

Proj. No 9310974

A.I.D. Reference Center  
Room 1655 B

PN - 9310974(2)  
PD-AAD-218-B1

33f

AID 1025.1 (7-71) (PAGE SHEET)  
NONCAPITAL PROJECT PAPER (PROP)

PAGE 1 of 1 PAGES

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1. PROJECT TITLE <b>Computerized Agricultural Research Information System - CARIS Pilot Project</b>		APPENDIX ATTACHED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
3. RECIPIENT (specify) <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTRY <u>Worldwide</u> <input type="checkbox"/> REGIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INTERREGIONAL <u>TAB</u>		2. PROJECT NO. (M.O. 1025.2) <u>931-11-110-974-73</u>
4. LIFE OF PROJECT BEGINS FY <u>72</u> ENDS FY <u>73</u>		5. SUBMISSION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL _____ DATE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> REV. NO. _____ DATE _____ CONTR./PASA NO. _____

II. FUNDING BY SOURCE AND MONTHS AND REQUIREMENTS

A. FUNDING BY FISCAL YEAR	B. TOTAL \$	C. PERSONNEL		D. PARTICIPANTS		E. COMMODITIES \$	F. OTHER COSTS \$	G. PASA/CONTR.		H. LOCAL EXCHANGE CURRENCY RATES \$ US (U.S. QUANT)		
		(1) \$	(2) MM	(1) \$	(2) MM			(1) \$	(2) MM	(1) U.S. GRANT/LOAN	(2) COUNTRY	(3) BUDGET
1. PRIOR THRU ACTUAL FY												
2. OPEN FY <u>72</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>(Partial Funding of Pilot Project only)</u>										
3. BUDGET FY												
4. BUDGET -1 FY												
5. BUDGET -2 FY												
6. BUDGET -3 FY												
7. ALL SUBD. FY												
8. GRAND TOTAL	<u>15</u>											

9. OTHER DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS

12. NAME OF DONOR <u>FAC</u> <u>Others to be determined</u>	10. KIND OF CONTRIBUTION <u>Field Staff for data collection</u> <u>Financial</u>	11. AMOUNT <u>Unknown</u> <u>\$64,000 1st yr.</u>
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III. ORIGINATING OFFICE CLEARANCE

1. DRAFTER <u>J. Hawes</u> TA/AGR	TITLE <u>Prog. Planning Officer</u>	DATE <u>2/8/72</u>
2. CLEARANCE OFFICER <u>O. Kelley</u> TA/AGR	TITLE <u>Director</u>	DATE

IV. PROJECT AUTHORIZATION

1. CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

2. CLEARANCES

BUR/OFF.	SIGNATURE	DATE	BUR/OFF.	SIGNATURE	DATE
<u>ASIA /TECH</u>	<u>JMBume(memo)</u>	<u>2/23/72</u>	<u>AF/TAC</u>	<u>PNLyman (memo)</u>	<u>3/8/72</u>
<u>SA/IR/TECH</u>	<u>RRJohnson(memo)</u>	<u>3/18/72</u>			

3. APPROVAL BY OFFICE DIRECTORS SIGNATURE <u>Fullerton</u>	DATE <u>3/5/72</u>	4. APPROVAL A.I.D. (M.O. 1025.1 VIC) SIGNATURE	DATE
TITLE <u>Adm/TA</u>		ADMINISTRATOR, AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	

A. Statement of the Goal

1. The Goal

AID's policy at the strategic level of planning is to strengthen the worldwide network of international and national institutions engaged in research and its outreach directed toward improved living standards of the people of the LDCs through increased production of more nutritious disease resistant, high yielding crops, and animal agriculture food products.

2. Measures of Goal Achievement

a. Functioning research institutions with growing support from an increasing number of international (including LDC) sources to meet those needs for research best dealt with on a regional or international level;

b. International and national agricultural research institutions effectively linked;

c. Major progress made and continuing in the development of higher yielding, disease resistant and more nutritious crops and animal agriculture food products with due account taken of needs to increase employment and the well-being of small farmers including those with less than optimum soil and water resources at their disposal.

3. Assumptions about Goal Achievements

a. That international organizations (e.g., IBRD, FAO, UNDP, Ford, Rockefeller, AID and other donors) will continue to support the operations of research organizations

b. That international research organizations will continue activities designed to improve agricultural production through improved technology and techniques

c. That LDCs will continue to make use of the services of international research organizations

## B. Statement of Project Purpose

1. The purpose is to support a limited pilot project activity in computerization of data to determine approaches and methodology needed to collect, organize, store, evaluate, retrieve and distribute information quickly and economically on agricultural research already performed or in progress in 14 African countries. <sup>1/</sup> These data are needed in order to keep policy makers, planners, administrators, directors of research stations, their staffs and the scientific community informed in a timely manner on current research activities. Such information will assist in avoiding duplicative efforts and will help ensure that important research is not neglected. The CARIS project will provide a resource for improved communications between institutions and scientists. Information developed will also provide complementarity between national and international research programs.

### 2. Conditions Expected at the End of the Project

It is expected at the end of this pilot project, that a system will be operative consisting of the following elements:

- a. basic methodology will be determined, systems will be designed, programming procedures will be completed, classification and indexing standards will be operative, a coding system will be adopted and input forms will be prepared
- b. data collection and verification will be completed in 14 African countries
- c. data will be prepared, indexed, coded and transcribed and processed by computers
- d. evaluations, surveys, analysis of requests for services and discussions of the CARIS project will be held to determine future development and expansion of the system beyond its pilot phase

### 3. Basic Assumptions about Achievement of Purpose

It is assumed that the 14 African countries involved will cooperate in the CARIS project as required, that data collected are valid, that the computerization system to be developed is technologically sound and that use will be made of the information developed by CARIS to avoid duplicative research and to support research identified as lacking or of a high priority nature in the 14 African countries.

