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EVALUATION OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR THE SOUTH PACIFIC ACCELERATED IMPACT PROGRAM

MAY 15, 1987

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PREFACE

This evaluation was conducted under contract to the Regional Development Office in the South Pacific (RDO/SP) of the U.S. Agency for International Development from April 29 through May 15, 1987. It is the result of extensive discussions with RDO/SP staff, government officials in Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Western Samoa as well as American Embassy personnel, and Peace Corps and private voluntary organization staff in the countries visited. It is also based upon reviews of program and project documents at the USAID mission in Suva, Fiji.

In conducting this evaluation, we received tremendous cooperation and assistance for which we are very thankful. We are also grateful for the hospitality extended to us by the RDO/SP, American Embassy, and Peace Corps staff, host government officials, villagers, and representatives of private voluntary organizations.

The evaluation report consists of two parts. The first part contains an overview of the Accelerated Impact Program and the findings of our study, and recommendations for the improvement of the AIP. The second part consists of summaries of the Accelerated Impact Program projects reviewed in the course of our study. Although the inclusion of the project summaries have made this evaluation report lengthy, they have been included to provide RDO/SP staff with feedback on individual projects and future evaluators the level of detail they will require to structure comparable evaluations.

Michael P. Hamnett

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INTRODUCTION

A. Scope of Work:

The purpose of this evaluation is to provide the Regional Development Office in the South Pacific (RDO/SP) an assessment of the Accelerated Impact Program which was initiated in 1979. We were charged with selecting a sample of AIP projects, assessing the social and economic impact of sample projects, documenting proper expenditure of grant funds, and carrying out end-use audits of equipment and supplies financed by the grants.

The ultimate goal of the impact assessment and audit is to provide RDO/SP with recommendations for the development of a more effective Accelerated Impact Program. Therefore, given the time constraints on the evaluation, we have attempted to anticipate future directions of the Program. More specifically, we have tried to identify ways in which a more even distribution of AIP projects could be achieved and how more income generating projects could be successfully mounted. Our effort has, therefore, gone beyond an evaluation of past projects.

Social and economic "impact assessments" take a variety of forms and can involve extensive data gathering. Ideally, social and economic impact assessments involve a base-line study to establish the social and economic conditions which exist before a project or program is mounted. Then, either a post project study is, or a series of studies are, conducted to determine what impact a project or program has had. Given the complexity of social and economic systems, such impact studies normally examine a wide range of factors which may result in social and economic change and attempt to isolate the impact of a particular project or intervention. Such monitoring or follow-up studies may take months of data gathering and analysis.

An intensive social and economic impact assessment of individual AIP projects can hardly be justified given the small size and total number of such projects. However, a "quick and dirty" attempt to identify positive and negative impacts, to quantify the number of people benefiting from AIP projects, and to try and identify what types of projects are most successful in terms of stated goals and from the perspective of the beneficiaries is a very worthwhile endeavor.

B. ACCELERATED IMPACT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Regional Development Office in the South Pacific (RDO/SP) provides U.S. development assistance to ten of the eleven independent and freely associated island states in the South Pacific: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Western Samoa. The region is spread over 5.6 million square miles and has a population of approximately 5 million. The area is culturally, economically and geographically diverse and presents RDO/SP with a considerable program management challenge.

The Office was established in 1978 and has grown to a $7.7 million effort by FY 86. Although the Office represents the primary development assistance program in the region, the level of assistance amounts to 1% - 2% of the total donor assistance coming into the South Pacific region. In the early years, the AID program operated primarily through U.S private voluntary organizations. More recently, the Office has diversified the development assistance program to include grants to South Pacific regional organizations, a private sector development effort and new initiatives in health. The former includes an institution building grant to the University of the South Pacific to strengthen agricultural training in cooperation with the University of Hawaii and Cornell University as well as a multi-project grant to the South Pacific Commission. The current program priorities are in agriculture and health although the private sector development focus and training are also important areas of activity.

The Accelerated Impact Programs (AIP) was initiated in 1979. The purpose of the program is to encourage and support self-help efforts at the local and community level. AIP was established to support projects without regard to sectoral priorities although many of the projects supported through AIP have been aimed at agriculture and fisheries development as well as sanitation. In recent years, projects with income generating potential have been encouraged which is consistent with the private sector emphasis in the overall RDO/SP program.

The Accelerated Impact Program has supported a total of 427 projects since it was initiated in 1979. These projects have involved USAID support totaling $2,662,339 and local cash or in-kind inputs of over $3,515,204. AIP projects have been mounted in all ten AID recipient countries although there has not been an even distribution of projects or funds expended (see Tables 1 and 2). And, as implied above, a more even distribution of projects is one of the goals RDO/SP has set for the future of the AIP.

As indicated in the 1984 evalution of AIP projects, the emphasis of the program has shifted slightly since its inception. Nevertheless, the Accelerated Impact Programs continues to support a very diverse array of projects. The maximum funding level for projects was increased to $25,000 after several years of operation, but the average project support is still only $6,235.

Peace Corps involvement in the development and implementation of AIP projects has been a driving force in the South Pacific since the program was established. As the 1984 evaluation noted, the involvement of Peace Corps Volunteers in the AIP has been a model of AID-Peace Corps cooperation and for Peace Corps' Small Projects Assistance Program worldwide. Although Peace Corps Volunteers were only involved in a little over 50% of the AIP projects during the period 1984-1986, they remain a very significant factor in the success of the program. Moreover, if RDO/SP hopes to diversify the regional coverage of the program, the Peace Corps represents one of the most promising vehicles for achieving that goal.

APPROACH, SAMPLE AND EVALUATION SCHEDULE

The approach we took in this assessment was to review annual reports, project files and the two previous evaluations of the regional Accelerated Impact Program (Kahn 1982, and Gales & Russell 1984), and to discuss the Program, its future and problems with RDO/SP staff. This provided us with a profile of the entire program and provided a basis for selecting a sample of projects. It also helped us identify problems involved in project identification, implementation and evaluation.

We selected an initial random sample of thirty-eight projects to evaluate through site visits. The projects were located in five of the ten countries which have participated in the Accelerated Impact Program: Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Western Samoa. These countries were chosen because they represented the countries which have been most actively involved in the program (Fiji, Tonga, and Western Samoa) or because they have potential for future program involvement (Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands).

We limited our selection of projects to those mounted during the period 1984 to 1986. This was done for two reasons. First the two earlier evaluations were done on projects mounted during the years prior to 1984. Although the scope of the earlier evalutions was somewhat different than ours, projects mounted before 1984 have been evaluated.

Second, and from a methodological standpoint, doing retrospective evaluations of projects completed before 1984

would not, in our judgement, be very productive. And, more recent projects reflect more what future projects will look like than those initiated prior to 1984.

Once we had identified a sample of projects in the five countries to be covered, we planned a travel itinerary that would allow us to conduct site visits to sample projects and to discuss the Accelerated Impact Program with key government officials, Peace Corps and American Embassy staff and representatives of private voluntary organizations knowledgeable about small projects programs in each country.

We were unable to assess every project in the original sample because of time constraints and the inaccessability of project sites. We did, however, give first priority to assessing projects chosen randomly and added projects to the sample whereever possible provide the broadest converage.

The distribution of AIP projects, the number in the sample, the number actually assessed, the percentage of assessed projects that were included in the random sample, and the percentage of projects mounted in 1984, 1985, and 1986 we assessed was as follows:

Table I

COUNTRY	NO. PROJS 84-86	RANDM SAMPLE SIZE	PROJS ASSESD	% OF RANDM SAMPLE	% OF PROJS 84-86
FIJI	127	25	23	56	18.1
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	4	2	2	100	50
SOLOMON ISLANDS	8	3	3	33	37.5
TONGA	8	3	6	100	75
WESTERN SAMOA	14	5	10	100	71.4
TOTAL	161	38	44	56.8	27.3

Although we were only able to assess a little more than half of the projects chosen at random, the projects examined are fairly representative of projects supported during the 1984-1986 period. The projects assessed include a proportional number of income generating projects and projects which involved Peace Corps Volunteers (see overview below).

The breakdown of projects actually assessed by country and year funded was as follows:

Table II

COUNTRY	1984	1985	1986	TOTAL
FIJI	15	3	5	23
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	-	1	1	2
SOLOMON ISLANDS	-	-	3	3
TONGA	-	4	2	6
WESTERN SAMOA	3	4	3	10
TOTAL	18	12	14	44

The assessment itself was conducted from March 31 to May 10, 1987. The assessment schedule was as follows:

DATES	ACTIVITIES	CONSULTANT
3/31/87-4/4/87	REPORT AND FILE REVIEW; SCHEDULING	HAMNETT
4/6/87-4/19/87	PROJECT SITE VISITS, MEETINGS WITH RDO/SP, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, PVO & PEACE CORPS IN FIJI	RUSSELL & HAMNETT
4/20/87-4/22/87	PROJECT SITE VISITS, MEETINGS WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND PEACE CORPS STAFF IN TONGA	RUSSELL & HAMNETT
4/23/87-4/25/87	PROJECT SITE VISITS, MEETINGS WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, PVO AND PEACE CORPS STAFF IN WESTERN SAMOA	RUSSELL & HAMNETT
4/27/87-5/2/87	PROJECT SITE VISITS, MEETINGS WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, PVO, AMERICAN EMBASSY, AND PEACE CORPS STAFF IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA	HAMNETT

5/5/87-5/7/87	PROJECT SITE VISITS, MEETINGS WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, PVO, PEACE CORPS AND AMERICAN EMBASSY STAFF IN SOLOMON ISLANDS	HAMNETT
5/8/87-5/10/87	DEBRIEFING WITH RDO/SP STAFF IN FIJI	HAMNETT

FINDINGS

1. Small Project Support Systems

The nature of AIP projects and the way in which projects are developed, vetted, implemented, monitored, and closed varied considerably from country to country. Fiji has the most well developed small projects program of the countries visted. Fiji's Ministry of Rural Development funds or facilitates the funding of over 500 small projects per year from a variety of sources. And, Ministry officials are attepting to improve their own systems for receiving requests for assistance, proposal development, project monitoring, and closing projects.

The Government of Tonga is also developing the capacity to vet small project proposals with donors, monitor the implementation of projects and report completion of projects to donors. Like Fiji, the Government of Tonga has made a policy decision that it will use small projects as a vehicle for providing development assistance to rural areas. Tonga has not, however, developed the capacity to assist villages and non-governmental organizations in the development of proposals in rural areas.

The Solomon Islands government is also attempting to develop the capacity to vet and monitor projects at the national and provincial levels of government. The Provincial Development Unit is being developed as the national government unit responsible for small projects and UNDP is sponoring a training program for provincial government officials which focuses heavily on small project development, procedures for applying for small project funds, reporting requirements, and project monitoring. Moreover, there are a number of private voluntary organizations that have and will continue to fund small projects and the demand for small project support is likely to grow in PNG.

The central government in Papua New Guinea has identified the Ministry of Finance and Planning as the department responsible for vetting requests for development

assistance including the funding of small projects. They have also requested an expatriate, aid funded, officer who will be responsible for handling small projects. However, given the size of the country and the volume of aid funds available for small projects, it would be impossible for the Foreign Aid Management Division to provide the same kind of project development assistance provided in Fiji or Tonga.

Some provincial governments in Papua New Guinea are developing small project programs, and it is likely that in the next decade the provincial governments will be the governmental vehicle for small project development, monitoring and evaluation. In addition, there are several non-governmental organizations (NGO) that have small grants programs, and although the US funded organizations have suffered funding cuts, it is likely that the NGOs will also serve the function of small project development, funding, and, in some cases, implementation.

Western Samoa has the least developed small projects focus of any government visited. At least one ministry in Western Samoa has expressed interest in small projects as a vehicle for development. However, there is no evidence that the national government has plans to develop small project support systems like those found in the other four countries.

2. Types of Projects

Although the guidelines for AIP projects are quite broad, we found similarities among the types of projects funded in the countries examined. Fiji, with the largest number of projects, obviously had the greatest diversity of project types. Western Samoa and Tonga had the greatest number of projects in the education sector and this was partially a result of the number of Peace Corps Vounteers working in education and the dominance of Peace Corps associated projects. In Fiji, on the other hand, there were relatively few education projects and there are relatively few Volunteers associated with the education ministry. The Peace Corps influence was also evident in the number of national government agency and statutory corporation projects funded in Western Samoa.

It was clear from examining project files that in both Peace Corps and non-Peace Corps related projects, there was a demonstration effect. That is, when a village or a PCV mounted a particular type of project, other villagers or other PCVs would attempt to mount that same type of project. Some Volunteers either initiated or suggested the initiation of several water projects or calf rearing shed projects for several groups or villages. And, RDO/SP would receive several requests for similar projects over a relatively short period of time.

3. Meeting Project Objectives

We attempted to determine which projects (1) met project objectives, (2) met project objectives to some degree and had the potential for meeting the rest of the objectives, or (3) did not meet project objectives and had little hope of doing so. Roughly half the projects examined met project objectives and although the number of projects in countries other than Fiji was not statistically significant, it appears all five countries had about the same "success rate." About one fifth of the projects examined clearly did not meet the stated objectives of the projects and had little hope of doing so. Tonga and Western Samoa had the highest rate of "failure" and this we believe was the result of poor project planning or the lack of local support for projects. Obviously, the number of projects in PNG and Solomon Islands was too small to draw any conclusions about project "success" or "failure" in meeting stated objectives. However, the percentages are farily consistent even in those countries.

