

PD. AAV-214

12.11.19169

9363031



intraH

Trip Report

#0-451

Travelers: Ms. Lynn Knauff, INTRAH Deputy Director

Country Visited: Abidjan, IVORY COAST

Date of Trip: January 30 - February 9, 1987

Purpose: For orientation to and consultation
with the INTRAH/WCA staff.

Program for International Training in Health
208 North Columbia Street
The University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514 USA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	
EXEXECUTIVE SUMMARY.	i
SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES	ii
I. PURPOSE OF TRIP.	1
II. ACCOMPLISHMENTS.	1
III. BACKGROUND	1
IV. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	1
A. REDSO/WCA	1
B. The Pathfinder Fund.	3
C. The Ministry of Social Affairs	4
D. Ministry for the Promotion of Women (MOPW)	6
E. Columbia University.	7
F. The Regional Office/Abidjan	7
V. RECOMMENDATIONS.	9

APPENDICES

A. Persons Contacted/Met

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIBEF	Association Ivorienne pour Bien-Etre Familiale (IPPF Affiliate)
ACI	Africa Consultants, Inc.
FHI	Family Health Initiatives Project
FHTC	Family Health Training Center (Togo)
MOSA	Ministry of Social Affairs
MOPW	Ministry for Promotion of Women
RO/WCA	(INTRAH) Regional Office in Abidjan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ms. Lynn Knauff, INTRAH Deputy Director, visited Abidjan from January 30 - February 9, 1987 for orientation to and consultation with the INTRAH/WCA office staff.

Ms. Knauff's visit coincided with that of Miss Pauline Muhuhu (INTRAH/ESA Director) who conducted a technical assistance assignment in Sierra Leone, and Ms. Terry Mirabito, INTRAH Program Officer, who had completed an extensive assignment in Nigeria. Also in Abidjan were Mr. Jean Karambizi and Ms. Beth Mbaka of Pathfinder Fund (Nairobi), who were developing projects with Ivoirian organizations. Several meetings were held with INTRAH, Pathfinder and Ivoirian Ministries' representatives, and preliminary training plans were developed.

During the visit, debriefings on Mali and Zaire were conducted by INTRAH staff and consultants, and briefings on INTRAH and potential assignments were held with prospective technical consultants, Dr. Penda Seck and Dr. Ann-Charlotte Royer.

Briefings and a regional overview were held with REDSO/WCA, and substantive discussions on program and regional strategies were held with Mr. Pape Gaye, INTRAH/WCA Director. In response to great demand for INTRAH assistance in the region, a proposed staffing expansion was discussed and offered for consideration by INTRAH/Chapel Hill and ST/POP/IT.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

- January 30** Arrived Abidjan at 7 AM.
- Briefing at REDSO/WCA with Ms. Joyce Holfeld, Regional Population Officer and Ms. Ming Hung, Maternal and Child Health Advisor.
- Meeting at Regional Office/Abidjan with Dr. Don Lauro, Columbia University.
- January 31** Meeting at RO/WCA.
- February 1** Briefing and review with Miss Pauline Muhuhu, INTRAH/ESA Director.
- February 2** Briefing at REDSO/WCA on Sierra Leone with Miss Muhuhu and Ms. Ming Hung.
- Discussions at RO/WCA and meeting with Pathfinder Fund representatives.
- February 3** Meeting at RO/WCA with representatives of the Ministry for Promotion of Women and Pathfinder Fund.
- Meeting with Ms. Susan Cioffi, Managing Director, Inter-Management.
- February 4** Meeting at the Ministry of Social Affairs with their representatives and the Pathfinder Fund.
- Briefing of Dr. Ann Charlotte Royer on INTRAH and Mali.
- February 5** Discussions with Dr. Penda Seck, Consultant.
- Meeting with representatives of Pathfinder Fund, Columbia University, and Dr. Seck.
- Discussions with Mr. Pape Gaye, INTRAH/WCA Director on Senegal and Togo.
- February 6** Discussion with representatives of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Pathfinder Fund on the training plan for Ivory Coast.
- Debriefing on Mali by Mdm. Djari Thiam, INTRAH/WCA Regional Training Officer and Ms. Nancy Benson, INTRAH Consultant.

