 1972
- 6. Period covered by this
Report: January 1962 through December 1964

1/ Control No. U-520 (M.O. 1393.1)

2/ This report covers only the Research Station - Afgoi

I. THE BACKGROUND SITUATION

Objective of the Project: The basic overall objective of this portion of Project 649-11-110-038 is to establish a National Agricultural Research Station and Farmers' Training Center in the Somali Republic near Afgoi, and to train a technically competent staff capable of operating such an institution.

A. How and Why the Project was Chosen:

Early in 1961 the Ministry of Agriculture, in cooperation with USAID/SR, planned a joint venture in which the Ministry's agricultural research activities would be concentrated at Afgoi. Formal negotiation and initial documentation occurred in 1962. Heretofore, agricultural experiments were conducted in Genale, Baidea and Gelib. Though marginal, they nevertheless represented a considerable outlay of GSR funds and personnel.

Considerations in establishing a facility near Afgoi were:

- the site represented major soil types found in the inter-river area, thus permitting both irrigation and dry land farming on the same station;
- accessibility to the Scebelli River for irrigation water; and
- the availability of sufficient Government land for the establishment of an Research Station and Farmers' training center.

B. The Project's Relationship to the Country's Development and the Overall AID Program in the Country:

The Somalis are in general underfed and the country's agricultural economy is based largely on a single cash crop, i.e. bananas. Both of these problems demand the increase of agricultural production and the diversification of the agriculture.

In order to meet these needs it is necessary in the Somali Republic to experiment with and propagate improved varieties of seeds and plants. The second phase of the experimental process is the dissemination of the scientific information to farmers in simple, easy-to-understand terms through demonstration. Both of these phases are inter-dependent and should proceed as one coordinated program in the country.

It is on this basis that USAID/SR and the Ministry of Agriculture have planned the Afgei Agricultural Research Station and the Farmers' Training Center. It would be desirable to qualify the results of this activity in reference to the effect on GNP, or in terms of percentage increase in agriculture production, land under cultivation or percent of farmers actually reached. However, a realistic analysis is not possible at this time because of unavailable and incomplete data. But this project does fit in well with AID's objectives of institution building and can have a positive impact upon the country's economy when it becomes completely operable. This is especially significant to a country which is short of foreign exchange and which needs to seek avenues to satisfy these shortages.

There are other considerations which are relevant in planning for the Somali Republic. It is generally accepted that 1) two-thirds of the total population is nomadic and lives on livestock raising, and 2) the subsistence sector is very large and food shortages may occur in five of seven years. The effects of a subsidized major crop are also well known.

C. The Intended Roles and Responsibilities of all Parties Involved:

1. USAID/SR

During the initial period of development of the Station, the United States will be responsible for a large share of the cost of this project. The need for establishing physical facilities and for training technicians makes this necessary. The estimated costs for facilities are \$500,000. Insofar as funding is available and reasonable progress is evident, the USAID/SR has agreed to provide funds through FY 1965 for the following:

- a. Personnel: Soils Advisor, Irrigation Advisor, Entomologist, Livestock Advisor (acting Station Superintendent), and Equipment Specialist-Farm Manager (Third-country National).
- b. An A & E study for station building requirements.
- c. Two-year funding for University contract team to staff and operate the station.
- d. Purchase of commodities and participant training.
- e. Local currency costs.
- f. TDY of water resources engineer to evaluate the irrigation system proposed for the Station.

2. The Government of Somali Republic and the Ministry of Agriculture

The GSR is to provide the land, canal and road right-of-way, and water rights for the station, and it will be the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture to take whatever measures are necessary to assure that local claims against Ministry of Agriculture activity at the Research Station are satisfactorily resolved. This includes the following:

- a. Claims by squatters who are at present or may in the future reside on the land.
- b. Land boundary disputes with owners of contiguous tracts.
- c. Access right to roads to all parts of the Experiment Station.
- d. Liaison with other Government agencies whose approval may be necessary for the use or construction of any and all facilities planned for the Research Station.

The Ministry of Agriculture also agrees to provide trainees for the soils laboratory and entomological work, a qualified GSR employee to act as liaison officer for the university contract team and counterparts for USAID and university contract advisors as soon as possible.

