

QUARTERLY REPORT #3  
April 1 - June 30, 1983  
of the  
Strengthening African Agricultural Research Project

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SAAR QUARTERLY REPORT #3  
April 1 - June 30, 1983

I. A SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT TO DATE

A. Background

The implementation of AID Project No. 698-0435, Strengthening African Agricultural Research (SAAR) was initiated on September 23, 1982, between the Agency for International Development (AID) and Devres Incorporated. Devres subsequently sub-contracted with the Midwest Universities Consortium for International Activities (MUCIA) for technical skills and collaborative assistance. Michigan State University (MSU) was identified by MUCIA as their lead institution due to its well-established international capability.

Quarterly Reports Nos. 1 and 2 of January 12 and April 6, respectively, identified problems and progress. The major activities which have taken place to date are outlined in chronological order in Table 1.

B. Experiences to Date

1. Successes to date

a. Devres/AID relationship

Devres has developed a fully collaborative relationship with the AID/Washington office responsible for project management (AFR/RA) and with technical as well as other administrative areas. Devres has found their contractors, committees and other personnel to be helpful and facilitative. Devres' periodic meetings and briefings for AID on project actions have provided communication on all aspects of the project to a wide range of AID offices. The active and early communication of plans, ideas and problems and interactions between responsible Devres and AID staff has been essential to engender a truly joint effort in project development and guidance and has enriched the SAAR process.

As work progresses in the two U.S. zones, Devres has also begun to establish working relationships with the Sahel and Southern Africa Regional Development Offices and with the relevant missions.

Table 1: Major SAAR Activities To Date

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>
October 4, 1982	Devres Project Director Starts Work
November 12, 1982	Sahel Reconnaissance Team Initiates Sahel Effort
November 22-24, 1982	Devres and MUCIA Participate in Paris CDA Meeting
December 15, 1982	Sahel Reconnaissance Completed
January 26, 1983	Devres/MUCIA sign contract
March 22, 1983	Team Leader Replacement Accepted
February 19 to March 3, 1983	Project Director Visit to Sahel
February 18, 1983	Southern Africa Reconnaissance Initiated
April 15, 1983	Southern Africa Reconnaissance Completed
April 19-21, 1983	Meeting with the Consultative Technical Committee (CTC) on Agricultural Research of the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference (SADCC)
April 22, 1983	Issue of Sahel Reconnaissance Report
May 1983	Issue of Southern Africa Reconnaissance Report
May 26-28, 1983	Hold Sahel Workshop in Bamako with the Sahel Institute (INSAH)
June 17, 1983	Confirm Sahel Deputy Position
June 1-3, 1983	Hold Southern Africa Assessment Planning Meeting
June 1983	Prepare Draft Assessment Report Formats and Questionnaires.

b. Devres/MUCIA relationship

A mutual understanding of respective roles and responsibilities has been achieved and collaboration has effectively promoted complementarity. Michigan State University is now actively providing technical expertise, back-up reference material, working space, access to its excellent library and document collection and support in our work in the computer area.

c. Staffing for the Sahel

Devres was able to recruit excellent French-speaking professionals for work in the Sahel. A creative solution to the problem of having a non-French speaking Team Leader was proposed by Devres and subsequently approved by AID. Dr. Rolland Poirier was hired as a Co-Team Leader dedicated exclusively to the Sahel portion of the activity. Although, Dr. Poirier's initial commitment was for no more than 45 days, at AID's request, Devres has negotiated an open-ended arrangement with Dr. Poirier who has agreed to spend more time on the project as a technical expert.

