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INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20523

PROJECT PAPER

BURMA

DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

398-0354

JULY 1986

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REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING PROJECT
FOR BURMA
398-0354

I. INTRODUCTION

This project will provide a total of \$3.0 million in development assistance grant funds to the Government of Burma (GOB) over a period of six years to train an estimated 160 Burmese in selected development fields. The attached Development Training Project (482-0003) authorized in June 1981, but never obligated, serves as a core document for this project with the clarifications and exceptions noted below.

II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Background

Burma has a well-endowed natural resource base and potential for development in agriculture, energy, mining and other sectors. However, serious human resources constraints need to be addressed to increase Burma's capacity to plan and implement sound development training programs and to absorb and manage increased levels of external assistance. Of particular note are shortages of qualified economic development planners, managers and technicians to plan and implement development activities.

B. Relationship to AID Country Strategy

Training under this project supports AID's efforts to strengthen development institutions in Burma, particularly in the economic planning, project development, management and technical areas. While AID's bilateral projects in agriculture and health provide training in technical areas directly related to respective project objectives, this project will address skill constraints in cross-sectoral and complementary development areas.

C. Objectives

The goal of the project is to improve the effectiveness of Burmese public and private institutions to realize development objectives. The purpose is to strengthen the planning, management and technical capabilities of Burmese public and private sector employees involved in key development activities.

D. Outputs

This project will provide training in the United States and selected third countries for an estimated 20 long-term

participants and 140 short-term participants. Training will address critical skill needs in economic planning, statistics, project development and administration, financial management, computer sciences, energy, agricultural research and related development areas. Participants will include Burmese responsible for implementing the country's development programs, including a number who serve as trainers in in-country development training programs and public management courses.

E. Beneficiaries

The primary beneficiaries will be the Burmese participants receiving specialized training. Other beneficiaries will be the organizations charged with planning and administration of development activities in Burma. The ultimate but indirect beneficiaries will be the Burmese people who will benefit from better planned and implemented development programs.

II. PROJECT ANALYSES

The analyses contained in the attached Development Training Project (482-0003) remain valid for this project.

III. FINANCIAL PLAN

A. AID Inputs

AID will finance the overseas training expenses for participants including tuition, English language upgrading, books, health insurance, maintenance allowance, international and U. S. travel and contractor training administrative costs. AID obligations are planned at \$500,000 annually, with life-of-project funding of \$3.0 million. An estimated budget is as follows:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>(US dollars)</u>
Training:	
20 Long-term participants at \$45,360 each, including 24 months of training and travel	907,200
140 Short-Term Participants at \$13,377 each, including travel	1,872,800
Evaluation	20,000
Contingency/Inflation	200,000
TOTAL	<u>3,000,000</u>

Contractor costs are estimated at \$200 per participant training month or an approximate \$180,000 over the life of project,

based on the estimated outputs of 20 long-term and 140 short-term participants. Given the fact that much of the training will be short-term and require considerable amounts of training program development, contractor costs may well be higher.

B. Burmese Government Inputs

The GOB contribution will include the following:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>(US dollars)</u>
Salaries and Interim Replacement Costs	846,576
English language Training Classrooms	72,000
In-Country Travel	86,388
Administrative Costs Associated with Application and Preparation for Training	38,418
TOTAL	<u>1,043,382</u>

C. Obligating Documents

The principal obligating document for this project will be the contract signed with an 8(a) firm selected to administer the training in the United States. Limited funds for activities such as project evaluation and pre-departure English language upgrading in Burma may be obligated by the Mission through other means.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

A. Administrative Arrangements

1. Burmese Government

As indicated in the previous project, the Foreign Economic Relations Department (FERD) of the Ministry of Planning and Finance will be the responsible GOB implementing unit. The GOB will be responsible for ensuring that each participant is in good health, holds a position in a development-related area, meets experience and education requirements for designated training, and agrees to return to Burma after completion of training to serve in a position utilizing the training received.

