

9311299(4)
PD-AAA-308

ACTION MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR

OCT 27 1976

THRU: ES

FROM: AA/TA, Curtis Ferrar

931-1299

13p

Problem: The Agency needs the help of minority institutions in solving the problems of the rural poor in LDCs. We are asking for your approval to start work on a project to develop the multidisciplinary rural development capacity of two such institutions for this purpose through 211(d) grants.

Discussion: We are attaching a Project Identification Document (PID) which proposes to increase the competence and strengthen the capacity of two minority universities (to be selected) to assist in the resolution of problems affecting the rural poor in LDCs. Specifically, the grants are proposed, would develop the capabilities of these institutions to analyze the factors contributing to rural poverty--in which activity several such institutions have already had pertinent domestic experience--and recommend solutions to enhance the standard of living of the rural poor in developing countries. They would employ a multidisciplinary approach to these problems through the involvement of disciplines such as rural sociology, anthropology, psychology, education, agricultural extension, etc. along with economics and agricultural economics. The latter two subjects would serve as the base for promoting this approach. The grants would be designed to increase the capacity of these institutions to work collaboratively with LDCs, while facilitating limited utilization in LDCs of the expertise in rural development already available at these institutions.

In keeping with the spirit and intent of PD-62 on institutional grants, we submitted this PID to the Research and Development Committee on July 13, 1976 for its concurrence to proceed with further development of the project (specifically the institution selection process and development of grant project statement). The Committee concurred with TAB's decision to utilize the 211(d) grant approach for developing the capacity of minority institutions as the most economical and effective among alternative funding modes. Regional Bureau representatives of the Committee indicated their support for further development of the project because expertise is critically needed. Several Bureaus have also expressed their willingness to assist in developing the grant project statement and selecting the institutions to become involved in this activity.

The Committee, however, expressed the view that the funding estimated for the proposed activity (\$500,000 per grant) would be too low to fully support the intended multi-disciplinary involvement at the two institutions. The Bureau has accepted this advice and the PID figure has been increased to the more realistic amount of \$750,000 per grant. A total of \$600,000

is available in the current program (FY 1977) for initially funding the two five-year grants with the balance of \$900,000 to be provided in FY 1979.

The approval of PIDs is a particularly critical stage in inaugurating 211(d) grant projects because the next steps are selection of the proposed grantees followed by our direct discussions with them to develop mutually acceptable grant project statements. We wish you to be involved in this initial decision before we proceed further with the two grants being proposed.

The project was mentioned in the Transitional Quarter write-up of the "Agricultural Economics and Sector Analysis" Grant Activity Data Sheet, page 13 of the FY 1977 Congressional Presentation IPB. The major reason for the increase in the RDA#1 budget from \$3.6 million, as reflected in the Data Sheet to \$4.4 million in TAB's FY 1977 OYB is that this activity slipped to 1977. A section 113 notification will be prepared and forwarded for your approval with the Project Paper for the proposed 211(d) grants.

Recommendation: That you approve the attached PID.

Approved: John E. Murphy

Disapproved: _____

Date: 11/2/76

Attachment:

1. Project Document Action Form (PDAF)
2. Project Identification Document (PID)
3. Environmental Threshold Determination

Clearance:

AA/PPC:PBirnbaum	<u>ASB</u>	Date	<u>11/1/76</u>
TA/PPU:CFritz	(draft) <u>0</u>	Date	<u>9/9/76</u>
TA/PPU:TEliot	(draft)	Date	<u>9/8/76</u>
TA/AGR:LHesser	<u>THB</u>	Date	<u>10/26/76</u>

ad
TA/AGR/ESP:AHarding:ad:9/7/76:X27938

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PROJECT DOCUMENT ACTION FORM

1. TRANSACTION CODE

- A - Add
- C - Change
- D - Delete

PDAF

2. DOCUMENT CODE

4

3. COUNTRY/ENTITY

EA Bureau

211(d)

4. DOCUMENT REVISION NUMBER

5. PROJECT NUMBER (7 digits)

931-1154

6. BUREAU OFFICE

A. Symbol

B. Code

TAB

08

7. PROJECT TITLE (maximum 40 characters)

Ag Econ Analysis + Rural Poverty

8. RELATED DOCUMENT CODE-

1 1 - PID
 2 - PRP

9. PROJECT DOCUMENT ACTION

(ENTER COMMENT FOR ITEMS IN BLOCK 13)

