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SAHEL MASTER'S TRAINING PROGRAM IN
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

(African Development Program, AID/afr-C-1267)

Annual Report for 1983

by

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SAHEL MASTERS TRAINING
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Program Overview

In 1983, seven students graduated from the Sahel Masters Training Program, including six in the Department of Agricultural Economics and one in the Department of Education. This brings to 19 the number of students receiving a M.S. degree in Agricultural Economics under the program, with 21 Masters degrees overall (including two M.A. degrees in Agricultural Education). All of the 1983 graduates returned to their countries of origin and either took up professional posts or are currently seeking employment.

Four new enrollees entered the program in 1983, of whom three began coursework at Michigan State in January and one in April. All four had previously completed English language training at the Economics Institute in Boulder, Colorado. Appendix A provides detail on current enrollees, and Appendix B lists all program graduates.

With 21 graduates and 9 current enrollees, the Sahel Masters program will total 30 students, four more than the 26 originally envisioned. Of the 30 expected degrees, 28 will be in Agricultural Economics and 2 in Agricultural Education. The countries represented include Cape Verde, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Togo, and Upper Volta.

Academic Program Progress

Although the academic performance of several Sahelian students continues to be irregular (see the 1982 Annual Report, pp. 1-2, for a brief discussion of this problem), on the whole program enrollees seem to be having fewer difficulties than in years past. Requests for special tutorial assistance have dropped, suggesting that fewer students feel the

need to seek out supplementary help in completing their coursework. To some extent this change can be attributed to the fact that the program is now in its eighth year, so that Departmental staff have over time become more proficient at counselling Sahelian students and assisting them in the development of appropriate courses of study.

Among the handful of students who have, however, experienced academic difficulties, the common denominator seems to be continuing problems with the English language. Upon arriving in the United States, many Sahelians understandably are anxious to get started on their coursework in agricultural economics. English language training, while acknowledged to be a necessary prerequisite, often tends to be viewed as a bothersome and time-consuming diversion from more important subject matter. Thus, many students have cut short their language studies as soon as their English proficiency was deemed adequate for participation in technical coursework, and they have made little or no further effort to continue to work on reading and writing skills. Often, this has been a mistake, since improvement beyond the minimum required proficiency level usually requires additional concerted effort. While many faculty are willing to overlook bad grammar, punctuation, and spelling--particularly in papers written by non-native English speakers--they may be doing the students a disservice over the long run. In the future, academic advisors assigned to franco-phone Sahelian students (and other non-Anglophone foreign students) will be encouraged to recommend supplementary language training for those students encountering obvious difficulties.

Recruiting

Because we achieved the projected full enrollment for the program, no effort was made to recruit additional students.

Administrative Matters

Very few administrative problems arose during 1983. Clearly, students who either recently finished or currently are in the process of completing their degree programs have benefited from the fact that the trail is by now well blazed by those who have gone before. Program staff, both at Michigan State and in Washington, have improved over the years in their ability to handle routine paperwork and, perhaps more importantly, to anticipate potential problems before they arise. The Sahel Masters Program at this point is a mature program run by experienced administrators who know the procedures well.

In August 1983 the contract was extended from 30 September 1983 to 31 December 1984. This extension will permit continuation of support to the projected end of program for currently enrolled students. Careful allocation of funds permitted this extension without adding funds.

Financial Report

Attached is a financial report as of December 31, 1983.

APPENDIX A

STATUS OF M.S. TRAINING ENROLLMENTS AS OF DECEMBER 1983

Country	Name	Previous Institutional Affiliation	Enrollment Status as of December 1983
Mali	Makan Makadji	OMBEVI	M.S. Program
Mauritania	Demba Diop	Ministry of Agriculture	M.S. Program
Senegal	Danielle Dedegbe	University of Dakar	M.S. Program
	Cheikh Ly	ISRA	M.S. Program
	Fadel Ndiame	ISRA	M.S. Program
Upper Volta	Adama Bonkian	ICRISAT	M.S. Program
	Pamateba Diendere	University of Ouagadougou	M.S. Program
	Sekou Hebie	University of Ouagadougou	M.S. Program
	Kassim Traore	Institut Timisoara, Romania	M.S. Program

APPENDIX B (1 of 3)

GRADUATES OF THE MSU SAHEL MASTER'S TRAINING PROGRAM, AS OF DECEMBER 1983

Name	Country	Previous Institutional Affiliation	Completion Date	Source of Financial Aid	Research Topic
Ekoue Assionbon	Togo	INA - Paris	June 1982	AID/Sahel Training	Cocoa Prospect for Togo
Dramane Coulibaly	Mali	Ministry of Rural Development	March 1980	AID/Sahel Training	Analysis of Rice Supply and Demand in the Ivory Coast
Mamadou Diallo	Senegal	SAED	June 1981	AFGRAD	Comparative Analysis of Rice Irrigated Perimeters in the Senegal River Valley
Oumar Fall	Mauritania	Ministry of Interior	December 1983	AID/Sahel Training	Rice Policies and Priorities in Mauritania
Matar Gaye	Senegal	University of Dakar	December 1983	AID/Sahel Training	The Food Challenge in the Senegalese Rural Economy: The Analysis of the Domestic Cereals Promotion Policy
Aboubakar Kourouma	Senegal	SODIFITEX	June 1982	AID/Sahel Training	The Effects of Export and Food Crop Strategies on Farm Income and Food Self-Sufficiency in Eastern Senegal and Upper Casamance: A Linear Programming Analysis
Sanda Maina	Niger	Ministry of Rural Development	March 1982	AID/Sahel Training	On Food Security in Niger Republic: An Economic Analysis of Millet and Sorghum Yield and Acreage Responses
Makhona Mbaye	Senegal	University of Dakar	June 1983	AID/Sahel Training	Implementation and Evaluation of Rural Development Projects Under Uncertainty