3. United Nations

The United Nations furnishes the technical services of one rice expert and the necessary labor required to carry out the studies on rice trials being conducted on the Station.

4. Other

The Ministry of Agriculture furnishes the technical services of one West German horticulturist for certain vegetable trials.

- D. The over-all magnitude of the needs addressed and why and how this project was chosen to attack them (this was covered in topic I-A above).

II. PROJECT TARGETS AND GOAL PLAN OBJECTIVES

A. Short-Range:

There are a number of short-range objectives, or goals, which contribute to the achievement of the basic long-range objectives:

- 1) To select and train a staff of Somalis who can develop and operate the Station after the physical facilities have been built.
 - a) Through a process of selection and training, the Station now has a staff of thirty Somali Nationals who carry out their administrative and technical duties in a reasonably competent manner.
 - b) There are presently eleven Somali students studying for degrees in agriculture at universities in the United States. It is expected that a number of these will be assigned to the Agriculture Research Station staff upon graduation and return to the Somali Republic in 1967.
- 2) To obtain land and proceed with the construction of the physical facilities for the Station and carry on certain required studies and cropping trials. This is covered under "Targets for calendar year 1964" in the Work Plan:
 - a) Plan to study irrigation drainage aspect of Station by an engineer on TDY. This has been completed and a report prepared on same.
 - b) Prepare land and sow 35 acres for sorghum trials. Completed. Trials were conducted on 21 acres with three varieties, harvested, and report prepared on the results. An additional 35 acres was sown with four varieties and plowed under because of lack of rainfall.
 - c) prepare land and provide irrigation water by portable pump for Ministry of Agriculture rice plot trials. Completed trials were conducted on 33 varieties of rice, and a report is being prepared. Additional rice trials continue.
 - d) Complete topographic survey for 200 acres proposed for future irrigation. Completed and map prepared.
 - e) Erect temporary field machinery building. Completed.
 - f) Summer fallow about 150 acres of cleared land. Completed. Fallowing operations continue.
 - g) Plan study of entire project by representatives of University of Wyoming prior to signing contract agreement. Study completed, report prepared and contract signed.

- h) Plan the arrival of A & E team for building design and specifications. Completed by one A & E contract team member.
 - i) Plan arrival of TDY engineer to determine feasibility for building sites. Completed. This was covered by visiting architect mentioned in "h" above. A feasible site has been chosen, a topographic survey and a map made of the area. Preliminary A & E plans expected shortly.
 - j) Continue soils analysis for GSR general soil and water study. Completed. Analysis work consisting of 1,000 samples has been completed and report being prepared.
 - k) Continue insect study on the Research Station and in the general area of Afgoi. Studies were conducted on sorghum trials and are currently being carried out on the vegetable trial plots. Insect collection work continues.
- 3) Completed and not mentioned in the 1964 Work Plan:
- a) Assisting the GSR with land title documentation and clearance so that project work at the Station could proceed.
 - b) Fencing of the proposed 200 acres for irrigation with woven wire.
 - c) Location, occupation and fencing of new farm equipment compound.
 - d) Re-location of 300 meters of privately owned canal to clear from Station property.
 - e) Survey of main canal and access road for Station.
 - f) Completed approximately 600 meters of the earth fill construction work for the main canal.

B. Long-Range:

As previously stated, the objective is to establish a National Agricultural Research Station and Farmers' Training Center in the Somali Republic near Afgoi. This will be the first national institution of its sort which will contribute to efficiency in GSR management by consolidating major agricultural experimentation efforts in one area. Fundamental changes in attitudes are a long-term proposition which will eventually be affected on a gradual basis after this institution becomes operable, when experimentation results become available, and farmer education can be effected. As stated above, there is no way at this time to furnish

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Year Performed</u>		
	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>
Moving equipment and supplies from Genale; establishing warehouse and office in Afgoi	X	X	
Establishing Soils Laboratory in Afgoi (moved from Genale)	X		
Soils analysis on Ministry of Agriculture General Soil and Water Survey		X	X
Negotiation with university contract team		X	X
Conduct reconnaissance soils survey	X		
Prepare semi-detailed soils map	X		
Analysis of Scebelli River irrigation water	X	X	X

IV. RESOURCES EMPLOYED

A. U. S. Resources Employed:

1. U. S. Funds - net obligations:

Obligation Fiscal Year 1962	\$ 638,683.43
Obligation Fiscal Year 1963	487,365.08
Obligation Fiscal Year 1964	67,191.06

This is for the total Project 038 and includes Afgoi Research Station and Bonka Farmers' Training Center.