ACTION TAKEN

- A - APPROVED
- D - DISAPPROVED*
- S - SUSPENDED*
- CA - CONDITIONALLY APPROVED*
- DD - DECISION DEFERRED*

10. APPROVED PROJECT AID APPROPRIATED FUNDS (\$000)

A. APPROPRIATION	B. PRIMARY PURPOSE CODE	C. FUNDING TECH. CODE		E. FIRST FY 77		LIFE OF PROJECT	
		D. GRANT	D. LOAN	F. GRANT	G. LOAN	H. GRANT	I. LOAN
(1) FN	185I	052		600		1,500	
(2)							
(3)							
(4)							
TOTALS							

11. PROPOSED PLANNING RESOURCES

- 1 - APPROVED
- 2 - DISAPPROVED
- 3 - APPROVED AS MODIFIED

12. PROPOSED NEXT DOCUMENT

- A. 2 - PRP
- 3 - GPS

D. PROPOSED NEXT DOCUMENT DATE

MM | YY
02 | 77

13. COMMENTS (MAXIMUM 240 CHARACTERS)

14. ACTION REFERENCE

A. AIRGRAMS | A | I | D | I | O | I | A | | | | |
TELEGRAMS | S | T | A | T | E | | | | | | | | |
MEMORANDA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

B. ACTION REFERENCE DATE

MM | DD | YY

15. ADVANCES

A.	TYPED NAME	TITLE	DATE	INITIALS
A.	Harding, TA/AGR/ESP	Economist		
B.	W. Merrill, TA/AGR/ESP	Chief, ESP	10/19/76	RES
C.	L. Hesser, TA/AGR	Director, TA/AGR	10/19/76	[Signature]
D.	T. Eliot, TA/PPU	Grants Coordinator	10/21/76	T.E.
E.	J. Gunning, TA/PPU	Chief, Prog. Div.	10/24/76	JG

16. RESPONSIBLE BUREAU SIGNATURE

17. ACTION DATE

MM | DD | YY

FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
PROJECT IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT FACESHEET
 TO BE COMPLETED BY ORIGINATING OFFICE

1. TRANSACTION CODE
 C A = Add
 C = CHANGE
 D = DELETE

PID
 2. DOCUMENT CODE
 1

3. COUNTRY/ENTITY
 Interregional - 211(d) Grant

4. DOCUMENT REVISION NUMBER

5. PROJECT NUMBER (7 DIGITS)
 931-1154

6. BUREAU/OFFICE
 SYMBO: TA/AGR B. CODE: 108

7. PROJECT TITLE (MAXIMUM 40 CHARACTERS)
 Ag. Econ. Analysis and Rural Poverty

8. PROPOSED NEXT DOCUMENT
 ERP GPS
 N. DATE: 02/77

10. ESTIMATED COSTS (\$000 OR EQUIVALENT, \$1 =)

FUNDING SOURCE		PRESENT
A. AID APPROPRIATED		\$1,500
E. OTHER	1.	
	U.S. 2.	
C. HOST COUNTRY		
D. OTHER DONOR(S)		
TOTAL		\$1,500

9. ESTIMATED FY OF AUTHORIZATION/OBLIGATION
 A. INITIAL BY: 77 B. FINAL BY: 81

11. PROPOSED BUDGET AID APPROPRIATED FUNDS (\$000)

A. APPROPRIATION	B. PRIMARY PURPOSE CODE	PRIMARY TECH. CODE		E. FIRST FY 77		LIFE OF PROJECT	
		C. GRANT	D. LOAN	F. GRANT	G. LOAN	H. GRANT	I. LOAN
(1) FN	185I	052		600		1,500	
(2)							
(3)							
TOTAL				600		1,500	

12. SECONDARY TECHNICAL CODES (MAXIMUM SIX CODES OF THREE POSITIONS EACH)

13. SPECIAL CONCERNS CODES (MAXIMUM SIX CODES OF FOUR POSITIONS EACH)

14. SECONDARY PURPOSE CODE

5. PROJECT GOAL (MAXIMUM 240 CHARACTERS)
 To strengthen LDC capabilities and assist LDCs in developing the capacity to analyze their agricultural and rural sectors thus leading to better program and policy choices which improve the quality of life.

