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QUARTERLY REPORT

APRIL - JUNE, 1985

CHAPARE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

EXPERIENCE, INCORPORATED

CONTRACT NUMBER 511-0543-C-00-4214

PROJECT NUMBER 511-0543

Gerald P. Owens PhD
Coordinator

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CHAPARE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT 511-0453
EXPERIENCE, INCORPORATED

I. ACTIVITIES

A. Administrative and Institutional

IBTA/Chapare has about the same number of employees as in March 1985.

The post of administrator was vacant at the end of the current quarter, but IBTA/Chapare has identified a candidate to be appointed in July. The exact number of laborers is unknown as some have been enticed by higher salaries in other "fields" of endeavor.

Director General	1
Directors	2
Administrative assistants	3
Secretaries	3
Technical Staff	34
Chauffers	3
Tractor drivers	1
Mechanics	2
Mechanic assistants	2
Warehousemen	2
Cooks	3
Domestics	2
Guards	2
Laborers	±15

IBTA/Chapare and EI personnel worked throughout the quarter on the development of the IBTA/Chapare operating plan for

1985 and beyond.

An outline was developed in the early part of the quarter, and visual aids were made for use in presentations of the IBTA/Chapare approach to extension and research, the organizational plan and the training program. Later in the quarter, a detailed "plan operativo" including budgets; research proposals and greater detail of the overall plan, was finalized.

IBTA/Chapare and EI personnel held numerous meetings with Chapare farmers, farmer organizations SDTB and other development agencies. Most of the meetings with Chapare farmers resulted in invitations to visit communities. As a result, further meetings were held at community level to define specific agricultural development activities. Acceptance by Chapare farmers, as evidenced by invitations and community action, is most gratifying at this stage of the project (six months after initiation of field activities.)

IBTA/Chapare and EI personnel spent considerable time on development and revision of budget requests and procurement of vehicles, material and equipment. See ISSUES AND SOLUTIONS.

IBTA/Chapare station Director Jorge Aldunate traveled to Costa Rica to arrange for purchase of seed and other genetic material.

IBTA/Chapare architect Mildred Camacho produced specifications for rehabilitation of experiment station buildings and designs for construction of new buildings.

Experience, Incorporated Training Specialist Thomas Gardiner arrived for a one month consultancy on 29 April. He completed his work, produced a draft report and presented a seminar on his findings before his departure on 31 May.

All EI employees had moved into permanent housing by mid-April.

Experience, Incorporated made arrangements with suppliers for furniture, carpets, drapes and alarm systems during the fourth quarter 1984 and first quarter 1985. USAID issued PIOC's for these items in April 1985. All items were delivered during the current quarter. USAID/Bolivia is still working to provide appliances (requested in November, 1984) and other household items (requested January 1985) which USAID decided to purchase directly. These items are intended for EI employee homes in Cochabamba and for the Staff House in Villa Tunari.

Dr. Taylor and Ing. Conrado Camacho of SDTB resolved the gasoline supply problem for the Staff House at Villa Tunari. The EI Staff House manager now obtains fuel from Servicio Nacional de Caminos in Villa Tunari rather than transporting it in barrels or cans from Cochabamba.

Patricia Violand, EI administrative assistant, dealt with several landlords regarding their rental payments from USAID. By the end of April, all rental contracts had been processed by USAID. All landlords had received at least one check by the end of the current quarter.

Dr. Owens discussed the possibility of adding long-term positions to the EI Chapare Regional Development contract. USAID/Bolivia, IBTA/Chapare and SDTB have expressed interest in securing the services of a livestock specialist, a regional planner, an agro-industry specialist and a marketing specialist.

Drs. Owens and Taylor traveled to Peru in April for a three day meeting with USAID/Peru and USAID/Bolivia personnel to discuss the Chapare Regional Development and the Peruvian Upper Huallaga Projects. These projects are both related to coca control and are similar in many respects. USAID/Peru is particularly

interested in the agro-industrial components of the Chapare project. Future meetings were discussed but not fixed because of the uncertainty occasioned by elections in both countries.

Experience, Incorporated held several staff meetings to discuss work plans, progress, security and other matters. In addition, Owens and Taylor attended regular meetings with heads of other U.S. agencies to exchange information, coordinate on security matters, etc.

Individual work plans for EI personnel were written and submitted to USAID.

Drs. Alvarado, Taylor, Bieber and Mondonedo developed lectures to be presented at the Universidad Mayor de San Simon in Cochabamba. Some of the lectures had to be postponed due to irregular attendance. Dr. Alvarado also discussed and planned collaborative activities in research and extension with University officials.

