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CLASSIFICATION  
**PROJECT EVALUATION SUMMARY (PES) - PART I**

Report Symbol U-447

1. PROJECT TITLE  <b>On-Farm Water Management Research</b>			2. PROJECT NUMBER <b>383-0042</b>	3. MISSION/AID/W OFFICE <b>USAID/Colombo</b>
			4. EVALUATION NUMBER (Enter the number maintained by the reporting unit e.g., Country or AID/W Administrative Code, Fiscal Year, Serial No. beginning with No. 1 each FY)  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR EVALUATION <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL EVALUATION	
5. KEY PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION DATES			6. ESTIMATED PROJECT FUNDING	
A. First PRO-AG or Equivalent FY <b>78</b>	B. Final Obligation Expected FY _____	C. Final Input Delivery FY <b>82</b>	A. Total \$ <b>1,072,000</b>	B. U.S. \$ <b>800,000</b>
			7. PERIOD COVERED BY EVALUATION From (month/yr.) <b>8/31/77</b> To (month/yr.) <b>10/31/80</b> Date of Evaluation Review <b>11/12/80</b>	

8. 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.)	B. NAME OF OFFICE RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTION	C. DATE ACTION TO BE COMPLETED
1. Along with keeping the two permanent people on the farm (Manager and Ag. Officer), two additional permanent people (Ag. Officer and Soil Chemist and five temporary Asst. Soil Chemists will be assigned.	ID	1/31/80
2. The above people will be considered to concurrently fill the proposed nine Research Assistance positions and work for their Masters through PGIA. If not appointed by February then MDB will be requested to transfer Agricultural Officers as Research Assistants.	ID	2/15/80
3. The contract between the ID and Chemonics will not be extended.	ID/Chemonics	
4. Local consultants will be provided to assist with project implementation through a contract with the Irrigation Department. The ID proposed to advertise (by Jan. 30) and provide a Request for Technical Proposal to those firms who are interested. RFTP and procedures for contracting will be developed with USAID.	ID/USAID	3/15/81
Dr. Doral Kemper will be provided for one month in 1981 and again in 1982 under PASA contract arrangement. If additional U.S. consultants are required these will be obtained through direct contract or other procedures to be worked out with USAID. (Contd.)	ID/USAID	6/1/81

9. INVENTORY OF DOCUMENTS TO BE REVISED PER ABOVE DECISIONS			10. ALTERNATIVE DECISIONS ON FUTURE OF PROJECT		
<input type="checkbox"/> Project Paper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implementation Plan e.g., CFI Network	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>H/C contract</u>	A. <input type="checkbox"/> Continue Project Without Change		
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PIO/T	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	B. <input type="checkbox"/> Change Project Design and/or		
<input type="checkbox"/> Logical Framework	<input type="checkbox"/> PIO/C		<input checked="" 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		
<i>[Signature]</i> Ken Lyvers Project Officer	<i>[Signature]</i> Sunil Dimantha Project Director	<i>[Signature]</i> R.U. Fernando Director of Irrigation	Signature <i>[Signature]</i>		
			Typed Name <b>S.J. Littlefield, Director</b>		
			Date _____		

- |    |  |                         |          |
|----|--|-------------------------|----------|
| 6. | All specific research to be conducted and other cost of Research Assistants, material and commodities to maximum extent possible will be included in contract with local firm.   | ID/Local Firm/<br>USAID | 3/15/81  |
| 7. | Both the evaluation consultant and the GSL recommend that the project be extended for one year.  | USAID                   | 12/30/81 |
| 8. | Future training will depend upon the performance of those nominated for training and on the availability of personnel to undertake research on both the research station and on farmers' fields. Additional training is planned to include 1-2 Master's Degree programs, 1-2 people for 6 weeks training in the US on neutron probes, 1-2 people to attend the International Water Management Symposium to be held in Pakistan in early 1981 and 2-3 people to participate in Water Management Training in the Philippines, ICRISAT (India), Hawaii. | ID/USAID                | 6/30/81  |
| 9. | The evaluation consultant (Dr. Doral Kemper) recommended that additional equipment/commodities be procured to carry out the research work and the studies. To the extent possible, these will be obtained through the local consultant contract following usual GSL/USAID procedures.  | Consultant/ID/<br>USAID | 6/30/81  |

Note: Attachment 1 gives the "Summary, Conclusions, Recommendations and Decisions" of the OFWM Mid-term Evaluation. Attachment 2 is Dr. W.D. Kemper's, "Mid-Term Evaluation Report of the On-Farm Water Management Research Project."

ON-FARM WATER MANAGEMENT MID-TERM EVALUATION  
SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS

1. Methodology:

As agreed with the Government, Dr. W.D. Kemper from USDA was contracted through the PASA mechanism to review the project to date to provide recommendations on future work. He arrived on October 20 and began detailed discussions with USAID and with the Government both in Colombo and Kandy. He also spent several days in the project area of H Block. His report, "Mid-Term Evaluation Report of the On-Farm Water Management Project," was reviewed by the Project Steering Committee on November 7. The suggestions and recommendations of the Steering Committee and the report were then reviewed in meetings chaired by the Director of USAID on November 12 and December 15, 1980.