16. PROJECT PURPOSE (MAXIMUM 400 CHARACTERS)
 To increase the competence and strengthen the capacities of selected minority universities in assisting LDCs in executing programs and projects concerning their economic and social development.

7. PLANNING RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS (MAXIMUM 400 CHARACTERS)
 Travel, per diem, consultations, Institutional Evaluation process \$5,000

18. ORIGINATING OFFICE SIGNATURE
 Signature: Leon F. Hesser
 Title: Director, TA/AGR
 Date Signed: 05-28-76

19. DATE DOCUMENT RECEIVED BY AID/W, OR PER AID/W DOCUMENTS, DATE OF DISTRIBUTION
 MM DD YY

1. Summary of the Problem

There is an urgent need in most developing countries to improve the performance of the agricultural sector as a means to promote their overall economic and social development. The current world food crisis is a grave reminder that the rate of growth of world agricultural output is still insufficient. In many developing countries, food production has barely kept pace with population growth, while in Africa and parts of other continents per capita food production has actually declined. This inadequate output growth is in spite of expenditures of hundreds of billions of dollars on agricultural programs, including billions of dollars of external development assistance. The Green Revolution has produced a significant surge in output since the mid-1960s, but primarily of a few basic grains grown largely in irrigated areas. Notwithstanding its demonstration that major output gains are possible and its stimulus of substantial new efforts, the Green Revolution has not solved many problems that require much more attention if LDCs are to have the capacity to produce adequate food for their burgeoning populations in the future.

The situation in many countries is even less satisfactory in regard to objectives other than increasing food production. Improving income distribution, reducing underemployment, raising productivity and levels of living of the rural and urban poor, and maintaining price and balance-of-payments stability, are some of the goals that are being increasingly emphasized in LDCs. More and more, countries and international assistance agencies are placing priority on programs whose benefits will be widely distributed by the output and productivity increasing process itself, rather than deferring concern with equity objectives until adequate output levels have been achieved.

"Rural development" is becoming widely used to reflect the idea that the objectives of agricultural development should include expansion of productive employment opportunities both on and off farms and greater sectoral, regional, and personal equity in the distribution of income and social services--as well as substantial increases in output--if the large number of rural poor in LDCs are to benefit from growth. In this sense, rural development looks at the LDC growth process from the viewpoint of a target population--the majority of people in rural areas who now exist in varying degrees of absolute and relative poverty and whose conditions are tending to deteriorate in many countries as rural populations grow relative to available resources, technology in use and prevailing institutional structures.

This expressed concern of rural development with multiple economic and social goals for the target rural population has not yet produced an adequate analytical framework or an approach that shows how the benefits of the development process can be widely extended to the small farmers, landless laborers, and non-farm workers who constitute the poor majority of LDC rural populations. The need to assist LDCs to develop their own capacity to analyze agricultural and rural development

problems has been identified by AID as a significant problem area. LDCs need to be able to explore a wide variety of kinds of questions about agricultural and rural development analytically--using relevant tools and reliable data. They need to know, for example, how best to allocate resources among different crops. They need to know whether their land, labor, and capital resources are being used efficiently in pursuit of their multiple goals. They need to better understand how agricultural change effects the total economy and how the agricultural sector is affected by growth and change in other sectors of the economy. They need to understand how to affect and organize for participation their population groups that have largely been excluded from past growth processes. At present, most LDCs are unable to obtain useful answers to these questions due to a lack of analytical capability and a poor data base. Nevertheless, in a number of countries, policy makers are beginning to recognize the significance of the questions and the importance of the analytical capability needed to answer them, and to make provisions for agricultural and rural sector analysis in their staffing and budget plans as a crucial component of their over-all planning systems.