SCHEDULE (cont.)

- February 7** Meeting with Pathfinder representatives and Dr. Seck on Ivory Coast strategy and activities.
- Debriefing on Zaire by Mr. Jean de Malvinsky, IHP Program Coordinator.
- February 8** Final meeting with Mr. Gaye.
- Departed for Nairobi at 9 PM.

I. PURPOSE OF TRIP

The purpose of the trip was for orientation to and consultation with the RO/WCA.

II. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- A. Substantive discussions were held with Mr. Pape Gaye on program strategy in W/CA, and on regional training development.
- B. Discussed and developed a proposed plan for expanded technical and administrative capacity in RO/WCA.
- C. Participated in discussions with Ivoirian Ministries' representatives and Pathfinder Fund on training for family planning awareness.
- D. Briefed at REDSO/WCA. (No debriefing was held.)
- E. Attended debriefings on Mali and Zaire training activities.

III. BACKGROUND

This was Ms. Knauff's first visit to the RO/WCA since its establishment in August 1986.

IV. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

A. REDSO/WCA

Discussions were held with Ms. Joyce Holfeld, Regional Population Officer and Ms. Ming Hung, Maternal and Child Health Advisor. Information obtained was as follows:

1. REDSO/WCA Population Office Staffing

Another staff member will be hired from among foreign and permanent resident applicants of the

Abidjan community. That person will coordinate Ivory Coast-based projects and visitors to the office. Currently, staff country and functional responsibilities are as follows:

<u>Sarah Clark</u>	<u>Joyce Holfeld</u>	<u>Ming Hung</u>
Cameroon	Congo	Burkina Faso
Chad	The Gambia	Cape Verde
Niger	Ghana	Congo
Zaire	Liberia	Guinea Bissau
Policy Research	Mali	Ivory Coast
	Mauritania	Sierra Leone
	Nigeria	Togo
	Service Training	

2. Family Health Initiatives Project (FHI)

The FHI Project will support Togo's Family Health Training Center, Ghana and Congo, and CAFS (of Nairobi) for two Francophone courses per year.

3. Togo: The Family Health Training Center (FHTC)

A copy of Dr. James Lea's letter indicating INTRAH's interest in helping the FHTC was given to Ms. Holfeld. It is proposed that a \$200,000 buy-in be given to INTRAH for the general purpose of sustaining the existence of the FHTC through technical assistance for staff development, and during the training of 100 health workers and 100 social workers. It is expected that the outcomes will be modest in every respect. (Mr. Gaye has a copy of the Project Paper and is planning a needs assessment visit in May.) Ms. Hung noted that the FHTC has no hostel, and REDSO/WCA has encouraged international training organizations to use the Center as a venue for courses. FPIA, which formerly provided technical assistance to the Center, will no longer be involved.

4. Burkina Faso

A supplement to the Project Paper has been drafted, which will be in final form at the end of February. Four components are of particular interest to INTRAH:

- a. Supervision and follow-up: \$100,000 would be given to INTRAH (to add to the current sub-contract with the MOH) to support a supervisory infrastructure through quarterly advances (to the MOH) for petrol, travel allowances and per diems connected with supervisory visits to be made in 1 or 2 vehicles that will be purchased by USAID.

- b. The project will be extended for one year beyond its current expiration date 1989.
- c. STDs as a subject should be added to the training curriculum, specifically in counseling sessions.
- d. The time allocated for training in counseling should be increased. Mr. Green of USAID/Ouagadougou thinks one week of counseling training would be desirable.