<sup>1/</sup> Dahomey, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierre Leone, Togo, Upper Volta

The choice of a "coverage" for a pilot project has been guided by the following criteria:

First, the coverage should be sufficiently large and diverse to permit a meaningful regrouping of data. This is essential for a proper analysis of the usefulness of CARIS as an information tool. It demands an adequate quantity of research institutions and projects, covering a large variety of subject matter fields, commodities and disciplines, and preferably involving a range of ecological conditions.

Secondly, it should include other characteristics (such as different languages of input, and a reasonable geographical distribution) so as to permit - together with the variety of substantive input data - a valid test of the proposed methodology in all its aspects: data collecting, data processing (including indexing and translation), and finally data presentation.

Finally, it is also desirable to take advantage of such a pilot project to obtain, if possible, not only a sufficiency of essential data for testing the value and methodology validity of CARIS, but, at the same time, an "ensemble" of information immediately useful to a given geographical area and community of research workers.

### C. Statement of Project Outputs

#### 1. Outputs and Output Indicators

The following outputs will result from the pilot project:

a. An inventory will be made of all research completed or in progress in agricultural research stations in the 14 African countries by main line of activity in three major categories:

- (1) Research Institutions
- (2) Research Inputs
- (3) Environment Input

b. A documentation system will be established to record results of past and on-going research

c. Directory information in English and French will be developed on institutions, stations, on-going research programs and activities, names of research workers, disciplines and subject matter fields.

d. Directory information will be distributed to participating countries to provide coordination and cross linkages and to enable research workers to communicate quickly and effectively with others working in similar or related fields of research.

e. A question and answer service will be established within CARIS.

f. An assessment will be made by the project on the quality of the research stations, the main work performed and their capacity to undertake new work.

## 2. Basic Assumption about Production of Outputs

The production of usable outputs by CARIS is dependent upon the full cooperation of the 14 African countries with the FAO Country Representatives, field staff and consultants of donor agencies including AID in providing input data to the system. It is understood that environmental data to be collected is intended solely to provide a basis for understanding of research data of research stations with similar environments. It is recognized that difficulties exist in collecting complete soils and agro-climatic data, thus environment inputs will only be completed for those institutions, stations and research activities which require specific information on environmental conditions under which they are being carried out, e.g., plant production and protection, animal production and health, etc.

The unknown nature of outputs utilization expected from this project has limited its present financial support and level of effort to that of a pilot project in only 14 African countries. Future expansion of the project is dependent upon tangible outputs that can be used for LDC research on a worldwide basis.

## D. Statement of Project Inputs

### 1. Inputs

AID's inputs, financial and otherwise, are designed to assist the initiation of the CARIS project to obtain objectives described above. AID will designate personnel for liaison with the CARIS project's operations and progress.

Inputs to the project which are non-AID are as follows:

- a. FAO Regional Representatives, field staff and consultants
- b. FAO World Soil Map and soil classification data

- c. Linkages established with the UN Inter-Organizational Board on Management Information (IOB)
- d. International System for Agricultural Science and Technology (AGRIS) linkages
- e. Computer expertise of SSIR
- f. Country participation by 14 African countries
- g. Linkages with international research institutions

2. Budget

AID intends to provide \$15,000 in FY72 as its contribution to the CARIS pilot project to be implemented by IAC.

While FAO intends to make a substantial contribution in kind - in the form of HQ and field staff time - both to ensure overall coordination of the pilot project, and to assist in certain operations (such as data collecting), supplementary resources are required to permit implementation. They amount to \$79,000, broken down as follows:

-Project staff (Project coordinator, 12 months; Graduate assistant for field collection and evaluation, 6 months). Consultants (2 part-time climatologists - 1 month; Information scientist methodology and data processing, 3 months)	41,000
-Processing staff (supervisor, bibliographers, indexers, translators, editor, typists)	12,000
-Processing costs (input recording, computer processing, forms printing, directory printing)	15,000
-Travel and per diem	7,000
-Other expenditures (e.g. mail) and contingencies	4,000
	79,000

AID's present administrative policy is to provide support up to 25% of the core operating budget of research centers sponsored by the Consultative Group within a limitation not to exceed 7 million dollars in any one year. The CARIS project, while not being implemented by an international research center, is considered by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and its Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) as part of the international research network, and is therefore supported under this policy.

### 3. Basic Assumption about Management of Inputs

It is assumed that inputs of AID and other donors will be timely and that cooperation and participation by all input agents will be managed in an efficient manner so that the project's activities are initiated and conducted to completion as planned.

CARIS, in order to be efficient, must be built up in such a way that it can be:

- a. flexible and able to accept additional data as required;
- b. related without difficulty to other sectorial systems such as agroclimatic data banks, soil and water data banks, gene data banks or to other research information systems such as CRIS in USA, SIE of the Smithsonian Institute, ASPAC in Australia, etc;
- c. linked to international information systems such as the International Information System for Agricultural Sciences and Technology (ACRIS) presently under study, the common information system for the United Nations Agencies presently fostered by the Inter-Organizational Board (IOB) recently established in Geneva, and other systems recording scientific publications, reviews, journals or any other documentation in which food and agricultural research results and findings may be published.

