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AGRICULTURAL SECTOR STUDIES

PROJECT 040 070

1981-1983

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# Quarterly Report

KINSHASA, ZAIRE

October - December

1983

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
CONTRACT N° A R. 0070. C. 001039 - 00

PRAGMA TEAM

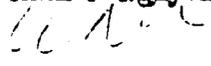
## INTRODUCTION

This is the tenth quarterly report of the PRAGMA Team to the Zaire Agricultural Sector Studies Project (USAID 660-070) covering the activities from October 1, 1983 to December 31, 1983.

The format of the report, which emphasizes conciseness, divides it into 4 sections. Section A is a summary of the major events of the quarter while section B relates those events to progress toward project objectives. Section C deals with major problems and constraints encountered during the quarter, and the final section consists of the reports of the individual team members, again in a standardized format. It is noted that section D provides a big assessment on the progress toward completion of individual work plans, by comparing the last section of the individual report for any quarter with the first section of the report for the following quarter.

Questions, requests for elaboration, and suggestions from the reader are welcome.

Chan P Nguyen

  
Acting Chief of Party  
PRAGMA Team

## SUMMARY OF MAJOR EVENTS OF THE QUARTER

One of the main areas of project activity during the fourth quarter of 1983 was the acceleration of the regional planning studies. Three of the regional planning teams who went into the field last quarter to collect data returned to Kinshasa during this quarter. The report of the Bandundu regional study is still awaiting final approval and/or modification by the Service d'Etudes Director before reproduction. The Shaba regional report was essentially completed this quarter. It will be circulated among staff members for comments and finalized next quarter. The first drafts of the regional reports on Bas Zaire, Kivu, Haut Zaire and Kasai Oriental were started this quarter.

It should be noted that the international donor organizations and the GOZ/DOA have begun to use the regional reports as base documents for project designing and identification (eg. Project Culture Maraichere in Equateur, Agricultural Development in Bagata (FAO), Agricultural and Rural Development in Bandundu (USAID) ).

The training exercises conducted by Dr. Frazier in the Computer Programming Office were finished during this quarter. Based on the result of these exercises individual assignments were made for each of the system analysts of this office.

Another area of activity during the quarter concerned additional personnel for the project. Approval was received and recruitment work was begun to hire additional Zairian professional staff. The hiring of three more agricultural economists at the A<sub>0</sub> level should complete the technical staff requirements for the Strategy and Planning Division for the time being.

During this period the PRAGMA Team Leader, Curt Reintoma, took four days of annual leave in December. He departed from Zaire on December 20, 1983 upon the completion of his contract. PRAGMA has recruited his successor for mid-January. Chan was requested by Jacques Defay, the President of the PRAGMA Corporation, to be the acting Team Leader from December 21, 1983 until January 14, 1984.

It should also be noted that during this quarter, the Secretary of State and the Minister of State for the Department of Agriculture were replaced. The new Secretary of State of Agriculture paid an official visit to Project 070 on November 12, 1983. The Director of Project 070 and the Service D'Etudes has been frequently called upon by these new officials to provide information concerning the various activities of the Department.

The commodity study on coffee was completed by the Economic Analysis Office under the guidance and co-ordination of Georges Conde. For most of this quarter approximately fifty percent of the staff of this office was involved in collecting data for, and writing the first draft of, the Haut Zaire regional planning report.

During this quarter the following reports were published and distributed

1. Production et Commercialisation des Haricots au Zaire
2. Production et Commercialisation d'Arachide au Zaire
3. Production et Commercialisation du Cafe au Zaire
4. Identification d'un Programme de Developpement Rural pour la Sous-Region du Nord Kivu (published in limited edition)

Also, during this time, each Office of the Division of Strategy and Planning prepared job descriptions for 1984 for all staff members of the office as well as an overall workplan for each bureau for 1984.

In the last three months the PRAGMA Team has met several times with the World Bank group which is working on the Technical Assistance Project of the Department of Agriculture. Continuing efforts will be made to coordinate the two projects' activities.

As a final point, the project was visited during this quarter by Jacques Defay, the President of the PRAGMA Corporation on November 23, 1983. This was his first trip to Kinshasa.

#### B. PROGRESS TOWARD PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this section is to briefly examine the events of the past quarter as they relate to project objectives.

The overall goal of increasing the information available to agricultural planners and policy makers was advanced by the completion and/or distribution of the four studies referred to in the previous section and the advancement of the regional planning studies.

The specific project goal of improving data processing was advanced by the continuing work to establish the micro-computer center in the Division of Agricultural Statistics.

The field trips by Zairian teams for studies being undertaken in Haut Zaire, Kasai Oriental and Kivu were important steps in on-the-job training and institutionalization of the indigenous capability for project identification and agricultural planning. Another example of on-the-job training was the training exercises conducted by Dr. George Frazier for the members of the computer programming office.

It should be noted that there is an increasing reliance upon the Service d'Etudes Zairian staff by the top officials of the Department of Agriculture. The new Minister of State Of Agriculture and his advisors and officials frequently call upon the Service d'Etudes staff for background and input into decision making. This is a clear indication of progress toward the broad objectives of improving agricultural policy.