TABLE III
PERCENTAGE OF PROJECTS WHICH MET OBJECTIVES

COUNTRY	N	MET PROJ. OBJECTIVES	MET OBJECTIVES TO A DEGREE	FAILED TO MEET OBJECT.
FIJI	23	52.1%	39.1%	8.7%
PNG	2	50.0%	50.0%	-
SOLOMONS	3	66.7%	33.3%	-
TONGA	6	50.0%	33.3%	16.7%
W. SAMOA	10	50.0%	10.0%	40.0%
TOTAL	44	52.3%	31.8%	20.5%

In addition to assessing projects in terms of the degree to which they met stated objectives, we attempted to evaluate the social and economic impact of projects. Given the time constraints, it was not possible to measure economic impacts with any degree of precision. And, measuring social impact was not even remotely possible. We did, however, attempt to assess whether projects had any signficant social or economic impact. Positive social impact we defined as either an improvement in peoples' living conditions or an increase in peoples' capability to improve their living conditions or increase their earning power. We defined positive economic impact as either direct economic gain or the development of a project which could be sustained as an income generating

project. In keeping with these definitions we attempted to assess whether projects had or probably would have resulted in any measurable (a) technology transfer or increase in human capacity, (b) improvement in living conditions or help meet basic human needs, (c) some immediate economic benefit, and/or (d) sustained income generation. Where possible we obtained income figures, use rates and other quantitative measures of impact and attempted to verify such figures from more than one source.

As indicated in the table below, about two thirds of all projects examined had or were likely to have (in our estimation) some positive social or economic impact. Eleven of the forty-four projects had resulted or were likely to result in an impact in more than one of our four categories.

TABLE IV
PERCENTAGE OF PROJECTS WITH POSITIVE SOCIAL AND/OR ECONOMIC IMPACT

COUNTRY	N	NO SIG. SOC/ECON BENEFIT	HAS OR WILL PROBABLY RESULT IN			
			TECH TRANS.	IMPROV. LIV.COND.	SOME* ECON BEN.	SUST. INCOM
FIJI	23	30.4%	26.0%	34.7%	34.7%	8.7%
PNG	2	50%	50%	50%	50%	-
SOL.	3	33.3%	33.3%	66.7%	-	-
TONGA	6	33.3%	50.0%	-	33.3%	16.7%
W. SAMOA	11	36.4%	54.5%	-	18.2%	-
Over all	44	34.1%	38.6%	25.0%	34.1%	6.8%

There was obviously some relationship between projects which met stated objectives and those with some positive social and/or economic benefit. However, some of the projects met some of the stated objectives but had little social or economic benefit.

In addition to the specific impact of individual projects, it was clear that the experience of participating in an Accelerated Impact Program project, no matter what the results of the project, increased the capacity of the people involved to plan and implement formal development projects. For many people, the projects examined were the first experience they had had using a development assistance program to meet a local development need. And, it was clear

to us that the process of formally articulating a need, formally planning a project and formally requesting assistance increased the capacity of people to tap needed resources and participate in their own social and economic development.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommediations in this report are organized into (1) "General Recommendations" which hold for AIP projects in all countries and the operation of the program and (2) country specific recommendations which are organized by country. The latter are based not only on the findings of the site visits but also discussions with key government officials, Peace Corps officials and RDO/SP staff.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Ideally, all project files should be monitored by a single individual who has the time to insure that each and every project file is kept up to date. This should include insuring that appropriate project documents are included in the files such as government approvals for new projects, pro-forma invoices, and certificates of completion. The same individual should be charged with the responsibility of following up with appropriate government officials if projects are not closed.

2. There is a strong need for a project monitoring system beyond what is currently in place. At the very least a PERT chart for each project and a PERT chart for all project proposals and inquiries received in a single year should be developed. A much more effective approach would be to develop an AIP project data base system which would contain information at three levels: (1) project descriptions similar or identical to the current project proposals, (2) short project descriptions which are similar to those contained in the 1984 and 1985 annual reports, and (3) summary information including project name, funding levels (local and AID), project location, contact person, exact project site information, primary contact person, and project status. Such a data base could be easily developed and reports like the annual report and reviews such as these could be generated greater ease.

Considerable interest in the development of such a project data base system was expressed by officials in Fiji and Tonga. The Ministry of Rural Development in Fiji and the Central Planning Department in Tonga either have or will be getting IBM compatible computers and if such a system were developed for RDO/SP, officials in both governments would be interested in receiving copies of the program and training for their staff.

3. Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Tonga have developed or are developing systems for the vetting and monitoring of small projects. Most of the bilateral and multilateral donors provide funds for small projects. The amount of money available and the number of small projects vary from country to country as does the degree to which national and subnational governments have developed systems to vet and monitor projects. However, we believe that RDO/SP should encourage and support the development of small project systems in the countries which receive AIP support.

In all five of the countries we visited, we found that government departments with responsibility for either monitoring small projects or for development within one sector (eg. the Ministry of Education) were unaware of some AIP projects we were attempting to evaluate. Moreover, we were told by some of the organizations in all five countries who had received AIP support that if they had gone through channels, their funding would have been delayed or their proposal would have been blocked. While this may be the case, we feel that RDO/SP should insist that projects be submitted through the government departments with responsibility for small project support. We would also suggest that potential applicants be encouraged to make multiple copies of project proposals and send copies to all relevant departments and to RDO/SP. This will reduce the possibility that proposals will simply get stuck in the system.

4. RDO's encouragement of income generating projects was lauded by government officials, NGO staff and Peace Corps staff in all five countries we visisted. Aside from Ministry of Rural Development staff in Fiji, most people with whom we discussed the issue felt that it would be unfortunate if AIP grants were restricted to income generating projects. Moreover, we found that while income generating projects had no higher success rate than other projects, such projects tended to produce more secondary benefits. That is, income generated from such projects was invested in either other income generating projects or social development projects.

The experience with income generating projects in three of the countries we visited was that "group" businesses had a lower survival rate than individual businesses. And, while few income generating projects funded under AIP in 1984, 1985, and 1986 had been developed into formal businesses we were asked why individuals could not receive grant assistance for the establishment of business ventures. We were also asked about the possibility of grants for revolving load funds for the establishment of propritorship and partnerships.

We believe that RDO/SP should consider either making a limited number of grants to individuals to establish businesses or consider the possibility of making grants for revolving load funds to organizations with an established record of revovling loan fund administration.

COUNTRY SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

Fiji

Fiji has had the greatest number of AIP projects of any country in the region. During the period 1984-1986, a total of 127 projects were intiated which represented about 83% of all AIP projects for the region. Because of the large number of projects in Fiji, we included a significant number in our evaluation and feel the findings represent an accurate picture of the operation of the AIP in Fiji.

1. The development impact of projects would be greater if community groups had access to more project planning assistance. Such assistance would enhance the capability of villagers and community groups to plan their own projects and increase the success rate of projects. Such assistance cannot be provided by RDO/SP nor the Ministry of Rural Development given the overall work load of the AID mission and the Ministry.

The kind of project planning assistance that is needed includes financial and technical planning. Poor design was apparent in several construction projects, some of which were planned with the assistance of Peace Corps Volunteers. A coordinated effort involving Peace Corps and the Ministry of Rural Development department could improve on the planning and implementation of AIP projects.

2. Income generating projects have clearly been a focus of the Accelerated Impact Program. In Fiji, at least, this is also a priority of the Ministry of Rural Development. Moreover, the Ministry believes that if rural villagers can generate income through projects supported with external assistance they will be in a position to support the development of social development and human needs projects. Indeed, there are examples in the Fiji sample of income generating projects explicitly organized to generate funds for self-help projects.

If RDO/SP wanted to make income generating projects the focus of its entire program in Fiji, the Ministry of Rural Development would respond by encouraging such projects. Moreover, this type of initiative would allow District Officers and other ministry officials to further encourage such projects.

It is clear that because there are a number of self-sustaining income generating projects which have been developed over the past three years, such projects are possible. It is clear from some of the projects which have faltered or failed, there was a clear need for some kind of business development assistance. What appears to be needed is planning and business assistance that is sensitive to the needs and desires of rural people--that is assistance that does not insist on a formal business structure and profits that are reinvested for business growth. Sustainability should be the goal if the purpose of the enterprise is to generate cash for village projects or enough cash to purchase a few consumer items. Moreover, simple measures like the establishment of a repair and replacement account to insure there is enough cash to replace an outboard motor lawn mower when it needs replacing or the purchase of spare parts and engine oil when they are required.

3. Construction projects in Fiji have demonstrated a very mixed success rate. A number of projects in the sample were clearly built with no formal design and inadequate cost projections. A number of projects were initiated with the promise of stimulating income or commercial activity or social benefits beyond providing a place for a council or group to meet. Several of these projects resulted in the kind of social or economic benefit promised in the grant agreements. However, others did not. Therefore, we would recommend that construction projects, especially those for which relatively large amounts of AIP funds are provided be screened very carefully. We would recommend that the District Officer and a qualified construction professionals be consulted.

4. RDO/SP appears to have considerable difficulty in formally closing out AIP projects. Only 46% of 1984 projects, 34% of 1985 projects and 2% of 1986 projects have been formally closed out. It is evident from the files that a good deal of effort has been expended trying to close projects out. It is also evident from the files that the close out rate for projects which involved Peace Corps Volunteers is much higher than for projects in which Peace Corps Volunteers have not been involved. One solution to the close out problems would be to encourage more Peace Corps related projects. However, for a number of reasons such a policy change would probably not be desirable to either Peace Corps or RDO/SP management.

The Ministry of Rural Development is currently developing a system for closing out all projects (totaling about 500) funded by all donors. It would probably be of considerable benefit to RDO/SP to work with the Ministry of Rurual Development staff to establish a system to allow the Ministry to close out AIP projects. The Ministry has

indicated they would be very keen to have such assistance and it would serve SPRDO's need to improve their close-out rate.

Tonga

Tonga has only had 33 projects since the Accelerated Impact Program was initiated in 1979 and only eight projects were mounted during 1984, 1985, and 1986. Therefore, there were relatively few projects for us to evaluate. And, despite the time constraints we were able to make site visits to five projects (62.5 % of the projects in '84, '85, and '86) and to discuss an additional project with the principal of the agricultural college on Eua.

1. The overall results of the Tonga projects were similar to those for the region as a whole--about half the projects met stated ovjectives and only a third had no clear developmental impact. Project failure was clearly associated with poor project planning and the fact that the projects were so closely tied to Peace Corps Volunteers who were unable to identify, plan and implement projects before their two year tours were completed.

We discussed this problem with the Peace Corps Director, Central Planning Department Officials, and Peace Corps Volunteers. The general feeling was that if a Volunteer knows about the Accelerated Impact Program (and not all did), it takes the Volunteer a year to become knowledgeable about the community or group with which he or she is working. It then takes several months to identify a real need and design a project to meet that need. Once a formal application is developed it takes two or more months to obtain approval in Tonga and then if there is AIP money available, it takes another month or so before the check arrives. Therefore, it is likely that a Volunteer will be in his or her 19th or 20th month of a two year tour before the materials or equipment being supported by the grant can be ordered. Given this situation, it is likely the Volunteer will be leaving about the same time as the materials or equipment arrive at the site.

2. All of the projects we examined in Tonga were projects associated with Peace Corps Volunteers. Moreover, meetings with the Central Planning Department staff revealed that most people in Tonga including planning officials understood that AIP only funded projects initiated by Peace Corps Volunteers. They said that AIP ("Peace Corps") projects were vetted with the planning department and were often submitted to cabinet after they received informal word from Peace Corps that the project would be funded if approved by Cabinet. The same officials noted that they did not screen AIP projects with the same rigor they did other aid projects nor did they monitor or evaluate AIP projects which they would if the same projects were funded from another source.

Tonga government sees their own small projects program as one of the few ways they can provide development assistance to rural communities. Most foreign aid goes for large capital projects on Tongatapu. The demand for small project assistance from the Central Planning Department is growing. And, like the Ministry of Rural Development in Fiji, the Central Planning Department is attempting to develop systems and proceedures to receive, evaluate, obtain approval for and fund small projects throughout the kingdom.

Our visit has allerted the current Central Planning Department staff to the fact that all small projects do not have to be assosicated with Peace Corps Volunteers. The Acting Director and his staff memeber responsible for small projects indicated they would welcome the opportunity to approach USAID for small project assistance without being concerned about an association of that assistance with Peace Corps.

The Central Planning Department staff indicated that they believed that neither RDO/SP staff nor Peace Corps Tonga has ever explicitly said AIP projects had to involve a Peace Corps Volunteer. Rather, it was more a matter that when they joined Central Planning all AIP projects were associated with Peace Corps and they assumed this was a requirement.

For better or for worse, the word is now out that Tonga government can apply for AIP assistance. And, we believe that given the track record of recent projects in Tonga, projects initiated by the government probably have at least as good a chance of succeeding as projects initiated by Peace Corps Volunteers.

WESTERN SAMOA

Western Samoa has had a total of 40 Accelerated Impact Projects since the program started in 1979. Despite the limited time in Western Samoa, we were able to evaluate a total of 10 project, 71.4% of the total projects for the period 1984, 1985, and 1986.