### E. Rationale

The increasing expansion of agricultural research, both nationally and internationally in and on behalf of developing countries, involves a wide range of disciplines and subject matter fields related to natural resources, food and nutrition, crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries, and socio-economic problems. Research, unlike research carried out in most large industries and in other fields such as atomic energy and medicine, research in agriculture tends to be decentralized and to some extent fragmented over a wide range of locations and ecological conditions. Moreover, it is financed not only from national budgets but by an increasing number of supporting national, regional, international, bilateral, multilateral and private organizations and agencies either individually or combined.

Lack of co-ordination and inadequate cross-linkages in information on agricultural research activities presently undertaken in developing countries, as well as in developed countries on problems of direct interest to the latter, and the multiplicity of research work scattered over many research institutions and stations, have led to unnecessary duplication of research already completed or implemented elsewhere, as well as to neglect of some important research subjects and problem areas facing food and agricultural progress in the developing world. This makes it particularly necessary to build up an improved information system for keeping policy makers, planners, administrators, directors of research programs, their staff and the scientific community as a whole informed in time on current research activities and who is doing what, where, how, and with what resources.

The urgent need for more effective collection, analysis, and dissemination of information on agricultural research was stressed by several national delegations to the recent TAC Council. It is felt that the establishment of a centralized computerized agricultural research information system is not only necessary (is not overdue), but also particularly timely in view of the establishment of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research. An outline proposal along these lines was supported in principle by the Ballagio meeting held in December 1970, and at the first meeting of the Consultative Group in 1971, several representatives urged that the idea should be pursued in order to enable the Group to obtain a clearer overall view of the strengths and weaknesses of present research capabilities in the developing countries and thus to aid in determining areas and in achieving complementarity between national and international research programs. The second meeting in May, therefore, agreed to WHO preparing a research information project for consideration by the TAC at its first meeting.

TAC meetings in January 1972 have resulted in agreement to initiate this CARIS project on a pilot basis with limited application and objectives. The project presented here is intended to develop such a system as rapidly as possible with the aim of producing a first directory in 1 year, with provision for updating if necessary at a later date. It would thus provide the Consultative Group both with an overall view of on-going research activities in Africa so that decisions can be made at later dates as to the shifts of resources which might be required in international support for agricultural research in any succeeding cycle of financing of this project on a world-wide basis.

## F. Course of Action

### 1. Implementation Plan

The CARIS pilot project will be implemented as follows:

#### Phase I. Methodology and Preliminary Operations (5 months)

The first phase will be concerned with the basic methodology, system design, programming, classification and indexing standards, the coding system to be adopted, and the preparation of input forms.

#### Phase II. Data Collection (4 months)

The second phase will be devoted to data collection and verification. National officials designated by Member Governments, assisted by FAO Country Representatives and field experts or other experts from appropriate agencies, will undertake the completion and verification of the input forms. Consultants, based in FAO Regional Offices, will be needed to complement the field work and ensure its timely completion.

Information in relation to work done in or on behalf of developing countries will be collected from developed countries, bilateral, multilateral and international organizations, either directly from the institutions concerned or through their information systems.

#### Phase III. Data Processing (5 months)

The third phase will be concerned with data preparation, indexing and coding, transcription for computer processing and the printing and distribution of the Directory and indices. It is expected that the Directory will be developed by the end of the 12th month of the project.

#### Phase IV. Evaluation and Further Development (3 months)

The fourth phase will be concerned with an evaluation of the Directory as well as recommendations for further development of CARIS. It is envisaged that this will be done as soon as possible after the Directory is published through: e.g.

- a survey of results on a sampling basis via a questionnaire to recipients on the form and content of the material presented and suggestions for improvement;

PROJECT NO.	SUBMISSION <input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL	REVISION <input type="checkbox"/>	DATE	PAGE 10 of 11 PAGES
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-discussions of the CARIS project and its service as an agenda item at FAO or other appropriate meetings;

-analysis of requests made to the question and answer service.

Since some of the phases will be scheduled so as to partly overlap, the total implementation period is not expected to exceed 12 months. The result of the pilot project should therefore be available for review by the TAC and the Consultative Group early in 1973. Preliminary information on progress of the pilot project will be given to the TAC during the 1972 autumn sessions.

The number of research stations and centers, including university faculties of Agriculture will be around 200. The overall network to be covered by the pilot project also includes two international research institutes, the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) and the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA).

The number of main lines of research activities, broken down into research themes or projects, is estimated to be between 1,500 and 2,000.

All main agricultural research activities will be covered, including a variety of subject matter fields, main commodities, and disciplines within a diverse ecological range.

The sample will cover a large geographical area and two major languages: English and French.

Essential information on rice research activities, derived from the pilot project, will be of great value to the group of countries covered, all of which are interested in rice production as members of the West African Rice Development Association, with which IRRI and IITA are cooperating, and in which the TAC has shown considerable interest. This information would constitute a useful complement to the activities of the proposed WARDA Documentation Center, devoted mainly to existing documents. Other data which may be of direct interest to the TAC and the Consultative Group, on such items as grain legumes, rainfed cereals, industrial and export crops, animal production and health, and other subject matter fields of research in West Africa, can also be derived from the pilot project.

