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"L'Amélioration de la qualité de la vie en Afrique rurale en développant les ressources hydrauliques, la production agricole, et les services de santé."

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Chad Relief and Rehabilitation Project

Grant N°. 677-0000-G-00-3169-00

Project N°. 677-0041

ACTIVITY PROGRESS REPORT N°. 4

ACTIVITY TITLE: Vegetable Gardening Activity (VGA)

ACTIVITY NO: PIO/T 677-0041-3-30013

EXECUTIVE ORGANIZATION: Africare

DEPARTMENT: Chad

CERTIFYING OFFICER: Dan Gerber, Country Representative

Submitted to: USAID Representative to Chad

cc: Office of Development Information
and Utilisation
Bureau for Development Support
USAID/W

January 1984

I. ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

This relief and rehabilitation activity in the Chari-Baguirmi Prefecture of Chad has as its overall goal the amelioration of conditions in the agricultural sector in Chad which has been devastated by drought and war.

The specific purposes of the activity are to:

1. Promote the timely rehabilitation of CAMAN (Agricultural Cooperative of Vegetable and Fruit Growers in N'Djamena).
2. Distribute relief food through Food For Work.
3. Increase agricultural production in Chad.
4. Serve as a pilot project collecting baseline data which will allow for possible future development and expansion of CAMAN's activities, including improved marketing.
5. Test agricultural technologies.
6. Help maintain the Africare country office which will allow funding of other related agricultural, relief and development projects.

The sites for the Vegetable Gardening Activity are Miskine and Maillao. Miskine is located about 20 kms West of N'Djamena. It is planned that the garden will be 8 hectares large with 80 workers. Maillao, located about 70 kms South, has 120 workers for what is to be a 12 hectare plot.

II. IMPLEMENTATION

The proposed implementation schedule for this activity has been set forth in the Activity Justification Paper (pp. 25-28).

During the month of January 1984, the following activities took place:

1. Food distribution on 6 January (Miskine) and 7 January (Maillao).
2. Traditional fencing installation was completed at each site.
3. Mudbricks were manufactured at each site.
4. Construction of the guard's house and storage buildings began at each site.
5. Seeds were purchased and delivered to each site.
6. Motorpumps were delivered to each site.
7. "Genie Rural" (Rural Engineering) began surveying the Miskine site and scheduled a trip to Maillao for early February.

8. The CAMAN Ag. Officer's motorcycle was purchased as well as a bicycle for use in N'Djamena.
9. An accounting system was begun to record expenses that are directly CAMAN expenses.
10. A review of the market survey indicated that very poor techniques were employed in gathering and calculating prices. A more rigorous system has been institutionalized.
11. Site visit to Gargar to visit Seventh Day Adventist's World Service Project.

III. OBJECTIVES/TARGETS

The activity has begun to contribute to the meeting of the VGA objectives of:

1. Promoting the rehabilitation of CAMAN.
2. Collecting data.
3. Helping establish the Africare office, thus allowing the development of other projects. In January a 2.85 million dollar cooperative agreement was signed between Africare and USAID for a 30 month Abeche Rural Development Project. The project will focus on improving the agricultural base by development of the areas water resources. There will also be an important seed distribution and forestry component to this project.
4. Distribution of relief food through Food For Work. In January, the second allocations were made.
5. Food production has begun as some vegetables have been planted.

To this date, the project has yet to begin testing of agricultural technologies.

IV. PHYSICAL PROGRESS

1. Miskine - Bricks for construction of the buildings have been manufactured, construction has begun, traditional fencing has been installed, some seeds have been planted, and "Genie Rural" has begun to survey the land to indicate the best place to build the irrigation canals.
2. Maflao - Bricks for construction of the buildings have been manufactured, traditional fencing has been installed and some seeds have been planted.

V. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS WITH RESPECT TO OVERALL PURPOSES

1. Garden site preparation is well underway.
2. Initial planting of a small area at each site has begun.
3. Planning and organization of CAMAN's budget.
4. Also, see above III Objectives/Targets.

VI. DELAYS AND BOTTLENECKS

Delivery of needed project equipment was delayed as customs clearance took longer than anticipated. Clearance of project wheelbarrows and motorpumps was accomplished in January.

Surveying of the sites has begun. This had been delayed since the Rural Engineering Office (Genie Rural) has no equipment. Arrangements were made to rent the equipment from a private company.

VII. NON-AID INPUTS

1. GOC/CAMAN - The Rural Engineering Office (Genie Rural) has begun surveying the sites. CAMAN's agents in the field appear to be doing a good job.
2. WFP/PAM - The second food distribution took place in early January.

VIII. OTHER COMMENTS

None.