

4390065-22 RS/PS  
 U.S.A.I.D.  
 Reference Center  
 ROOM 1056 HS

AID 1020-25 (10-70)

REPORT U-446

PROJECT APPRAISAL REPORT (PAR)

PD-APP-416-E1

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1. PROJECT NO. 439-11-190-065.7	2. PAR FOR PERIOD: 11/15/70 TO 8/1/71	3. COUNTRY Laos	4. PAR SERIAL NO. 72-4
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5. PROJECT TITLE

Agriculture Development - Administration and Planning

6. PROJECT DURATION: Began FY 67 Ends FY 79	7. DATE LAST PROP 5/13/70	8. DATE LATEST PIP None	9. DATE PRIOR PAR 11/15/70
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10. U.S. FUNDING	a. Cumulative Obligation Thru Prior FY: \$1,130,000	b. Current FY Estimated Budget: \$ 317,000	c. Estimated Budget to completion After Current FY: \$3,352,000
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11. KEY ACTION AGENTS (Contractor, Participating Agency or Voluntary Agency)

a. NAME	b. CONTRACT, PASA OR VOL. AG. NO.
None	

I. NEW ACTIONS PROPOSED AND REQUESTED AS A RESULT OF THIS EVALUATION

A. ACTION (X)			B. LIST OF ACTIONS	C. PROPOSED ACTION COMPLETION DATE
USAID	AID/W	HOST		
			<p><b>PLEASE NOTE:</b> This project has been proposed for financing with Supporting Assistance appropriations and therefore has been justified to the U.S. Congress as important to and in support of U.S. Foreign Policy objectives of a political and security nature. As such, its primary purpose or purposes are not entirely developmental, but rather its input to the economy of Laos serves a larger purpose for which it is one of the many assistance tools. It therefore must be evaluated in this context and not purely as a technical assistance project whose primary purpose is economic and/or social development.</p> <p>This is the fourth PAR prepared for this project. No new actions are requested as a result of this periodic appraisal at this time although the use of this PAR and the Project Logical Framework during the semi-annual Director's Program review may result in new thrust of actions and/or emphasis.</p> <p>Much effort will be devoted to the semi-annual joint RIG/USAID program management and evaluation conferences as these conferences are a good vehicle for improving the management capabilities of RIG officials as well as disseminating information. Project emphasis in the economic area is centered on improving the collection of basic agriculture data through RIG Agriculture Zone Extension Chiefs, performing special surveys as needed and giving relatively unsophisticated training to the RIG technicians handling data. In the agriculture information area the stress is on improvement of communications media facilities presenting radio and press releases, and in preparing displays and conducting fairs.</p>	

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"/> PIO/T <input type="checkbox"/> PIO/C <input type="checkbox"/> PIO/P	

PROJECT MANAGER: TYPED NAME, SIGNED INITIALS AND DATE D. R. Mitchell 12/3/71	MISSION DIRECTOR: TYPED NAME, SIGNED INITIALS AND DATE Charles A. Mann 12/4/71
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**II. PERFORMANCE OF KEY INPUTS AND ACTION AGENTS**

A. INPUT OR ACTION AGENT CONTRACTOR, PARTICIPATING AGENCY OR VOLUNTARY AGENCY	B. PERFORMANCE AGAINST PLAN							C. IMPORTANCE FOR ACHIEVING PROJECT PURPOSE (X)					
	UNSATISFACTORY		SATISFACTORY			OUT-STANDING		LOW		MEDIUM		HIGH	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	
1. <b>None</b>													
2.													
3.													

Comment on key factors determining rating

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

Comment on key factors determining rating

The level of educational development in Laos is low which makes it difficult to find suitable candidates for participant training. USAID sponsored secondary schools should correct this problem within 5 to 10 years and in the interim, participant training goals are kept realistically low.

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

Comment on key factors determining rating

Little commodity input

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

Comment on key factors determining rating

Office heads are often adequate managers and administrators but they lack the necessary depth in capable staff. Clerical support is inadequate and office procedures are cumbersome. RIG funding for normal government operations is a problem as Lao expenditures for security have equalled total government receipts.