2. Resources by Type:

(a) U. S. Technicians: There have been seven technicians who have been assigned directly to or have worked on the Station portion of Project 649-11-110-038. An exact breakdown in terms of man years is not possible but there have been an average of 3+ technicians assigned to the project per year since its beginning in 1962.

<u>Type of Technicians</u>	<u>Approximate Number of Months by Year</u>		
	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>
Irrigation Engineer (direct-hire)	6	6	6
Soils Advisor (direct-hire)	12	12	12
Entomologist (direct-hire) +	7	11	2
Livestock Advisor (direct-hire) +		9	12
Forestry Advisor (direct-hire) +	6	2	
Agriculture Equipment Specialist (direct-hire)		3	
Agriculture Equipment Specialist (Third-Country)			9
Total Months/Year	<u>31</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>41</u>

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Total Months all Three Years: 115

Approximate number of man years: $9\frac{1}{2}$ average technicians/year: 3-1/6

+ Acted as Station Director part or full time.

- (b) Participants: Of the thirty-one participants that returned from training during the period covered by this report, nine were trained in Lebanon and two in Cyprus. Six of these have been assigned to the Afgoi Agricultural Research Station; of these two remain and are actively engaged in on-the-job training. One is working in the soils laboratory and the other is doing entomological studies. The other four are presently employed in the Ministry of Agriculture.

There are currently eleven participants studying for degrees in agriculture at universities in the U.S. Arrangements have been made with the Ministry of Agriculture to have a number of these assigned to the Agricultural Research Station upon their graduation and return to the Somali Republic in 1967.

- (c) Commodities: The types of commodities used for this project are:

Farm tractors, equipment and tools
Vehicles
Fertilizers
Soils Laboratory supplies
Seed

Commodity Costs:	FY 1962	\$ 99,022.89
	FY 1963	81,621.14
	FY 1964	65,776.49

- (d) Other Resources: None used to date.
- (e) U.S.-Owned Local Currency: Italian Lire used in FY 1963 and FY 1964: 24,348,910 Lire.
- (f) Counterpart Local Currency: None used to date.

B. Cooperating Country Resources Employed (excluding counterpart):

(1) GSR Contributions (including salaries):	FY 1962	\$ 68,000
	FY 1963	41,976
	FY 1964	33,028

- (2) The GSR contribution was for local travel, salaries, in-kind, miscellaneous, personnel, operational and other costs (food for trainees).

The GSR has promised more personnel for this project than they have been able to deliver.

C. Resources Employed by Other Contributors:

- (1) The Hunting Survey Corporation, working for the U.N. Special Fund, has made significant contributions to the project by carrying out surveys and preparing maps of the Station. Dr. Ghose, a FAO United Nations Rice expert, is carrying on rice planting trials. Dr. Lippman, a West German horticulturist, is carrying on vegetable trials at the Station.
- (2) The survey work has been very beneficial and has contributed much to the Station, especially in savings to USAID/SR. The planting trials are still in progress and it is too early to state value in quantitative terms.

V. MAJOR FACTORS AFFECTING PROGRESS

General Statement:

Any comments made on this subject should be taken into consideration only after there is a general understanding of the type of working conditions that exist in the Somali Republic. The cultural background ~~which~~ ~~relatively~~ ~~is~~ is not particularly conducive to the rapid building of agricultural research stations and training centers. ~~by the~~ ~~country~~ Traditionally the average Somali is a member of an elaborate tribal social order, is not work oriented and is interested in the relative (and somewhat false) security of owning large numbers of livestock. There are few academically trained agriculturalists in the country and consequently the average Somali has little or no concept of what such an institution can mean to him or his country.