Devres recruited Mr. Vincent Brown, who has extensive AID and Sahelian experience as well as proven management expertise, to be the Deputy Team Leader for the Sahel. Mr. Brown's fluent French has already facilitated promotion of the CDA process, notably in the May Workshop convened in Bamako noted below.

d. Sahel workshop

Devres' flexibility and responsiveness to shifting requirements enabled it to convene and conduct a Sahel Workshop in Bamako believed essential by AID/Washington, AID field staff and Devres, despite late identification of participants, and late agreement on plans with the African co-hosts. The Workshop was structured to serve the purposes of drawing INSAH, CDA and Sahel scientists closer together to contribute to the development of assessment questionnaires and to participate in the scheduling of the future steps for the SAAR process. The Sahel Institute (INSAH), with substantial assistance and in-service training, is expected to become a very useful mechanism through which CDA can involve African member nations.

e. Southern African reconnaissance

Involvement of French and Italian representatives in the Southern African Reconnaissance, (greatly facilitated by AID) proved to increase the CDA team's effectiveness and credibility as representative of an international body. AID assistance in effective pre-departure briefings, extensive communication with field missions and the inclusion of Dr. Vernon Johnson, and subsequently Dr. John Slattery, as team members was very helpful. Similarly, Devres' staff, Dr. Omer Kelley, Dr. Jay Artis and Dr. Joseph Menyonga (Organization of African Unity) were well received and, as a result, the team was able to develop excellent working relationships with most missions and establish excellent rapport with African researchers and administrators for CDA.

f. Pace of implementation in Southern Africa

At the conclusion of the Southern African reconnaissance, agreement was made with representatives of Southern African Development Coordination Conference that the mechanism and schedule for future SAAR activity in the zone would be taken up at the next quarterly meeting of its Agricultural Research Consultative Technical (CTC). Dr. Omer Kelly of Devres and Dr. John Slattery secured the necessary support to allow consideration of the SAAR at the activity next such meeting and facilitated the decision to appoint a sub-committee of the CTC and CDA which would plan for the next steps.

From June 1 to 3, 1983, this CTC-CDA sub-committee consisting of three members from the CTC and two from CDA (Dr. Omer Kelley of Devres and Dr. Vernon Johnson, AID Contractor) met in Harare and agreed to undertake the assessment (inventory) commencing in July for three pilot countries.

## 2. Problems encountered

### a. Devres/MUCIA relationship

The expected role of MUCIA in the project became a point of confusion early in the project's implementation after an AID representative presented a view of the Devres/MUCIA relationship which differed in substance from that outlined in the Devres project proposal and contract and which had been accepted by both Devres and MUCIA. After several months of intensive effort a Devres/MUCIA understanding, basically similar to the original, was agreed upon.

Additionally, Devres has had difficulty assessing contract expenditures to date and projecting future expenses as MUCIA has not provided Devres with any statement of its expenditures although several requests for this information have been made. We anticipate this difficulty will be resolved at an early date.

### b. Recruitment of French speakers

The magnitude of the problem of finding professionally qualified and experienced French-speakers was seriously underestimated. When Devres learned that its principal candidate for the Sahel Deputy Team Leader, Dr. Sollod, could not participate because of a contingent prior commitment to another AID contract which had materialized and found that its backup candidate, Dr. R. Poirier, could not commit himself for the length of time required due to illness in his family, Devres initiated an intensive search. Over 100 contacts were made with its independent contacts as well as with MUCIA and other universities; with development agencies and research institutes of the U.S., Canada, Europe and Africa; and with the private sector. Reference is made to Annex 7 of our May 18, 1983 letter to Mr. Slattery which documents this recruitment effort. Devres was eventually able to secure Mr. Vincent Brown as Sahel Deputy to be assisted by Dr. R. Poirier.

The effort to recruit qualified French-speakers continues, however, as Devres assembles the staff for the upcoming assessment (inventory) in the Sahelian-Sudano Zone.

c. Sahel reconnaissance

The Sahel Team's debriefing in Washington indicated that other AID offices in Washington and field mission personnel, viewed the purpose of a reconnaissance differently from the terms of the RFP and contract. The Team had been briefed by both AID and Devres prior to their task, but since neither Devres nor AID had anticipated the degree of confusion and the limited understanding of CDA by Africans and donors in the field, the Reconnaissance Team was limited in its ability to respond to questions or address issues which were basically policy-oriented. Further, a few days visit in each country was insufficient for the team to effectively communicate with Africans or to gather any but the most general information on countries' agricultural research plans, capabilities and desires. Thus, a feeling by some that the team had not completed its work was, in Devres view, due to expectations which were based on erroneous assumptions and inconsistent with the intent of the reconnaissance.

