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Population Technical Assistance Project
Semiannual Report (No. 5)
August 1, 1986 through January 31, 1987

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Population Technical Assistance Project, which began as a two-year project in 1984, completed the period of the first contract extension on December 31, 1986. The contract has been further extended at no cost through June 1987.

During this reporting period (August 1, 1986 to January 31, 1987), Betsy Stephens, the Associate Director, took interim responsibility for the management and operations of the project until the arrival of the new Project Director, John McWilliam, on October 23, 1986.

An effort to develop an overall workplan for CY 1987 was initiated during this period. S&T/POP and the Missions were each asked to advise the project of their anticipated needs. The Missions' needs were requested in a worldwide cable, responses to which are presently being tabulated. The Missions were also asked to suggest ways the Project could be made more useful to them.

II. STATUS OF ASSIGNMENTS

The Project received 14 assignment requests during this period. Of the 14, one assignment did not take place as planned and has been postponed. Three of the assignments are scheduled to begin after the end of the reporting period.

Table II-1

Assignment Requests, by Period of Request

	1st Period (8/14-1/85)	2nd Period (2/85-7/85)	3rd Period (8/85-1/86)	4th Period (2/86-7/86)	5th Period (8/86-1/87)	Total
No. of Assign. Requests	37*	19	21	16	14**	107
No. of Assign. Cancelled	<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>13</u>
Total No. of Assignments	29	18	20	13	14	94

* This period really represented a full year of requests, since there were only four completed assignments during APHA's last six months (Feb-July 1984). APHA had 40 assignments during 1983.

** Three of these assignments are scheduled to begin after the end of the reporting period.

The majority of assignment requests received during this reporting period, as in previous periods, were for assignments funded by S&T/POP. Again, the largest proportion of those funded by S&T/POP provided technical assistance to USAID missions. Two assignments were co-financed by S&T/POP and USAID Missions.

Table II-2
Assignments, by Funding Source

	Assignments 8/84-7/86	Assignments 8/86-1/87	Assignments Total
1. S&T/POP	53*	7**	60*
(TA to S&T/POP)	(12)	(2)	(14)
(Eval/Centrally funded projects)	(13)	(1)	(14)
(TA USAID Missions)	(28)	(4)	(32)
2. USAID Missions	21	6	27
3. AID/W: Regional Bureaus	5	0	5
4. REDSO/WCA	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	80	14	94

* Excludes 4 assignments which S&T/POP co-financed with other funding sources.

**Excludes 2 assignments which S&T/POP co-financed with other funding sources.

At the end of the reporting period, funds committed by USAID Missions, Regional Bureaus and REDSO were almost completely expended. Eighty-seven percent of REDSO/WCA funds were used during the period, compared to 22 percent of USAID Mission and Regional Bureau funds. The Missions constituted the largest source of funds used during the period. Only five percent of S&T/POP funds were expended. S&T/POP over the whole project period has expended 72 percent of its committed funds (see Table II-3).

Table II-3

Estimated Expenditures Against Funds
Committed, by Funding Source

Funding Source	Funds Committed 8/84-1/87	Estimated Expenditure 8/84-7/86	% Expended	Estimated Expenditure 8/86-1/87	% Expended	Estimated Expenditure 8/84-1/87	% Expended
1. S&T/POP	\$2,113,675	\$1,396,884	66	\$113,469	5	\$1,510,353	72
2. USAID Missions	980,162	774,015	78	214,908	22	988,923	100
3. Regional Bureaus	295,500	231,757	78	63,743	22	295,500	100
4. REDSO/WCA	<u>15,014</u>	<u>1,429</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>13,014</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>14,443</u>	<u>96</u>
TOTAL	\$3,404,351	\$2,404,085	71	\$405,134	12	\$2,809,219	83

S&T/POP remains the largest consumer of funds provided POPTECH, having used about 44 percent of the total funds. The expenditure of funds by USAID Missions grew at a slightly faster rate over this period than in previous periods (see Table II-4).