### C. MAJOR PROBLEMS AND CONSTRAINTS ENCOUNTERED

Although progress is being made toward the objectives of the project a number of problems and constraints are also being encountered. While some of these problems are of a temporary nature or have relatively easy solutions, others are more difficult.

Some of the problems discussed in previous quarterly reports were resolved during the October--December period but others were not.

The problem of getting reports and studies published seems to be largely resolved. The project itself takes care of the printing of the documents and an outside group takes care of the binding and the printing of the cover.

Due to many factors, already mentioned in previous reports, the procurement of the new micro-computer system still has been postponed.

As a final item in this section, it should be noted that the departure of the PRAGMA Team Leader during this quarter may become a serious problem next quarter if a replacement is not recruited by January 15, 1984 since Dr. Chan has agreed to be acting Team Leader until that date. It is strongly urged that PRAGMA and USAID take appropriate action to speed up the arrival of the new Chief of Party and Project Office advisor as soon as possible.

INDIVIDUAL TEAM MEMBERS QUARTERLY REPORT

PRAGMA Team to USAID PROJECT 070  
Studies and Program Service  
Department of Agriculture  
Republic of Zaire

NAME: Chan P. Nguyen

POSITION: Planning Bureau Advisor

PERIOD COVERED: October 11 to December 1983

I. STATUS OF ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE QUARTER (See Section IV of previous report)

The review and editing of the Shaba regional report has been completed as planned. The report will be circulated among staff members for comment, then finalized during the next quarter.

Several discussions were held to review the workplans of Citoyens Kalombo and Matesso on their thesis studies. Changes were made with the emphasis on the "Spatial Price Relationships" to determine transfer costs, geographical price relationships and market boundaries and social factors discouraging increased production. Regarding the progress towards the completion of their thesis, Matesso has completed the first four chapters of his thesis, passed the GRE in October, and is currently working on chapters 5 and 6. Citoyen Kalombo has finalized the first three chapters of his thesis and plans to visit the Veterinary College in Lubumbashi, Shaba next quarter. Mukuna Bentsh and I thoroughly reviewed the questions from the graduate committee of Georgia University. Citoyen Mukuna answered the questions to the satisfaction of Dr. Glenn Ames and the graduate committee members. Mukuna's thesis was approved by Georgia University on December 12, 1983.

The Bandundu report was unfortunately not published as scheduled due to the delayed approval from Citoyen Mubanga. Citoyen Mubanga has been extremely preoccupied with three international conferences in Rome (FAO), Brussels and Paris with the Minister of State Of Agriculture and the Secretary Of State Of Agriculture.

Two orientation sessions on the regional diagnostic surveys were held for the Kasai Occidental Team.

## II. UNPLANNED ACTIVITIES DURING THE QUARTER

1. Assisted the GOZ/DOA's Planning Bureau in completing the job descriptions for all 8 staff member, and in preparing its workplan for 1984
2. Assisted the Planning Bureau with preparing its monthly report to the higher authorities in the Department of Agriculture
3. Held several discussions with the regional study teams (Kasai Oriental, Kivu, Haut Zaire) after their return from the field
4. Discussed and assisted Mr. Jacques Defay, President of the Pragma Corporation with preparing the workscope for an agricultural planner for the year's extension of Project 070
5. Interviewed three candidates to fill vacant positions in the Planning and Studies Division
6. Functioned as acting Chief of Part of the Pragma Team after the departure of Curt Reintzma (December 22)
7. Organized a New Year's Eve Party for the Zairian staff members of Project 070.

## III. COMMENTS AND SPECIAL PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

The low morale of the Zairian staff members of Project 070 remains a problem. However, no serious problem has been threatening the implementation of the project.

The availability of project counterpart funds has more or less affected the progress of overall activities and field trips.

IV. ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT QUARTER (Jan. 1—March 30, 1984)

1. Finalize the Shaba regional report
2. Continue to assist the two participants of Project 052 to complete their theses.
3. Dispatch the Kasai Occidental study team to conduct a diagnostic survey in Kasai Occidental if funds are available
4. One field trip is anticipated.
5. Continue to be acting Chief of Party Until January 15, 1984.

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 14, 1984.  
TO: Mr Ross Wherry, O70 Project Manager, USAID Kinshasa  
FROM: Chan P Nguyen , Acting Chief of Party.  
SUBJECT: Quarterly Report (October 1, 83 to December 31, 1983

*CCM*

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cc.: Dr Jacques Defay, President of the Pragma Corporation.

Please find attached a copy of the quarterly report which covers the activities of the Pragma team from October 1, 83 to December 31, 1983.

INDIVIDUAL TEAM MEMBERS QUARTERLY REPORT

PRAGMA Team to USAID PROJECT 070  
Studies and Program Service  
Department of Agriculture  
Republic of Zaire

NAME: GEORGES CONDE

POSITION: ADVISOR TO THE ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OFFICE

PERIOD COVERED: OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1983

I. STATUS OF ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE QUARTER (See Section IV of previous report)

The commodity reports on bananas, roots and cacao were not finished this quarter as planned because three members of the office were occupied with conducting a diagnostic survey in the region of Haut Zaire. In addition, one member of the office was on vacation this quarter.