This problem was avoided in Southern Africa through expanded communication and briefings among Devres, AID/Washington, and field missions. Its effect in the Sahel has been the cause of some delay and some continued uneasiness among donor field staff.

d. Pace of implementation

Both the RFP and the Devres proposal underestimated the time required to adequately involve Africans and African institutions in the evolution of a zonal program. The need to ensure African input, acceptance and collaboration in the early steps of the SAAR process has proven essential and this requirement has been supported by AID/Washington.

Though desirable, this implicit policy has linked Devres' pace of implementation to the pace at which African institutions in both the Sahel and Southern Africa are able to proceed. In the Sahel, our movement depends to a large extent on the speed with which our proposed co-sponsor, INSAH, can get the support and cooperation of its member nations' governments and African institutions in the zone. Likewise, in Southern Africa, project implementation is limited to actions of the Agricultural Research Consultative Technical Committee (CTC) of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) and through the CTC to the actions of the SADCC Council of Ministers. Despite

these constraints, Devres has managed, through its communication and direct personal contacts and with essential AID assistance in these political areas, to expedite implementation while strongly supporting and developing an increasing role for African institutions.

e. U.S. participation in other zones

Devres has sent representatives to two CDA meetings in Paris and has noted its services as available for work in CDA other zones. We have also contacted other CDA members directly and have supported and assisted AID in the transmission of its messages to other donors. To date we have not been advised of any request from other CDA donors for U.S. assistance in activities being undertaken in the other zones although we believe the West Germans and Canadians may soon announce their desire for U.S. participation at several meetings they will sponsor.

f. Involvement of other CDA donors  
in the Sahel

Despite invitations to other donors at the Paris CDA meetings and ongoing direct communication, involvement of other CDA donors in the Sahel has been minimal to date. Devres expects, however, that with better French language skills and an experienced and well known staff, progress in this area will be made.

g. Travel and effort

The process of including regional and national African institutions in the CDA process has been tedious and costly in terms of time and travel. Devres has, at AID's request:

Dispatched representatives to both zones with the express purpose of establishing a working co-sponsorship with INSAH and SADCC for the pre-inventory workshops,

- o Funded the travel of key Africans to two CDA meetings in Paris at AID/Washington's request;
- o Discussed in detail with the concerned Project Committee the need for INSAH representatives to travel to the U.S to negotiate a sub-contract for the performance of the assessment in the Sahel;
- o Paid for travel of Africans to arrange for meeting and attend meetings in both the Sahel and in Southern Africa.

Problems associated with the need to include AID field missions and regional offices in discussions, reviews and clearances has likewise caused some delays in the SAAR activity and has necessitated additional travel, effort and communications by Devres SAAR staff.

## II. ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD

### A. General

#### 1. Deputy Team Leader

After an intensive and time consuming process by AID, Devres received approval to employ Mr. Vincent Brown as Deputy Team Leader for the Sahelian-Sudano zone. Mr. Brown is fluent in French and has proven management expertise. He will be supported in technical agriculture areas by Dr. Rolland Poirier.

#### 2. CDA

Project Director William Johnson attended the the June 1983 CDA meeting in Paris. He has apprised other donors of U.S. progress in its zones. Sixty copies each of the Southern African Reconnaissance Report and Supplement were provided to donors for distribution to their field staff. Copies in both French and English of the Sahel reconnaissance were also provided. Devres has renewed its offer to participate in other zones and its invitation to other donors to augment their participation in the U.S. zones. The aid of other donors is being sought particularly in regard to assessment activities in Angola and Mozambique in Southern Africa and for the Sahel assessment.

#### 3. Computerization of SAAR data

Devres has temporarily employed Dr. Wilford Morris to oversee the detailed development of the final inventory/assessment forms for Southern Africa and the Sahel to assure data is not duplicated that information collected can be entered into a computer for analysis, and that data and analyses are compatible between zones. Devres has proposed AID approve the purchase of two IBM computers with appropriate peripherals and is in the process of investigating procurement regulations. At the conclusion of the SAAR project, the African institutions, INSAH and SADCC would receive the project equipment, a data set and the programs which could become the nucleus for future updates of the joint CDA-African research analysis process.