The coverage of the pilot project has been selected according to three main criteria: (a) representativeness in substance, (b) testing validity, (c) immediate usefulness. However, it should be pointed out that, with a view to limiting expenditures and producing results within an acceptable time limit, a cut-off date will be established, beyond which it will not be possible to accept further data, if output deadlines are to be met. For the time being, the study will be limited to those aspects which are essential to evaluate the usefulness of the CARIS proposal.

## 2. Narrative Statement

The AID contribution to this project is minor in comparison to the importance of the project, especially to the decision making processes involving agricultural research. AID will have no management responsibilities regarding the direction of the CARIS project. AID's influence as a contributing partner will be restricted to that of membership in the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and the Technical Advisory Committee of the Consultative Group which provides support for the CARIS pilot project activities.

PLS RETURN TO R. LINDSAY  
11 < TA/PM

MEMORANDUM

To: See Addressees

From: AA/TA, Joel Bernstein *JB*

Subject: Report on the December 3-4, 1971 Meeting of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research.

*see items  
for relevant  
info.*

The meeting was well conducted and proceeded very much as anticipated in the November 30 action and briefing memorandum to the Administrator (Attachment 1). All issues were settled by consensus, rather than by voting.

The principal outcomes follow (official IBRD minutes will be circulated to regions and IPC when available).

- (1) Existing Centers. Pledges of financing for the four existing international centers (CIAT, CIMMYT, IITA, IRRI) fully cover their 1972 budget requirements as recommended by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). This represents a significant increase from 1971. Later general statements of intent indicate support should continue to be adequate for the expanding budget needs of these centers through 1975.
- (2) African Livestock. As expected, the recommendations for new initiatives on African livestock were the most difficult Agenda item. However, intensive discussions beforehand and during the course of the meeting with the Rockefeller, Ford, UK, French, German, Canadian, and USA delegations and the Chairman of the TAC made it possible to develop a consensus along the lines desired by A.I.D. (See Attachment 1, statement by U.S. delegate on this question). The conclusion was that:
  - (a) the CG Chairman would appoint a subcommittee (really a working group) of interested donors to meet in January
  - (b) to establish ways and means of proceeding as quickly as possible towards an integrated approach to the overall African livestock problem, which was defined in terms of production and real income goals and embraced disease problems in this context;
  - (c) the subcommittee, chaired by the IBRD, would establish a Task Force to carry out the additional studies and discussions needed, according to terms of reference drafted by the TAC Chairman, making every effort to complete its work in time for consideration and recommendation of follow-up action by the TAC in late July. (Implicit from the discussion was the notion that the subcommittee would also consider interim action to plan and negotiate for the East African livestock component in some satisfactory relationship to the existing EAVRO Center of the East African Community, and would explore further potential donor interests in an integrated livestock center, how its management might

be constituted, etc.) Although the French had objected initially to this integrated approach, they ultimately stated agreement with it as the end product to be sought and said they'd participate in the sub-committee and help finance the proposed study.

- (3) Rain-fed Crops for Semi-Arid Areas. The proposals to establish a new institute for research on rainfed crops and farming systems in the semi-arid tropics was strongly supported and unopposed. Tentative support interest was expressed by the U.S., UK, IBRD, UNDP, Canada, Germany, Netherlands, ADB and Ford and Rockefeller Foundations. The Ford Foundation accepted the CG request that it take executive responsibility for carrying the planning, negotiation, establishment of an interim Director, etc. (i.e., moving action up to a point at which a legal entity and Board of Directors is established to which the reins can be handed), assisted by an Advisory Committee of interested donors and by IBRD undertaking responsibility as fiscal agent to raise the interim financing needed and seek adequate assurances re longer term financing. (A.I.D. pledged \$100,000 towards the requested \$500,000 start-up costs. The pledge was \$20,000 less than authorized, as this seemed to be all that was needed in the context of the meeting.) Negotiations will proceed with India about its being the host country. Informal Indian approval has already been indicated. Also, linkages are to be worked out with some regional centers working on the same problems in Africa. (Since the CG meeting, the Brazil Mission has indicated a strong interest in exploring the establishment of a similar tied-in regional center in Northeast Brazil. TAB is pursuing this prospect further in consultation USAID/Brazil and IA).
- (4) Potato Center. The TAC proposals for interim financing of the transition of the new international potato research institute in Peru was accepted. Precise requirements and financing sources for 1972 need further clarification, along with the longer term budget plans, but the total of 1972 pledges permits full coverage of this institute's interim needs. Meanwhile, the improved budget plans will be obtained. A.I.D.'s pledge for 1972 of \$100,000 will be about 15% of the current budget.
- (5) Overall financing.
- Donor statements of FY 1972 financing add to about \$17 million, and cover fully the estimated requirements for the budgets of the seven centers approved by the CG. (Special projects, which come with their own financing, are not included.) This compares to <sup>about</sup> \$15 million provided to the original four centers in 1971. Appendix A gives a tentative rack-up of 1972 financing available for the five established centers, prepared by IBRD staff at mid-meeting and subject to adjustment. Appendix B provides a rough TAB estimate of sources and amounts of financing.

that seem likely to be available for overall requirements in 1972 and 1973.