Following the concern with world food supplies in the mid-60s, the less developed countries and AID began to attach much higher priority to agricultural development. This shift in priorities soon revealed a critical deficiency in the Agency's skilled manpower. To provide the help the developing countries need in the shaping of programs and policies which would substantially increase their agricultural production, research, skilled methodology, sophisticated analysis, and professional expertise are required and can only provided by economists with an understanding of and experience in agricultural development.

The need for trained and experienced agricultural development specialists has continued to increase both within AID and LDCs. Missions, Regional Bureaus, and Central Bureaus have been unable to attract and retain personnel with the skills they need in this key problem area. The deficit supply in talent has been accentuated by the recent strong shift in emphasis in the Agency toward agricultural and rural development objectives, especially in terms of their relationship to small farmer and the rural poor. Needs for additional manpower and analytical results are reflected in the over-all agency approach to food production and increased equity and in the country strategies proposed in may of the DAPs.

In light of the aforementioned, the Economics and Sector Planning Division of TA/AGR proposes that two new multidisciplinary 211(d) grants (with economics/agricultural economics as the primary discipline) be established and extended to two minority land-grant universities engaged in agricultural and rural development work. The purpose of these grants is to increase the competence and strengthen the capabilities of the selected minority universities in assisting less

developed countries in planning and executing programs and projects concerning their economic and social development. The 1890 land-grant universities have expressed their strong interest in becoming involved in agricultural development programs in developing countries. Minority participation in foreign assistance activities either through previous 211(d) grant programs, or professional minority staffing within AID, other U.S. government agencies and private consulting firms, qualified to execute R and D programs, is minimal. Comprehensive minority professional training programs, which can generate new talents versed in international development skills and provide needed overseas exposure to existing talent, are virtually non-existent. In general, the grants will be directed towards developing capabilities programmatically required by AID such as project design, analyses, implementation, and evaluation. The grants will also be designed to increase the capacities of the selected institutions to analyze more specific problems such as agricultural marketing and distribution and post harvest losses. The specific kinds of expertise ~~of expertise~~ to be developed will, of course, be dependent upon the capabilities of the institutions selected. However, the general and specific kinds of expertise outlined above are in constant demand by AID missions and developing countries.

As stated earlier, the minority land grant universities have expressed their strong interest in becoming involved in agricultural development programs in LDCs. There is general agreement within the Agency that it needs to involve more minority group individuals in its programs and that the 1890 land grant universities' experience in assistance to small farmers and the rural poor in the United States may be very helpful to AID in designing and implementing small farmer development projects in LDCs. TA/AGR presently has two minority school grants in agricultural economics: Virginia State College and Southern University. These grants were designed in 1971, when AID's emphasis (with regard to grant programs) was on building institutional capacity, and not on developing institutional response capability as now called for. Utilization of the capacity generated by these grants is now being emphasized, and various AID offices and the grantees are identifying opportunities in developing countries where the capabilities which have been developed can be applied.

The grant would enable the selected minority institutions to increase and strengthen competence by providing funds for the following activities:

1. Faculty support.
2. Advanced undergraduate and graduate student support.
3. Overseas travel to enable faculty to gain experience in working collaboratively with AID mission and LDC counterparts on specific problems such as marketing, distribution

and post-harvest losses.

4. Release time to allow faculty in these institutions to perform research, consulting, project design, analysis and other technical assistance activities in developing countries for AID, LDCs or other international donors.
5. Sponsorship of visiting professors and guest lecturers in workshops and seminars designed to facilitate the exchange of information and research findings in areas related to the work to be performed under the two grants.

These grants would represent integral components towards the realization of the overall goal of strengthening LDC capabilities to analyze their own agricultural and rural sector thus leading to better program and policy choices which impact upon food production income distribution, employment and other economic and social objectives.

The proposed 211(d) grants would be designed so that they produce specific quantifiable outputs (such as X number of faculty members with expertise in marketing analysis in developing countries, X number of graduate students per year with course work in international economic development, X number of new course offerings related to international development, etc.) rather than the more loosely defined objectives now contained in many of the existing 211(d) grants. This will facilitate implementation, administration and management of the grants by AID and the grantees and will also make evaluation of the grant programs much easier. The specific objectives will depend upon the institutions selected. As a minimum, however, we expect the institutions to develop a training program in economic development and a capacity to assist AID in project activities. Collaborative research with LDCs and other U.S. institutions and performing short-term overseas services by the grantees' core staff committed to international development work will be encouraged. Such utilization of the core staff will be implemented gradually so that it does not disrupt the university program and will be planned jointly between the grantees and AID. Minimum levels of utilization of the capacities at the selected institutions can and will be developed in the design phase of these grants.