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Name	Country	Previous Institutional Affiliation	Completion Date	Source of Financial Aid	Research Topic
Amadou Niane	Senegal	Ministry of Planning	January 1980	AID/Sahel Training	The Supply and Demand of Millet and Sorghum in Senegal
Lamine Niang	Senegal	ISRA	August 1982	AID/Sahel Training	Comparison of Methods For Collecting Input-Output Data
Al Haji Alioune Njie	Gambia	Ministry of Agriculture	June 1983	AID/Sahel Training	Agricultural Credit in the Less Developed Countries
Ismael Ouedraogo	Upper Volta	Ministry of Environment	December 1980	AID/Sahel Training	A Preliminary Analysis of Agricultural Marketing Characteristics of Farmers in the Eastern Region of Upper Volta
Jean-Pierre Rigoulot	Senegal	Ministry of Rural Development	January 1980	AID/Sahel Training	An Analysis of Constraints on Expanding Rice Output in the Casamance
Bafotigui Sako	Mali	Ministry of Planning	June 1981	AFGRAD	An Analysis of the Supply Response in Traditional Agriculture: A Case Study of Millet, Sorghum, and Rice Farmers in Mali
Ibrahama Sene	Senegal	Ministry of Rural Development	June 1980	AID/Sahel Training	Farmers' Behavior Toward New Technology: The Senegalese Case
Herminaldo Sousa Brito	Cape Verde	Northeastern University	December 1982	AID/Sahel Training	An Analysis of Supply and Demand Conditions for Cape Verde's Banana Industry
Alassane Sow	Senegal	University of Dakar	August 1983	AID/Sahel Training	Government Food Import Policy: The Case of Rice in Senegal

APPENDIX B (3 of 3)

Name	Country	Previous Institutional Affiliation	Completion Date	Source of Financial Aid	Research Topic
Mariam Toure	Mali	Ministry of Finance	June 1981	AID/Sahel Training	A Comparative Analysis of and Returns to Cattle vs. Small Ruminant Production in Gao Region of Mali
Idrissa Traore	Mali	Ministry of Commerce	March 1983	AID/Sahel Training	Peanut in Mali: An Analysis of Acreage Response and Marketing Performance
El Hadji Amadou Wone	Mauritania	Mauritania Development Bank	June 1981	AID/Sahel Training	Dependency Theory and Development Economics: An Assessment of Samir Amin's Views
Assoumane Baoua*	Niger	Ministry of Rural Development	December 1981		
Moctar Sidi Traore*	Mali	Ministry of Rural Development	August 1983	AID/Sahel Training	

*Graduated from College of Education (no research paper required).

Appendix C

OBLIGATED FUNDING AND EXPENDITURES

African Development Program: Masters Training Program in Agricultural Economics for Students from the Sahel
Contract AID/afr-C-1267

<u>Line Items</u>	Total Obligated Funding Years 1-8 (99 mos.) 10/01/75- 12/31/84	Actual Expenditures							Total Years 1-7 (84 mos.) 10/01/76- 09/30/83
		Year 1 (12 mos.) 10/01/76- 09/30/77	Year 2 (12 mos.) 10/01/77- 09/30/78	Year 3 (12 mos.) 10/01/78- 09/30/79	Year 4 (12 mos.) 10/01/79- 09/30/80	Year 5 (12 mos.) 10/01/80- 09/30/81	Year 6 (12 mos.) 10/01/81- 09/30/82	Year 7 (12 mos.) 10/01/82- 09/30/83	
SALARIES	\$ 141,350	\$ 6,081	\$ 5,662	\$ 18,550	\$ 37,474	\$ 22,761	\$ 30,143	\$ 13,555	\$ 134,026
INDIRECT COSTS	89,051	4,035	3,141	11,132	17,487	11,479	16,201	5,858	69,333
FRINGE BENEFITS	19,514	964	762	2,897	4,586	3,963	4,131	1,103	18,406
TRAVEL/TRANSPORTATION	33,250	3,950	3,468	4,005	1,441	789	0	0	13,653
OTHER DIRECT COSTS	9,105	292	1,361	1,838	4,560	2,541	954	191	11,737
TOTAL	\$ 292,270	\$ 15,322	\$ 14,094	\$ 38,422	\$ 65,548	\$ 41,533	\$ 51,429	\$ 20,807	\$ 247,155

NOTE: Remaining obligated funding for Year 8 (10/01/83 thru 12/31/84 or 15 mos.) is in the amount of \$45,115.