

AIRGRAM

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FROM - ADDIS ABABA

SUBJECT -

REFERENCE -

BAR SENT
AUGUST 13, 1969

NON-CAPITAL PROJECT PAPER (PROP)

Country ETHIOPIA

Project Number 663-0-20-114

Submission Date August 13, 1969

Original X Revision

Project Title PL 480 Title II - Voluntary Agencies - UNICEF

U.S. Obligation Span: FY 1955 through FY 1972

Physical Implementation Span: FY 1955 through FY 1972

Gross life-of-project financial requirements:

CCC Value of Commodities used: \$2,371,000 ^{a/}

Cooperating Country Cash Contribution: \$100,700 ^{b/}

Other Donor Contribution: \$426,800

Total Tons: 4268

a/ Calculated on the basis of \$0.25 per pound from 1955-1968.

b/ Includes Inland Transportation and Storage only.

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DRAFTED BY	OFFICE	PHONE NO.	DATE	APPROVED BY:
VTimmons:sp	PRO	x25	8/6/69	W. E. [unclear] Acting Director

AID AND OTHER CLEARANCES

AID/PRO: JLMithers

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SUMMARY DESCRIPTION AND TABULATION OF PLANNED INPUTS

The objective of the Mother and Child Feeding Program in Ethiopia is to provide supplementary food supplies to assist in meeting the nutritional requirements of needy mothers and children through efficient utilization of U.S. PL 480 agricultural commodities.

P.L. 480 commodities have been channeled through the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to the Ministry of Public Health of the Imperial Ethiopian Government in varying quantities since 1955. The Ministry of Public Health distributes the commodities from its central warehouse in Addis Ababa by means of truck, rail and air to 66 MPH centers and clinics, fifteen hospitals, and 69 missionary and voluntary agency clinics. Due to the extremely limited quantity of food supplements available to the needy in Ethiopia, dry skim milk is dispensed, in most instances, only to mothers and children evidencing symptoms of extreme malnutrition. A total of 26,500 persons benefit from the program, and the average recipient receives 2.64 pounds of NFDSM per month.

Studies indicate that malnutrition, and particularly protein dietary deficiencies, during the pre-school years is a major cause of mental retardation as well as sub-normal physical development. Indications of malnutrition in children are visibly evident in most parts of the country. A nutritional study conducted in 1959 showed that Ethiopian boys, age six, averaged forty-two inches in height and weighed thirty-seven pounds; while the average in the United States was 45.5 inches in height and forty-six pounds in weight. On average, Ethiopian children are two to four years later in arriving at a given height and weight than are American children.

There are an estimated 4 million children in Ethiopia five years of age and younger, most of whom live under conditions that must be regarded as sub-standard by any reasonable definition insofar as health, nutrition, education and housing are concerned.

Due to limited financial resources within the country, high costs of transport, and the limited road and highway system, which precludes assistance to remote areas of the country, distribution of the food supplied by AID through UNICEF is of necessity limited to those living in or near cities or larger villages.

This project contributes, in a small way, to the U.S. objective of creating a strong, viable economy in the country by increasing the number of people reaching a productive age free from the physical and mental handicaps imposed by an inadequate diet during the early years. As the economic capacity of the government and the institutions handling the distribution increase, consideration should be given to greatly increasing the assistance given in the field of nutrition. The Director of UNICEF is hopeful that the Ministry of Public Health and the institutions can increase their capability to support this program by about 10% per year.

It must be recognized that this effort is also largely humanitarian in aspect; and that without significant changes in the over-all economy of the nation, there is every indication that the need for food to combat hunger will continue for many years.

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Table 1
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Ethiopia

PROP Date August 1, 1969
Original
Project No.663-69-820-144

Non-Capital Project Funding
Estimated Cost in \$000; Weight in Metric Tons

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Fiscal Year	Tons of MFDSM	CCC Value
Prior through Act. FY 69 a/	3000	41650
FY 70	302	221
FY 71	420	243
FY 72	466	267
Totals	4269	4771

a/ Calculated at 0.25 per pound prior to 1969.

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<u>Fiscal Year</u>	b <u>Cash Expenditures Cooperating Country (000)</u>	<u>Other Donor Funds</u>
FY 1970	510	38.2
FY 1971	10	42.0
FY 1972	11.6	46.6
Totals	<u>31.6</u>	<u>125.8</u>

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Setting

The Agricultural Sector Analysis prepared by the Mission in June, 1969 and the study "Food Production and Utilization in Ethiopia EC 1958" made by Dr. Willis G. Eichberger, provide extensive background information regarding the environmental factors which give rise to the need for supplementary feeding of pre-school children.

The rural farm population of Ethiopia, which accounts for 90% of the total population, exists in what is basically a subsistence economy with an income from agricultural and pastoral pursuits estimated to have a monetary value of approximately \$60 per year. While accurate statistical information regarding this large segment of the population is lacking, it is generally believed that not over 15% of the people in it are involved in the money economy.

The dietary habits of the people, as well as the frequent fasting required by religious observance and other factors, contribute to the prevalence of malnutrition. The death rate among children five and under is estimated at 50%; and, while lack of medical and sanitary facilities are doubtless the cause of a major portion of the deaths, debilitation due to an inadequate diet is undoubtedly a contributing factor in many cases.

The continuation of this program will have no effect on Ethiopia's production and price structure. There is a great shortage of milk with relation to needs in most of the country.

Strategy

UNICEF is the only voluntary agency currently in operation in Ethiopia; hence, if there is to be any distribution of P.L. 480 food under the Voluntary Agency program it must be through that organization. UNICEF pays the cost of ocean freight to Djibouti, and the Ministry of Public Health pays the cost of transportation from Djibouti to Addis Ababa, where it is stored in Ministry warehouses pending distribution. The Ministry also pays the cost of transporting the milk to its own MCH centers scattered throughout the Empire. Privately operated clinics and hospitals must provide their own means of transport. The Ministry of Public Health has administrative responsibility for the actual distribution of the milk.

While it might be preferable to handle the P.L. 480 War on Hunger Program directly through the Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Education, it appears likely that the shortage of skilled administrators and the extremely limited budget of both these ministries would result in a reduction in an already minimal program.

Planned Targets, Results and Outputs

The target of this project is to produce healthier children, capable of developing to their maximum physical and mental capacity within the framework of this society. A true evaluation of end results and outputs of an activity of this nature is difficult; because we cannot ~~number~~ ^{measure of} ~~the~~ children who reach school age physically and mentally
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unretarded or who survive what would normally be a minor childhood disease by reason of the added nutrition provided by the project. It is possible, of course, to quantify the number of mothers and children who participate in and benefit from the project.

Course of Action

Since this is a continuing project, it is proposed to continue the course of action currently in effect. UNICEF will determine the amount of milk or other commodities that can be handled within its budget and that of the IEO Ministry of Health and the participating institutions. UNICEF will ~~submit~~ then request these commodities from AID; and upon their receipt will turn them over to the Ministry of Health for distribution.

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