The following outputs (which will be further developed in the grant project statement) are expected to be generated by the proposed grants:

1. Increased supply of minority faculty members (engaged in economics, agricultural economics and other social sciences) interested in and pursuing research on economic and social development problems of developing countries.
2. Increased numbers of minority and foreign students trained at the graduate level in economics/agricultural economics and other social

sciences which impact on economic development programs in LDCs.

3. Increased competence of the selected universities in the general area of economic development, particularly as it related to the agricultural and rural sectors, by providing faculty and students with the opportunity to gain practical overseas experience in dealing with economic and social problems confronting LDCs.

4. New linkages and collaborative relationships with LDC institutions.

5. New courses added and existing development courses redesigned to highlight economic development problems in LDCs.

6. Increased knowledge about the production, marketing and distribution systems for agricultural commodities in developing countries.

The life of the project is estimated at five years (FY 1977 - FY 1981). The success of this project will depend upon the following assumptions:

1. That each of the selected institutions has, and is willing and able to obligate and allocate, the necessary resources at the institution to the project, including administrative and management responsibilities, over the life of the proposed project.

2. That the increased competence which results from the project at these institutions will be made available to AID, LDCs and other international donors with reasonable requests for technical assistance and expertise.

3. That these institutions will establish specialized linkages among themselves and other U.S. institutions engaged in international development work, and develop ties with institutions in developing countries which will enhance the collaborative approach to economic development problems and also offer faculty members of these institutions the overseas experience necessary to make contributions to the overall development effort. It is important to note that AID must be willing to assist these institutions in establishing linkages and collaborative relationships.

4. That these institutions will place increased emphasis on training and preparing advanced undergraduate and graduate students in economics, agricultural economics, and the social sciences, including both domestic and foreign students interested in pursuing international development careers requiring graduate study at institutions of higher education around the United States.

5. That these institutions will carry out research which contributes to the solution of problems in agricultural and rural

development in LDCs, facilitating the adaptability, testing, and transferability of techniques and knowledge and fostering cooperation and collaboration with LDC counterparts.

The grants will be focused in critical problem areas such as distribution, marketing and post-harvest losses as they affect small farmers in rural areas of developing countries. The grant will also enable these institutions to strengthen the capabilities of their respective faculty members to assist AID, LDCs and other international donors in the general areas of project design, analysis, implementation and evaluation. As stated earlier, LDCs have a need for technical expertise and knowledge relevant to the specific problem areas to be addressed by the prospective grantees which are serious impediments to the efforts by small farmers in rural areas to increase food production and subsequently increase income and enhance the quality of their lives.

Presently, there are no suitable alternatives to this project which will accomplish the objectives set forth and generate the outputs expected. Several alternatives to the 211(d) grant approach suggested herein were identified and analyzed to determine which if any, could accomplish the objectives. These included research and general technical services contracts, indefinite quantity contracts, cooperative agreements and Title XII. These approaches to involving minority institutions in international development work proved to be impractical and unworkable primarily because of the lack of prior overseas experience and limited capacity these institutions have. The 211(d) grants will enable these institutions to increase their capacity to carry out research and provide technical services relevant to agricultural development programs by working directly in developing countries. Once this project is implemented, LDC planners and technicians at the national, regional, and district levels in developing countries will have additional resources from which to draw when technical assistance is needed. Once the overseas linkages are formed and experience is gained by these selected institutions, AID and LDCs can begin to utilize the technical knowledge, expertise and capacity developed to assist LDCs. It is anticipated that the project will directly benefit the institutions involved, those developing countries in which linkages are established and requests for technical assistance are rendered, and AID. Benefits are also expected to accrue to small farmers, small businessmen and, in general, the poor majority in the LDCs where the technical expertise and knowledge is utilized. (These benefits include application of new techniques, increased productivity, higher incomes, etc.).