The commodity report on root production and marketing is being reviewed because of its lack of basic data.

## II. UNPLANNED ACTIVITIES DURING THE QUARTER

1. The preparation of the report on tea (Citoyen Mbuyi)
2. Analysis of data collected on sweet potatoes and the preparation of the report on sweet potatoes
3. The participation in the preparation of job descriptions for the members of the Economic Analysis Office as well as the workplan for 1983—1984 for this office.
4. Contribution to the evaluation on the time needed to prepare a commodity report
5. Preparation of the annual report 1982—1983
6. Discussions with Mr. Jacques Defay, the President of Fragma, during his first visit to Kinshasa on the past, current, and future activities of Project 070
7. Discussions with the staff members of the Planning and Studies Division and the World Bank Team on commodity reports
8. Discussions on tea production with FAO experts

## III. COMMENTS AND SPECIAL PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

The Economic Analysis Office continues to face the same problems:

—lack of motivation of its Zairian staff members and hence poor attendance

—interruption of its regular activities by the regional planning studies

#### IV. ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT QUARTER

Prepare and finalize the commodity reports on the marketing and production of:

--roots

--cacao

--tea

INDIVIDUAL TEAM MEMBERS QUARTERLY REPORT

PRAGMA Team to USAID PROJECT 070  
Studies and Program Service  
Department of Agriculture  
Republic of Zaire

NAME: GEORGE D. FRAZIER

POSITION: Conseiller Technique, Division des Statistiques

PERIOD COVERED: October 1, 1983 - December 31, 1983

I. STATUS OF ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE QUARTER (See Section IV of previous report)

The training exercises commenced in September were completed during the quarter, and reviews of these exercises were conducted with each participant. Based on the results of these exercises individual assignments were made for each of the Systems Analysts. These assignments will give each individual an opportunity to devote his efforts to a project directly applicable to the on-going work of the Bureau, based upon the priorities for the Bureau as discussed with Cit. Kabongo T., acting chief of the Bureau and Cit. Mingiedi, Chef de Division of Statistics.

Cit. Kabongo, T. was assigned the responsibility for the development and completion of the data entry and analyses of the 1980 PRE-RECENSEMENT.

Cit. Kabongo, B. was assigned the responsibility for the development of a system for GESTION du PERSONNEL, and Cit. Bula Bula was assigned the responsibility for the development of the Banque de Données. Each of the projects is being carried out under my direct supervision with daily reviews. The intent is to continue the training in Systems analyses; and design and programming.

I. STATUS OF ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE  
QUARTER (See Section IV of previous report) cont'd

Final designation of the Chef du Department and the three Sous-Chefs has not been made. The tentative assignments above have been made and approved by Cit. Kabongo, T., Acting Chef de Bureau and Cit. Mingiedi, Chef de Division of Statistics.

Because of more critical work and because of the theft of the typewriter, the final draft of the MASTER POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL was not completed.

The preliminary development of the Agricultural Statistics Data Bank has been completed. The entry of data for the Location Code Master file was commenced.

The computer purchase order was approved by the G.O.Z. and during the quarter RFP's were solicited from three local mini-computer vendors. Only one vendor responded with a proposal.

## II. UNPLANNED ACTIVITIES DURING THE QUARTER

I had a number of unexpected visitors during the quarter.

Mrs. Jordon, US/AID, Washington, D.C. (AFRICA)  
Mr. S.D. Wincock, Economics Section, U.S. Embassy Kinshasa  
Mr. Didier Grasse, Consultant World Bank, Zaire  
Mr. M. Houdeau, Technicien, World Bank, assigned to  
Service d'Etudes

Two Agriculture Students on a mission to Africa from  
Denmark

In addition, Cit. Kinjanja, Director of Studies and Research, CEPLANUT visited me regarding my participation in a Management Sciences Seminar in planning for February 1984.

## III. COMMENTS AND SPECIAL PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

The computer acquisition continues to be delayed by a number of factors. It is now estimated that receipt and installation will not occur before March 15, 1984. This delay will seriously impact the training of personnel and the development and installation of the data bank.

There continues to be the problem of hiring personnel without regard to the development plans which have been approved by Cit. Mingiedi and Cit. Kabongo, I. During the quarter, 4 individuals were hired as programmers, Agent de Bureau 1<sup>è</sup> Classe.

None of these have had any experience and only limited training. Their presence detracted from the training program underway. These individuals will require extensive training and supervision in the future.

#### **IV. ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT QUARTER**

Continue training of personnel.

Complete, to final draft form, the MASTER POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL.

Continue the development, testing and data entry of the Agricultural Statistics Data Bank System and the accompanying SYSTEMS AND OPERATIONS MANUAL.

The quarterly report for Mr. Curt Reintsma for the period covering October--December 1983 will be included in the next quarterly report if, received on time.