Table II-4
Percentage of Total Funds Committed
Which Have Been Expended,
by Funding Source

	Period 8/84-7/86	Period 8/86-1/87	Total Period 8/84-1/87
1. S&T/POP	41%	3%	44%
2. USAID Missions	23%	6%	29%
3. Regional Bureaus	7%	2%	9%
4. REDSO/WCA	<u>0.04%</u>	<u>0.38%</u>	<u>0.4%</u>
Total Funds \$3,404,351	71%	12%	83%

The geographical distribution of new assignments has not changed significantly from the last reporting period, though there were fewer assignments in the Africa region (See Table II-5). The two assignments in the Near East Region were both in Egypt. Two assignments took place in Indonesia during the period, though one was carried over from the last reporting period. One centrally funded project was primarily done at the project site in the United States, although field visits to Nepal and Thailand were undertaken by one of the consultants in connection with another trip.

Table II-5

Assignments, by Geographic Region

Location	Assignments 1st-4th Periods	Assignments 5th Period	Total Assignments
Africa Region	21	3	24 (26%)
Asia Region	14	4	18 (19%)
Latin America/ Caribbean Region	12	2	14 (15%)
Near East Region	8	2	10 (10%)
Multi-regional	11	1	12 (13%)
U.S.	<u>14</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>16</u> (17%)
	80	14	94 (100%)

Since the Project's start, the two largest categories have been project or program evaluation and project design, totaling 58 percent of all assignments (see Table II-6). Less than one-third of all assignments are in specialized technical assistance areas, which have included management/administration, training, demography, policy, and IEC. Less reliance on the project for specialized technical assistance is understandable in view of the capability build-up of other cooperating agencies which concentrate on the various specialty areas of technical assistance, (e.g., CDC provides evaluation expertise in family planning logistics, patient flow analysis, etc.).

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Table II-6
Assignments, by Type of Assistance Provided

Project or Program Evaluation/Assessment	39	(42%)
Project design/redesign/planning	15	(16%)
Needs Assessment	8	(9%)
Conference/workshop participation	5	(5%)
 Specialized Technical Assistance:		
Management/administration	16	(17%)
Training	4	(4%)
Demography	4	(4%)
Policy	2	(2%)
IEC	<u>1</u>	<u>(1%)</u>
	 94	 (100%)

III. CONSULTANTS

By the end of the reporting period there were a total of 1,134 consultants in the roster. These consultants have a broad range of skills and background (see Table III-1). POPTECH has been selective, entering only individuals who are professionals with significant training and experience in their respective fields of expertise. More than 80 percent have had some experience in developing countries and more than half have at least a working knowledge of a foreign language. The majority are Americans, although an ever increasing number are non-Americans, many from developing countries.

During the reporting period, 23 consultants were contracted by POPTECH. Of those, 18 were identified by the funding source and only five by POPTECH. The underutilization of the roster has been a source of concern to the Project. The worldwide cable to Missions pointed out this situation and asked for suggestions on how to utilize this resource more fully. Renewed efforts are being made by the Project to propose more consultants to funding sources. Trends on consultant identification will be reported on in future semi-annual reports.

Over the course of the two and a half year period, the project used 131 consultants¹ who worked a total of 3918.30 person days. The skill areas of the consultants used are varied (see Table III-2). Over half have experience in family planning services; a third, in evaluation; and about a quarter in MCH, demography, administration; and about a fifth in population

¹ Some consultants have been used more than once.

Table III -1

Population Technical Assistance Project
Computerized Consultant Registry Numbering 1,148
by Selected Category and Regional Experience
as of March 1, 1987

SKILLS	NUMBER OF CONSULTANTS WITH THIS ATTRIBUTE BY REGION				
	AFR	ASI	CAR	LA	NE
Family Planning Services	221	229	102	152	97
Maternal and Child Health	253	177	87	113	88
Population Policy	46	56	30	42	32
Demography	62	89	31	59	37
Statistics	40	50	18	34	24
Census Management	16	12	6	10	8
Operations Research	49	53	32	40	30
Bio-Medical Research	28	30	13	24	17
Contraceptive Technology	25	29	9	16	17
Training	204	146	73	84	71
Curriculum Development	85	51	30	30	31
Information/Education/Communication	109	87	51	66	47
Planning	97	93	39	49	42
Administration	121	124	54	79	65
Logistics	22	20	8	11	9
Social Marketing	30	34	14	26	15
Community Organization/Participation	25	34	11	15	9
Program and Project Design	120	113	51	69	47
Evaluation	175	174	84	107	76
Private Sector Programs	18	25	9	15	10
Health Economics	32	41	15	29	19
Sterilization	15	23	9	13	8
Information Management	14	18	6	5	5
Women in Development	44	49	22	24	25
Management Systems Analyst	36	31	16	29	19
Computer Skills	23	29	10	22	14
Social Science Research	54	59	25	46	30
Physicians	93	84	36	52	38
Nurses	61	38	16	29	15
Anthropology	15	22	6	11	11
LANGUAGE CAPABILITIES					
Any Language	657				
FRENCH	390				
SPANISH	309				
ARABIC	72				