1. The results of several projects in Western Samoa were quite disappointing. Moreover, after examining ten projects and discussing the problems of mounting AIP projects in Western Samoa with Peace Corps staff and government officials, we cannot suggest any changes in policy or procedure that will greatly improve the success of AIP projects.

2. Western Samoa faces several serious development problems which are clearly reflected in the results of AIP projects. The single most pressing problems is the inability of the government and local organizations to recruit and retain

staff. Wage rates are low by regional standards and with reasonably free access to New Zealand and other metropolitan countries, only the most dedicated employees remain in their jobs for very long. As a result, AIP and other development projects which depend on staff to insure success suffer greatly.

A majority of AIP projects reviewed had failed to achieve project objectives or were at great risk of failing because of the staff turnover problem. Half of the projects reviewed, all of which were Peace Corps initiated, failed when the Vounteer associated with the project left. Of the remaining five, only two could be continued when they Volunteer associated with the project left.

3. Three of the five projects which clearly failed to have any impact appeared to have had little serious local support. Although it is difficult to determine the degree of local support for a project which was initiated two or three years ago, at least two of the projects had little chance of success given the lack of local staffing and priority given the focus of the projects. Another one of the five unsuccessful projects appeared to have a serious technical flaw although that was not the reason the project had no impact.

4. Western Samoa has not developed the kind of small projects infrastructure that has evolved in Tonga and Fiji. All requests for external assistance are required to be vetted through Foreign Affairs. However, given the volume of large and small projects handled through the department and given the complete lack of technical staff, little can be expected in the way of project monitoring and review.

The Peace Corps staff in Western Samoa have clearly invested a great deal of time and effort in the development of AIP projects. Proposals for AIP grants developed in Western Samoa reflect the attention given the proposals for projects reviewed in this evaluation, and whatever successes have been achieved to date are largely due to the efforts of Peace Corps staff and Volunteers. However, the Peace Corps Director and his staff indicated, they could provide little or no more support than they have in the past given their resources.

5. It was clear from our discussions with government officials and the staff of non-governmental organizations in Western Samoa, that most people have been under the impression that all AIP requests had to be vetted through the Peace Corps. Indeed, all of the projects reviewed for 1984, 1985, and 1986 were Peace Corps related projects.

Ministry of Education officials were aware that a number of AIP requests have been made by schools in Western Samoa.

In some cases, however, the Ministry only learned about the requests after they had been funded. This made it difficult for the Ministry to do any project monitoring or reporting. It also had resulted in some political problems when people from schools which had not received assistance made enquiries about projects funded under AIP at other schools. The Minister and officials in the Ministry would prefer that requests be made through the Ministry and they indicated that they would be willing to monitor projects which were initiated through channels.

The Ministry of Education was aware of the fact that the Accelerated Impact Program was independent of Peace Corps and that requests could be made without the involvement of a Peace Corps Volunteer. The Minister indicated that he has made such a request. He also stated that he felt the Foreign Affairs mechanism for vetting requests was ineffective and resulted in funding delays. However, discussions with Foreign Affairs officials indicated that they would continue to insist on projects being vetted through their department.

6. The Peace Corps staff in Western Samoa expressed their concern over the life cycle of an AIP project and the life cycle of a Peace Corps Volunteer's tour. As we found in Fiji and Tonga, it is likely that a Volunteer will be completing his or her tour by the time materails funded under AIP actually arrive. Moreover, they were also concerned about the fact that funds were often unavailble for several months because the allotment of AIP funds for a given year were expended on "off-the-shelf projects" from the previous year. Expectations among Volunteers and Western Samoans were built when a project was initiated and if funds were not available for several months the success of projects was jeapordized and the Peace Corps was saddled with some fairly serious political problems.

Peace Corps staff were aware of the shortage of AIP funds on a regional basis and were sympathetic with problems faced by RDO/SP as a result of the short fall in AIP funds. However, the pattern that has developed within the Accelerated Impact Program of having to hold proposals for several months because yearly allotments have been used up has implications for the development of more AIP projects outside of Fiji.

At the risk of making the Accelerated Impact Program more bureaucratic, if funds were allocated into quarterly allotments (in possibly three chunks for the first three quarters to allow for the possibility of year end reallocations) grants could be made three or four times per year. This would reduce the problems of running out of funds at the beginning of the year and allow for a more "equitable" distribution of grant funds.

7. As already indicated, we can make few recommendations for improvement of AIP projects in Western Samoa. It is unlikely that the Department of Economic Development and Planning or the Foreign Affairs Department will develop the kind of small projects infrastructure that exists in Fiji or Tonga. The Peace Corps office has, as already indicated, made it clear that they can do little more than they are doing now for the Program. They do, however, see the value of the Program for both Western Samoa and their Volunteer and would not like to see the program shut down.

The best that we can recommend at this point is to continue to work with the Peace Corps on Peace Corps initiated projects or to work through private voluntary organizations with a solid record of small project programs. We would suggest that RDO/SP consider requests from both the YWCA and the Red Cross as they have demonstrated an ability to handle projects even without the assistance of PCVs. We would, however, suggest that AIP requests from schools or programs within ministries be routed through the ministries and then on to Foreign Affairs. We have suggested to the Peace Corps staff that they consider adopting this procedure for Volunteer initiated projects and were assured this was being done.

As for current and future requests from the Ministry of Education and other government departments, we suggest that they be fairly closely monitored and that the departments concerned be encouraged to provide RDO/SP with timely reports. It may be that some functional departments will develop small projects support systems that will be equivalent to those being developed in Tonga and Fiji

Papua New Guinea

There were only four AIP projects mounted in Papua New Guinea during 1984, 1985 and 1986. As a result, it would be impossible to draw any general conclusions strictly from the project assessments. Moreover, given the time constraints and logistical problems presented by Papua New Guinea, only two projects were actually evaluated. However, enquiries were made regarding one of the remaining two projects and a report will be made on that project based on very limited information.

In addition to reviewing two projects and making enquiries about a third, discussions were held with officials in the Department of Finance and Planning, the Department of Foreign Affairs, Peace Corps Papua New Guinea, and the American Embassy. And, most of the conclusions and recommendations in this report are based on those discussions rather than on project reviews.

1. Papua New Guinea is only now developing a small projects infrastructure at the national level. The Foreign Aid Management Division of the Department of Finance and Planning has requested EEC assistance to provide a small projects coordinator. The Department is aware that small projects assistance is being provided through PVOs and by bi-lateral and multilateral agencies to provincial governments and local non-governmental organizations. But, they are only now developing a system for coordination and monitoring.

Staff of the Foreign Aid Management Division are aware of the fact that any attempt by their division to coordinate the provision of small project assistance runs the risk of delaying project funding. And, they are attempting to develop systems which will not result in such delays.

The Department of Foreign Affairs retains the responsibility for communication with foreign missions (including the American Embassy) for aid agreements. However, the Department of Finance and Planning has been given the responsbility for coordinating foreign assistance, including approvals for specific projects. However,copies of grant documents and official correspondence should be copied to the Ministry of Foreign Affair, Foreign Aid Division. Copies of all agreements, including project documents, should be signed by the Secretary of Finance and Planning.

2. Given the size of the country, the Foreign Aid Management Division of the Department of Finance and Planning cannot provide small project development support to national government department, provincial governments, and non-governmental organizations. Moreover, although provincial governments are a possible structural mechanism for small project development, the capacity of provincial governments varies tremendously. The East New Britain, Central, Morobe, New Ireland, and North Solomon provinces are probably capable of supporting a small projects program, but not all have initiated one. However, it is clear from the performance of the Morobe Provincial Government and SAIP, provincial government AIP projects can be managed at the provincial level. And, if RDO/SP wanted to increase AIP activity in Papua New Guinea, notifying provincial governments about AIP would probably result in an increase in requests.

3. It is clear from discussions with American Embassy officials that there is a real desire to increase foreign assistance to Papua New Guinea. To some degree this is a result of political pressure from the PNG government. It is also based to some degree a feeling on the part of embassy personnel that the largest country in the region should receive a larger percentage of aid given PNG's support of US policies and the amount of US investment in PNG. However, given the lack of experience with AIP grants in Papua New Guinea, we feel some mechanism needs to be developed to

assist with project identification and review. This recommedation is based the experience with AIP projects in other countries and our knowledge of the complexity of the situation in Papua New Guinea itself.

Because of the cut backs in funding to the Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific and the International Human Assistance Program, both of which have had small project grant schemes, we feel that one of the two programs could serve a very useful AIP project development function. Discussions with American Embassy officials and staff members from both FSP and IHAP indicate that IHAP is probably in the best position to provide project development support. This is true for several reasons. First, they have a reduced small projects program now. Second, FSP is primarily concerned with the development of indigenous NGOs which are likely to consume a good deal of FSP's resources. And third, the American Embassy, at its own initiative convened a meeting to discuss the issue and the concensus was that IHAP should field requests for assistance and coordinate the in-country review process with the Embassy and the Department of Finance and Planning.

If RDO/SP chose to have new AIP requests routed through IHAP, some resources may be required to support that effort. Given our understanding of IHAP's financial situation, it may be possible to simply allow IHAP, under its existing PVO-Cofinancing grant, to use a limited amount of money now budgeted for small projects to cover the costs of project support for AIP.

We understand that the American Embassy in Papua New Guinea will be suggesting that an arrangement with IHAP be made to handle AIP requests and we would recommend that RDO/SP pursue such an arrangement in the very near future.

Solomon Islands

Our time in Solomon Islands was very limited and no arrangements had been made for us to either visit projects or discuss the Accelerated Impact Program with government officials. Moreover, we were only able to visit one project. We did, however, gather information on two additional projects and discussed the AIP with National Planning Department, Ministry of Home Affairs, Prime Minister's Department, the Premier and Secretary of Guadacanal Province, the American Embassy representative, Peace Corps staff and volunteers as well as staff from the International Human Assistance Program, the Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific, and the Solomon Islands Development Trust. Therefore, while the data gathered on individual projects was limited, we were able to draw some conclusions about operating the Accelerated Impact Program in Solomon Islands.

1. It seems clear from discussions with government officials and Peace Corps staff, two American and one local private voluntary organization, and the American Representative in Solomon Islands that the local capacity to plan, manage, and monitor small projects like those supported by AIP is very limited. Ideally, small projects would be developed at the village or local council level, be vetted through the area council (of which there are four in Guadacanal Province) and provincial government to the Provincial Development Unit in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The Provincial Development Unit (PDU) has the responsibility for hanlding all foreign aid projects of less than SI$ 100,000. The unit has been in existence for some time but has only recently been given the resources necessary to even minimally fulfill its responsibilities.

The seven provincial governments vary considerably in their capability to assist with the development and funding of small projects. As near as we can determine (with only second hand information), two of the provinces (Western and Malaita) have the planning capacity necessary to conduct provincial level planning and assist with small projects. There is, however, a UNDP sponsored training effort aimed at developing planning capacity in all seven provinces. National planning department officials estimate that in about a year or two, provincial governments will have the planning capability necessary to assist with identifying, planning, and monitoring small projects.

Despite the limited capacity of the Provincial Development Unit and the provincial governments, we believe it is very important that AIP projects be vetted through both the provincial government concerned and the Provincial Development Unit. At the time of our visit, PDU staff were only aware of one of the seven AIP projects funded in Solomon Islands during the period 1984, 1985, and 1986. They had, however, been involved in vetting six projects with the RDO/SP staff in 1987 and we believe this practice should be continued.

2. After reviewing only three projects in any detail and discussing the remaining four projects funded during 1984, 1985, and 1986, it seems clear that in Solomon Islands as in Papua New Guinea and Western Samoa there is a need for project development assistance. Peace Corps was only directly involved in three. A fourth project was carried out by a US Navy Civil Action Team. IHAP provided project development and management for a fifth. And, all indications are that whatever successes were acieved were a direct result of this outside assistance. This conclusion is further reinforced by the fact that one of the three Peace Corps projects is on hold because the Volunteers involved left.

There are a number of ways that project development and monitoring could be provided for AIP projects in Solomon Islands. We believe that Peace Corps Volunteers will continue to help develop and implement AIP projects in the Solomon Islands and given the limited data we were able to gather we expect PCV assisted project to do fairly well as long as the Peace Corps staff continue to provide the kind of training and support they have in the past. However, given the very heavy work load of the Peace Corps staff and the staff cuts they have recently experienced, RDO/SP can probably expect to receive applications for the same number of projects they have in the past and no more. Moreover, the Peace Corps staff can do little more than assist with the development of Volunteer initiated projects.

The private voluntary organizations in Solomon Islands may be in a position to assist with project identification and planning. Because US PVOs have experienced budget cuts, RDO/SP may receive more applications initiated by US PVOs or the organizations they have funded in the past. Moreover, because some PVOs will not have the level of small project funding they have had in the past, additional AIP project proposals may come through the government system directly to RDO/SP.

We believe that those projects which do not involve Peace Corps Volunteers or PVOs with experience in small project development and management will require project development assistance over and above what the national or provincial governments can provide. This could be provided by one or more of the private voluntary organizations operating in Solomon Islands or by the Development Services Exchange, a consortium of the private development organizations in Solomon Islands.