4. Support staff

Devres has hired an additional word processor operator who will be dedicated primarily to the SAAR Project. As the administrative support required escalates, Devres expects to fully utilize the Travel Coordinator/Secretary at the 1.0 FTE allowed in the contract.

5. Project administration and records

A computerized record of SAAR expenses which have been billed to date has been established and will be updated monthly. Comparison of this record to a similar record of the contract budget will facilitate fiscal management by providing sub-line item analyses.

A revised projected budget is currently being prepared on the basis of information about the SAAR steps currently expected and will be available prior to the contract review planned on July 18, 1983.

Invoice 12 through 17 have been submitted and payment received for invoices 10 through 15.

B. Sahelian Zone

1. Task 1 -- Reconnaissance

A final version of the Sahel Reconnaissance Report was submitted to AID and translated into French for distribution to the countries in the zone.

2. Task 2 -- Consultative workshop

a. African participation

The Consultative Pre-Inventory Workshop took place from May 26-27, 1983 in Bamako, Mali, with the co-sponsorship of INSAH. Thirteen African agricultural specialists and administrators from six of the eight Sahelian countries participated. Sudan was represented by a former director of a major agricultural research station who is currently employed by USAID/-Khartoum. The representative from Mauritania was named to late to allow a ticket to be sent and the representative from Chad did not claim the ticket sent.

b. AID participation

Project Officer John Slattery and Ms. Emmy Simmons of the Sahel Development Planning Team in Bamako presented the CDA concept and discussed the importance of agricultural research resource assessments to the development of a long-term plan for the zone.

c. Devres participation

Dr. Rolland Poirier and Mr. Vincent Brown facilitated technical discussions throughout the workshop. Dr. Lawrence Busch, Professor of Sociology from the University of Kentucky, discussed methods for conducting agricultural assessments, presenting a system which focused on client needs and which would be integrated, therefore, with extension. Ms. Jayne Millar-Wood facilitated conference arrangements, participated in discussions of Devres' mandate and attended to administrative concerns.

d. Results

The workshop successfully introduced the CDA agricultural research initiative, obtained participants' views as experts of research priorities, and reviewed the substance and process of an agricultural research assessment. A review of the four questionnaires being used in a current INSAH inventory, showed that three would contain data pertinent to the SAAR process. Integration of efforts is thus, clearly advantageous. Details are to be provided in a separate Workshop report which is currently in preparation.

3. Task 3 -- Inventory/Assessment

During the past quarter, Drs. Kiehl and Poirier have travelled to Washington and Michigan State University to draft and refine the assessment questionnaire for the Sahel.

C. Southern African Zone

1. Task 1 -- Reconnaissance

Drs. O. Kelley and J. Artis of the reconnaissance team returned to Washington on April 10, 1983 and participated in a debriefing with approximately 15 members of AID/Washington's staff. The final report was composed and reviewed in Harare.

2. SADCC Coordinating Technical Committee Meeting

Dr. Kelley attended the SADCC Technical Committee meeting in Gaborone on April 19 to 21, 1983. A sub-committee of 5 persons was approved to take up questions concerning SAAR commencing with a consultative workshop.

3. Task 2 -- Consultative Workshop

On June 1 to 3, 1983, Drs. Omer Kelley and John Menz met with the SADCC CTC sub-committee comprised of Dr. Oland and Mr. Ndzingo of Gaborone and Mr. Manda of Lilongwe at their request. Discussed were the next steps of the SAAR activity in Southern Africa --specifically those of the assessment. The sub-committee echoed earlier sentiments that SADCC play a major role in implementation and asserted that there exists a range of capabilities to provide data sought among SADCC countries. The Workshop proposed, with AID/Washington's subsequent agreement, that a pilot assessment be done immediately in three countries spanning this range of capability, with the full assessment to follow. Swaziland, Botswana and Malawi would undergo assessment in the pilot phase and represent, in that order, a progression from least to most sophisticated in terms of their research institutions and experience.

