

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
ADVICE OF PROGRAM CHANGE

Country : Botswana  
Project Title : Rural Enterprise Extension Service  
Project Number : 633-0212  
Appropriation Category : Security Supporting Assistance  
Intended Obligation : \$500,000

The purpose of this Advice of Program Change is to identify the intended obligation of \$500,000 through an Operational Program Grant to Partnership for Productivity (PPF), a qualified Private Voluntary Organization.

The Government of Botswana wishes to encourage private entrepreneurship among its people in order to strengthen the country's self-reliance, expand employment opportunities and provide improved availability of goods and services to consumers especially in rural areas. Among the measures being taken is the provision of extension services to small scale entrepreneurs. In 1977 the Government asked PPF to undertake pilot work in this field. The Ministry of Commerce now wishes PPF to expand its operations to serve the southern half of the country. PPF has therefore applied to A.I.D. for a grant to support this work over a three year period at the conclusion of which it is expected that a training program will be fully established and sufficient personnel will have been trained to mount and continue extension services throughout that part of the country. The Ministry itself is carrying out a similar effort in the northern part of Botswana.

This project will develop a training program for extension personnel and assist the creation of a business extension service to train rural business persons, the majority of whom are women, in simple bookkeeping, unit costing, cash control and other skills needed to operate small businesses. Rural business operators and extension personnel will be directly benefitted by the project. The rural population will be indirectly benefitted as the availability, diversity and quality of goods available is improved and their cost should also be reduced. The extension service is supported by the Government of Botswana. It will later be integrated with the program in northern Botswana.

The funding will provide salaries for PPF personnel, the costs of a training program, and for support of the extension services.