The level of project development assistance provided by RDO/SP in Fiji could be provided by RDO/SP staff if they were able to travel more frequently to Solomon Islands. However, we believe that the level of attention required for the development of successful projects in Solomon Islands is greater than that which is currently be provided for Fiji if the number of AIP projects there increases at all. One of the major reasons for this is that it will be very difficult to get to project sites if the seven projects we attempted to examine are at all representative of the geographical spread of future projects.

APPENDIX ONE

ACCELERATED IMPACT PROGRAM EVALUATION: PROJECT SUMMARIES

The following is a summary of the project evaluations conducted as part of the Accelerated Impact Program evaluation conducted between April 29 and May 15, 1987. Projects are organized by country and are listed in the order in which they were evaluated. The summaries include information obtained from RDO/SP project documents and annual reports as well as site visits and interviews with government officials, Peace Corps Volunteers, private voluntary organization staff, and villagers involved in the projects. These project summaries provided much of the data on which the AIP evaluation was based.

The format used for the project summaries is drawn in part from the last AIP evaluation conducted by Gales and Russell in 1984. Additional sections were added to the early format in that the scope of the 1987 AIP evaluation was somewhat broader.

FIJI

1. FIJI TRACOMA (IAA# 6879042) Ministry of Health, Government of Fiji.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing used for training materials development and publication. Support totaled: $2,500

Local support for the project included the design of materials and the design of a training program for nurses and for teachers in local schools. Support valued at: $7,500

Project period: August 29 1986 - May 31, 1987

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to support the development of training materials for nurses on the prevention of Tracoma, an eye disease affecting a large proportion of the population of Fiji. The training materials were developed as part of a small but apparently effective primary eye care program which was initiated in 1980 and established as a unit of the Department of Health in 1985.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project are 25% of school aged children affected by Tracoma who will develop some degree of blindness after the age of 45.

PROJECT INITIATION AND DEVELOPMENT

This project was initiated by the head of the Primary Eye Care unit at the Ministry of Health and developed by a Peace Corps Volunteer who acted as his assistant. AIP funds were identified by the Volunteer and the project has been closed.

OUTCOMES

One thousand five hundred sets of flash cards have been published by the Ministry of Health with USAID support and 1,400 have been distributed to dispensaries and schools. The cards which focus on personal hygine, have been used in training programs for 356 nurses and school teachers. The cards have been used in conjunction with persoanl hygene programs in schools throughout the country and will be reprinted for use by an estimated 1,000 village health workers. Support for this project and the momentum

established in the primary eye care program have resulted in significant additional funding to support the development of other training materials and the expansion of the primary eye care program. Director of the Primary Eye Care Program believes that the Tracoma program will reduce the incidence of Tracoma from rates as high as 23% to 5% over the next five years.

CONCLUSIONS

The Accelerated Impact Programs provided the small amount of money needed with a minimum of project acquisition costs to provide a product which may have enormous health benefits in rural areas. While this was a project administered by a central government department, it had significant local inputs and contributed to the growth of an important local initiative.

2. DUAVATA YOUTH (IAA# 6879054) Duavata Youth Group with assistance of the Ministry of Fijian Affairs.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used purchase lawn mowers, weed wackers, a chain saw, and other garden tools to establish a yard care enterprise. Total support: $2,134

Local support consisted to two lawn mowers and other garden tools as well as the orgqnization of the youth group, establishment of bookkeeping system and labor. Support exceeded: $700

Project period: August 29, 1986 to May 31, 1987

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to provide the "Duavata Youth" ("Together Youth"), a group of ex-prisoners, a source of income to discourage members from returning to crime. The group has had a total of 40 members 15 of whom have left the group for regular employment. The group leaders establish contact with young men still in prison and development of relationships between the youth group and prisoners who are recruited to the group when they leave prison. The yard care/gardening enterprise provides employment as an alternative to crime and the youth group provides a support group.

BENEFICIARIES

The immediate beneficiaries of the project are the 40 young men who have been members of the group and village of Nabua, the community from which most of the members come.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The Duavata Youth group was established in 1984 by an ex-prisoner who is the current leader and several of his friends. They collected enough money themselves initially to purchase two lawn mowers and as the group grew the sought enough capital to provide adequate income for their growing membership. Contact with RDO/SP was made by Mr. Sorovi who thought one of the foreign missions might be a source of help.

The group has established a maintenance and repair fund to maintain the project, a bookkeeping system, and a structure of officers. Income reportedly runs $350 to $500 per week, a portion of which is set aside for maintenance and repair. The group is also purchasing a van to transport workers and equipment to job sites.

Fiji prison officials have granted extended visiting privleges to the group and current members expect the group to grow. The group also has had business cards printed to advertise their services and business has reportedly grown in the past year.

All USAID funded equipment is accounted for and in working order.

CONCLUSIONS

The Duavata Youth project is a unique effort which has not only provided employment for young men but a support group for ex-prisoners to discourage them from returning to crime.

The fact that they have developed their own system of maintenance and replacement of equipment means that this enterprise appears to have a good chance of survival. How the sustainability of projects such as this can be assurred without some sort of business assistance extension service, is not clear.

3. LEVUKA VAKAVITI SEA WALL (IAA# 4879028), Public Works Department, Fiji Government.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US funds were used to purchase materials for the construction of a retaining wall as part of a land reclamation project. Support totaled: $12,745

Local support for the project included labor for the construction of the sea wall and landfill provided by the people of Levuka Vakaviti and the provision of engineering assistance provided by Fiji government. Total support valued at: $77,800

Project period: May 10 to November 10, 1984

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to build a retaining wall to permit the reclamation of land in Levuka Vakaviti Village, just north of Levuka town on Ovalau Island. The land was required to build a community hall for which there was insufficient land available in the village which is surrounded on two sides by cliffs and on the third side by freehold land which, according to the original request for assistance was not available for purchase.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project were the 200 people living in Levuka Vakaviti village.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The original request to RDO/SP was initiated by the Commissioner of the Eastern Division of Fiji on behalf of the Tui Levuka, Ratu Kolinio Rokotunaceva and members of his kin group.

According to the District Officer, Levuka, construction of the sea wall was carried out under the supervision of the Royal Fiji Military Forces with labor supplied by the residents of Levuka Vakaviti. The plan was for a community hall to be constructed on the site once the land was filled and the sea wall built.

OUTCOMES

At the time of the site visit, there was no evidence of the original concrete wall. Wave action had apparently undermined the wall and the filled land was being retained only by rocks in wire mesh cages which were also deteriorating. The remaining land fill was collapsing in the sea.

It appears that the reclaimed land or what is left of it will not be suitable for the construction of a community hall unless a much more substantial sea wall is constructed.

CONCLUSIONS

It would appear that sea wall projects in areas exposed to heavy wave action using the design used for this project are risky at best. And, unless qualified engineers can show future sea wall projects can stand up to heavy wave action, we would recommend they not be funded by USAID.

4. TAILEVU PROVINCIAL AND DRITABUA CALF REARING (IAA# 4879011), Tailevu Provincial Dairy Cooperative and Dritabua Cooperative.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing used to purchase materials for the construction of two calf rearing sheds. Support totaled:	$2,978
Local support included labor valued at:	$1,200

Project period: February 8 to August 8, 1984

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to renovate and enlarge two calf rearing sheds to improve calf growth at two cattle cooperatives in the Tailevu and Dritabua areas of Viti Levu.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project were the 1,300 members of the two cooperatives.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Support for the project was requested by a Peace Corps Volunteer involved in cattle production. She worked closely with the leadership of the two cooperatives as well as the Farm Management Cooperative Association managers of the two operations. Labor was supplied by employees and members of the two cooperatives.

OUTCOMES

The calf rearing sheds of the two cooperatives were expanded and off-the-ground pens were incorporated into the design to reduce the prevalence of disease. Interviews with one farm manager and leaders and residents of Dritabua village indicated that in fact calf morbidity and mortality had been reduced as a result of the project. The herds of the two cooperatives had expanded to 200 head at Dritabua and 500 head at Tailevu.

The calf sheds themselves were certainly in use at the time of the site visit. It appeared that while the construction seemed adequate, one of the sheds had no hurricane straps and neither of the sheds included simple hurricane resistant design features which could have been incorporated at very little cost.

Interviews with the farm manager at Dritabua indicate that although the dairy farm is producing about 385 litres of milk per day, the operation is only breaking even and the heard will have to be increased from 67 milking cows to about 130 to turn a profit. Preliminary figures on the Tailevu project indicate that their dairy operation may be operating on a profitable basis with 126 milkers out of a herd of 500 head. Tailevu is producing about 1200 litres per day. This provincial co-op has also started a beef cattle herd.

Calf production at Dritabua is running about 2-3 calves per month (with a herd of 200) and Tailevu is producing about 20 calves per month (with a herd of 500). As indicated, the project did result in decreased calf morbidity and mortality.

CONCLUSIONS

From all indications, the upgrading of the calving sheds and their use has resulted in a decrease in calf mortality and morbidity which has helped in the expansion of the two herds. Future expansion of the Dritabua herd will be required before any economic benefit accures to the members of the co-op.

A very positive feature of this project is that the construction of the calf rearing sheds resulted in the

acceptance of an animal husbandry technique that is generally recognized as effective. And, those involved in the management of the two operations explicitly mentioned this as a benefit of the project.

While the design and construction of the two sheds was apparently adequate, the lack of hurricane resistant construction and design make both structures vulnerable to disaster although both have weathered several storms since they were built. However, in the future the incorporation of hurricane resistent design features is strongly recommended for any AIP funded project.

5. WAIMARO WATER SUPPLY (IAA# 4879047), Waimaro Farm Cooperative.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing used to purchase materials for the construction of a concrete reservoir and pipe to supply water to houses in the area. Total support:	$1,098
Local support included cash totaling $400 and labor valued at $600. Local support:	$1,000

Project period: June 29 to December 29, 1984

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to supply water to a new farming area on 400 acres owned by the Rokotuiloma Mataqali in the Tailevu area of Viti Levu. The land for the farm was abandoned many years ago when the mataqali moved nearer the sea for an easier way of life. Road access to the area has recently been established and the farm cooperative was established by members of the mataqali with assistance from the Farm Management Cooperative Association to produce cocoa, yaqona (kava), pineapple, cassava, green ginger and goats.

BEFEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries are the five households currently working the new farm land and receiving cash income from the gardens.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Members of the cooperative had attempted to construct a water system prior to the request for AIP funding and the dam

constructed was washed away in a flood. A Peace Corps Volunteer working in the area was asked to assist in planning a new water system. A Public Works Department engineer was consulted on the project and plans were developed for the water system. Construction labor was provided by members of the cooperative under the supervision of the Volunteer. The District Officer in the area was also involved in the planning and implementation of the project.

OUTCOMES

The water system has been operational since it was completed and the availability of water has permitted five families to shift their primary residence to the farm. At the time of the site visit members of the cooperative were planting a new dalo (taro) garden and a large cocoa plantation was visible on the site.

Discussions with two of the co-op leaders indicated that they had learned how to go about obtaining technical help for the planning and construction of water projects similar to this. They also indicated that they would need to expand the system to accomodate any more than five households in the area. Currently dry periods in the area result in a water shortage. There is also interest in extending the system to house sites nearer the main road which do not currently have water. They would, however, seek financial assistance to expand the system.

Discussions with the Ministry of Rural Development official who accompanied us on this visit indicated that the Ministry, specifically the District Officer and the central office should take responsibility for closing out the project.

CONCLUSIONS

While this was clearly a human needs type project, it was in support of an economic activity that appeared to be prospering. Although we were unable to obtain any income figures at the time of the site visit, we will follow up with a phone call to the District Officer and FMCA.

It appears that there was technology transfer involved in this project and the fact that the members had tried to do the project themselves and failed indicates that there was a real need for the project.

6. CAUTATA DISTRICT SCHOOL TOILET (IAA# 4879004), Cautata District School Committee with Ministry of Rural Development.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase building materials for the construction of a toilet block. Support totaled:	$1,439
Local support included labor and local materials valued at:	$4,880

Project period: February 6, 1984 to August 6, 1984

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to construct a new toilet facility for the Cautata District School in the Tailevu area of Viti Levu. The school had pit toilets until the project was initiated which were judged unsanitary by the School Committee.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project are the 197 pupils and six teachers of the Cautata District School.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The project was initiated by the School Committee which has been responsible for the management and financing of school facilities which have included the construction of a new classroom block, teachers houses and the toilet facility. A Peace Corps Volunteer encouraged and provided some assistance in the development of the project and the District administration also assisted with the prepraration of the request to RDO/SP.

OUTCOMES

The toilet block was constructed by parents and members of the school committee. However, insufficient funds were requested and while the toilet facility is functional and used, the committee feels the project has never been completed.

CONCLUSIONS

It is clear that the School Committee has raised a substantial amount of money for school improvements over the past five years. It is also clear not only from their experience with the toilet project but also with a dining

hall proejct for which they have raised their own funds, that project design and planning has been a weakness. There was no formal design of the toilet block and project funding was inadequate. They have embarked on the dining hall project without any formal design and the construction of the building is seriously lacking.

We feel that especially for construction project assistance should be sought from trained architects or builders to insure that both the design is sound and that project funding requirements are accurately projected.