II. Financial Requirements and Plans

The cost of implementing two grants over the five year period FY 1977 - FY 1981 is estimated at \$1.5 million, or \$750,000 per grant. Obligations to the institutions selected will be made for this amount; however, these amounts will be obligated in two separate tranches because of the shortage of funds in the present programming cycle for this project. The first \$300,000 for each institution will be obligated in FY 1977. The remaining \$450,000 for each grant will be obligated in FY 1979.

The estimated costs of the project will cover salaries and expenses, travel expenses, faculty and student stipends, publications, editorial, clerical and secretarial assistance, supplies and computer/data processing costs to the selected universities engaged in the project. No costs will be borne by LDCs or other international donors. A specific financial plan will be developed in the grant project statement.

A review will be held at the end of the second year of the grants to determine the progress of the selected institutions in meeting the objectives set forth. A second review would also be held, as required, in the fourth year of the grant.

III. Development of the Project

The present staff, with possible assistance from regional bureau technicians is sufficient to develop the project. The following activities deemed necessary to ascertain the feasibility of undertaking the project include:

A. Assessment of the technical, administrative and management capabilities of the institutions selected to administer and implement the project.

B. Assessment of the resources presently available at the proposed institutions selected to carry out the research and training objectives of the project.

C. Consultations with the prospective institutions to determine specific activities which each university will be involved in, research and training activities, amount of resources each institution will devote to the project (faculty, students, administrative assistance, etc.) and linkages established (or to be established) with LDCs. (Note: Selection of the institutions which will be involved in the project will be in accordance with the selection criteria established in AID Handbook 13 - Grants).

The Grant Project Statement (GPS) will be developed in February 1977 by TA/AGR/ESP and will represent an integral component towards the realization of the goal of RDA-1 -- to strengthen LDC capabilities and assist LDCs in planning and performing economic analyses for the purpose of improving their selection of policies, programs, and projects as they affect agricultural and rural development efforts in LDCs.

IV. Issues of a Policy or Programmatic Nature

NONE.

V. Environmental Impact

The proposed project which is intended to increase the competence and strengthen the capacity of the selected institutions in rural development work is not deemed a major federal action (Section 6500.6 CEQ Guidelines) since the project will have no significant effects which affect such aspects of the human environment as air, water, land, flora fauna, or socio-economic conditions. The proposed 211(d) grants are expected to generate the outputs as outlined on pages 4-5 which will have no significant effects on the environment.

10/18/76

ENVIRONMENTAL THRESHOLD DETERMINATION

TO: AA/TA, Mr. Curtis Farrar

THRU: TA/PPU, John Gunning

FROM: TA/AGR, Leon F. Hesser

SUBJECT: Environmental Threshold Determination

Project Title: Ag. Econ. Analysis and Rural Poverty

Project #: 931-11-140-164

Specific Activity (if applicable) 211(d) Grants

REFERENCE: Initial Environmental/Examination (IEE) contained in
PID, page 8 dated 5/28/76

On the basis of the Initial Environmental/Examination (IEE) referenced above and attached to this memorandum I recommend that you make the following determination:

- XX 1. The proposed agency action is not a major Federal action which will have a significant effect on the human environment.
- 2. The proposed agency action is a major Federal action which will have a significant effect on the human environment, and:
 - a. An Environmental Assessment is required; or
 - b. An Environmental Impact Statement is required.

The cost of and schedule for this requirement is fully described in the referenced document.

 3. Our environmental examination is not complete. We will submit the analysis no later than with our recommendation for an environmental threshold decision.

Approved: Curtis Farrar

Disapproved:

Date: 10/26/76.

ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO : AA/TA, Curtis Farrar

THRU: TA/AGR, Leon F. Hesser *LFO*

FROM: TA/AGR/ESP, William C. Merrill *W.C.M.*

April 27, 1977

from
project
folder
9311271
9311299E
PP-AAA-308

4P

Problem: It is necessary to make a final selection of the minority land-grant universities which AID will ask to submit proposals for new 211(d) grants.