7. OTHER DONORS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5
					X				X			

(See Next Page for Comments on Other Donors)

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

The UK has provided advisory assistance and materials for a radio studio under the Colombo Plan; West Germany will provide approximately \$30,000 worth of commodities and an advisor's services for agriculture information purposes under the auspices of the FAO.

### III. KEY OUTPUT INDICATORS AND TARGETS

A. QUANTITATIVE INDICATORS FOR MAJOR OUTPUTS		TARGETS (Percentage/Rate/Amount)					
		CUMU- LATIVE PRIOR FY	CURRENT FY		FY 73	FY 74	END OF PROJECT
			TO DATE	TO END			
Participant Training (Number of students trained)	PLANNED	6	4	4	3	3	10
	ACTUAL PERFORM- ANCE	6	4				
	REPLANNED						
In Country Training, In-Service (Number of students trained)	PLANNED	12	4	20	20	20	152 cum.
	ACTUAL PERFORM- ANCE	15	7				
	REPLANNED						
Hold semi-annual joint RIG/ USAID program management and evaluation conferences (Conferences held)	PLANNED	4	5	6	8	10	19 cum.
	ACTUAL PERFORM- ANCE	4	5				
	REPLANNED						
Periodic Agriculture Economic Reports (Price reports and special studies)	PLANNED	75	5	36	40	40	40 annual rate
	ACTUAL PERFORM- ANCE	73	6				
	REPLANNED						
B. QUALITATIVE INDICATORS FOR MAJOR OUTPUTS		COMMENT:					
1.	Quality of Agriculture planning and policy making.	Members of RIG staff have attended in-service training and more are planned. Also, several members per year receive training in Thailand. USAID advisors note that progress is being made in RIG agriculture planning and policy making.					
2.	Quality of statistical data and analyses	COMMENT: Regular annual reports are distributed on crop conditions. Basic farm conditions are determined to allow planning for improvements. The quality of these reports is fair. This is a good start and improvements will be made gradually.					
3.	Quality of information dissemination	COMMENT: There is an increasing number of bulletins, radio program and press releases on improved farming methods. Wide dissemination is made throughout the country.					

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IV. PROJECT PURPOSE

- A. 1. Statement of purpose as currently envisaged. 2. Same as in PROP?  YES  NO  
**To help develop RIG agriculture management, economic and information staffs in Vientiane and in the field capable of providing:**  
- effective and efficient agriculture planning, policy-making and decision-making,  
- adequate acquisition and analysis of agriculture data for management purposes,  
- adequate dissemination of agriculture information, especially to those whose livelihood has been disrupted by war-time conditions.

B. 1. Conditions which will exist when above purpose is achieved.	2. Evidence to date of progress toward these conditions.
1) Good resources management without US advisory assistance 2) Effective coordination between directorates and field offices 3) Adoption of improved agriculture techniques and varieties 4) Agriculture diversification 5) Functioning agriculture economics section and field reporters providing adequate data and analysis. 6) Effective agriculture information dissemination 7) Self-sufficient rural families	1) Improved planning 2) Better coordination between staffs of the three agriculture-related Directorates. Better communications with the field. 3)&4) More quantity and variety of Lao agriculture products in the markets 6) Improved technical capabilities and functioning information office

V. PROGRAMMING GOAL.

A. Statement of Programming Goal  
The PROJECT PURPOSE stated in IV A above will contribute to the PROGRAM goals of developing the Lao economy, and alleviating war-caused suffering and disruption by meeting the Agriculture Development SECTOR goals of self-sufficiency in the production of basic foodstuffs diversification of agricultural production and assistance to refugees on a priority basis. This must be understood in light of the statement on Lao conditions in I.A.

B. Will the achievement of the project purpose make a significant contribution to the programming goal, given the magnitude of the national problem? Cite evidence.  
Adequate management in the Agriculture Sector of Laos, sufficient economic data and analyses and adequate dissemination of agricultural information will make a significant contribution to the achievement of program goals. Agriculture is the basic industry in Laos and little progress can be achieved toward developing the Lao economy and relieving the plight of refugees without good agricultural planning, policy-making and decision-making, backed-up with adequate data and information dissemination. See IV B 2 above for evidence of progress.