7. PRAWN FEED DEVELOPMENT (IAA# 4879019) Fisheries Department, Ministry of Primary Industry.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing used to purchase materials and supplies for the formulation and testing of local prawn feed. Support totaled:	$6,000
Local contribution consisted of transportation and labor valued at:	$4,000

Project period: March 8, to September 8, 1984

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project are potential prawn farmers totaling 250 people.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated and developed by a Peace Corps Volunteer transferred to Fiji from Western Samoa. The PCV worked with the Fisheries Division of what was then the Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries to formulate the request and develop the project. The feed development and applications experiments were conducted over the period of one year at the Naduruloulou Fisheries Research Station. The experiments supported by this grant were being conducted in conjunction with breeding and pond experiments being carried out by MAFF staff at the research station.

OUTCOMES

Experiments on the production and application of prawn feeds using local inputs and produced with a simple grinder and dryer were completed as planned. A final report and several

other reports on the results of the experiments were written and distributed in Fiji and other parts of the South Pacific. Both the nutritional value of the feeds and the results of their use were documented in reports to MAFF.

Although we will need follow-up discussions with Fisheries Division personnel, it appears that the potential impact of this project has been overtaken by the initiation of a large scale Japanese International Cooperation Agency project which is producing prawn feed for growth and pond experiments.

CONCLUSIONS

The project was a success in that it produced the desired results: experiments on the development and use of prawn feed using a variety of locally available inputs produced with simple technology. However, it appears from the focus of current prawn feed experiments that the larger scale effort being sponsored by JICA, is of more interest to fisheries officers than the less expensive small scale technology supported by AIP funds. Interviews with the Director of the Research Station indicate that the Japanese team did not make much use of the results of the experiments supported under this project.

With the information available at this point it appears that this project, like scientific experiments in many situations, was somewhat independent of the general thrust of broader developments. Obviously we are evaluating the project after the larger JICA effort has been in place for some time and neither the Peace Corps Volunteer nor MAFF officials could have anticipated that development when this project was funded.

We found little evidence that there was any real training involved in this activity which would have increased the scientific capacity of the fisheries division. We would suggest that a training componant be incorporated into any scientific project to be funded in the future.

8. BALLANTINE SCHOOL STOVE (IAA# 6879049), Ministry of Lands, Energy, and Mineral Resources.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase materials for the construction and installation of an institutional smokeless stove. Support totaled:	$1,900
Local support included labor and materials valued at	$550

Project period: August 29, 1986 to May 31, 1987

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to build and install an institutional, smokeless, stove for use in Ballantine School near Delainavesi village in the Lami area. The stove was to result in a savings of $1,600 per annum in fuel costs. The stove was also to provide the Department of Energy an opportunity to demonstrate and monitor the use of such stoves.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project were to have been the 140 boarding students and the cooks at the school.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by the Ministry of Lands, Energy and Mineral Resources which has been supporting the development and use of energy efficient, smokeless wood stoves. The development and use of such stoves is being promoted because institutional energy consumption contributes significantly to energy imports.

The stove was constructed and installed by an engineer attached to the Department of Energy. Use of the stove was to be managed by the staff of Ballentine School.

OUTCOMES

Use of the stove could result in significant savings to the school. Although the stove was installed and tested by the Ministry engineer, it was not in use at the time of the site visit. At the time of the visit the evening meal was being prepared using bottled gas and a wood pot boiler. The dining hall manager explained that the stove was not being used because she was instructed to only use "good wood" and there was no wood available. According the Director of the Energy Department, the wood available at the site could have been used. The Director discussed the issue with the vice principal who was not aware that the AIP purchased stove was not being used.

CONCLUSIONS

The support of energy innovations like the stove project which can result in both energy savings and the demonstration of new technology is undoubtedly a good use of AIP funds. Moreover, despite the fact that the stove in question is not being used, we believe because the Director of Energy is now aware of the fact it is not being used, she will follow up

with Ballentine School management. However, this project demonstrates the problem with technology transfer projects which are not closely monitored. We would suggest that when such projects are proposed, follow-up and monitoring be assurred.

9. FAFCO MARKET FARM (IAA# 6879024), Fiji Adventist Farmers Cooperative Society.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing has been used to purchase building materials for the construction of a market building. Support totals:	$15 000
Local support includes funds used to purchase a land lease, a cattle farm, rent for the existing cafeteria and clothing store. Support valued at:	$130,000

Project period: August 1, 1986 to July 31, 1987

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project will be the 2,000 members of the cooperative society.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project is to construct a structure to house a cafeteria, produce market, and handicraft outlet for members of the cooperative. This market is part of a larger development effort involving the acquisition of the land on which the (informal) town of Korovou in Tailevu is located.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The cooperative has purchased the lease to 306 acres of native trust land on which a dairy farm and the town of Korovou in locatated. This purchase was made using funds raised by the cooperative ($75,000) and a loan from the Development Bank ($65,000). The loan was reportedly secured with the establishment of a cafeteria and used clothing business as well as the promise of income from sub-leases for commercial plots in the town.

This project was originally proposed through the District Officer and the Ministry of Rural Development and was approved by the Acting Commissioner of the Central Division.

OUTCOMES

Plans for the construction of the new market structure have been completed and materials have been ordered. The dairy farm, cafeteria and clothing store are currently operating and, according to Mr. Rusiate Lawedrau, Secretary of the Cooperative, are making money. Rents totaling $5,000 per month are being collected from sub-leasees in Korovou.

We understand that the proposed produce market is being seen as in competition with the Korovou market located directly across the street from the proposed new structure. The plan for the proposed market is to purchase produce from members as opposed to the local market at which producers sell their own produce. We also understand that the local market authority has applied for funds to expand their existing market.

CONCLUSIONS

This is clearly a very complex project from a variety of perspectives. The market for which AIP are being used is part of a cluster of enterprises which have significant income generating potential. It appears that the provision of AIP funds stimulated the development of the three businesses which are now operating which were required to provide the cash flow necessary to obtain the Development Bank loan. It also appears that if all of the proposed enterprises are developed, considerable financial and business management expertise will be required to maximize returns. And, there is some question in the mind of the cooperative secretary where that expertise will come from.

The development of the market portion of the cooperative's efforts have resulted in some friction between producers who are using the Korovou market. We understand that the Korovou market authorities who have requested AIP support have been asked to reconcile any potential differences they might have with the FAFCO leadership. Unforntunately, this potential conflict should have been apparent when the FAFCO proposal was vetted with the District Officer. Again, with the work load the Ministry of Rural Development is carrying, these sorts of problems are bound to arise.

10. USP MICROCOMPUTER BASED TRAINING (IAA# 4879052), University of the South Pacific.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US funds were used to purchase four Atari computers for use in a pilot program of computer training. Support totaled: $6495

Local inputs included the development of training materials and instructtional time. Support valued at: $2500

Project period: September 28, 1984 to March 28, 1985.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to provide computer equipment for the first attempt to introduce microcomputer based teaching into primary and secondary schools in Fiji and to test teaching packages for broader application.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The project was initiated by a lecturer in mathematics at the University of the South Pacific. The original plan was to conduct teacher training in four schools in the Suva area. The request for USAID assistance was vettted with the Director of Development at the University and forwarded to RDO/SP. The four schools originally involved in the teacher training and classroom testing of the program were Veiuto, Yat Sen, M.G.M. and Indian College.

OUTCOMES

From records at USP and discussions with the Professor of Math and the lecturer who is continuing the project, it appears that about 12 teachers were trained under the program and the microcomputer based training was introduced to a total of about 245 students. More importantly, however, because of the interest in computer based teaching among teachers throughout Fiji, two teachers' conferences were held involving over 200 additional teachers.

Another outcome of this project was the experience gained by the initiator of the project and other staff at the University. Mr. Dewa was heavily involved in the introduction of computers to secondary and primary schools throughout Fiji. At present about 50% of the secondary schools and 15 % of the primary schools are now using computers. While the computers chosen by the Ministry of Education were not of the type supported by this project, the

development of curriculum materials for computer instruction was based in part on the work done under this project.

Three of the computers purchased unders this grant are now at the computer work center at the University of the South Pacific and one continues to be used at Indian College were Mr. Dewa's colleague continues to work with teachers. Two of the four disk drives purchased under the grant are now inoperable, but the remainder of the equipment is in working order. This project can be closed.

CONCLUSIONS

This project is an example of the value of supporting innovative programs with small amounts of money. The computers themselves and even the instruction supported in conjunction with this project had a great deal of impact. More importantly, access to funds to purchase equipment encouraged and supported Mr. Dewa who not only was a tremendous technical resource for the Ministry of Eucation and the USP but also a human resource that was enhanced partly as a result of AIP support.

11. SASA RICE (IAA# 4879068), Sasa Village with support from the Ministry of Primary Industry.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing used to support the purchase of seed, fertilizer, and site preparation. Support totaled: $5,951

Local support included labor for planting, harvesting and maintenance. Support valued at: $1,248

Project period: September 28, 1984 to March 28, 1985

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to provide seed, fertilizer, and site preparation for the first rice scheme in the Sasa village area. It also supported the development of "Urd" as a secondary crop. Both crops were intended as a source of cash income for the people of Sasa village which is located in an economically depressed area of Vanua Levu.

BENEFICIARIES

One hundred and thirty people are benefiting from the project as the returns from the project are being used to start other income generating enterprises.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The development of rice and urd as cash crops were identified as potential income generating efforts of the emerging tikina council in the Sasa area. Agricultural officers based in Labasa assisted with a feasibility study for the project. The request for assistance was vetted through the District Officer to the Divisional Commissioner Northern.

There were initial problems with the development of the land and the removal of grass growing in the area. They are now in the third year of rice production and the agriculturalists that is working with the project reports that very little supervision is now required.

There are four mataqali involved in the project and one of the four has contributed land to the project. Initially this caused some delays in project implementation until the land issue was settled. NLTB has been informed about the use rights agreement under which the project is operating.

OUTCOMES

Production during the third year of this project was about three tonnes which brought about $2400 to the community of which about $1000 was spent on the costs of production. This year, however, planting was delayed due to dry conditions and production is not expected to increase as expected.

Urd has not as yet been planted although they expect to plant their first crops this year and have purchased the seed. Most of the effort has gone into getting the rice production operation on a firm footing.

The participants in the project have also had a cash flow problem this year as they have purchased a tractor.

CONCLUSIONS

This is another first-in-the-area agricultural project supported under the AIP. Clearly the individuals involved in the project have learned a great deal about rice production and become technically self sufficient on most aspects of the production process. However, income from the project has been about one third of that projected. It appears that the agriculturalist assigned to the project is optomistic about

the future and, therefore, this project can be viewed as a success.

One interesting aspect of this project is that it is explicitly intended as an income generating project to provide support for the deveopment of other income generating projects. The secondary projects are in turn designed to provide support for village self-help projects.

12. DAMA COCOA PROJECT (IAA# 4879069), the People of Dama Village with support from the Ministry of Primary Industries.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US funds for this project were used to purchase fencing materials, and equipment and supplies for the maintenance phase of a cocoa scheme in Dama Village. Support totaled: $2,596

Local support for the project included labor valued at: $1,000

Project period: September 28, 1984 to March 28, 1985

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to support the development of cocoa stands in Dama Village through the provision of fencing materials to keep local cattle from damaging the cocoa and to purchase a chain saw and other tools necessary for the maintenance phase of cocoa development.

BENEFICIARIES

A total of eight households or about 64 individuals are direclty involved in the project, but the village of Dama has a population of about 550 who are indirectly benefiting from the project.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated in 1979 within one mataqali of Dama village by the man who is now the chairman of the cocoa group. A conscious decision was made to center this project about the ranking mataqali in the village because it was felt the project has more chance of success than if it had been a village wide project.

OUTCOMES

Cocoa production in 1985 was about 3.2 tonnes and

approximately 7.1 tonnes in 1986. Total production for the entire District of Bua was only 13.8 tonnes. Wet beans were purchased from the mataqali plots and yielded between $20 and $60 every two weeks for those harvesting from the plots. The "profit" to the mataqali was about $12,000 in 1986. These funds were used to finance other income generating projects within the village.

In addition to the direct cash benefit of the project, a total of ten individuals in Dama Village have planted their own cocoa stands and are receiving income. Both the agricultural officer assigned to cocoa production in the area and the farmers themselves attribute the initiation of individual cocoa plantations to the demonstrated success of the original mataqali project.

Both the individual farmers and the members of the cocoa group are expanding their plantings considerbly. There is some need, however, for an improved design for the cocoa drier being used for the original project in that without a stack on the fire box they are sometimes not getting the premium price for their cocoa.

CONCLUSIONS

This project is clearly an example of the acceptance of a new crop and the demonstration effect such a pilot project can have on their entire locale. The organization of the project along mataqali lines is seen by the members and other villagers as a positive step in economic development in that the success potential of such projects is much higher than if the entire village was involved.

The AIP support was as effective as an encouragement to the participants in the project as it was to provide necessary inputs. And, again, this was the first project in the area for which other funds may not have been available.

13. NABOWALU COCOA (IAA# 4879065), the people of Nabowalu village with support from the Ministry of Primary Industry.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US support for this project was used to purchase chain saws, materials for the construction of cocoa driers and for a chain saw maintenance course. Support totaled: $2,680

Local support consisted of construction materials and labor valued at: $1,000

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project were to be the 450 people living in Nabowalu village. Actual participants in the project number 35 members of the cocoa group.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The cocoa project was initiated in 1979 by members of three mataqali on three separate plots of land in the Nabowalu area with assistance from the agricultural officer in the area. The AIP funds were requested through the District Officer and the Commissioner Northern with the assistance of the agriculturalist assigned to develop cocoa in the Bua District.

