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 PD-446 -
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 REPORT U-446

AID 1020-20(10-7b)

PROJECT APPRAISAL REPORT (PAR)

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1. PROJECT NO. 690-11-680-005	2. PAR FOR PERIOD: March 1, 1974 TO June 30, 1975	3. COUNTRY BLMS	4. PAR SERIAL NO. 75-6
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PROJECT TITLE: **Regional Testing Resource and Training Center**

4D

6. PROJECT DURATION: Began FY 69 Ends FY 76	7. DATE LATEST PROP October, 1972	8. DATE LATEST PIP	9. DATE PRIOR PAR April 1974
10. U.S. FUNDING	a. Cumulative Obligation Thru Prior FY: \$ 1,895,000	b. Current FY Estimated Budget: \$ -0-	c. Estimated Budget to completion After Current FY: \$ -0-

11. KEY ACTION AGENTS (Contractor, Participating Agency or Voluntary Agency)

a. NAME	b. CONTRACT, PASA OR VOL. AG. NO.
American Institutes for Research	Contract AID/afr-668

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		
			No new actions proposed. This project will terminate by 30 June 1976.	

D. REPLANNING REQUIRES	<input type="checkbox"/> PROP <input type="checkbox"/> PIP <input type="checkbox"/> PRO AG <input type="checkbox"/> PIO/T <input type="checkbox"/> PIO/C <input type="checkbox"/> PIO/P	E. DATE OF MISSION REVIEW 30 June, 1975
PROJECT MANAGER: TYPED NAME, SIGNED INITIALS AND DATE Thomas G. McDonough, EDU	MISSION DIRECTOR: TYPED NAME, SIGNED INITIALS AND DATE Charles D. Ward:RDO	

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			OUT. STANDING		LOW		MEDIUM		HIGH	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	
1. American Institutes for Research					X								X
2.													
3.													

Comment on key factors determining rating The American Institutes for Research (AIR) has fielded a team of four highly skilled experts who thoroughly understand the project purpose. In addition to a competent team in the field AIR home office provides strong and frequent back stopping.

4. PARTICIPANT TRAINING	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5
				X								X

Comment on key factors determining rating The participant element of this project lagged behind schedule until last year when the project was extended until 30 June 1976. This continuation of technical services permitted all participants scheduled to complete their training and return to RTRTC work assignments before the last U.S. contract technician left the regional area.

5. COMMODITIES	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5
					X					X		

Comment on key factors determining rating All commodities planned for have been procured and used. No further commodity requirements are anticipated.

6. COOPERATING COUNTRY	a. PERSONNEL	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5
	b. OTHER				X					X			

Comment on key factors determining rating There are four cooperating countries involved in the project, therefore the above rating is a composite assessment. Individually Swaziland is using the project elements to the greatest advantage with Malawi second in interest and performance. During the past year Lesotho established a national office and has plans for an expanded testing and research service. Botswana which has had a national office since the beginning of the project has less commitment to a strong centralized national testing capacity than the other three countries.

7. OTHER DONORS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5
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(See Next Page for Comments on Other Donors)

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

There are no other donors involved in this project

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		FY 76	FY 77	
			TO DATE	TO END			
Trained Staff	PLANNED	12	2	-	-	-	14
	ACTUAL PERFORM- ANCE	12	2				
	REPLANNED			-	-	-	-
Establishment of National C Centers.	PLANNED	4	-	-	-	-	4
	ACTUAL PERFORM- ANCE	3	1				
	REPLANNED						
Expanding clientele in both private and public sector-- number of agencies (no specific number of RTC users was targeted at the inception of the project. Figures listed are cumulative)	PLANNED		-		46		46
	ACTUAL PERFORM- ANCE	33	40				
	REPLANNED						
	PLANNED						
	ACTUAL PERFORM- ANCE						
	REPLANNED						
B. QUALITATIVE INDICATORS FOR MAJOR OUTPUTS	COMMENT:						
1. Local Staff responsibility.	Each returned US trained participant has been permanently assigned to one of the four Centers and has been assigned a job commensurate with his training or has been selected and funded for further US training. All local staff receive in-service training.						
2. Test validity and Research.	COMMENT: The RIRIC Centers are constantly reviewing tests prepared so that these tests may be used with greater effectiveness in the four countries.						
	COMMENT.						

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IV. PROJECT PURPOSE

A. 1. Statement of purpose as currently envisaged.

2. Same as in PROP? YES NO

To create a modern regional testing program to meet the requirements of the participating countries of Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, and Swaziland and their educational institutions with sufficient capacity to also serve the public and private sectors.

B. 1. Conditions which will exist when above purpose is achieved.

2. Evidence to date of progress toward these conditions.

1. less or no dependence upon outside sources for test services.

1. The RTRTC is responsible for an increasing number of test services in both public and private sector. Plans are now being discussed to associate the BLS RTRTC national centers with the UBLS Examinations Council to provide a basis for taking over the responsibility of administering the School Certificate exam and eliminating the need for outside help.

2. The evolution of a more relevant primary and secondary school curriculum.

2. The national Center in Swaziland has and will play a key role in the reform process involving the primary school curriculum. The association of the RTRTC and UBLS Exams Council will also contribute to curriculum reform.

3. Research directed toward improvement of post primary academic performance.

3. As one example since 1969 in Malawi a study has been underway to determine the relative performance of selected sample groups of students after primary school. Actual performance will be measured against test results used to select students for further study.

V. PROGRAMMING GOAL

A. Statement of Programming Goal

To increase the effectiveness of manpower and human resources development in the participating countries.

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. Yes. The Swaziland Office is associated with a national employment service for Swaziland. This direct connection of the national testing center to a key source of manpower supply enables the Swaziland Office of the RTRTC to have a direct influence on the effectiveness of manpower resources.

Private and public institutions in all four countries including the University of Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland are requesting the RTRTC to screen applicants for all types of academic and job opportunities.