#### 4. Task 3 -- Inventory/Assessment

As a result of earlier meetings with SADCC representatives, an economist and a computer expert were determined by the SADCC members as essential to the finalization of the assessment questionnaire. Dr. John Menz was recruited as the economist and has already provided valuable perspectives based on his long and close association with the UN and FAO programs in agricultural planning. Efforts are currently underway to secure the services of a computer expert for Southern Africa. In the interim, Dr. Wilford Morris has recently accompanied Dr. Kelley to Gaborone for this purpose. During this pre-pilot visit, our staff are negotiating the pace, personnel and management scheme for the pilot phase of the assessment. Devres now has agreement on the data format, the plan for gathering the data, and identification and broad acceptance of the personnel who will be involved.

Dr. Morris has visited London, Paris and ISNAR where he will review the existing data, opportunities for data linkages and compatibility of computer systems of CDA donors and African institutions.

### III. PLANS FOR NEXT QUARTER (JULY 1 - SEPTEMBER 30, 1983)

#### A. General

##### 1. MUCIA

As initiation of the assessment approaches in both the Southern African and Sahelian-Sudano Zones, a search of existing country-specific information is being conducted. MUCIA has placed several staff on the task of reviewing the excellent African library of Michigan State University. Country background reports will be prepared and will contain a synopsis of information available which is pertinent to the questions posed in the assessments. The assessment field staff will thus be able to simply verify such information, allowing more time to the balance of the process.

##### 2. Budget

Devres will submit to AID a status report on the budget which will present, by line item, expenditures to date. We will indicate costs which have been lower than anticipated and those which have been higher than or additional to those in the original budget. A revised budget will also be prepared for the remainder of the project and submitted to AID prior to the contract and budget review scheduled for July 18, 1983.

Devres intends to seek a budget amendment in the next quarter which would take shifting requirements into account and which would explicitly include the contract in the 30-day prompt payment rule.

##### 3. Computerization of the data base

Devres is currently investigating procurement regulations for 2 micro-computers with appropriate peripherals and accessories for use in the Sahel and Southern Africa. INSAH has already applied capability exists in both zones. With proper assessment tools and tailored programs, which a Devres' staff member can design, it is possible that data can easily be accessed, updated and compared between zones.

#### 4. Other CDA Donors

Devres is prepared to participate in CDA meetings upon invitation and will continue to encourage other donor participation in U.S. activities.

#### B. Sahelian Zone

##### 1. INSAH Subcontract

Mr. Vincent Brown will visit with INSAH in July to discuss the terms under which the assessment in this zone will be conducted. It is not certain at this time whether Devres will enter into a subcontract with INSAH, but some mechanisms will be established for the reimbursement of that institution's expenditures and payment of any personnel it provides for the assessment. Final negotiations for the appropriate level of African involvement will entail funding the travel of two Africans to Washington in early August, 1983.

##### 2. Project staff

During Mr. Brown's above-mentioned visit, he will conduct interviews with several Africans pre-selected by INSAH as qualified for the agricultural research resource assessment.

Devres will continue its efforts to recruit expatriate French-speakers as the sub-regional assessment directors as agreed to during the Sahel Workshop. Dr. Polland Poirier and Mr. Vincent Brown will participate in the management of the assessment as Team Leader and Deputy Team Leader respectively. Plans are to deploy Dr. Wilford Morris, as resident computer expert based in Bamako.

As a result of decisions taken at the June 1983 CDA meeting in Paris, Devres will not be required to prepare a Sudan section or field any staff for the Sudan as this has been determined by CDA members to be the responsibility of the United Kingdom.

##### 3. Task 3 -- Inventory/Assessment

The current schedule calls for the collection of data in the Sahel between August and October/November.

C. Southern African Zone

1. Finalization of arrangements with SADCC

Drs. Omer Kelley and Wilford Morris have recently discussed pace, personnel, and logistics for the pilot assessment with SADCC representatives.

2. Project Staff

Dr. John Menz has been employed as Assessment Coordinator in Southern Africa, based on his technical and management expertise and his considerable experience in Swaziland and other parts of the zone.

