

FINAL REPORT OF ENRIQUE GOMEZ

Contract No. 511-0471-S-00-1004

1. Scope of work

The work plan established in the contract covered the following items:

1. Prepare a manual describing the methodology tested in one RDC (Data Gathering and Statistical Analysis).
2. Work with outside Consultants to develop preliminary training materials and to revise them as necessary.
3. Give seminars as required to all RDCs and the Ministry explaining the methodology and its application, including follow-up individual training on use of methodology.
4. Coordinate with other Consultants and Contractors to develop an outline of an integrated methodology package for all RDCs.
5. Write and revise, if necessary, an integrated methodology document complete with a training manual.

This scope of work assumed that the contract would start on June 10, 1981 and would end on June 9, 1982.

2. Work accomplished

A manual on Data Gathering and Statistical Analysis Methods was written in Spanish with assistance from Dr. Walter Gómez. This manual was presented to personnel from the Ministry of Planning as well as the RDCs in a one-week workshop carried out on September 7, 1981.

Another paper was written on the results of the experience obtained in the Development Corporation of Oruro in preparing a Statistical Profile of the Department. Also, the Statistical Profile of the Department of Oruro was reproduced for the workshop.

Training materials for the workshop were prepared with the supervision of an outside consultant, Mrs. Archer Heinzen, who provided valuable materials and participated in the presentation of the workshop.

Once the seminar was over, instructions were received from the Project Manager, Mr. Lawrence Odle, not to continue with the work plan of developing an integrated methodological package but simply complete the already started documents in preparation for the coming of an AID evaluation team.

Under these circumstances the development of the integrated methodology document was reduced to short meetings with other members of the team: Walter Gómez, Hugh Evans, Robert Brunn, and Jorge Baanante. As a result of these meetings, and in cooperation with Dr. Walter Gómez, two documents were written:

1. "Ayuda Memoria, Proyecto de Apoyo al Sistema de Planeamiento Regional para el Desarrollo Rural", September 25, 1981.
2. On the Integration of the Planning Methodology, October 29, 1981.

These two documents summarized the original objectives of the project, its accomplishments, and formulated recommendations as to possible future directions. They also gave suggestions on how the planning tools experimented in the RDCs could be combined in a specific Corporation.

Other minor tasks include the completion of some documents started in Oruro prior to June 10, particularly a paper on the economic comparison between the Icla and Misicuni projects, prepared upon a request from the Development Corporation of Cochabamba. In addition four days were spent in Cochabamba working with Jorge Baanante in the computer processing of the Tarija survey in the month of June.

3. Comments

The workshop presented on September 7 was originally scheduled for August 17. The delay was due mainly to the lack of office furniture that was supplied by AID only by the end of July, that is, about two months after the signing of the contract. The administrative secretary for the project started working on August 21.

The schedule of the planning methodologies was also hurt particularly by the long delay (over four months) in contracting the computer processing of the Tarija survey.

Other difficulties experienced by the project were the changes of personnel in the Ministry of Planning: three heads of Regional Planning and two Ministers, and the lack of support and leadership from the contracting agency: AID.

As a final comment, I regret that the reformulation of the project made by AID and the evaluation carried out by the Ministry were made with little or no participation at all from the team members implementing the planning methodologies in the Ministry of Planning as well as in the RDCs.