IBTA/Chapare and EI personnel rendered assistance to SDTB in development of a credit program for the Chapare, and in assessing land capability in the Nueva Canaan area.

B. Technical

IBTA/Chapare and EI Personnel worked on the La Jota and Chipiriri experiment stations and throughout the project area. Activities included identification and establishment of 19 demonstration farms and community nurseries, design and establishment of 17 research trials, clearing and cleaning of experiment stations and two commercial nurseries, and assistance to SDTB in evaluating land capability in the Nueva Canaan area. See Table 1.

TABLE No. 1

TABLE 1. Summary of IBTA/Chapare Activities

Demonstration farms established - See Table 2	19
Promotors (paratechnicians) trained	19
Farmers trained	13
Farmers participating in the program	800
Field days held	1
IBTA/Chapare technicians trained	14
Technological packages developed	4
IBTA/Chapare technicians in LT training abroad	1
IBTA/Chapare technicians in ST training abroad	6
Trials and experiments established	17
New species introduced	3
IBTA Nurseries rehabilitated	2
Community nurseries established	3
Home gardens established	9
Agricultural modules developed	2
Genetic material produced:	
Citrus	10,000 plants
Rubber	1,000 plants
Tembe	20,000 plants
Pineapple	4,000 plants
Yuca	10 hectares

The demonstration farms, which are in various stages of development, cover 6 microregions and are reported in detail in Table 2.

Research projects under way are listed in Table 3

No training courses were held during the current quarter. None were programmed for April, and those planned for May and June were postponed until August because of blockades and strikes. See ISSUES AND SOLUTIONS, below.

Other non-formal training included demonstrations of seedbed preparation and vegetable planting on demonstration farms.

Dr. Alvarado attended a three day meeting at Lake Titicaca to help develop a land classification system for Bolivia. The workshop was sponsored by USAID and COTESU, and run by CUMAT.

In June, Dr. Alvarado worked with IBTA personnel on a research program with CIAT to send local rock phosphate to IFDC in Mussel Shoals, Alabama for processing, treatment and analysis. The material would be returned to Bolivia for use on experimental plots as part of an evaluation of the feasibility of commercial exploitation of Bolivian phosphate deposits.

Soil samples from the Chapare were submitted to the Universidad Mayor de San Simon.

At the suggestion of SDTB, Dr. Alvarado is writing a proposal for investigation of the feasibility of exploiting local dolomite and KCl deposits for use as soil amendments in the Chapare.

TABLE No. 3

TABLE 3. List of On-going Research by IBTA/Chapare
As of June 1985

At. La Jota Exper. Station:

1. Response of Yuca (Cassava) to applications of Zinc in the soil.
2. Response of Yuca (Cassava) to applications of Zinc by immersion of plantory materials.
3. Studies in the identification of local cassava varieties.
4. Time of planting trials on some varieties of soybean.
5. Weed control studies on pieneapple.
6. Performance of several cacao hydrids.
7. Performance of several coffee varieties.
8. Citrus variety trials.
9. Grafting techniques in citrus.
10. Banana variety trials.
11. Methods of multiplying banana planting materials.
12. Crop association studies with beans, corn and cassava.
13. Tropical pe... variety trials.
14. Fertilizati... trials in pineapple.

AT. Chipiriri Station:

1. Forage legums trials.
2. Grass forage trials.
3. Vegetable variety trials.

TABLE No. 2

TABLE 2. Summary of Demonstration Farms Under Development

<u>Number</u>	<u>Micro-Region</u>	<u>Cooperating Farmer</u>	<u>Community</u>
1	3	Julio Calle	Puerto San Francisco
2	3	Victor Orozco	Puerto San Francisco
3	3	Carlos Jare	Puerto San Francisco
4	3	Gregorio Ortega	Puerto San Francisco
5	5	Freddy Paredes	Bubusama
6	3	Community	Bubusama
7	5	Guillermo Yubanore	Bubusama
8	5	Francisco Quispe	Rio 24
9	2		Arroyo Seco
10	2	Augusto Espinoza	Naranjitas
11	2	Desiderio Aguilar	Jatum Pampa
12	8		Manco Kapac
13	5		23 de Agosto
14	4		Isiboro
15	4		Colonia Ban
16	4		Chipiriri
17	7		Sinahota
18	6		Alto Paraiso
19	4		Samusabety

II. ISSUES AND SOLUTIONS

The major problems facing IBTA/Chapare in the current quarter are the same as in the past:

- Lack of funds
- Lack of vehicles and other equipment
- Civil disruptions
- Resistance to development efforts because of real or imagined links to control efforts
- Low salaries for IBTA/Chapare personnel

Funds, especially dollar funds which USAID spends directly on behalf of IBTA/Chapare, have not been forthcoming in a timely manner for various reasons. Revisions in budget requests are often required because of changes in the official exchange rate, transfers from peso to dollar budgets and vice versa, etc. Complexity of the pari passu system and slowness of communication between La Paz and Cochabamba also add to the problem. See Table 4. Note: an additional 22 Billion Bolivian Pesos (\$46,000) were advanced to IBTA/Chapare in early July.