2. AID

The GOB has historically refused to sign bilateral project agreements for training with all donors, including with the

USSR and other socialist republics. Therefore, AID/Burma has developed an alternative approach whereby letters announcing training opportunities to FERD, the GOB implementing agency, will specify conditions under which training opportunities will be provided. These conditions are: (a) that the Burmese Government continues to pay salaries and other benefits during the entire training period, (b) that the Burmese Government implements appropriate policies and actions to assure that participants return to Burma upon completion of their training, and (c) that upon their return participants are assigned to previous positions or to new positions that are appropriate for the training received. Letters to FERD will also indicate that the U. S. Government will be entitled (a) to request and receive reports and information as are necessary to determine adherence to the above-designated conditions in order to satisfy monitoring and evaluation requirements and (b) to seek appropriate remedies, including possible refund of training costs, in the event that such requirements are not met.

AID will also carry out the following tasks:

- Monitor contractor;
- Coordinate training activities with contractor and, as appropriate, with ANE/TR/HR, including providing annual training plan estimates, other information;
- Prepare PIO/Ps with appropriate biodata, academic records and references required in accordance with Handbook 10;
- Verify English language capability prior to departure and arrange for pre-departure English language upgrading as appropriate;
- Purchase international transportation tickets;
- Complete IAP-66 visa forms for participants;
- Provide a minimum of \$50 in cash per diem advance to each overseas participant to cover travel or emergency expenses until arrival at training site;
- Conduct appropriate pre-departure administrative, academic and cultural orientations for participants; and
- Carry out follow-up activities with returned participants in accordance with Handbook 10.

3. Contractor

AID will contract with an 8(a) firm to administer the training in the United States and third countries in accordance with Handbook 10 regulations. The contractor will undertake the following actions:

- Identify and secure acceptance for Burmese academic participants in accredited U. S. university degree programs. Programs should be in appropriate academic fields, be limited to 24 months, include prerequisite English language and skill upgrading courses as necessary, provide summer courses and student counseling services.
- Develop cost estimates for each participant for submission to AID/Burma for PIO/P preparation;
- Arrange special short-term training specified by AID/Burma and the GOB in areas not covered by existing programs;
- Identify and assess available short-term training opportunities and relay information to AID/Burma on a regular basis;
- Identify appropriate third-country training programs that meet training needs identified by AID/Burma and the GOB;
- Monitor participant progress and provide administrative support to participants as appropriate;
- Arrange to meet participants on arrival, provide orientation in country of training, pay institution training costs, provide maintenance allowances, renew visas, provide return air tickets transportation, debrief participants, etc.;
- Provide reports to S&T/IT on training implemented; provide AID/Burma with regular reports on participant progress and other activities; and
- Carry out other tasks as designated by AID/Burma.

3. Illustrative Implementation Schedule

- Project Authorized	July 1986
- Contract Signed	Aug./Sept. 1986
- First Year Training Plan Developed	Sept. 1986
- Contractor Identifies Training Programs	Sept./Oct. 1986
- PIO/Ps Preparation Initiated	Sept. 1986
- Training Programs Initiated	Nov./Dec. 1986
- Mid-Term Project Evaluation	Sept. 1988
- Final Evaluation	June 1992

V. MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLANS

As indicated above, AID/Burma will monitor the contractor by requiring reports on activities undertaken and reports on participant progress. Through follow-up activities for returned participants, AID/Burma will monitor participant use of training, its appropriateness, etc. AID/Burma will also develop and maintain a participant training data system for follow-up purposes.

AID/Burma, with assistance of an AID/Washington direct-nire human resources officer, will evaluate the project near the end of the second year of implementation. The evaluation will focus on contractor performance, implementation problems and progress and, to the extent possible, the appropriateness of training and returned participants' utilization of training. A final evaluation, with the assistance of an outside consultant, will be undertaken near the end of the project.

ATTACHMENT: Burma Development Training Project
Paper (482-0003)

ANE/PD/EA:JDu Rette 06910 7/18/86

a. Source and Origin of Goods and Services

Goods and services financed by A.I.D. shall have their source and origin in the United States, except as A.I.D. may otherwise agree in writing.

b. Third-Country Participant Training

Training financed under this Project in third countries shall be implemented in accordance with the requirements of A.I.D. Handbook 10, Chapter 7 and other A.I.D. regulations as may pertain, except as A.I.D. may otherwise agree in writing.

for 

Charles W. Greenleaf, Jr.
Assistant Administrator
Bureau for Asia and Near East

Date 7/28/56