Devres will second the services of Dr. Whingwiri nominated by SADCC, for the duration of the pilot phase and is still seeking one additional qualified African to replace Mr. Ndzingo who was nominated and subsequently withdrawn. Dr. Menz and the two Africans will each be responsible for data collection in a different one of the three countries targeted.

Devres continues to seek the services of a professional computer specialist with a general agricultural background to oversee the translation of data into a computer-compatible format as the Southern African assessment progresses.

3. Initiation of pilot phase

Dr. Menz will travel to Harare or Gaborone in mid-July to brief the Africans with whom he will work and establish mechanisms for communication and administration. Dr. Menz will conduct the assessment in Swaziland, but will also make a progress check by visiting Whingwiri in Malawi and the other African in Botswana. It is expected that a hotel suite may have to be rented as office space for intermittent secretaries as the volume of data collected increases. Further, it may be necessary to make rental cars available on a one-per-country basis to eliminate the potentially large amount of time wasted on other irregular and less reliable modes of transportation.

4. Mid-Task review

In mid to late August, a mid-task review of the pilot assessment will be conducted, probably in Gaborone, to discuss progress and problems encountered in the data collection.

5. Conclusion of pilot phase

Resource assessments for Botswana, Swaziland, and Malawi should be completed by about late September. Dr. Menz and the two Africans will meet with representatives of SADCC and AID to review the data and make plans for the full assessment.

#### IV. PLANS TO END OF PROJECT

(2.B:SAAR/SH)

SCHEDULE FOR SAHEL INVENTORY/ASSESSMENT  
AND FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITIES

07/05/83  
WHJ

SECTION A: INVENTORY/ASSESSMENT PROCESS

1983 DATE	TASK NO.	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	DEVRES STAFF
06(1-15)	1.	Develop draft outline of country report format	Devres	Kiehl, Brown, Poirier, Morris, Johnson
06(15-20)	2.	Develop draft questionnaire based on INSAH material and Sahel Workshop	Devres/other	Kiehl, Brown, Poirier
06(20-25)	3.	Define data needs and assess availability	MSU/other	MSU Library staff Kiehl, Brown, Poirier Kelly, Morris, Johnson
06(25-31)	4.	Re-draft questionnaire, assess computer data base needs	Devres/other	Kiehl, Brown, Poirier MUCIA, Johnson
08(15-19)	6.	Review with Sahel/INSAH representatives	Devres/US	Brown, Poirier, Johnson
August	7.	Notify CDA donors (by cable) and request participation	Europe	Brown, Poirier
07(1-31) 08(1-15)	8.	Select and employ expatriate staff	Devres/MUCIA	Brown, Poirier, MSU, Johnson
08(15-20)	9.	Train expatriate staff	Devres, MSU	Kiehl, Brown, Poirier, Morris, MSU
08(1-20)	10.	Select and employ African staff, advise Sahel countries of plans	Devres-INSAH	Brown, Poirier, Morris
08(20-25)	11.	Field staff training, including computer personell	Bamako/other	Brown, Poirier, Morris, Comp. ex:pt.
09(1)	12.	Initiate inventory/assessment	Sahel	Brown, Poirier, Morris

1983 DATE	TASK NO.	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	DEVRES STAFF
	13.	Monitor inventory/assessment, involve CDA donors		
		A. Monthly meetings		
09(16-17)		September	Bamako	Brown, Morris, C. T.
10(14-15)		October	Dakar	Poirier, Morris, C. T.
11(11-12)		November	Bamako	Brown, Morris, C. T.
		Computer program training		
09(13-15)		September	Bamako	Morris, Brown, C. T.
10(11-13)		October	Dakar	Morris, Poirier, C. T.
11(8-10)		November	Bamako	Morris, Brown, C. T.
11(28-30)	14.	Inventory/assessment wrap up meeting	Bamako	Brown, Poirier, Morris, INSAH
12(1-16)	15.	Complete drafts of country reports and zonal programs	Devres/other	Poirier, Brown, Morris, Johnson
12(19-20)	16.	Review draft with AID/W	Devres/AID	Poirier, Brown, Johnson
01(9-11)	17.	Field review with INSAH, CDA donors	Bamako	Brown, Poirier
01(16-31)	18.	Revise and modify report as agreed with INSAH	Devres/other	Brown, Poirier, Morris
02(1-20)	19.	Distribute reports to Sahel countries and others as agreed	Sahel	Brown, INSAH
02(27-29)	20.	Sahel consultative meeting with INSAH and CDA as co-sponsors and with other CDA donors, IARC's and other donors as agreed	Bamako	Brown, Poirier, Morris, Ms Wood
03(1-30)	21.	Revise, modify reports as agreed	Devres/Bmko	Brown
04(1-15)	22.	INSAH and CDA submit final report to Sahel countries and CDA donors	Devres/Bmko	INSAH, Brown