5. Ivory Coast

Two developments were noted. The first was the meeting of Experts on Child-Spacing to be held for regional (Francophone) physicians and others from May 11-15, at the Hilton Hotel in Abidjan. An INTRAH representative is expected to give a short presentation on training issues and concerns, and INTRAH (Mr. Gaye and Mdm. Thiam) will help to facilitate and/or contribute during expert meetings in small groups. The second development is the awakening of interest by groups (other than the Ministry of Health) in promotion of child-spacing. INTRAH's contributions to these stirrings of interest are expected to be in the range of \$48,000, and provision of technical and training assistance in collaboration with proposed Pathfinder support to the Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry for Promotion of Women, and the AIBEF (the IPPF affiliate).

6. Sierra Leone

Ms. Hung furnished INTRAH with a draft copy of the evaluation report of the FHI-supported project in Sierra Leone. It is unlikely that INTRAH will be involved in Sierra Leone henceforth, although the report cited achievements of the Core Training Team as particularly noteworthy amidst very little progress in other project components.

Miss Muhuhu was requested to assist with a supervisory plan during her visit.

7. Other

Ms. Holfeld expressed satisfaction with INTRAH's strategies and assistance in the region, particularly noting the quality of staffing of the Regional Office.

B. The Pathfinder Fund

Mr. Jean Karambize, formerly of FPIA, and Ms. Beth Mbika arrived with Miss Muhuhu from Nairobi. Their visit to Ivory Coast was made for the purpose of

developing projects with public and private sector groups in response to initiatives taken by Ms. Hung of REDSO/WCA.

Several meetings were held with the Pathfinder representatives, who also attended discussions with representatives of the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry for the Promotion for Women.

In principle, it has been decided that INTRAH should contribute technical and training assistance to the training programs developed with the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry for the Promotion of Women. INTRAH will provide financial support, also, up to \$48,000 for the life of the two projects. However, Pathfinder basic financial support will be more extensive and will also include contraceptives (pills and condoms), IEC materials, supervisory activities and records and record-keeping development to the two projects, as well as full support to three other projects.

Pathfinder's major and sole priority in Francophone Africa is Ivory Coast, according to Mr. Karambize.

C. **The Ministry of Social Affairs**

Mrs. Sira Seck, who recently attended a Santa Cruz course, is the primary contact for the MOSA. She and various staff attended several meetings with INTRAH and Pathfinder representatives for the purpose of developing a training program for sociales assistants (social workers). After training the sociales assistants would be expected to awaken and stimulate their clients' thinking about child-spacing, eventually to result in a referral to services and contraceptive acceptance. The Ministry employs 400 sociales

assistants, who are trained for 3 years, and who are posted in urban and rural communities. There is a general job description for them, but their duties are mainly involved with giving health talks.

The Ministry's idea is to softly introduce the subject of family planning in the health talks and one-to-one encounters of the sociales assistants. A small group of 11 would also be trained to distribute condoms and foam on a pilot basis in 4 areas.

There are several problems to be confronted before and during a program:

1. The sociales assistants are only one cadre of community worker who will be introducing family planning information. Others include the animatrices of the Ministry for Promotion of Women, outreach workers of a hospital, staff of the Association Ivoirienne pour Bien-Etre Famiale, and possibly community workers of the Ministry of Health (through a UNFPA-assisted project). Whether these workers' messages will be similar and reinforcing is not known, and/or whether the proposed subtlety of messages will be possible should all of these workers be engaged in motivation is certainly questionable.
2. To what services will clients be referred? Assuming there will be interest in adoption of hormonal methods there are currently very few service sources, as far as is known. This was discussed with the MOSA representatives, who agreed to collaborate with the MOH (however, the MOH has not been receptive towards family planning). Another service possibility is through members of the Ivoirienne Midwives Association with whom Pathfinder intends to work, and the hospital at Dabou (about 50 km. from Abidjan).
3. Related to both points (1 and 2, above) is an obviously strong possibility for overlapping of at least two types of field-level personnel: a) the animatrices of the Ministry for Promotion of Women, and b) the assistants sociales of the Ministry of Social Affairs. Both INTRAH and Pathfinder have encouraged joint training of both Ministries' trainers and field-level personnel. This would permit identification of messages to be

given, target populations, and ways in which the two types of workers are to work together and separately.