Three stands of cocoa were planted and the AIP assistance was requested when it was clear additional inputs would be required for the maintenance phase of the cocoa development and as cocoa trees came into production.

OUTCOMES

Although it is not clear to us who owns the land it was apparently leased through NLTB and to date the lease is not settled. Cocoa has come into production but relatively little has been processed. In 1986, total production was 1.279 tonnes with a total of 35 participants. The agriculturalist in charge of cocoa development has asked one man in the area to run one of the two fermentaries. Experience in the area has shown that unless wet beans can be purchased on the spot, production is much lower than it could be.

Because of the land dispute, cocoa stands have not been adequately maintained. The chain saws purchased under the AIP grant are reportedly in disrepair but they were used sporatically for cocoa maintenance. The agriculturalist working on cocoa in the area is currently mounting a mobile team to support cocoa maintenance and it is expected that with the new wet bean purchase agreement and the mobile team operating in the area, a number of the short-comings of cocoa development in the area will be overcome.

Although the saws are currently not working, we feel this project can be closed.

CONCLUSIONS

This is one of three cocoa projects in Bua which received

AIP support. It has resulted in the generation of some cash and the agriculturalist in the area has gained a great deal of insight into the the factors which affect the success and failure of cocoa projects.

14. SAWANI COCOA (IAA# 4879067), Sawani Village with support from the Ministry of Primary Industries.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US funds were used to purchase chain saws, tools and to support a chain saw maintenance course in support of a cocoa development in the Sawani Village area. Support totaled:	$3,207
Local support included the development of the cocoa project and maintenance of the stands. Support valued at	$1,000

Project period: September 28, 1984 to March 28, 1985

BENEFICIARIES

The thirty-two members of the cocoa group benefit directly from the project and 260 Sawani Village will indirectly benefit from the cocoa development.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the AIP support was to provide tools required for the maintenance phase of the Sawani cocoa development scheme. Stands were established and maintenance was required to insure production.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The cocoa development was initiated by the three mataqali in Sawani village with assistance from the agriculturalist assigned by Fiji Government to the Bua District. AIP support was facilitated by the District Officer in Bua through the Divisional Commissioner.

OUTCOMES

A total of 32 five acre plots were planted and the trees are now in production.

Unfortunately cocoa development in the Sawani area dwindled when the price of yaqona (kava) increased in 1984 at the same time cocoa development subsidies ceased. The agriculture

officer in the area has been attempting to revive interest in cocoa and has established a mobile team to work with producers in clear brushing from existing stands. He has also turned the management of one of the two fermentaries in the area over to an individual who will receive benefit from the sale of processed cocoa.

Production from the Sawani cocoa project totaled .479 tonnes in 1986, the lowest production of the three AIP supported projects in the area.

The AIP equipment purchased in support of this project is still in working order and will be used when the mobile planting and clearing teams are activated.

CONCLUSIONS

You win some and you lose some. This cocoa project has not been very successful for both economic (ie. prices of other crops and a loss of subsidy) and social (ie. this was organized on a village basis rather than an alternative used in one of the other projects in the area) reasons. However, it appears that the agricultural officer in the area has a plan and resources to revive cocoa maintenance in Sawani.

15. BA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL (IAA# 4879072), Ba Provincial Council with support from the Ministry of Rural Development.

SUPPORT

US support was used to purchase building materials, furnishings and equipment. Support totaled:	$25,000
Local support for the project included funds in excess of	$312,000

PURPOSE

The purpose was to provide partial support for the construction of the Ba Provincial Council facility which was required because Council activity had far outgrown the space the Council was sharing with the Divisional Administration. AIP funds were specifically requested to enhance the training capability of the new Council Center.

BENEFICIARIES

Approximately 50,000 people have access to Council programs and activities.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The project was initiated by the Ba Provincial Council which raised in excess of $312,000, and borrowed $813,000 from the Fiji National Provident Fund. USAID was approached by the Council for funds to supplement the amount raised and borrowed.

OUTCOMES

A very impressive Council complex was completed and dedicated and the building was fully occupied in a highly efficient manner.

CONCLUSIONS

As the provincial administration in Fiji is developed, support and facilities will be required in the future and it is clear that the Ba Provincial Council invested significant resources in the development of the facility and council administration.

16. VATULEVU PIGGERY (IAA# 4879023), Veiwekani Development Group, Mau, Namosi.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase building materials, pigs and feed to establish a piggery.
Support totaled: $9,760

Local support included: labor for construction and fencing and local feed. Support valued at: $3,100

Project period: May 10 to November 10, 1984.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to support the development of a piggery as part of a 57 acre agricultural scheme in Mau village in Navua District of Namosi Province. The piggery was intended to provide a cash income for the participants in the development scheme.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project were the seven families involved in the agricultural development scheme and piggery development.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The project was initiated by the Veiwekani Family Development Group and implemented by the project manager, head of the VFDG, who leased the land from the Native Land Trust Board.

OUTCOMES

The AID agreement was based upon the assumption that the entire group would receive proceeds from the piggery. However, according to the Assistant Roko in the area the project manager has retained all income from the project to date. The issue has been discussed at the district council meetings and is a matter of record. District Council members have met with the project manager several times and to date he has refused to follow the original agreement.

CONCLUSIONS

This dispute appears to be a matter of local political concern and perhaps jealousy. It should be noted that the project manager was not available and only one side of the story was told. The project manager's son was noncommittal on the question of the sharing of proceeds but did admit that the 50 pigs to be purchased as per the grant agreement were not bought. He indicated that 11 or 12 pigs were the most ever in the piggery.

The building was constructed as promised in the grant agreement and appears to be adequate. An AID plaque was not in evidence on the building. We recommend that discrete enquiries be made about the allegations made by the Assistant Roko and appropriate action be taken.

Given the circumstances, we suggest that receipts for materials purchased, including pigs, be requested through the Ministry of Rural Development in order to close the project.

17. VALE NI VANUA (IAA# 5879021), Serua,/Namosi Provincial Council.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase building materials and to transport the materials to Serua. Support totaled: $15,000

Local support for the project included labor and food for the laborers involved in the construction. Support valued at: $15,000

Project period: March 8 to September 8, 1985

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to rebuild the Provincial Meeting Hall destroyed by cyclones Eric and Nigel. The hall is used for important ceremonies, handicraft production, classes and women's group activities.

BENEFICIARIES

The total populations of Serua and Namosi are the beneficiaries of the project. The current population of Serua is reportedly 250 people.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The project was initiated by the Roko Tui of Serua/Namosi and implemented by the Serua/Namosi Council. The Divisional Commissioner, Central was the point of contact for RDO/SP.

OUTCOMES

A traditional style "bure" meeting hall was soundly constructed and should withstand future wind damage. It is currently being used as a meeting hall, handicraft work center and provincial council meeting place.

The Vale ni Vanua was constructed according to the specifications in the project file and this project can be closed.

CONCLUSIONS

This project appears to have been well planned and the council well organized.

There are obviously additional needs in Serua/Namosi including a causeway to the island. Any request for assistance in constructing a foot bridge should be favorably considered by RDO/SP

18. MAU VILLAGE ELECTRIFICATION (IAA# 4879037), People of Mau Village, Namosi Province in Central Division with assistance from the Divisional Commissioner, Central.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to supplement Fiji Government support for a generator and reticulation system. Support totaled:	$1,941
Local support included $19,050 in Fiji Government funds and the local community provided cash totaling $1,000 as well as subsistence support for Public Works staff. Support valued at:	$20,050

Project period: June 13 to December 13, 1984.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the AIP support was to supplement local and Fiji government support for the electrification of Mau Village in the Navua District of Central Division. The explicit purpose of the electrification project was to provide adequate lighting for school children and residents of the village.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project have been the 62 households totaling 300 inhabitants of Mau Village.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The electrification scheme was initiated by the village committee and implemented by the Public Works Department under the general guidance of the Commissioner Central.

OUTCOMES

Prior to the provision of adequate lighting village children reportedly would not do homework and only one or two children in the village would have qualified for admission to secondary school. It was reported that with the introduction of electric lighting in the village 10 to 12 students now go on for secondary educaton.

The generator and reticulation system have been installed and are in working order and this project should be closed.

CONCLUSIONS

This appears to have been a very beneficial project. The village is expanding with 18 new village houses having been recently constructed. It appears that the current electricity supply may not be adequate in the future and consideration should be given to expanding the electrification scheme.

19. TOGALEVU VEGETABLE PRODUCTION (IAA# 4879043), Togalevu Youth Scheme with the assistance of the Ministry of Rural Development.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase materials for the construction of grow boxes, a nursery and irrigation system as well as garden tools. Support totaled: $1,611

Local support included labor for construction and the transport of materials and poultry manure. Support valued at: $1,000

Project period: June 29 to December 29, 1984

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to finance a progressive vegetable production as a source of income for unemployed youth. More specifically, the AIP support was requested to develop a year round production system that would provide an increased yield of vegetables through the use of grow boxes, dry frames and a mist irrigation system.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project are the 32 young men who have participated in the project and their families. Under the scheme there are currently nine young men in training.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The project was initiated by the Togalevu Youth Scheme, a charitable organization working in the Navua area. Assistance with the development of the vegetable production

effort was provided by a Peace Corps Volunteer who remained involved in the implementation of the project.

OUTCOMES

To date approximately 39 young men have been trained under the scheme and the production of cabbage, cassava, spinich and rice has been successful. A fund has been established for the purchase of tools for graduating students from villages in the Lau Group, Viti Levu, Vanua Levu and Ovalau. Some students have become "street boys" in Suva but many have returned to their villages and taken up gardening. Unfortunately on the day of our site visit the grow boxes and dry frames were over-run with weeds. This was reportedly a result of a storm and the project manager stated that the damage done by the storm would be put right.

This project has been closed by RDO/SP.

CONCLUSIONS

We have some reservations about the future of the scheme based on the neglect that was apparent at the time of our visit. However, a mature cabbage patch was thriving and a new planting of cassava looked promising. Caution should be used in considering future funding for projects of this type --the production scheme appears to have been given adequate attention when the PCV was working with the project but the operation has apparently declined since his departure.

20. VANUA NI SABETO (IAA# 6879036), Vanua Council Sabeto.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase materials for the renovation of the council meeting house. Support totaled:	$25,000
Local support included labor and other imputs valued at:	$30,000
Project period:	

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to provide a suitable meeting place for women to organize and coordinate handicraft and sewing activities, for the young farmers club, and for a parents group to operate a kindergarten.

BENEFICIARIES

In excess to 2,000 people from six local villages benefit directly from this project.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by the Vanua ni Sabeto Council. The labor for the three month construction phase of the project was furnished by the people of the six participating villages all of whom were maintained on site.

OUTCOMES

This facility has stimulated the involvement of various local organizations in development activities to improve the economic and social status of rural people living in the area.

CONCLUSIONS

The Vanua Council Sabeto project provided funding toward the construction of a meeting place with direct labor being furnished by local villagers. This project has resulted in more than just a meeting hall in that is has become a focal point for development activities benefiting a large population. Although we have recommended that the support of meeting halls not be a focus of AIP, this project has demonstrated that the funding of meeting halls can have a developmental impact.

21. NAVUA FIRE SERVICES (IAA# 5879040), Navua Rural Local Authority.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase materials for the construction of a shed to house fire equipment and accomodations for volunteers. Support totaled: $3,125

Local support included fire fighting equipment, volunteer firemen, machinery and labor to construct the shed. Support valued at: $15,500

Project period: August 2, 1985 to February 1, 1986

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to provide a facility to support the establishment of a fire station in Navua, a

government and business center in the Province of Serua/Namosi where a large number of government, private and commercial structures have been built.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of this project are the approximately 6,000 inhabitants of Navua and its business community.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The project was initiated by the Commissioner, Central Division. The project was regarded by the entire community as a community affair and a special committee was established by Navua businessmen to organize fire fighting services for the District. Training was provided by the Suva Fire Brigade.

OUTCOMES

A volunteer fire brigade has been established with eleven firemen having been trained in Suva. It is housed in the facility supported by AIP funding and is being used for the purposes originally proposed.

The fire station, while primarily intended to provide service to Navua is also the closest fire service to Pacific Harbour.

Eighteen fire calls have been answered since the dedication of the fire station. Less than 24 hours after the station was opened the new fire unit responded to a house fire. Although there was one fatality, the house was largely saved by the fire brigade and the adjacent three structures remained untouched by the fire.

CONCLUSIONS

This AIP funded project has resulted in significant benefits to the people of Navua. Prior to the establishment of the fire station a devastating fire totally destroyed nine shops and the theater at an estimated loss of $1 million. People living and working in Navua feel that this would not have happened had the fire service been in operation.

It is clear that the AIP grant funds have been well spent and we would recommend that future funding requests from the Navua Rural Local Authority and for similar projects be given favorable consideration.