NOTE: Devres staff commitments after 1 January, 1984 are tentative and subject to re-confirmation

SECTION B: ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DEVRES/INSAH AGREEMENT

1983 DATE	TASK NO.	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	DEVRES STAFF
07(17-26)	1.	Prepare draft agreement between Devres and INSAH	Devres/Bmko	Brown, Johnson, Ms Wood, INSAH
08(8-10)	2.	Review with AID/MUCIA	Devres/AID	Brown, Johnson, Ms. Wood
08(11-12)	3.	Negotiate with INSAH representatives	Devres	Ms. Wood, Brown
08(15-19)	4.	Escort INSAH Representatives on field visits: MSU Library, Kansas or Texas Experiment Stations	U.S.	Brown, Poirier

SECTION C: PREPARATION OF PID's AND PP's

10(17-18)	1.	Solicit suggestions at October inventory/assessment meeting	Dakar	Brown, Morris, MUCIA
12 Dec.	2.	Draft initial proposals in the field	Sahel	Brown, Morris, Poirier
1984 Jan, Feb	3.	Refine drafts, accept other ideas	Devres/Sahel	Kiehl, Brown, Morris Johnson, MUCIA
March	4.	Submit to AID for review, approval	Devres/AID	Brown, Johnson
Mar-May	5.	Design projects, develop PP's	Devres, Sahel	Johnson, Brown, Morris MUCIA

(2.B:SAAR/SA)

07/05/83  
WHJ

SCHEDULE FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA  
INVENTORY/ASSESSMENT AND FOLLOW ON SAAR  
ACTIVITIES

1983 DATE	TASK NO.	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION(s)	DEVRES STAFF
06(1-15)	1	Develop draft outlines of country report format	Devres	Kiehl,Kelley,Menz, Morris,Johnson
06(15-20)	2	Develop draft questionnaire	Devres/other	Kiehl,Kelley,Menz
06(20-23)	3	Define data needs and assess availability	MSU/Devres	MSU Library staff, Kiehl,Kelley,Brown, Porier,Morris,Johnson
06(27-31)	4	Review with SADCC, advise CDA donors	Gaborones/other	Kelley,Comp expt
06(27-31)	5	Employ African senior assistants, make initial arrangements	Gaborones/other	Kelley Morris,S.A.Comp.expt.
07(5-10)	7	Inform other CDA donors by cable(follow up Paris contacts)	U.S.,Europe	Johnson,Kelley
07(15-20)	8	Initiate pilot phase of inventory/assessment,employ junior African staff,other administrative details,notify AID field missions	Southern Africa	Menz,S.A. Comp. expt.
08(15-17)	9	Mid-task review, (to include pre-FID ideas for AID) Other donors invited to attend and contacts initiated for help with Angola and Mozambique	Harare(or other)	Kiehl,Kelley,Menz S.A. Comp.expt.
09(7-9)	10	Field review by staff of country reports with the CTC of the pilot countries; discuss and develop zonal report format	Gaborone	Kiehl,Kelley,Menz, S.A. Comp. expt.
09(12-26)	11	Prepare drafts of country reports and sample zonal report, three (3) countries, for CTC-SADCC review	Devres/other	Johnson,Kiehl,Kelley, Menz,MUCIA
10(17-20)	12	CDA-SADCC Consultative Meeting including research,extension and faculty of agriculture representatives	Southern Africa	Kiehl,Kelley,Menz