Table III-2

Consultants Who Have Worked on Project Assignment,
by Skill Category

TOTAL USED ON ASSIGNMENTS 128	ATTRIBUTE	NUMBER OF CON- SULTANTS WITH THIS ATTRIBUTE
MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS		
	Physicians	22
	Nurses	8
SKILLS		
	Family Planning Services	67
	Maternal and Child Health	34
	Population Policy	23
	Demography	33
	Statistics	7
	Census Management	2
	Operations Research	13
	Bio-Medical Research	17
	Contraceptive Technology	16
	Training	26
	Curriculum Development	8
	Information/Education/Communication	18
	Planning	14
	Administration	32
	Logistics	2
	Social Marketing	11
	Community Organization/Participation	0
	Program and Project Design	28
	Evaluation	41
	Private Sector Programs	4
	Health Economics	14
	Sterilization	6
	Information Management	2
	Women in Development	7
	Management Systems Analyst	11
	Computer Skills	9
	Social Science Research	20
	Anthropology	5

policy, contraceptive technology, training, and program and project design.

IV. REPORTS

POPTECH published 14 new reports during the period (see attached List of Reports). At the end of the reporting period, seven reports were in progress: that is, they had been received by POPTECH and the editing, clearance/publication process had begun. Three of these reports had been received in the previous reporting period. One will be published during February and the other two are receiving their final clearances and will be published soon thereafter. The principal reason for the delays was that the Team Leaders were unavailable when needed to make necessary revisions.

In an attempt to expedite the report process, POPTECH has instructed consultants that their reports should be completed during the assignment and submitted upon their return to POPTECH. In addition, POPTECH has instituted a briefing session for consultants that further reinforces the reporting requirements.

Finally, POPTECH is preparing an analysis of all scopes of work received to date with the goal of developing, in cooperation with S&T/POP, a standard format aimed to ensure that all issues are covered and that all reports are written in a logical and cogent fashion.

V. STATUS OF THE BUDGET

Table V-1
Project Expenditures

	Project Budget	Expenditures 8/84 - 1/87	Percentage of Budget Expended
Salary & Wages	\$ 429,833.00	\$ 428,769.67	99%
Travel	471,082.00	295,982.76	63%
Consultants	1,601,742.00	1,014,279.29	63%
Other Direct Costs	168,868.00	154,783.57	92%
Indirect Costs	<u>885,199.00</u>	<u>797,500.28</u>	<u>90%</u>
	\$3,556,724.00	\$2,692,315.57	76%

The Project has expended approximately 76 percent of the funds budgeted for the two and a half year period. The reason for the underimplementation of the consultant and travel line items is that there were fewer requests for assignments. This does not seem to be the case for the 2/87-7/87 period, as the evaluation planning exercise which took place in December and January and the results from the worldwide cable seem to indicate that there will be more assignments during 1987.

The unspent obligated funds will remain in the Project budget and be reallocated for those items that are close to being fully expended.

Table V-2

Reallocation of Funds to June 30, 1987

Category	Balance in Budget 1/31/87	Reallocation Budget 2/1-6/30/87
Salaries & Wages	\$ 63.33	\$ 88,661.00
Fringe Benefits 25%	4,223.49	22,165.25
Overhead 40%	1,715.15	44,330.50
Travel	175,099.24	80,800.00
Other Direct Costs	14,084.43	33,924.00
G&A 12%	23,422.04	32,385.69
Consultants	587,462.71	503,803.95
Fee 7.25%	<u>58,440.10</u>	<u>58,440.10</u>
TOTAL	\$864,510.49	\$864,510.49