

PROJECT APPRAISAL REPORT (PAR)

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1. PROJECT NO. AID/csd-2835	2. PAR FOR PERIOD: 6/73 TO 6/74	3. COUNTRY Worldwide	4. PAR SERIAL NO. 51
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93/11-120-130

A Grant to strengthen the capabilities of North Carolina State University in Special Problems of Tropical Soils as Related to LDC Conditions

6. PROJECT DURATION: Began FY 71 Ends FY 76	7. DATE LATEST PROP	8. DATE LATEST PIP	9. DATE PRIOR PAR 12/12/73
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10. U.S. FUNDING	a. Cumulative Obligation Thru Prior FY: \$ 169,585	b. Current FY Estimated Budget: \$ 123,000 (FY 75)	c. Estimated Budget to completion After Current FY: \$207.415
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11. KEY ACTION AGENTS (Contractor, Participating Agency or Voluntary Agency)

a. NAME	b. CONTRACT, PASA OR VOL. AG. NO.
Consortium on Soils of the Tropics (North Carolina State Univ., Cornell Univ., University of Hawaii, University of Puerto Rico and Prairie View A&M Univ.)	(csd-2835, csd-2834, csd-2833, csd-2836, and csd-2857)
Agency for International Development - Office of Agriculture, Soil & Water Management Division - TA/AGR/SW	

1. 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	HCST		
	TA/AGR		1. TA/AGR accepts in general the recommendations of the Review Panel and that the grant be extended for a period of two years in accordance with the PAR Narrative.	
	TA/AGR		2. If NCSU does not accept the conditions for grant extension, immediate steps be taken to phase out the present grant.	

D. REPLANNING REQUIRES						E. DATE OF MISSION REVIEW	
REVISED OR NEW:	<input type="checkbox"/> PROP	<input type="checkbox"/> PIP	<input type="checkbox"/> PRO AG	<input type="checkbox"/> PIC/T	<input type="checkbox"/> PIC/C	<input type="checkbox"/> PIO/P	
PROJECT MANAGER: TYPED NAME, SIGNED INITIALS AND DATE				MISSION DIRECTOR: TYPED NAME, SIGNED INITIALS AND DATE			
Tejpal S. Gill <i>[Signature]</i> 3.7.75				Leon F. Hesser, Act. Dir., TA/AGR 1/7/75			

PART III -- PAF NARRATIVE

"A Grant to Strengthen the Capabilities of North Carolina State University in Special Problems of Tropical Soils as Related to LDC conditions."

Member of Consortium on Soils of the Tropics
North Carolina State University
AID/csd-2835

The 211(d) Grant to NCSU was made to build institutional capacity in "Soil Fertility Relating Plant Nutrition to the Physical and Chemical Properties of Humid Tropical Soils."

A comprehensive review was conducted of this Grant by an Agency Review Panel on July 25-26, 1974. In a broad and general context the major Grant objectives seem to have been met, or are being met. NCSU believes it has done what it said it would do, particularly with regard to its capacity to analyze and study tropical soil fertility problems. It was easy to note NCSU's Grant input activities toward achieving its objectives, however, it was not so easy to observe output and impact. Prime concern of the Review Panel was the small attention the grant program director had devoted to Grant activities -- The AID research contract and the Grant have been managed by the same individual to the detriment of the Grant. Another concern was that there existed no clear cut strategy for Grant activities and the fact that a major portion of the Grant funds remained unused.

It is likely that part, or most, of the progress attributed to the Grant was actually made under NCSU's technical assistance and research contracts financed by AID. The initial Grant agreement was vague and

contained few guidelines for assessment of progress. Grant achievements were affected adversely by the following two conditions:

1. The technical office in AID had little, if any, direct responsibility or communications with the grantee; and
2. The University failed to assume leadership in maximizing institutional capability through the very flexible instrument of the Grant.

The Review Panel did recognize that NCSU:

- is an outstanding institution committed to the development scene with a long history of demonstrated willingness to work with AID;
- has one of the strongest research and teaching programs on tropical soils in the United States; and
- possesses a developed capacity of expertise in the field of tropical soil fertility which is needed by the Agency to back-stop food production activities in the LDCs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

TA/AGR has studied the Review Panel Report of the 4th year comprehensive review and noted the frank and thorough analysis of the review by the chairman and panel members. In light of the review and AID's Policy Determination #62, TA/AGR recommends the following:

1. Financial support by AID should be continued but only with clear-cut guidelines for tapping this talent and for specific

state-of-the-art studies, networking and information exchange and utilization.

2. NCSU become an active part of a reconstructed Consortium on Soils of the Tropics (COST) to initiate and encourage meaningful technical activities and to help catalize a worldwide network; also to recognize that pooling of COST talent is essential.
3. Accept the Review Panel Report as representing Agency interests.
4. Negotiate with NCSU for a revision of the present Grant with greater emphasis on utilization.
5. Unless UNCS amends its proposal for extension to more closely coincide with the recommendations of the Review Panel -- including willingness to appoint a separate Director for grant management -- notify them immediately of our intention not to extend the grant (on a funded or non-funded basis) beyond the present expiration date. Preparation for phase-out should begin immediately and expenditures should not exceed the highest prior annual rate.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

931-11-120-130

TO : See Distribution

DATE: March 10, 1975

FROM : TA/AGR, Tejpal S. Gill *Tejpal S. Gill*

SUBJECT: 211(d) Comprehensive Review - North Carolina State University AID/csd
2835

Reference subject grant review we attach for your information, PAR face sheet and the narrative approved by the Office of Agriculture, Bureau of Technical Assistance. The PAR is based on a comprehensive 4th year review conducted by an Agency panel. A report of the panel is attached as is the last annual report of the Consortium on "Soils of the Tropics" of which NCSU is a part.

Distribution

CM/COD/TA, Virginia Perelli
AA/TA, Raymond Kitchell
TA/PM, Carl Fritz
AID Information Center

Attachments

PAR
Panel Report
Annual Report