10(20-30)	13	Incorporate suggestions, changes as agreed with SADCC representatives	Devres/other	Kiehl, Kelley, Menz
11(9-11)	14	Review with CTC and other CDA donors who are able to assist in Angola and Mozambique	Southern Africa	Kiehl, Kelley, Menz, S.A. Comp. expt.
11(14-18)	15	Employ additional senior African and expatriate staff	Southern Africa and U.S.	Menz (SA) Kelley (US)
11(21-28)	16	Train field workers, initiate inventory/assessment in 6 countries	Southern Africa	Menz, Comp. expt.
12(19-21)	17	Mid-task review including CTC and CDA representatives (pre-PID discussions)	Southern Africa	Kiehl, Kelley, Menz, S.A. inventory staff
(1984)				
01(23-25)	18	Completion review and report to CTC	Gaborone	Johnson, Kelley, Menz (MUCIA)
02(1-25)	19	Prepare draft country reports and zonal program documentation	Devres/others	Kiehl, Kelley, Menz MUCIA
03(5-7)	20	SADCC/CDA meeting on report	Southern Africa	Johnson, Kiehl, Kelley Menz, Ms Wood
03(12-20)	21	Modify or edit the draft reports as agreed	Devres/other	Kiehl, Kelley, Menz
04(1-5)	22	Submit report to SADCC through its agr. research CTC	Gaborone	Kelley
Feb-Apr	23	Prepare PID(s) for AID review	Various	Kiehl, Kelley, Menz, MUCIA
Apr-May	24	Prepare Project Papers for AID consideration	Southern Africa and US	Devres/MUCIA, SAAR staff

NOTE: Devres staff commitments after 1 January, 1984 are tentative and subject to re-conformation.

## V. PENDING ISSUES

The first three issues below relate to both project substance as well as costs. In each case, the factors noted have and will impact upon project budgets for travel, for manpower and on timeliness.

A separate analysis of project costs and budgets is being prepared for budget review with AID and will constitute some of the basis for an amendment request.

The strong involvement of African institutions in the inventory/assessment process, seen as desirable in the RFP and as agreed to with AID and CDA donors, will result in a substantial increase in the requirements for training and related preparation of check-lists, training aids and similar materials. There has, likewise, been a requirement for translation of a greater number of document with a correspondingly greater distribution than originally intended. This involvement and training will better ensure high quality accurate results and over-time continuity of the process.

The acceptance of additional responsibilities and costs related to funding African travel to CDA meetings, workshops, and other project related functions as desired by AID and as noted throughout this report, will impact on Devres' budget for travel and arrangements.

As a result of experiences in both the Sahel and in Southern Africa, the building of understanding and consensus among African officials, other CDA donor representatives and AID/Washington and AID mission staff has proven to be much more costly in communications, in travel and in staff time than was foreseen in the RFP. This has also resulted in delays in the implementation as compared to the original schedule.

The CDA members' problem of Pan-African coordination of the CDA Agricultural research initiative is expected to affect Devres' ability to adhere to the terms of the contract which relate to its participation in work in the other CDA donor zones. To the best of its ability, and without the political status of a donor, Devres has continued to note its availability, as a representative of AID, to participate in other CDA donor zonal activities. To date, we have not received requests or invitations.

Devres notes that there are widely varying expectations of the outputs of the SAAR project and process among AID/Washington and field staff, African officials, and other CDA donors. Our efforts to focus attention on this issue by the several responsible agencies has not met with success. Preliminary views of AID, as noted by Devres staff at various meetings and conferences, appear to often unrealistically appraise the SAAR project's ability, within the time frame available, to provide detailed and sophisticated plans and guidelines for the short, medium and long term needs for agricultural research.

Some of the delays in project implementation are related in part to relatively slow responses from the AID Project Committee particularly in the area of approval of personnel. For example, the original nomination of Mr. Vincent Brown for Deputy Team Leader was made by Devres in February; committee approval was obtained on June 17. Devres does recognize the need for careful consideration and appreciates the complexities of the issues.