D. Ministry for the Promotion of Women (MOPW)

The chief spokesperson for the MOPW during INTRAH'S discussion was Ms. Elizabeth Rouan, who is the technical counselor to the Minister (a woman pharmacist). Ms. Rouan is French-Vietnamese.

The approach and proposed training sequence are exactly the same as those of the Ministry of Social Affairs, although the proposed number of persons to be trained is many fewer.

The two Ministries recognize the similarity of their proposed plans, but attempt to differentiate between the target populations of the two types of field-level workers, although according to verification by each Ministry in separate conversations, there appears to be very little difference.

No meeting of representatives from both Ministries was held, although this seemed necessary. It was felt that a meeting would be threatening and unproductive, resulting in possible resistance to implement and/or collaborate. As an option it has been suggested that: 1) operational-level management personnel from the two Ministries and other Pathfinder grantees be brought together before the first training activity to present their plans; 2) that joint training be planned and implemented (but without co-mingling of funds; and 3) attention be directed in evaluation towards which type of worker is most successful in stimulating referrals and distributing contraceptives to new and continuing users.

E. Columbia University

The director of Columbia's operational research program for Francophone Africa is Dr. Don Lauro, who together with four other professional staff are posted in Abidjan.

There is potential for collaboration with Columbia in Ivory Coast, which will be pursued by Mr. Karambize of Pathfinder. Columbia could take the lead in establishing baseline data, and planning and implementing an evaluation of the impact of training on stimulation of referrals, and use of condoms and foams by establishing measures for initiation and continuation.

Dr. Lauro is also interested in collaboration with INTRAH in Rwanda since Columbia will be conducting focus group discussions on knowledge, attitudes and practice in communities and with service providers at 4 clinic sites. Dr. Lauro is hopeful that the results of discussions could be useful in influencing the content and themes of training conducted by INTRAH.

Dr. Lauro noted that Columbia is and will be experiencing budget cuts, which are expected to limit their activities.

F. The Regional Office/Abidjan

1. Regional Training

There appear to be two possible and probable regional sites: Senegal and Togo. Both will require needs assessments from the Regional Office. In the case of Senegal, we discussed possibilities for clinical training and clinical TOT through the IPPF affiliate (ASBEF), a consortium of private clinics, or the Family Health Project. The privately-owned American consulting firm, Africa Consultants, Inc. (ACI), does not have clinical capability or Africans or

staff, which limits its relevance to INTRAH's proposed strategy in Senegal. However, ACI could provide an administrative focus and technical assistance in staff and organizational development once an institution is identified. It was agreed that Mr. Gaye and Dr. Seck would explore possibilities in Senegal and Mr. Gaye would inform ACI of INTRAH's plan.

Togo will be considered as a regional site for non-clinical training through the Family Health Training Center. The Center's organizational and training strengths are not known, but reportedly are not great. In all likelihood, training and technical assistance will be required, and it is proposed that TRG be the source for assistance both under the FHI project buy-in (for Togo-based activities) and in development of regional training capability. A needs assessment visit will be planned for May to include RO/WCA, INTRAH/CH, TRG, and one clinical person, after which decisions will be made about the extent and duration of technical and financial inputs required for the Family Health Training Center to become established and credible as a regional training institution.

2. Scope of Work

The Regional Office is currently overseeing and providing training/technical assistance in: Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, and Zaire. Within the year, it is expected that projects will be developed in Senegal, Togo and Ivory Coast and perhaps, Mauritius (Rodrigues Island). Two professional staff cannot meet the demands imposed by the geographic and technical scope of the program, as well as the managing, coordinating and monitoring tasks attendant to a regional office operation.

We have, therefore, proposed that two technical consultants and a part-time administrator be added to the core staff to replace the Program Officer position in Chapel Hill. Concomitantly, the Regional Office will assume more of the program management and monitoring responsibilities formerly handled by Chapel Hill.