- It appears that something like an estimated \$25 million requirement for the regular 1973 budgets of the seven centers already approved for CG support will be available, or possibly a little more if needed to support new TAC recommendations that may be made and accepted by the Consultative Group during 1973.
- Indications are that by 1973 there will be 10 donors beyond those participating prior to the establishment of the CG, and possibly 2 or 3 more. Japan has been a disappointment, both in its failure to indicate any financial support and in the complete dormancy thus far of the Japanese member of TAC.
- The discussion of the need for financial commitments of about five years ahead or at least of statements of executive intent (subject to legislative provision), especially for new centers, received mixed reactions. About 8 or 9 donors gave general indications of intent (including A.I.D.'s reaffirmation of its qualified pledge of a year ago) that seemed to satisfy more or less the IBRD and Foundations who had pressed the point. The others (generally less significant) said they could not indicate financing intent more than a year ahead.
- As shown in Attachment 2 to the November 30 Action Memorandum to you, our best current estimate is that A.I.D.'s financing of regular 1973 budgets will go to \$6.25 million for the seven centers, if we cover a full  $\frac{1}{4}$  of these budgets as previously intended. This compares to \$3.63 - 4.13 million for the centers' 1972 budgets (depending on how the African livestock proposals develop).

(6) Miscellaneous

- The proposal for a pilot test in Africa on a Computerized Agricultural Research Information System (CARIS) generally received strong approval, based on many delegations' concern about the lack of adequate information to help steer new research efforts and to avoid unproductive duplication. The FAO secretariat of the TAC developed this proposal in response to the Consultative Group's expressions of general need in this subject area, at its organizing meeting. \$79,000 is needed for the pilot test, in addition to some costs that FAO will absorb. Rockefeller, Belgium and France indicated interest in small contributions (\$15 or 20 thousand), and when pressed the A.I.D.

representative said we'd consider the matter (We are considering a \$15,000 contribution, but haven't reached a conclusion yet. If we do contribute, it will be on the understanding that we would not contribute directly to any subsequent on-going system, which we would prefer to see financed by the international organizations.)

Other items under consideration by TAC were reviewed briefly without any attempt at conclusions, as anticipated in your November 20 briefing memorandum. These included possible work on a "gene bank", aquaculture, food legumes, water management, monsoon rice, and vegetables. The latter is of particular interest to A.I.D., given the statement that the TAC considered this area of great importance (some LDC reps had said the same) and had invited the Director designate of the Taiwan center (Dr. Chandler, of IRRI) to submit proposals.

- Also of particular interest was the TAC Chairman's statement on soybean research. He said that TAC gave this high priority for LDC needs. But he thought that the most effective and economical way to meet the need was to extend the existing U.S. capability at Illinois as the hub of a research network to meet LDC needs, rather than to try to duplicate this capability in a new international center. TAB has already provided some very small financing for this purpose and has encouraged, in cooperation with the Regions, some evolving linkages with LDC research activities. However, the Agency will need to look at the potential for a stronger effort.
- The Consultative Group did approve a compromise formula that we had suggested to obtain adequate IBRD review on behalf of the donors of the cost/efficiency of center expenditure proposals and budget implications of program proposals, as an input for CG meetings and a service to the centers as well.
- Several of the developing country regional representatives spoke frequently, and tended to be partial about their local interests. Although they did not particularly help along the business of the meeting, they did keep some significant LDC viewpoints in the fore and probably will turn out to be most useful as a supportive bridge reporting back to their LDC colleagues via FAO channels.

In Sum:

- This new and unique Consultative Group is taking shape and putting down roots as a significant new institutional form for international cooperation, and in a very important subject area.
- The Technical Advisory Committee segment of the institutional structure

clearly is well led by its Chairman, Sir John Crawford of Australia, and appears to have a promising future.

- The financing base for international agricultural research institutions has widened to an encouraging extent -- both in total funds and number of donors.
- France, as the chief obstructionist element heretofore to expanded international research cooperation (particularly in Africa), is still dragging its heels some but is gradually becoming less obstructionist and taking a positive interest in some initiatives. It looks as if this trend can be furthered.
- These hopeful developments merit continuing A.I.D. support and encouragement.

Addressees:

AFR  
NESA  
LA  
SA/EAD  
PPC

AA/TA:JBernstein:jb:12/29/71

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

KSL  
RML  
FEB 25 1972

TO : TA/AGR, Dr. Omer J. Kelley

FROM : ASIA/TECH, James M. Blume *JMB*

SUBJECT: Clearance of PROP - CARIS Pilot Project

DATE: February 23, 1972

The ASIA Bureau concurs in subject PROP, covering a one-time only contribution of \$15,000.

cc:  
ASIA/DP, James Brown  
EA/SA/IR, Robert Johnson  
IA/DP, Jack Heller  
AFR/TAC, Princeton Lyman  
VN/ND, Don Goodwin

*Ray L. Baird*  
2/25/72



2/25/72

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

*K. S. Lebeck*

TO : TA/PM, Mr. Kenneth S. Levick

DATE: Feb. 18, 1972

FROM : SA/IR/TECH, *also for R. E. J.* Robert R. Johnson

SUBJECT: TA/AGR PROP; for:

1. International Potato Research Center - Lima, Peru
2. Increasing Fish Production Through Improved Fish Culture in LDCs
3. Computerized Agricultural Research Information System - CARIS Pilot Project
4. International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) - India

We are able to recommend approval of the four PROPs listed above. However, we think two of the PROPs could be improved somewhat, as follows:

1. International Potato Research Center - Lima, Peru. Language used to describe AID's commitment in support of the core budget of the center is somewhat confusing (see page 4-D-2). Also, the Narrative Statement on page 9-2 does not seem entirely consistent with this core budget statement.
2. Computerized Agricultural Research Information System - CARIS Pilot Project. The fact is not clear in the PROP that AID's only commitment is to the pilot project. See Mr. Bernstein's memo on the CG meeting December 3-4, 1971, page 4 "If we do contribute (to CARIS) it will be on the understanding that we would not contribute directly to any subsequent on-going system..."