A. Cooperating Country Performance:

1. Administrative Arrangements: At no time during the development life of the Station have there been counterparts available to work with the USAID/SR technicians on technical or administrative work. Liaison has been primarily with the Director General of the Ministry of Agriculture. Consequently there has not always been a sound understanding of technical factors or objectives involved. This

is not necessarily indicative of a total lack of high-level interest. The thinking in the Ministry of Agriculture was that because they did not have well qualified personnel to put onto Station development work, they preferred to carry on as they were until such time when trained people became available. There is the general feeling, however, that top Ministry officials could have given the project more support in the earlier stages of development. At the present time the current Director General of Agriculture is academically well trained and has a good understanding of the value of experimentation and education. He has taken a keen interest in the progress of the Station's development, as demonstrated by his efforts in assisting with the land decrees.

2. **Legislation:** Obtaining land decrees and legal maps which set aside land for the Station is the biggest single factor which hampered the early progress of this project.
3. **Financial Support:** To date the largest single contribution made by the GSR to the project is the land for the Station. Estimated values of this vary a great deal. Other contributions were four trainees in entomology and one soils trainee in 1963, one trainee in entomology and one soils trainee in 1964. All other costs for technicians, construction and development work have been borne by USAID/SR.
4. **Natural Disasters:** There have been no major natural disasters which would have contributed to lack of progress. Lack of rain has interfered with completing crop trials and carrying on earth work in canal construction. Excessive rain has, on occasion, delayed field work or made roads impassable for a short time.

B. U. S. Performance:

Planning with Ministry officials has not presented any particularly insurmountable problems as discussions are held with them before Project Agreements and Work Plans are put into final form for signing.

Current plans for the Station in terms of size and development schedule are realistic and will adequately meet the needs of the country.

Station development has not been hampered for lack of financing, but implementation of work and fulfilling time schedules is very difficult because of the problem of procuring supplies and equipment when needed. A good deal of time elapses before goods ordered are

actually on the site. This is particularly true of spare parts. Staffing has been a problem as an adequate number of the types of technicians needed have not always been available to carry out the work programmed.

A contract has been signed with the University of Wyoming to take over the development and operation of the project. This has been a time-consuming process. Undoubtedly the first staff members of the contract team will face some of the same problems that AID technicians have confronted and time will be required for them to get into operation so that they can cope with them. However, a good deal of initial planning and development work has been done on the project; land cleared and prepared for farming, equipment and supplies procured, a reasonably well trained staff is available and funding has been arranged so that work can proceed normally without too much interruption.

VI. APPRAISAL OF RESULTS (by the Reporting Mission)

A. Actual Rate of Progress:

The rate of progress is probably 12 to 18 months behind what initially was expected so far as the physical development of the land, the planning and construction of the buildings and signing a contract with the Wyoming University are concerned. The chief reason for this delay was the failure of the Host Government to grant title to the land and legal rights to water from the river to the Ministry of Agriculture. This was not done until mid-1964. Once title to land and water were granted, studies of the land, water, irrigation and planning of the Station and contracting with the University and firm of architects moved rapidly.

One phase of the Station development has moved faster than expected. The Soils Laboratory is well organized, fairly well equipped and has been serving the country for nearly two years. Elsewhere it is pointed out how the laboratory has assisted a major soils and water survey project of FAO. It has made soil and water studies for other organizations and individual farmers. In addition, a sizeable corps of technicians have been trained in different functions of operating the laboratory.

- B. Agriculture is and will be for some time basic to the economy of the country. The USAID objective is to assist the country to develop this major sector of its economy in an orderly way. Before much can be done to improve agriculture, some basic research must be done and a corps of technicians trained. Doing these two things is the objective of this project. It is basic to both U.S. objectives and national development.
- C. This development is in its initial stage and it is too early to attempt to use the findings at present to judge what future activities should be carried on in this country or how they should influence what is underway elsewhere.

VII. MISSION DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS AND EVALUATION OF THE PROJECT:

Despite certain problems in obtaining all the staff that was needed and in overcoming land ownership problems, this project has made satisfactory progress. The project is designed to meet a long-term need of Somalia for basic knowledge that can be used in developing modern agriculture in Somalia. Many African countries in the heavy rain areas need to use a system of letting land lie fallow for many years and then using it for only two or three years before letting it return to bush again. Somalia, however, has rich soil which retains its fertility well. Thus, Somalia has the potentiality of installing a modern system of mechanized agriculture using dry-land farming methods. In addition, Somalia now has an extensive system of irrigated agriculture ~~and this system could be greatly expanded~~. It is felt, therefore, that the basic concept of this project is sound and that it is off to a very satisfactory start.