Discussion: TAB recommended a 211(d) grant program which would assist the selected minority universities to increase their competence and develop their capability to assist LDCs in planning, implementing and evaluating rural development projects. The grants would focus on the expertise needed to support the program requirements of AID, LDCs and other donors in the various facets of project development. This would also allow increased participation in Title XII Activities by 1890 Institutions in the future.

The PID for these grants was reviewed by the Research and Development Committee on July 13, 1976. The Committee concurred with TAB's recommendation to utilize the 211(d) grant approach for developing the capacity of minority institutions as the most economical and effective instrument among alternative funding modes and recommended an increase in the proposed funding for the new grants. The Deputy Administrator approved the PID on November 2, 1976.

The 1890 Universities were subject to a preliminary screening through in-house reviews of their programs and discussions with regional bureaus, peer group institutions, and persons familiar with the programs at the universities. The strongest candidates were chosen for an on-site visit by a selection team. These institutions were:

- (1) North Carolina Agricultural and Mechanical State University, Greensboro, North Carolina
- (2) Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Tallahassee, Florida
- (3) Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama
- (4) Alcorn State University, Lorman, Mississippi.

A selection team consisting of:

Mr. Alfred Harding, TA/AGR/ESP - Team Leader

Dr. Willie A Whitten, AFR/DR

Dr. Lehman Fletcher, Iowa State University (Consultant)

Dr. McKinley Mayes, Coordinator, Special Programs
(1890 colleges and universities), USDA/CSRS

Ms. Rose Robinson, AA/TA

visited the four institutions during the period January 25-31, 1977.

The team assessed the interests, resources, competence and commitment of these institutions in the area of agricultural and rural development according to criteria described in Attachment A of the Final Team Report. After evaluating the institutions according to these criteria the team recommended that discussions be initiated with:

- (1) North Carolina A and T State University
- (2) Tuskegee Institute

The team also recommended that when additional resources permit, a similar 211(d) grant should be initiated with Florida A and M University.

A total of \$1.5 million is required for these two grants; \$600,000 is available in the FY 1977 program for initial funding of the five year grants; the balance of \$900,000 would be required from FY 77-78 or 79 funds. The Research and Development Committee suggested that the original estimated cost of \$1.0 million for two grants would not be sufficient to fully support an interdisciplinary approach to building the capacity of two institutions to assist LDCs analyze agricultural development problems. The Bureau concurred with this advice and increased the total to \$1.5 million.

TA/AGR/ESP has suggested to PPU that the two grants be fully funded in FY 77 if funds are available. Thus two institutions would receive \$750,000 of the total \$1.5 million grant. The addition of a third institution would require a reduction in the grant amount to each institution or additional funding. Reducing the amount for each university to \$500,000 by adding a third institution would be insufficient, as noted in the above paragraph. A 211(d) grant to Florida A and M therefore would increase total funding required to at least \$2.25 million.

TA/AGR/ESP has proposed a FY 79 small grants program of \$900,000 to assist a greater number of 1890 Universities. Florida A and M would be eligible, as an 1890 University, for participation in this program. TA/AGR/ESP places high priority on the proposed small grants program and would prefer this program to a third 211(d) grant to a single university.

Recommendation: It is recommended that TA/AGR/ESP initiate discussions on multidisciplinary 211(d) grants in rural development with:

- (1) North Carolina A and T State University
- (2) Tuskegee Institute

Approved: MS Belcher for C. Taylor

Disapproved: _____

Date: MAY 5

Attachment: Final Team Report

931-1299

Tu - M 8/30

Date: 8/23/77

MEMORANDUM

To: CM/COD, Mr. Robert O'Brien
From: TA/PPU, Mary E. Mozynski (Signed)
Subject: Advance Procurement Action

The attached unfunded PIO/T for the project listed below is forwarded to the Office of Contract Management for Advance Procurement Action. This project is included within the program level of RDA No. which currently exceeds the level in the FY 1977 Congressional Presentation. A C.P. notification has been prepared and is in the clearance process. After the notification has been submitted to the Congress and the 15-day waiting period has expired, the funded PIO/T will be forwarded to your office.

Project Number: 931-1299
Project Title: Comprehensive Planning for Rural Development
Amount: \$750,000
Program: Research _____ Section 211 (d) x GTS _____

Attachment: a/s