CC: TA/AGR, Omer Kelley  
TA/AGR, James Hawes  
SA/IR/DP, C. H. Breecher  
PPC/RC, Arthur Handly  
SA/IR/TECH/ARD, Phillip Smith



MEMO : T/AG, Dr. Oscar J. Kelley  
AFR/EP, Mr. E. Donoghue

March 2, 1972

AFR/TAC, Princeton N. Lyman

*John  
This should be  
for signature at 12  
Kul*

*10/2/72*

Consensus of PROP - Computerized Agricultural Research Information System -  
GARIS Pilot Project

AFR concurs in the Computerized Agricultural Research Information System (GARIS) PROP subject to its being a contribution to the pilot project only. Our view concurs fully with the statement contained in the T/AG's memorandum subject, "Report on the December 3-4, 1971 Meeting of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research" dated December 30, 1971. This memo states on page 4, "If we do contribute, it will be on the understanding that we will not contribute directly to any subsequent on-going system, which we would prefer to see financed by the international organizations."

AFR wishes to also suggest the following modifications in the subject PROP:

a. While this project has been referred to as of 12 months, it is not possible to complete and adequately evaluate the work outlined within one year. This is particularly true as to item 3, Page 4. With respect to the distribution outputs, these can be made by the end of the 12 months, but the measurement of their value will take a longer time and necessarily will have to take place outside of the project.

b. The last paragraph on page 6 should be redrafted. The first sentence does not accurately state A.I.D.'s policy. It should read -- "to 25% of the core operating budget--". Also, the U.S. is not committed to support "all international centers". The last sentence is not considered to be correct. The GARIS proposal was submitted to the CG as a new proposal along with several others. It should be judged on its merits. Several CG members were doubtful, including the U.S., that this research service should be financed on the same basis of international institutions. As indicated in the first paragraph of this memorandum, the commitment is on the GARIS experiment only. Since the proposed research service if developed would be of unlimited duration and cover more than the work of international centers, we feel that such activity fits in better as a part of the budget of an international organization such as the I.A.R.C. which could provide financial continuity. The annual commitments of CG donors may become increasingly uncertain as the years go by.

CCI  
AD/AFR  
AFR/CA  
AFR/CAF  
AFR/CIA  
AFR/RAF  
AFR/CAF  
ASIA/ID, O.L. Mims  
ASIA/DP, James Brown  
EM/SA/IR, Robert Johnson  
LA/DP, Jack Haller  
VN/ND, Don Goodwin

AFR/TAG:JLCooper:gca:3/3/72

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20521

Dr. Peter Gran  
Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations  
Via delle Terme di Caracalla 00100  
Rome, Italy

MAY 23 1975

Subject: Grant No. AID/ta-G-1188 (Revised  
Amendment No. 1

Dear Dr. Gran:

Pursuant to the authority contained in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, the subject grant is administratively amended so the date of the grant document reads "December 31, 1974" in lieu of the date "April 14, 1975".

Except as expressly amended the grant remains in full force and effect in accordance with its terms. If you agree with this change, please sign the original and all copies of this amendment and return the original and five copies to the office designated below.

Sincerely yours,



V. S. Ferrell  
Grant Officer  
Technical Assistance Branch  
Central Operations Division  
Office of Contract Management

ACKNOWLEDGED:

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

BY: Peter Gran

TITLE: Director, Research Development Centre

DATE: 3 June 1975

CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY THIS  
1 DAY OF Aug 75

BY: Carol J. Beards

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20523

Dr. Peter Oram  
Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations  
Via delle terme di Caracalla 00100  
Rome, Italy

*April 14, 1975*  
~~DEC 31 1974~~

Subject: Grant No. AID/ta-G-1186 (Revised)  
PIO/T No. 931-11-110-974-  
73-3158613

Dear Dr. Oram,

Pursuant to the authority contained in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, the Agency for International Development (hereinafter referred to as "A.I.D." or "the Grantor"), hereby grants to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (hereinafter referred to as "FAO" or "the Grantee"), the sum of ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000). These funds are being provided to support a work plan to establish worldwide a Current Agricultural Research Information System, (CARIS) as more specifically described in Attachment I hereto.

The purpose of the CARIS project is to support activity in computerization of data to collect, organize, store, evaluate, retrieve and distribute information quickly and economically on agricultural research. These data will be used to keep policy makers, planners, administrators, directors of research stations, their staff and the scientific community informed in a timely manner on current research activities world-wide. The CARIS project will provide a resource for

CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY THIS  
*20th* DAY OF *June*, 1975  
BY *R. A. Mundstaff*  
*CB*

improved communications between institutions and scientists; information developed will provide complementarity between national, regional and international research programs.

The grant is effective as of the date of this letter and shall continue in effect through December 31, 1975. Funds granted hereunder shall apply to specified costs incurred during the period January 1 through December 31, 1975.

This Grant is made subject to the following conditions:

1. Funds provided by this grant to FAO are to be used exclusively in support of the CARIS budget which is set forth as Attachment II hereto and made a part hereof. These funds represent up to 25% of the CARIS budget for the Calendar Year 1975. Funds granted hereunder represent only partial support of total project costs and funds for the remainder of expenditures for the project are presently available or will be made available by other donors to assure the success of the project.

