

PD-AAF-80/2

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CLASSIFICATION

PROJECT EVALUATION SUMMARY (PES) - PART I

Report Symbol: U-447

1. PROJECT TITLE  COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR WOMEN AND DISADVANTAGED PEOPLE (CSP)			2. PROJECT NUMBER 526-0505	3. MISSION/AID/W OFFICE USAID/Paraguay
4. EVALUATION NUMBER (Enter the number maintained by the reporting unit e.g., Country or AID/W Administrative Code, Fiscal Year, Series No. beginning with No. 1 each FY) 80-2 (Final)			5. REGULAR EVALUATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL EVALUATION <input type="checkbox"/>	
6. KEY PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION DATES			7. PERIOD COVERED BY EVALUATION	
A. First PRO-AG or Equivalent FY 75	B. Final Obligation Expected FY 75	C. Final Input Delivered FY 76	From (month/yr.) October 78 To (month/yr.) December 79	
E. ESTIMATED PROJECT FUNDING			Date of Evaluation Review January 80	
A. Total \$ 260,825				
B. U.S. \$ 120,000				

E. ACTION DECISIONS APPROVED BY MISSION OR AID/W OFFICE DIRECTOR

A. List decisions and/or unresolved issues; cite those items needing further study. (NOTE: Mission decisions which anticipate AID/W or regional office action should specify type of document, e.g., airgram, SPAR, PIO, which will present detailed request.)	E. NAME OF OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTION	C. DATE ACTION TO BE COMPLETED
None.		

9. INVENTORY OF DOCUMENTS TO BE REVISED PER ABOVE DECISIONS			10. ALTERNATIVE DECISIONS ON FUTURE OF PROJECT		
<input type="checkbox"/> Project Paper	<input type="checkbox"/> Implementation Plan e.g., CPI Network	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	A. <input type="checkbox"/> Continue Project Without Change		
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> PIO/T	_____	B. <input type="checkbox"/> Change Project Design and/or		
<input type="checkbox"/> Logical Framework	<input type="checkbox"/> PIO/C	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Change Implementation Plan		
<input type="checkbox"/> Project Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> PIO/P	_____	C. <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue Project		

11. PROJECT OFFICER AND HOST COUNTRY OR OTHER RANKING PARTICIPANTS AS APPROPRIATE (Names and Titles)		12. Mission/AID/W Office Director Approval	
<p><i>W. O. Oglesby</i> G. William Oglesby Program Officer</p>		Signature: <i>Paul A. Montavon</i>	
		Typed Name: Paul A. Montavon	
		Date: April 10, 1980	

### 13. SUMMARY

This evaluation concluded that the project had succeeded in establishing and consolidating an adequate capability within the Consejo Nacional de Entidades de Beneficencia (CONEB) to carry out a sound development oriented program consisting of the implementation within its affiliated entities of a series of income generating activities. There were no problems in the delivery of project inputs and outputs largely exceeded the planned figures.

About 70% of the projects undertaken by the affiliated entities are already self-sustaining and there is enough evidence to believe that either CONEB or the affiliates have the capability to continue the projects until the remaining 30% reach financial independence.

Goal targets were also achieved at levels above the planned figures by reaching about 790 direct beneficiaries, most of which received incomes during the first year ranging between \$25 and \$265. It is estimated that these income figures are likely to increase in the subsequent years as the participants and institutions gain more experience.

### 14. EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

This is the second and final evaluation of the project. Given the relatively adequate managerial capability found within this PVO, USAID/P's approach has been to establish and further strengthen an evaluation capability within the organization. In both annual reviews, USAID/P has limited its role in briefing CONEB personnel in evaluation requirements as well as guiding them in the methods and techniques to be followed in the measuring of performance at the various planning levels. It is interesting to note that since the inception of the project, CONEB has come to understand and apply the logical framework methodology as the result of working sessions with USAID/P personnel and through formal courses given by CAES, the In-Service Training Center of the National University of Asuncion. The result of the evaluation was submitted to USAID/P in the form of a comprehensive report in Spanish language. This report was reviewed by the USAID/P evaluation officer and served as the basis for the drafting of this PES.

### 15. EXTERNAL FACTORS

Except for some adverse weather conditions that affected the development of some subprojects there have been no external factors that have had an impact on the project. All assumptions made were realistic and proved to be true.

16. INPUTS

Project inputs include funds for defraying personnel costs in CONEB and affiliated entities, training expenses, purchase of small equipment and tools, construction and operating costs. Due to delays by CONEB in complying with the conditions precedent to disbursement under the two annual agreements, A.I.D. funding of project activities was delayed two and five months respectively. CONEB and its affiliates have generally complied with their commitments with the exception of a shortfall in the amount contributed by the entities for personnel costs which was due to the late start of some subprojects. On the other hand, some entities have largely surpassed the amount planned for new constructions at the subproject sites.