SDTB and USAID should be better able to evaluate budget requests now that the detailed "Plan Operativo" has been submitted. Recent liberalization of the exchange rate should allow more local purchase of supplies and equipment. Nevertheless, the USAID budgeting and disbursement procedures need to be simplified, and budget advances should be allowed in order to avoid slowdown or stoppages of IBTA/Chapare activities.

Table 5 shows requests for vehicles and equipment which were made to USAID through SDTB, for direct purchase by USAID. Nothing had been delivered as of 15 June, but in all fairness it should be mentioned that as of this writing (15 July). IBTA/Chapare has received one vehicle and one typewriter.

Table 6 shows requests to USAID by Experience, Incorporated. Several items have been received, but in most instances these were identified and obtained by EI/Bolivia on Purchase Orders issued by USAID. Only the mattresses and box springs were identified and supplied by USAID.

NOTE: Eight beds and mattresses (part of item 5) requested for the Staff House in Villa Tunari were delivered to Owens house in Cochabamba after this report was written.

The inability of USAID purchasing department to provide vehicles and equipment has slowed IBTA/Chapare progress and caused extreme inconvenience and personal expense to EI employees. The lack of washing machines is particularly inconvenient and costly to employees with families, as extra domestic help must be hired, or laundry must be done commercially outside the home. EI families suffered from the cold winter for lack of heaters, or purchased heaters with their own funds.

EI understands that the purchasing department at USAID/La Paz has been expanded, but remains skeptical.

Strikes, road blockades and violence were more pronounced during the current quarter than before, probably due to the impending elections scheduled for 14 July. IBTA/Chapare and EI were prevented from entering or leaving the project area on more than one occasion, and encountered more than normal resistance to development efforts. We are optimistic that the situation will improve after elections, but will continue to scrutinize the security situation and maintain close liaison with heads of other U.S. Agencies. Of particular concern at this point in time is resistance from farmers who are concerned about possible connections between IBTA/Chapare and control efforts.

TABLE 4

LOAN 511-T-067 - FUNDS REQUESTED BY IBTA/Chapare

AND FUNDS DISBURSED - BEGINNING OF PROJECT TO 15 JUNE 1985

ITEM	C O N C E P T O	FUNDS REQUESTED		FUNDS DISBURSED		%FDS DISB/REQTD	
		PESO ACCT. (CE)	DIRECT US\$ ACCT.	PESO ACCT. (CE)	DIRECT US\$ ACCT.	PESO (CE)	DIRECT US\$ ACCT.
1	Pago Personal Permanente y Eventual	162,985	11,000	62,566	6000	38	55
2	Vehiculos y Equipo	27,793	444,207	27,763		100	0
3	Apoyo Operacional	103,918	30,229	52,642		51	0
4	Entrenamiento - Personal IBTA/Chapare	2,450	62,000			0	0
5	Construcciones y Mejoras	35,575	-	35,575		100	-
6	Investigacion y Extension	151,408	50,092	133,063		88	0
	TOTAL	484,129	597,528	311,639	6000	64	1
			1,081,657		317,639		29

TABLE 5

ITEMS REQUESTED FROM USAID THRU SDTB FOR IBTA/CHAPARE*

I T E M	REQUEST SENT TO	DATE REQUESTED	DATE APPROVED	DATE RECEIVED
1	Furniture (office)	SDTB - Carlos Montano	March 12, 1985	April 18, 1985
2	Tools and Extension Material	SDTB - Carlos Montano	March 29, 1985	SDTB/37/85 April 01, 1985
3	Office Equipment and Radios	SDTB - Carlos Montano	March 29, 1985	SDTB/37/85 April 01, 1985
4	Equipment, Tools, Spare parts and Accesories	SDTB - Carlos Montano	March 29, 1985	SDTB/61/85 April 25, 1985
5	Tanks for Gasoline and Diesel	SDTB - Carlos Montano	March 29, 1985	SDTB/39/85 April 01, 1985
6	Audiovisual Equipment	John Fasullo USAID	January 4, 1985	
7	Agricultural Equipment	John Fasullo USAID	January 4, 1985	
8	Micro Bus	SDTB - Carlos Montano	March 29, 1985	SDTB/37/85 April 01, 1985
9	10 Pick Up Trucks	John Fasullo USAID	January 4, 1985	