22. VUNIDOGOLOA SALT STORAGE BUILDING (IAA# 5879010), Vunitogoloa Village.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase building materials for the construction of a salt storage shed. Support totaled: $6,525

Local support included local materials, freight and cartage of materials, labor for construction and road clearance, and a cash contribution of $500. Support valued at: $2,025

Project period: March 19 to September 19, 1985.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to construct a weather proof building (32' X 20') for the storage of locally produced salt, tools and pumps used in salt production with good road access. The building was financed in support of the development of a local salt production industry.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of this project were to have been 200-250 people who could benefit financially from participation in the production of salt.

PROJECT INITATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The request for AIP funds was initiated by the Director of Rural Development and the BOMAS, the Business Opportunity and Management Advisory Service, and a Peace Corps couple involved in the development of salt production in the Vunidogoloa area. Project implementation was supervised by the Peace Corps Volunteers who were subsequently replaced by another Volunteer couple.

OUTCOMES

Prior to the construction of this salt storage building the village lost an average of 10 tonnes per year due to storms. In 1983 losses exceeded 30 tonnes as a result of a heavy storm.

Following the construction of the salt storage building problems ceased. However, there has been less than adequate market development. Production exceeded 200 tonnes in 1986. Of this 27 tonnes was shipped under instructions from BOMAS.

The remaining 173 tonnes are currently stored in the storage shed funded by USAID.

CONCLUSIONS

This was a very sound project. The building is of good quality construction and fills an obvious need--a means of storing salt until it can be sold. The project is a good example of the impact Peace Corps Volunteers can have on the planning and implementation of a rural development project.

However, there now appears to be a running feud between the village and BOMAS. According to one informant, the village has received no money from BOMAS. BOMAS reportedly claims that the village owes BOMAS money. The District Officer is well aware of the problem but was not clear on what his office will do about it. The DO stated that the involvement of the Peace Corps Volunteers in the dispute resulted in the PCVs being barred from the project site and two other sites in the area.

Finally, this project was a good one, clouded only by the fact that there doesn't appear to be a market for the salt and a major disagreement over the obligations of the village to BOMAS. However, the ill feelings which have resulted from the situation could result in the entire project going down the drain.

23. DRAUNIIVI HEALTH CENTER (IAA# 4879048), Drauniivi Village, Rakiraki District, Western Division.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase building materials for the construciton of a health center. Support totaled: $1,069

Local support included local materials, transport of materials, and labor valued at: $700

Project period: June 29 to December 29, 1984

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to provide support for the construction of a small health center to care for minor medical problems of the people of Drauniivi and Togovere villages. The nearest health facility to the villages is over 8 miles and a local health center was needed.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project were to be the 700 people living in the villages of Drauniivi and Togovere.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The project was initiated by the Drauniivi village council with assistance from Peace Corps Volunteers living in the area who also supervised the implementation of the project.

OUTCOMES

The AIP funded facility is more than adequate in design and structure. Unfortunately, the building does not appear to be used for its intended purpose.

The small center was visited by one of our team but unfortunately the health worker was not in the village at the time of the visit. It wasn't possible during the visit to determine the number of people seen and treated at the facility. However, it appears the health worker lacks initiative in keeping this 96 square foot facility in order. The area was not clean, papers littered the floor and the counter top was covered with debris. Little medicine was in evidence,and there were no instruments in sight, and there was no visible means of applying sterile techniques.

CONCLUSIONS

Properly staffed, run and maintained, this health facility has the potential of being of benefit to the people it was intended to serve. However, it does not appear to be used as it was intended. This may be a situation in which the development of a village health worker system has been initiated without the training and resources being adequate to support the effort.

TONGA

1. PATCHWORK CENTER (IAA# 5879006), Patchwork Center, Tonga

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing use to purchase cutting table, furnature, sewing machines and raw materials as well as a revolving fund to pay quilters.
US support totaled: $4,025

Local support included labor and existing equipment valued at: $7,980

Project period: **not shown in grant document**

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to provide equipment and seed money for the Patchwork Center which provides training and income for women engaged in quiltmaking in Tongatapu.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of this project are the women who have been and will be trained by and work for the Patchwork Center. There are now eight workers and one assistant to the manager/volunteer.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The Patchwork Center and the AIP request were initiated by a New Zealand volunteer who established residence in Tonga in 1982. The former Peace Corps Director's wife appears to have been the initial contact in identifying AIP as a source for funds.

The Patchwork Center was established and operating prior to the provision of AIP funds. The need identified at the time of the AIP application was not only for additional equipment but also for the infusion of cash to allow the Center to pay workers directly for their products.

OUTCOMES

The Patchwork Center is a going concern. At the time of our site visit the Patchwork Center retail outlet was well stocked with very high quality items and six women were working in the quilting area.
Although the volunteer manager was away at the time of our visit, we were told that gross revenues from the Center are running at between $T200 and $T700 per week. Large quilt

prices are $T220 or more, and the single sale of large quilt has a significant impact on weekly sales. Workers are paid on a production basis and one of the workers indicated she was making about $T30 per week, again, depending on sales.

The training aspect of the Patchwork Center project does not appear to have reached any near the numbers projected in the original AIP proposal. Those who are actively involved in the Center at the time of our visit were, however, highly skilled drawing upon both their own sewing and quilting tradition and experience as well as what they had learned at the Center.

CONCLUSIONS

The Center does represent a self-sustaining business which is highly dependent on expatriate volunteer management. It is doubtful that if the current volunteer manager leaves the business and training center will survive. Therefore, if a future request is received by RDO/SP this would be an opportunity to encourage the development of some local management.

The (perhaps naively) over stated training functon of the Center described in the original AIP proposal is an example of over justification we have seen in examening several AIP projects. The idea of establishing a revolving fund to help develop a self-sustaining enterprise would seem justification enough for requesting AIP funds. And, we feel RDO/SP should encourage realistic projections of impact rather than allowing applicants to over justify projects for the sake of obtaining funding.

2. TUPOU COLLEGE LAB (IAA# 6879025), Tupou College, Tongatapu.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing is being used to purchase construction, lab fittings, and laboratory furniture to develop a second science lab. Support totaled: $6,800

Local support has included labor valued at: $32,000

Project period: August 29, 1986 to May 29, 1987.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to modify two existing classrooms at Tupou College to create a second science laboratroy and to provide furniture, and fittings for the

lab. The second laboratory is necessary to accomodate the approximately 700 students enrolled in science classes at the College which have had only one science lab available to them until this project was initiated.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of this project are the 700 students per year enrolled in science classes at the college.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The development of the second science lab and the AIP request were initiated by the principal of the College through the Director of Peace Corps, Tonga. Labor for the renovation and installation of the plumbing and gas fittings as well as the construction of furniture has been provided by the staff and students of the college under the supervision of the principal.

OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the heavily renovated classroom, it will serve the science students of the college very well. The principal has indicated that the College's enrollment is not expected to grow further and the completed facility will be adequate for many years to come.

Delays were experienced in the funding and implementation of this project. RDO/SP approvals reportedly took nearly twelve months which may have been a result of the unavailability of funds. However, even greater delays were experienced in the completion of the project because it has been difficult for the College administration to identify suppliers for the equipment needed for science education. A lack of clarity in equipment catalogues and the unresponsiveness of suppliers has made this and other projects at the College difficult to complete. This is compounded by the fact that the College is working on an extremely tight budget and the labor on virtually all projects is being provided by a very limited maintenance staff.

CONCLUSIONS

This is very well planned project which is currently about 85% completed. And, the benefits of the project will accrue to students for many years to come. Moreover, Tupou College, like other private schools in the Kingdom is extremely stretched for funding and they make very good use of the limited resources provided by external sources.

3. HA'ALALO WATER (IAA# 6879014), Ha'alalo Water Committee, Ha'alalo, Tongatapu.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase a solar powered pump, photovoltaic panels, and required, fittings. Support totaled: $11,500

Local support has included labor and local materials valued at: $4,000

Project Period: May 8, 1986 to November 30, 1987.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to upgrade the water supply of Ha'alalo village on Tongatapu. The village has had a diesel driven pump and tank system for over 14 years and the existing system was in need of extensive repair or replacement. A properly designed solar pumping system would have not only provided the needed replacement of the old system but also supplied water at very little cost compared to the old diesel system.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project will be the 250 residents of Ha'alalo Village.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by a Peace Corps Volunteer almost two years ago when a request was made to the Ministry of Health for the replacement of the existing water system. After some delay, the Volunteer left his assignment for a new post and was replaced by a second Volunteer. He was replaced and the second Volunteer was informed that the Accelerated Impact Program may be an appropriate source of financial support for the project. It was also suggested that rather than replacing the existing system with another diesel system, a solar system, similar to systems being used elsewhere in the region might be a better investment. A system was designed and the formal request to RDO/SP was made. At about the time the pump, solar panels and other materials were being delivered the second Volunteer left the area and a third Volunteer took on the project.

The third Volunteer examined the project plans and equipment and determined that the new pump would only supply about 1/3 of the 7,500 gallons of water required daily by the village. This was because of the size of the head required by the existing well and feeder tank. He began exploring the

possibility of obtaining a more powerful pump and additional electric power. A new pump and additional panels were ordered and delivered. After an exchange of correspondence with the manufacturer of the new pump, the third Volunteer was advised that although the new pump was rated at the newly determined power supply needs, the supplier felt the new pump would not last.

OUTCOMES

It appears that the best that can be salvaged from this project during the four months remaining on the third Volunteer's tour is that the existing diesel system will be refurbished and a solar powered supplementary pumping system will be installed to work in conjunction with the old system. The solar system will provide about one third of the daily water required and a fairly elaborate shut off system will be installed on the diesel pump to make maximum use of the solar system.

CONCLUSIONS

The Peace Corps Volunteer currently involved in this project feels that it would be difficult to design a project which has been more poorly planned and executed. The fact that the project has been passed to him after two other Volunteers have been involved has made implementation almost impossible. The original solar design was not suited for the depth of the well, the size of the head and the demand for water. The Volunteer currently assigned to the project said that there are other sites on Tongatapu for which solar pumping technology like that ordered for this project could have been used. But, the technology available should not have been used in this particular area.

The villagers at Ha'alalo have been waiting for the new pumping system for some time and have been told they would no longer have to pay for diesel. They are now being told that the project was poorly designed and while they will realize some savings because of the solar pump, they will have to refurbish the old system and continue to pay for their water.

4. HANGO AGRICULTURE COLLEGE (IAA# 5879048), Hango Agriculture College.

PROJECT SUPPORT

- US financing was used to provide materials for the construction of solar dryers to be used in the production of animal feed. Support totaled: $2,339

Local support included labor for construction and for the development and application of feed stock.
Suppport valued at: $2,500

Project period:

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to provide support for the development of an animal feed production effort at Hango Agriculture College on Eua Island in the Tonga group. The feed production effort is an attempt by Hango College to develop animal feed using locally available feed stock including coconut meal, and cassava.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project are the agriculture students attendint Hango College.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by the principal of Hango College in an attempt to find an economical alternative to imported animal feed for the Kingdom of Tonga. The AID request was made because Hango College, like other schools in Tonga have very limited resources for either capital purchase or materials costs.

The dryers were constructed, and local based animal feeds were developed using the dryers support under AIP.

OUTCOMES

The design used in the dryers was appropriate for local conditions and has proven adequate for the continuation of the local feed production effort. Local feeds are currently being used for the pig and poultry production programs at the college with considerable success. Local fryers are being produced at the college at a unit cost of about $T4.70. Imported chickens are sold at about $7.50 retail in Tongatapu.

The principal of the College is currently trying to obtain and adequate supply of coconut meal. Most of the meal produced in Tonga is being exported and the College may have to make bulk purchases to obtain a regular supply of meal.

Although the local feed project at the College has been a success, the principal wants to extend the project and convince local poultry growers that it is more economical to

use locally produced feed. Some of the graduates of the College have shown an interest in setting up poultry farms and piggeries, but the College is not producing enough local feed to meet demand. They are, therefore, attempting to expand their feed production while promoting the use of local feed.

CONCLUSIONS

Although we did not visit the College because of time constraints in Tonga, it appears that this project was success. Again, an innovative local initiative has been encouraged through the provision of AIP funds.

5. NUKUNUKU SECONDARY SCHOOL (MANUAL ARTS PROJECT) (IAA#5879007), Nukunuku Secondary School.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase wood, glue, masonite, paint, varnish and stain for the manual arts program. Support totaled: $2,500

No local contribution was indicated in the grant document. However, the school was to provide the wood working shop and labor of a Peace Corps Volunteer teacher.

Project period: March 18 to September 17, 1985.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to provide materials for wood working projects as part of the manual arts programs at Nukunuku Secondary School in Tonga. This was to have been an income generating project: The wood working projects were to be sold and the funds realized from the sales used to purchase new materials.

BENEFICIARIES

This project was to benefit approximately 40 students per year enrolled in the manual arts program at the school.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by a Peace Corps Volunteer assigned to provide manual arts training at Nukunuku School.

OUTCOMES

Tables and benches for the home economics classroom were

apparently constructed using the materials purchased for this project. Although the principal of the school was not at Nukunuku at the time the grant proposal was vetted, he indicated that the home economics room furniture was the only outcome of the AIP project. There may have been some additional projects completed by students in the program, but neither the principal nor the PCV currently teaching manual arts had any knowledge of them. The Volunteer originally assigned to Nukunuku School transferred to another school and this may have resulted in the failure of the program to establish the proposed revolving fund for materials purchase.