3. Advanced TOT for French Speaking Consultants

In order to standardize the training approach and process used by French speaking consultants, sub-contractors and freelance trainers, a two-week TOT is being proposed. (An additional objective would be to help the trainers familiarize themselves with the family planning terminology used in training.) The course would be conducted by Mr. Gaye and Mr. Fred Rosensweig of TRG with a third clinically prepared trainer.

The course would take place in the summer of 1987. Mr. Gaye will contact TRG and IHP to discuss the feasibility of such a project.

4. Reference and Training Materials in French

The scope and number of reference books, journals, visual aids and training materials in the RO/WCA collection are very inadequate.

INTRAH/Chapel Hill has been asked to identify and dispatch materials in numbers sufficient for supplying training activities and for staff and consultants' use. In addition, RO/WCA needs to review WHO, UNICEF and IPPF catalogs for titles appropriate to their reference and training needs.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Regional Office/Abidjan staff should be increased in order to expand clinical training capacity and administrative and management support. The configuration proposed is the addition of two technical consultants (Dr. Ann-Charlotte Royer based in Burkina Faso, and Dr. Penda Seck), and a part-time administrative officer (Mrs. Irene Gaye). The plan was endorsed by Ms. Joyce Holfeld (REDSO/WCA) who has recommended that INTRAH enable Dr. Seck to strengthen her clinical family planning skills: one possible option is for her to attend a ZNFPC course.
2. The standardization of training approaches and family planning and training terminology, as well as updating of training skills should be undertaken by RO/WCA in a TOT for the pool of French-speaking consultants who will be conducting training assignments on behalf of RO/WCA. Freelance and consultants/staff of TRG and IHP should be included.

3. Senegal and Togo are the most likely sites for regional training, and needs assessments should be scheduled as soon as possible with the idea of Senegal for clinical training and Togo for non-clinical courses. For this reason, the contract development visit to Senegal in March should be postponed in favor of a needs assessment. Togo's Family Health Training Center should be visited in May for needs assessment from the perspectives of in-country and regional training capacities.
4. In support of awakening interest in family planning by the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry for the Promotion for Women/Ivory Coast, INTRAH should provide training and technical assistance and limited financial support as a portion of the total project inputs to be made by Pathfinder Fund. REDSO/WCA intends to buy-in to INTRAH for \$48,000 for support of Ivory Coast initiatives. Pathfinder's proposed contribution is \$300,000 in grants to four organizations.
5. The use of Inter-Management, a private firm in Abidjan owned by an American and used by the American Embassy and REDSO for administrative support during conferences, should be explored for undertaking the administrative requirements of INTRAH's evaluation follow-up workshop (July 1987) in Abidjan.
6. Further discussion should be held with Dr. Don Lauro and the Columbia Group in Abidjan about how their projects and INTRAH's evaluation plans might be undertaken collaboratively.

APPENDIX A

Persons Contacted/Met

REDESC/WCA

Ms. Joyce Holfeld, Regional Population Officer
Ms. Ming Hung, Maternal and Child Health Advisor

Ministry for the Promotion of Women

Mr. Yao Ndjaie, Director of Operations
Ms. Elisabeth Rouan, Conseillar Technique

Ministry of Social Affairs

Ms. Goudiami, Director, Social Development and Protection
Administration
Ms. Sira Secky, Deputy, Social Development and Protection
Administration

Others

Mr. Jean Karambizi, Assistant Regional Representative,
The Pathfinder Fund (Nairobi)
Ms. Beth K. Mbaka, Program Officer, The Pathfinder Fund
(Nairobi)
Ms. Susan Cioffi, Managing Director, Inter Management Co.
Dr. Penda Seck, Consultant
Dr. Ann Charlotte Royer, Consultant
Ms. Nancy Benson, Consultant
Mr. Jean de Malvinsky, IHP staff
Dr. Don Lauro, Columbia University
Ms. Theresa McGuinn, Columbia University