2. Grant funds will be expended only for the purpose of implementing the project as more fully described in the Program Description (Attachment I) as supported by the aforementioned budget (Attachment II) and in accordance with the procedures and financial regulations of FAO as set forth in the FAO manual which pertains thereto.

3. The following reports shall be prepared and submitted to A.I.D. as stated below:

(a) One hundred (100) copies of the Comprehensive Annual Report on overall program and fiscal matters for the entire calendar year for which the grant was made;

(b) Five (5) copies of such other reports as may be prepared in connection with the annual International Centers Week. (This report will describe proposed program and funding requirements for the ensuing calendar year.)

(c) Five (5) copies of such other reports as may be prepared or requested from time to time on various other program activities.

(d) Copies of the above stated reports shall be submitted to:

Dr. Guy B. Baird  
Associate Director Research  
Technical Assistance Bureau  
Office of Agriculture  
Agency for International Development  
Washington, D. C. 20523

Additionally, one copy of each report shall be submitted to the Grant Officer whose name appears on the grant.

(e) In addition one copy of each report described in paragraphs (a) and (c) above shall be sent to all A.I.D. Missions. The Grantee will be advised, by the Technical Specialist of these recipients and changes as they occur. The Technical Specialist is:

Mr. Ryland Holmes, Chief  
Program Division  
Technical Assistance Bureau  
Office of Agriculture  
Agency for International Development  
Washington, D. C. 20523

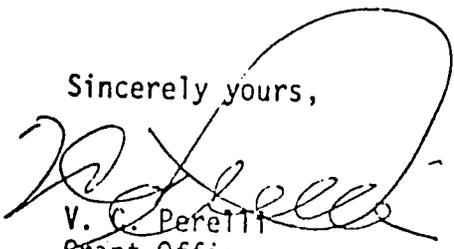
The TA/AGR Technical Specialist also should be consulted for questions of a general program nature. Questions concerning the administration of the grant by its terms shall be addressed to the Grant Officer.

4. If, after expiration of the Grant there are unexpended funds as they relate to this grant, the Grantee will refund to A.I.D. an amount of such unexpended funds equivalent to the percentage of AID's support in relation to support provided by other Donors.

Upon acceptance of the conditions set forth above, the Agency for International Development will make a cash grant of \$90,000. It is understood that the funds thus obtained, together with other funds obtained from other donors, will be deposited in Trust Fund account No. 9412.00 which has been established for this purpose with the Banca Commerciale Italiana, FAO Branch, Rome, for the credit of the FAO/UN General Dollar Account, "Current Agriculture Research Information System (CARIS)."

Please sign the original and six copies of this letter to acknowledge your understanding of the conditions under which these funds have been granted. Please return the original and five (5) copies to my office.

Sincerely yours,

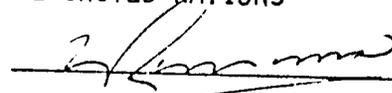
  
V. C. Perelli  
Grant Officer  
Technical Assistance Branch  
Central Operations Division  
Office of Contract Management

Attachments:

- I. Program Description
- II. CY 1975 CARIS Program Budget

ACKNOWLEDGED:

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

BY:  \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: Director, Financial Services Division

DATE: 5 May 1975

# Current Agricultural Research Information System (CARIS)

## ATTACHMENT I

### Program Description

January 1, 1975 through December 31, 1975

#### A. Background

The CARIS project was first brought to the attention of AID in 1971 when a pilot project was initiated. AID contributed \$15,000 to the pilot project which had the following objectives:

a) to put to actual test (in conditions approximating those of a larger scale project) the organizational and procedural set-up, and the methodological components of the system;

b) to produce a useful information tool on agricultural research carried out in West Africa

c) to provide an opportunity to ascertain the needs and requirements of users of information on agricultural research and therefore of the necessity and utility of establishing CARIS in its worldwide coverage.

An evaluation of the pilot CARIS project suggest that its objectives have been met:

a) The execution of the pilot project has offered occasion to meet organizational and procedural problems and, in trying to solve them, to derive useful experience for future operations; it has also permitted the test of methodological tools in a real environment and on a sufficiently large volume of data, so as to derive indications for systems improvement.

As regards the "product" of the pilot project, i.e. the data presented in the printed directories, despite the fact that some of the institutions have been reluctant at first to provide information - most of them have now done so after the publication, as could be expected - yet the amount and quality of information collected is important and useful, as is evidenced by the interest shown by the users of the directories.

c) The needs and requirements of the users have been ascertained through various means, mainly the IDRC consultants - who have collected the suggestion and opinions of several hundred research administrators, research workers and documentalists from some fifty research institutes. In addition further opinions have been transmitted verbally or in writing to the CARIS Coordinating Center and this information has been communicated to IDRC for inclusion in the evaluation file. The reactions and opinions of the users are nearly unanimous in expressing interest for a current, worldwide agricultural research information system, which is considered as an essential tool for research workers, research administrators and many others categories of users.

