

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

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ACTION

TO : TA/PPU, Mr. Robert Simpson

DATE: May 12, 1977

FROM : TA/AGR, Leon F. Hesser *lfh*

PD-AAQ-871  
MAY 28 1977

SUBJECT: Small Project Activity/Utilization - Evaluation, Winged Bean Workshop, The Asia Foundation

This is to request an allocation of \$35,000 to the Asia Foundation, San Francisco, California, to partially support a workshop on "Developing the Potential of the Winged Bean." This workshop will be held at Los Banos, Philippines, and will bring together about 50 scientists, mostly from developing countries. The total cost of the workshop and a related open forum is estimated at about \$95,000. The Asia Foundation, international centers, and other national and private development agencies will provide the balance of the financial support.

## 1. Background.

An international ad hoc panel of the National Academy of Sciences, in October 1974, concluded that the winged bean Psophocarpus tetragonolobus, is a protein-rich, underexploited food plant which might have great potential for expansion as a crop in the humid tropics. The panel issued a special publication and recommended that a major development effort be undertaken to test the winged bean much more extensively and to expand the base of knowledge about it.

Since publication of this report, an informal grouping of scientists, chiefly in Southeast Asia and West Africa, have been collecting germ plasm, testing the plant more extensively, studying its botanical characteristics, and conducting preliminary tests of its biochemistry and nutritional value. The early optimism about its potential for expansion appears justified. However, since these scientists have been working only in very loose, informal contact, there is now need for a thorough exchange of information and views on the state of knowledge and the needs for further research and testing.

## 2. Purpose of the Proposed Workshop.

A pre-workshop forum will be held in Manila to give a broad-scale presentation to a wide audience, emphasizing the potential value of the winged bean. This will not be part of the A.I.D.-funded activity.

The workshop itself is intended to provide:

- a. Detailed discussion by research workers of their recent findings.



- b. Presentation of current state-of-the-art in winged bean production and utilization.
- c. Planning of a coordinated program of winged bean research, including ordering of priorities and establishment of a timetable for the various specific investigations.
- d. Discussion of possible funding needs and sources for the coordinated research program.

### 3. Implementation.

The Asia Foundation will take leadership in organizing the workshop, which is planned for early to mid-December, 1977. The site will be Los Banos, Philippines, on the campus of the University of the Philippines, which will serve as host institution and participate in workshop planning.

The intended duration of the workshop is three days. It will be preceded by a one-day public forum in Manila. The workshop itself will be divided into a two-day period for presentation of current knowledge and status of present research, and a one-day session to outline future research needs and plans. About 50 scientists and development officials, mostly from developing countries, will participate in the first two-day session. About 30 of these will be invited to participate in the third day's planning session. TA/AGR will be involved in the selection of the participants.

End products of the workshop will include publication of a comprehensive Proceedings, and also a proposed plan for future coordinated winged bean research.

### 4. Involvement.

Participants will be invited from at least the following countries:

Philippines	Korea	India
Indonesia	Sri Lanka	Singapore
Malaysia	Bangladesh	Fij
Thailand	Burma	Samoa
Taiwan	Australia	Nigeria
Ghana	Colombia	Mexico
Costa Rica	Papua New Guinea	

A few scientists from the United States and European countries, with research experience with the winged bean, also will participate.

A.I.D. contribution to workshop costs will be used only for travel and per diem of participants from developing countries and for basic costs of publication and related essentials.

5. Budgetary Breakdown.

The total costs of the pre-workshop forum, the workshop itself, and related program operations, has been estimated by the Asia Foundation to be over \$95,000. Breakdown by functional category is:

Public Forum	\$400
Workshop	56,324
Program Operations	25,639
Administrative Costs	13,508
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Total	\$95,871

The A.I.D. contribution to the workshop is requested to be \$35,000, to be utilized as follows:

Travel and per diem of conference	\$ 31,500
Reproduction of working papers	1,000
Clerical and secretarial costs	500
Publication and circulation of proceedings	2,000
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	\$ 35,000

The travel and per diem item is to support attendance of about 21 participants, drawn from 12 developing countries plus 1 each from the United States and Australia. Both the latter two are members of the informal Steering Committee.

6. Reporting.

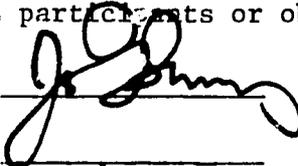
A summary report of the workshop and of the recommendations for future work will be provided to TA/AGR by the Asia Foundation with 30 days of conclusion of the workshop. A detailed Proceedings will be published and AID/TAB will be furnished 100 copies without further charge.

7. Evaluation.

Participants will be asked to evaluate the workshop; TA/AGR and other A.I.D. representatives will summarize these, execute their own evaluation, and prepare a PAR within 45 days of conclusion of the workshop.

8. A.I.D. Attendance.

It is recommended that TA/AGR be represented, preferably by its project specialist in grain legumes. USAID Mission representatives in countries concerned should be invited to attend, either as participants or observers.

APPROVED: 

DISAPPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: 5/19/77

Clearances: TA/OST, Weilers (draft   
TA/PPU, EUI, HCLadenheim (draft 