Attachment: ANNEX A - Balance Sheet

SOMALI REPUBLICProject No. 649-11-110-038B A L A N C E S H E E TCOMPONENTSJANUARY 1962 STATUSDECEMBER 1964 STATUS

- | <u>COMPONENTS</u> | <u>JANUARY 1962 STATUS</u> | <u>DECEMBER 1964 STATUS</u> |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Land decree required to give Station legal status | Did not exist | Land decree and descriptive map completed April 1964 and on file with concerned Ministries and USAID/SR for approximately 394 hectares; decree completed and on file for remaining acreage assigned to Station. Completed October 1964. |
| 2. Land clearing required so that crop trials and construction could proceed | No clearing done; land covered with bush | Approximately 165 hectares cleared of bush to allow for crop trials and seed production. |
| 3. Topographic survey required for 80 hectares proposed for future irrigation. Survey needed before canal survey and construction could proceed. | Did not exist | Survey completed and map prepared; canal construction work proceeding. |
| 4. Study irrigation drainage aspect of Research Station | Study did not exist. | Study conducted and completed in February and March 1964. Report of study prepared, "Irrigation Development, Agricultural Research Station, Afgoi", covered drainage aspects. |

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COMPONENTS

JANUARY 1962 STATUS

DECEMBER 1964 STATUS

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5.	Feasibility study of project by university contract team prior to signing of contract.	Study did not exist.	Feasibility study conducted May 1964; report on same completed June 1964. Contract negotiation nearly completed.
6.	A & E study to prepare building design and specifications for main building complex.	Study did not exist.	Architect of A & E contract team arrived and completed study required for building design, specifications and site location for main building complex in August 1964.
7.	Erect farm machinery building.	Building did not exist.	Building completed December 1964; accommodates machinery storage, farm shop and field supervisor's office.
8.	Fencing of irrigated tract.	Fence did not exist.	Fencing of proposed 80 hectares for irrigation with woven wire completed December 1964.
9.	Summerfallow 150 acres of cleared land.	Land was in no condition for crop trial work as it was covered by bush.	Summerfallow completed, but fallowing operation continues in order to cope with weed problem.
10.	Conduct soils analysis for GSR's general soil and water survey.	Soils Laboratory as such did not exist.	A functioning Soils Laboratory has completed analysis work on a country-wide soil and water survey and a report is in process.
11.	Re-locate and reconstruct 300 meters of privately owned canal.	Canal was on Station property.	Re-location and construction completed to clear privately-owned structure from Station land.

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COMPONENTS	JANUARY 1962 STATUS	DECEMBER 1964 STATUS
12. Design, survey and begin construction of main canal and access road for the Station.	No plans or structures existed.	Design and survey completed; approximately 600 meters of the earth-fill construction work for the main canal has been completed.
13. Locate permanent farm equipment compound.	No compound existed 1962; temporary compound established in 1963	Location and occupation of permanent compound has been completed; site fenced with woven wire.
14. Rice trials.	No crop trials conducted.	Trials conducted on 33 varieties of rice for Ministry of Agriculture with technical assistance provided by U.N. Land preparation and irrigation water provided by USAID/SR. Trial work continues and reports are in process.
15. Sorghum trials.	No crop trials conducted.	Sorghum trials conducted with 3 varieties on 21 acres; harvested and a report prepared.
16. Insect studies.	No insect studies conducted.	Initial work begun 1963; studies conducted on sorghum trials 1964. Insect collection work continues. Studies are being carried out on the vegetable trial plots.
17. Soil reconaissance, Afgoi Station site.	Planned.	Completed.
18. Semidetailed soils map, Afgoi Station site.	Planned.	Completed.
19. Water Analysis Scebelli River (irrigation quality).	Some data on total salts for 1961.	Complete record for total salts, sodium status for May 1961 to December 1964.

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