*Beginning of project to 15 June 1985

TABLE 6
ITEMS REQUESTED FROM USAID FOR
EXPERIENCE, INCORPORATED*

I T E M	DATE REQUESTED	DATE APPROVED	DATE RECEIVED
1 Household Items Letter No. 036/85	January 28, 1985		
2 Household Furniture	November 28, 1984	January 28, 1985	April 27, 1985 June 19, 1985
3 Appliances	November 28, 1984	November 28, 1984**	
4 Mattresses & Box Springs L.# 021/84	December 13, 1984	January 24, 1985	March 14, 1985
5 Alarm Systems L.# 063/85	February 28, 1985	March 27, 1985	
6 Staff House Items L.# 039/85	January 30, 1985		
7 Curtains - Decoraciones Mari 071/85	March 11, 1985	March 27, 1985	May 06, 1985
8 Rugs - Decoraciones Mari 071/85	March 11, 1985	March 27, 1985	May 27, 1985
9 Voucher 1034 - Staff House Expenses January/February 1985 - US\$ 315.89	February 13, 1985		
10 Voucher 1034 - Staff House Expenses 2/3/4/5/85 - US\$ 465.49	May 30, 1985		

* FROM beginning of project to 15 June 1985

** Approved by Mr. Bertotti for purchase thru Diplomatic Services

Also, IBTA/Chapare is forced to expend considerable time and effort in trying to convince campesinos that we are not using the PRODES approach, and that we are not guided by ex-PRODES officials. Hopefully, both concerns (control and PRODES) are products of campaign rhetoric and will diminish or disappear after elections. Nevertheless, we will continue to be on the look-out for organized anti-development activities and/or foreign influence in the Chapare.

IBTA/Chapare has been disadvantaged by low salary scales in the past, but this should be ameliorated by the more generous exchange rate, the increase in bonos paid by USAID and the adjustment in Bolivian salary scales.

III. WORK PLANNED FOR NEXT QUARTER

The training program will be resumed in August, with two complete cycles during third quarter. IBTA/Chapare now envisions training more promoters than originally planned. On-the job training of counterparts will continue. Special demonstrations and other non-formal training will be scheduled.

IBTA/Chapare and EI technicians will continue development of the demonstration farms and the three nurseries. They will select on additional 10 to 15 demonstration farms and initiate development before end of year.

Development and dissemination of extension radio messages and brochures will be initiated in the coming quarter.

In addition to maintenance of the 17 research projects currently under way. IBTA/Chapare plans to establish several additional experiments either on the research stations or on demonstration farms. Some of the research projects being planned are as follows:

- Effects of Zinc in Yuca production
- Effects of Potassium on Banana Yields
- Effects of N,P,K on pineapple yields
- Effects of lime on beans and corn
- Studies on the sun-bleaching problem in pineapple
- Asexual propagation of cacao
- Pruning systems for coffee

The IBTA/Chapare program for seed and seedling production will be expanded during the third quarter of 1985. An additional 15,000 citrus seedlings, 400 rubber seedlings, 10,000 pineapple shoots and ten hectares of yucca for reproduction will be established before year end. IBTA/Chapare also plans to add 80 hectares of cacao seedlings to its production program. These will be established on experiment stations and in community nurseries. Coffee and cacao seed has been purchased from the Yungas area. Plans also call for production of 30MT of rice seed, 12 tons of corn seed and five tons of bean seed during 1985.

The IBTA/Chapare program for introducing new genetic material will be intensified during the coming quarter. Many new varieties were located in Costa Rica for direct purchase by USAID/Bolivia. Alternative plans for acquisition have been made in case USAID is unable to supply. The following materials will be planted for observation and evaluation in the Chapare.

cardamom	sweet potatoes	naranjilla
vainiila	tembe	guanabana
macadamia	corn	bay leaf (laurel)
black pepper	papaya	malanga
squash	pigeon peas	chili
passion fruit	ginger	
cowpeas	allspice	

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. USAID should give priority to supplying funds, vehicles and equipment to IBTA/Chapare. Agricultural development planning, which was reasonably predicated on the assumption of adequate financial and logistic support, has resulted in a high level of activity at this point in project life. Extension, research, training and rehabilitation activities are in danger of foundering for lack of support.