2. Conclusions:

Major conclusions of the evaluation can be summarized as follows:

- A. There was general agreement that the objectives of the project were increasingly pertinent to the needs of the Mahaweli and to Sri Lankan agriculture in general. A major objective of the project is to develop land preparation and water management guidelines for different species of crops which are grown in Sri Lanka and which will be an economically attractive alternative to paddy rice for farmers who have Reddish Brown Earth (RBE). Recent results from Yala indicate that several vegetable crops (e.g. peppers and eggplant) and soybeans are suitable alternatives. As detailed in both the Summary Report and analysis, between 40 and 60% of the first four activities or outputs of the project (i.e. land preparation and leveling; methods of irrigation and drainage; and soil, crop and water management) have been attained. The other three major objectives or activities of the project, dealing with demonstration and training, water balance and structures, and water management, have only been partially completed (less than 20%).
- B. A primary constraint to achieving the project's purpose has been the lack of trained permanent GSL staff needed to gather and analyze the data and to make farmer contacts.
- C. Both the Contractor's and USAID's management of the project were discussed. During the report preparation and again in the final evaluation meeting, the GSL Project Director indicated that he was not satisfied with Chemonics performance. In particular, he felt that Chemonics had not provided the caliber of personnel with the level of expertise required to help the Government implement the project. In replying to this, Dr. Kemper felt that the contractor had provided personnel, who while not outstanding were competent in the areas in which assistance was required. Chemonics' representatives admitted that the earlier consultant (George Knierim), while very good

on land leveling and related work, had not been fully capable of writing research reports and carrying out the research analysis for the project. This had been overcome, however, with the addition of the Research Agronomist (J.Hale). Both Chemonics and the GSL expressed the opinion that USAID management of the project had been good.

- D. A major conclusion of the evaluation is that the research results were neither adequately applied in the field nor sufficiently linked to the Mahaweli program. Dr. Kemper made several recommendations in the report to overcome this problem and indicated that the experiments from both last Maha season and this year's Yala needed to be continued for at least one more season before adequate results could be taken to farmers fields. Kemper felt that the project could now begin to test research more rapidly in farmers' fields. The Researchers, however, must spend more time in the field in order to study first hand the suitability of the new technologies to the farmers conditions. The study of the benefits and problems of the technology on the farmers' fields, including the farmers' reaction, is a necessary part of the research. In fact, observations on the farmers fields should feed back into the research trials.

### 3. Recommendations and Decisions:

The major recommendations and decisions of the evaluation are summarized as follows:

- A. Concerning personnel, two people (i.e. the Manager and Agricultural Officer) are on permanent appointments at the research farm, and a third individual, (an Agriculture Officer) will also be given a permanent appointment if he performs well. The Irrigation Department has agreed to provide additional personnel, which would include two permanent Assistant Soil Chemists, and up to five Assistant Soil Chemists. These people while stationed at the farm will also be enrolled at PGIA as research assistants and will be working toward their Masters degrees. Most of the nine Research Assistants recommended in the report will come from the Irrigation Department. This will give irrigation personnel a more permanent assignment and allow them to obtain a Masters' Degree through PGIA.
- B. It was generally agreed that additional consultancies required in the project would be obtained locally to the maximum extent possible and will be augmented by U.S. professionals as required. The Chemonics contract will not be extended. The Kemper report recommended a combination of 10.5 person months of expatriate and 40 person months of in-country consultants. In addition to the consultancy to be provided by a local firm and the expatriate TA from the U.S., USAID agreed with the Government's suggestion that

Dr. Kemper should be provided at least one month each year to assist with project work. These services will be provided through a PASA arrangement.

- C. Along with the efforts to take research from the demonstration farm to the farmers' fields, Dr. Kemper recommended extensive additional research in the form of studies be done through the use of nine Research Assistants. Most of this additional research will be done by local consultant firm with the help of the Research Assistants.
- D. The Evaluation Consultant and the Government recommended that the project be extended for an additional year, probably within the currently approved budget. The Evaluation Consultant felt that the additional year would be extremely cost-worthy since some of the work cannot be completed within the current five year life of project. If project activities during the coming year are carried out well and research results are beginning to be applied more actively in farmers' fields, USAID will consider a one year extension.
- E. Concerning participant training, USAID generally agrees that off-shore training should be provided under the project. In particular this would include 1-2 Masters' Degree Training programs, 1-2 people for six weeks training in the U.S. on neutron probes, and one or two people to attend the International Water Management Symposium to be held in Pakistan early next year. Also, 2-3 people might visit the Philippines to participate in the Water Management training efforts at IRRI. In all cases, training will be tied to both the performance of individual people and the availability of personnel to carry out the research activities and apply them to farmers' fields.

4. Summary:

While project objectives have not been obtained to the extent originally planned, the USAID/GSL agrees that the project should be continued. The results from current research under the project, as well as from earlier research, must now be applied more rapidly to farmers' fields. Also, USAID management efforts under the project will be limited because of other over-riding work in Sri Lanka. The various proposed research studies need to be articulated, assigned and carried out expeditiously using project staff, research assistants and both in-country and expatriate advisors. The contract between Chemonics and the Irrigation Department will not be amended but will terminate on January 29, 1981. Both the GSL and USAID agree that the project is relevant to the Mahaweli and other Sri Lankan agricultural needs and must be continued. The pace of bringing research results to the farmer, however, must be accelerated if the project is to remain relevant to the development needs of the country.