On the basis of the results achieved and of the experience gained during the pilot project - including its evaluation and the resulting clarifications of the needs and requirements of users, and the observations and recommendation of TAC members - it is proposed to establish a Current Agricultural Research Information System (CARIS) with a "worldwide coverage"

B. Project Objectives:

The purpose is to support project activity in computerization of data to collect, organize, store, evaluate, retrieve and distribute information quickly and economically on agricultural research. These data will be used to keep policy makers, planners, directors of research stations, their staffs and the scientific community informed in a timely manner on current research activities world-wide. Such information will assist in avoiding duplicative efforts and will help assure that important research is not neglected. The CARIS project will provide a resource for improved communications between institutions and scientists; information developed will provide complementarity between national, regional and international research programs.

C. Project Activities

Data to be collected

The estimated volume of expected data is the following:

	Stations	Investigators	Programs & Subprograms
Africa	680	3,000	2,700
Near East	255	1,100	1,200
Asia & Far East (excluding China People's Republic)	350	1,600	2,600
Latin America	<u>315</u>	<u>1,300</u>	<u>1,500</u>
	1,600	7,000	8,000

CARIS Products and Services

It is proposed to produce in English, French and Spanish versions, the following printed directories:

- Directory of research institutions
- Directory of research workers
- Directory of main lines of on-going research

These printed directories will offer at regular intervals a global picture of agricultural research data.

The present proposal is aimed at achieving, after two years, the publication of a first complete set of these three directories:

a) Directory of Research Institutions

This Directory will list by large regions and countries the descriptive information on research institutions and stations already contained in the pilot project directories, such as addresses, climate and soils, staff, equipment, publications, fields of activity, etc.

This directory will also contain indexes by fields of science and specialties derived from the fields of activity of the institutions or stations.

b) Directory of Research Workers (Investigators)

This directory will be published as a kind of "who's who" in agricultural research. Data on research workers (diploma, employer, place of work, languages, specialists) will be listed by name in alphabetical order. This directory will also include indexes by fields of science and specialties, and an index by place of work in geographical order, sub arranged by research institutions

c) Directory of Research Programmes (Main Lines of On-going Research Work)

In this directory data will be listed under the name of

each research institution with suitable cross references permitting easy references to the directory of the research institutions.

The information on the main lines of on-going research work will be provided either by simply citing the title of the research programs or sub-programs if it is sufficiently specific or by further exploiting it (in the case of large programs or sub-programs) by listing, under the title, the main lines of research actions.

The directory will also contain three indexes referring to the research programs and to the main lines of the research actions in these programs = Alphabetical index, Object index and Activities index.

D. General Discussion

The increasing expansion of agricultural research, both nationally and internationally in and on behalf of developing countries, involves a wide range of disciplines and subject matter fields related to natural resources, food and nutrition, crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries, and socio-economic problems. However, unlike research carried out in most large industries and in other fields such as atomic energy and medicine, research in agriculture tends to be decentralized and to some extent fragmented over a wide range of locations and ecological conditions. Moreover, it is financed not only from national budgets but by an increasing number of supporting national, regional, international, bilateral, multilateral and private organizations and agencies either individually or combined.

Lack of co-ordination and inadequate cross-linkages in information on agricultural research activities presently undertaken in developing countries, as well as in developed countries on problems of direct interest to the latter, and the multiplicity of research work scattered over many research institutions and stations, have led to unnecessary duplication of research already completed or implemented elsewhere, as well as to neglect of some important research subjects and problem areas facing food and agricultural progress in the developing world. This makes it particularly necessary to build up an improved information system for keeping policy makers, planners, administrators, directors of research programs, their staff and the scientific community as a whole informed in time on current research activities and who is doing what, where, how, and with what resources.

The urgent need for more effective collection, analysis, and dissemination of information on agricultural research was stressed by several national delegations to the recent FAO Council. It is felt that the establishment of a centralized computerized agricultural research information system is not only necessary (if not overdue), but also particularly timely in view of the establishment of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research.

The AID contribution to this project is minor in comparison to the importance of the project, especially to the decision making processes involving agricultural research. AID will have no management responsibilities regarding the direction of the CARIS project. AID's

Influence as a contributing partner will be restricted to that of membership in the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and the Technical Advisory Committee of the Consultative Group which provides support for the CARIS project activities.

E. Linkages

The TAC sees considerable merit in the establishment of close linkages between the CARIS and AGRIS projects with respect to inclusion of the origin of data published under AGRIS and listing of major publications of stations listed under CARIS.

In fact such a linkage is already possible since:

a) In "AGRINDEX" to be published by AGRIS there will be an "Index of corporate entries ..." where Research Institutions will be listed in alphabetical order with the reference number of the publication.

b) In the CARIS Directory of Institutions, a list of the major publications issued by each institution or in which they are participating will be given in the item "Publications" of the description of each Research Institution. (This has already been done in the CARIS pilot project directory).

BUDGET

CY 1975

1. CARIS Coordinating Centre

Staff (1 Coordinator P5, 1 Agronomist P4,  
1 Junior Professional P2, 2 Clerks,  
1 Secretary G4) \$129,000

Travel 3,500

Equipment and Supplies 5,000

Contractual Services (System analysis,  
emergency operations) 3,000

Communications 3,000

Contingencies 10,000

2. Data collection and Input

Input tools 6,000

Collecting (12 Cons. X 3 Mos. & Travel) 126,000

Input checking & coding 30,000

Input translation (each into 2 languages) 40,000

Total CY 1975 Budget \$355,500

PROPOSED SOURCES OF FUNDS

<u>DONOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Belgium	\$ 30,000
France	35,000
Germany	35,000
Netherlands	75,000
U.S. A.I.D.	90,000
Other	<u>90,500</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	\$355,500