17. OUTPUTS

Major outputs include the operation of a total of 22 workshops; completion of 32 courses for social workers, community leaders and volunteers; and technical vocational training courses. The project has succeeded in achieving and in some cases far exceeding the number and quality of expected output targets. All the planned workshops were established and have been operating satisfactorily. All the training courses were carried out and the coverage largely surpassed the planned number of participants. The technical assistance provided by CONEB has been effective and appropriate to needs. A major success in the implementation of the various subprojects has been the incorporation by the affiliated entities of new infrastructure in the form of land and workshop buildings far in excess of the planned amount. This additional contribution to the workshops was entirely financed with funds gathered by the affiliated entities and constitutes a clear indication of the ability of CONEB and its affiliates to mobilize community resources.

18. PURPOSE

The purpose is to establish within CONEB an increased theoretic-practical vocational capability to carry out a more development oriented program. This evaluation concludes that the project has fully attained its purpose. CONEB has been able to consolidate itself as an entity capable of systematically planning, supervising and evaluating income generating activities among its affiliates, who in turn have been successful in implementing all subprojects planned under the Grant. Progress towards the Conditions Expected at End of Project has been as follows:

EOPS No. 1: "Trained staff able to provide services to affiliated groups and other interested entities."

CONEB's technical department has a staff of six full time professionals with sufficient academic background and practical experience to adequately service institutions or groups interested in carrying out development activities of a nature similar to those so far carried out with the financial support of the A.I.D. Grant. In addition, CONEB is receiving the cooperation of eight students of the National University of Asuncion who are majoring in Social Services and who work with CONEB on a part time basis as part of an internship program of the University.

EOPS No. 2: "CONEB consolidated as an entity able to provide training in the development of self-supporting socio-economic projects."

CONEB has demonstrated its training capability by adequately carrying out the training program called for in project plans, which attracted a larger than planned number of participants. The success of the training programs offered created an expanded demand for such courses among local institutions in the country, which CONEB is duly fulfilling.

EOPS No. 3: "A total of 20 affiliated groups have projects in operation, and CONEB continues receiving requests for additional projects."

CONEB has implemented all the 20 planned subprojects with 22 workshops in the fields of dressmaking, carpentry, handicrafts, gardening, etc. About 70% of the workshops have reached a self-financing level and are capable of continuing operations on their own. The rest will still require technical and financial inputs from CONEB in amounts that are within the capability of CONEB to provide.

The technical staff of CONEB has concentrated its efforts on the development of the subprojects called for by the A.I.D. Grant and has not been very active in promoting other activities among the rest of its affiliates fearing to expand beyond their present capacity. In spite of this, there are six other entities that have already approached CONEB to seek its services for implementing socio-economic projects.

EOPS No. 4: "Technical capability developed within affiliated groups and other organizations (public or private) engaged in the development of socio-economic projects."

Beside the regular training program, CONEB has carried out a total of 284 meetings with its affiliated groups and made 248 visits to the project sites to provide advisory services in administrative and technical matters. We now believe that these groups are sufficiently capable to perform on their own, as has become evident from their sound performance in operating the workshops.

#### 19. GOAL

The goal of the project is to improve, during the life of the project, the capacity of 250 low income and disadvantaged people in the urban and rural areas of Paraguay to contribute to and participate in the national economy.

The project has been able to extend its impact to a total of 793 beneficiaries participating in the various workshops. The most direct and measurable benefit of the project has been the monetary income obtained by the participants as a result of their training in new skills or improvement upon those already possessed and the structure provided by the project whereby the practitioners were able to apply their knowledge in some income generating work. Net incomes received by beneficiaries varied between \$25 and \$265.

#### 20. BENEFICIARIES

Beneficiaries are physically handicapped including mothers or other female relatives of the handicapped, or simply people of impoverished background who do not have other means of improving the quality of their life or that of their families. Most do not have a stable source of income or if they have such, it is not enough to provide them the means for improving their lives.

#### 21. UNPLANNED EFFECTS

The evaluation has not disclosed any unexpected results or impact.

#### 22. LESSONS LEARNED

A lesson learned from this project which might be transferable to other countries is that, given certain conditions, it is possible to reorient a local welfare institutions, traditionally engaged in

giving of alms, into a strong and effective entity able to plan and carry out income producing projects benefiting the poorest groups in society. The basic conditions identified as necessary for success are: (1) managerial competence within the welfare institution, (2) adequate financial resources by the participating organizations and (3) a careful selection of the training skills offered which should be coordinated with the needs of the local economy to ensure that whatever is produced by the beneficiaries will have a stable market and that there will be adequate employment opportunities for the participants.