CONLUSIONS

There was no evidence that the revolving fund concept was ever attempted after the funds were received. The school clearly had a need for home economics furniture and the decision may have been made to use the materials to meet this need.

Discussions with the currently Peace Corps Volunteer assigned to the manual arts program indicated that the projects-for-sale idea would probably not work for a number of economic and social reasons. It is clear that Nukunuku School, like many other schools in Tonga, has very limited resources and consumable materials like wood and glue for manual arts are very difficult to justify given the cost and the lack of funds.

Despite these extenuating circumstances, the proposed project was either very poorly planned or a decision was made after the materials arrived to abandon the original concept. In either case, RDO/SP should have been informed about the change in plans.

6. MASILAEMA COMMUNITY HALL (IAA# 5879010), Masimilea Village.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to support the purchase of building materials. Support totaled	$5,000
Local support reportedly included grants from other sources and labor valued at:	$16,000

Project period: (1985)

AIP EVALUATION
May 15, 1987

PURPOSE

The purpose of the AIP support was to assist with the completion of a Community Hall in Masilimea Village on Tongatapu. The hall was to be used for training, pre-school, and village meetings.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project were to have been the approximately 200 residents of the village.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This request for AIP support for this project was initiated by a Peace Corps Volunteer living in the area.

OUTCOMES

The community hall was completed with grants from several sources and labor provided by the community. The hall is now being used as a meeting place and for tapa making. It is not reportedly being used as a pre-school or training center aside from the training of young girls in tapa making. Discussions with several villagers including the village pastor indicated that they were unaware of the fact that USAID had contributed to the project although they did say Australia had provided financial support. The pastor indicated that they had requested small projects support from the Central Planning Department.

CONCLUSIONS

Like the community hall projects reviewed in previous evaluations, this project has had relatively little economic impact. It does provide a gathering place and is being used for an economically productive activity. However, the fact that the US's contribution is not even recognized and that it has little developmental impact makes this project of very questionable value as an Accelerated Impact Program effort.

This project may also support the belief that if projects are handled by the Central Planning Department the US's contribution to such projects are not recognized by the recipients. However, it is clear from discussions with Central Planning Department officials that they have only recently organized their small projects effort and that they recognize the desire of donors to be directly associated with particular projects.

WESTERN SAMOA

1. WESTERN SAMOA RED CROSS (IAA# 4879056), Western Samoa Red Cross.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase building materials and to employ a foreman to supervise the construction of a headquarters facility in Savaii. Support totaled: $9,060

Local support included land, labor, and furnishing valued at: (?)

Project period: September 28, 1984 to March 28, 1985.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to support the construction of a Red Cross Headquarters in Savaii, Western Samoa. This facility was intended to provide a focus for Red Cross classes in first aid and family health and for Red Cross meetings on Savaii. The headquarters will also serve as an operations center for Red Cross disaster relief activities on Savaii.

BENEFICIARIES

The direct beneficiaries of the project are the approximately 46,000 residents of Savaii (28% of the total population of Western Samoa.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by the Western Samoa Red Cross board with assistance from a Peace Corps Volunteer assigned to the Red Cross. Land was requested from the government and after considerable delays, a site was given to the Red Cross. Extensive site preparation was required and the Department of Public Works provided the labor and equipment for this effort. Construction was supervised by an experienced builder and labor was provided by volunteers.

OUTCOMES

The headquarters building was completed and the field officer assigned to manage the Savaii operation left the Red Cross for another position. Therefore, the facility has not been used on a full time basis since it was completed. However, classes and other activities staffed by Red Cross personnel from Apia have been held in the building. A full

time Savaii field officer has been recruited and will take up his post in July.

CONCLUSIONS

This is one of several examples of projects hampered by staff turnover in Western Samoa. We believe that the Red Cross will make good use of the building and the building has reportedly done quite a bit to enhance the image of the Red Cross on Savaii. Although we did not visit the Savaii Headquarters because of the limited time we had in Western Samoa. However, we were assurred that the facility has been well constructed and will serve the Savaii population and the Red Cross for many years to come.

2. YWCA SEWING (IAA# 6879045), YWCA Western Samoa.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US support for this project was used to purchase sewing machines for use in classes given by the YWCA staff. Support totaled: $4,000

Local support included the provision of facilities, staff time, and supplies. Support valued at: $6,100

Project period: August 29, 1986 to May 31, 1987

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of this project will be the current 300 contributing and 500 participating member of the YWCA as well as women who will be attracted to the YWCA as a result of the increased activity supported by this grant.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to support the development of sewing classes by the YWCA of Western Samoa. Classes for employed women are intended to decrease their dependence on purchased clothes and classes for unemployed women are intended to provide an employable skill and potential source of income.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by the YWCA board with assistance from a Peace Corps Volunteer assigned to the association. Until this grant was provided the YWCA had a very small

sewing class and the demand for training far exceeded the ability of the staff and volunteers to deliver such classes.

The sewing machines were delivered in January of 1987 and thus far a total of 10 unemployed rural women and 28 unemployed women in Apia have been trained. Rural classes are to begin in the next month and four week programs will be run in both urban and rural areas on a regular basis.

CONCLUSIONS

This is one of the more successful projects examined in Western Samoa. Although it has only been underway since January of 1987, the staff of the YWCA have developed a program schedule, curriculum materials, and patterns.

A number of the unemployed women in the first class have already found employment. The current director and her staff are exploring the possibility of taking contracts to produce uniforms for the Western Samoa Police, hotels and other organizations. To do this, they will probably require an additional grant for the purchase of two industrial machines.

The success of this project can probably be attributed to the presence of a good leader and dedicated staff as well as the development of a program that is in high demand. The YWCA is one of the organizations in Western Samoa that has the internal capacity of apply for and manage small grants.

The AIP supported sewing machines were all present, in working order and displayed an AID plaque.

3. SECONDARY TEACHERS'S COLLEGE HOME ECONOMICS (IAA# 5879039), Western Samoa Department of Education and Secondary Teachers College.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US support was used to provide sewing machines, scissors, pots and pans for home economics classroom in 10 junior secondary schools in Western Samoa. Support totaled:

$6,797

Local support included the improvement of classrooms, the construction of ovens and stoves as well a sewing and cooking supplies. Support valued at:

$12,842

AIP EVALUATION
May 15, 1987

Project period: July 24, 1985 to January 23, 1986

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to support the development of home economics classes in ten junior secondary schools in Western Samoa. Home economics became part of the Secondary Teachers College several years ago, but without a minimal amount of cooking and sewing equipment it was difficult to conduct classes and to instill enthusiasm in students. This grant was intended to provide that minimal amount of equipment.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of this project are the approximately 1,000 students per year that will participate in home economics classes.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by the Home Economics Instructor at the Secondary Teachers College of Western Samoa with support from a Peace Corps Volunteer assigned to the College. The project was initiated after a policy of developing and introducing home economics curricula into the junior secondary schools was developed.

Equipment was purchased and local stoves and ovens were built and classrooms were improved in ten schools. Curriculum has been completed for "Form 3" and is currently be developed for "Forms 4 and 5" A total of 24 teachers are currently enrolled in home economics diploma (3 year) courses at the Teachers College and a number of teachers have already been placed in the schools.

OUTCOMES

We visited both the Secondary Teachers College two Junior Secondary Schools and it was clear that both the teacher training and school classes in home economics have been enthusiastically incorporated into the Western Samoa Junior Secondary curriculum. Home Economics teachers and school principals reported a very good response from both male and female students to both cooking and sewing classes. The STC Home Economics Instructor is obviously very dedicated and the provision of the AIP grant has given her both the needed equipment and the morale boost she needed to further the program.

In addition to the pre-service training planned in conjunction with the AIP grant, the STC Home Economics Instructor has initiated pre-service training for teachers

already in the schools. This has resulted in an increase in the number of teachers trained under the new curriculum and facilitated more effective use of the AIP supported equipment.

CONCLUSIONS

It seems clear from our site visits and discussions with Ministry of Education staff that the Secondary Teachers College is another institution in Western Samoa that has the institutional capability to develop projects and manage small grants. RDO/SP could look to STC as a mechanism for implementing projects in the education sector in Western Samoa.

4. WATER LABORATORY (WATER QUALITY MONITORING) (IAA# 5879003), Apia Observatory, Western Samoa.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase laboratory equipment and supplies for the Apia Observatory. Support totaled: $7,000

Local support included labor, transportation, utilities, and a refrigerator. Support valued at: $3,260

Project period: (1985)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to support the development of a water quality laboratory at the Apia Observatory in Western Samoa. Until this project was initiated, it was not possible to assess or monitor the chemical and biological quality of water is Western Samoa.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of this project were to have been the 160,000 inhabitants of Western Samoa.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by a Peace Corps Volunteer assigned to the Apia Observatory in Western Samoa. The head of the hydrology section and the director of the observatory apparently allowed the project to be developed. Materials

were purchased with the equipment and initial testing was completed by the Peace Corps Volunteer.

OUTCOMES

The water quality equipment and supplies have not been used since the Peace Corps Volunteer left Western Samoa in 1986. This was apparently a PCV initiative which did not have the support of the agency to which he was assigned. Current observatory staff indicated that it is unlikely that there was ever a promise of a local counter-part for the Volunteer and apparently the Volunteer had little support from his supervisor, the head of the hydrology section at the Observatory. He also indicated that it was unlikely that the equipment would ever be used in the future because the Public Works Department has responsiblity for supplying water and they are having enough difficulty in simply supplying water without any concern for its quality.

CONCLUSIONS

Projects which involve a high degree of technical capability are risky enough in Western Samoa given the inability of the government to retain highly trained people. In this case, the project had even less chance of success given the lack of local interest in the project and the juristictional conflict inherent in supplying and monitoring water qualtiy as proposed.

We would recommend that at the very least some sort of assurances are sought that a technical project like this has the support of the local agency concerned and that there is a provision for replacing the trained volunteer on which the project depends for implementation.

5. RENOVATION TO THE AGRICULTURAL STORE AND THE AGRICULTURAL STORE WAREHOUSE (IAA# 5879002), Agricultural Store Corporation, Western Samoa.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to support the renovation of the Agricultural Store and the Agriclutral Stores Warehouse. Support totaled:	$7,000
Local support included personnel, equipment and materials valued at:	(?)

Project period: September 16, 1984 to May 31, 1985.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to reduce the exposure of employees and customers of the Agricultural Stores Corporation to agrochemicals which could have significant health implications.

BENEFICIARIES

The direct beneficiaries of the project would have been a limited number of warehouse workers. According to the grant document, the beneficiaries were to have been the 600 staff members and handlers of agrochemicals at the Agricultural Stores Corporation warehouse and retail outlet.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by a Peace Corps Volunteer assigned to the Agricultural Stores Corporation of Western Samoa. The Agricultural Stores Corporation management also apparently saw this as a worthwhile project.

OUTCOMES

At the time of the site visit, the warehouse, upon entering, was heavy with noxious fumes. The exhaust fans purchased under the grant were not operating. The reason offered was that there were no people working in the warehouse that day, and it was difficult to say whether the concept of venting a large warehouse of noxious fumes would be effective due to the small capacity of the fans to move a large air mass in a short period of time.

CONCLUSIONS

Unless the Agricultural Stores Corporation is willing to keep the exhaust fans operating constantly, the noxious conditions in the warehouse will not improve. Given the cost of electric power in Western Samoa, the Corporation may feel it is not economic to keep the fans running. However, without some sort of venting, even natural venting,the warehouse is probably a serious health hazard.

Although neither of us is an expert in environmental health, it appears that in addition to the problem of the fans being used, the design of the venting system is faulty. Given the size of the warehouse, it seems unlikely that two small exhaust fans could move enough air to significantly reduce the level of noxious fumes. Moreover, all air is being vented through the noxious chemical storage room.

There was (and is) clearly a need for a warehouse venting system at the Agricultural Stores warehouse. And the

Corporation has reportedly had management problems over the past couple of years. This may account for the AIP supported venting system not being used and it may have been impossible to anticipate such difficulties when the original project was proposed. However, we have seen at least three environmental health projects in Western Samoa and all three failed because of a lack of local commitment to solve the problems identified by Volunteers.

6. LEIFIFI INTERMEDIATE MANUAL ARTS (IAA# 6879043), Leififi Intermediate School, Apia.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US funding was used to purchase hand and power tools as well as louver windows for the renovation of an industrial arts classroom. Support totaled: $4,951

Local support included labor for the classroom renovation and the installation of power tools Support valued at: $ 752

Project peirod: August 29, 1986 to May 31, 1987.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to support the development of the manual arts program at Leififi Intermediate (Junior Secondary) School in Apia, Western Samoa. Although the Government of Western Samoa and the Leififi School administration gave a priority to manual arts for male students at Leififi, a lack of hand and power tools at the school severely hampered the introduction of a meaningful curriculum.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project are the 130 male students per year at Leififi School.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated and implemented by a Peace Corps Volunteer and the Leififi School administration. Completion of the power tool installation was completed by a Volunteer that the succeeded the Volunteer who initiated the project.

OUTCOMES

The completed workshop is well laid out and excellectly equipped. The Volunteers involved in the development and implementaton of this project did an excellent job.

All AIP suported equipment have been delivered and installed and are in good working condition. Therefore, this project can be closed.

CONCLUSIONS

There is a severe shortage of manual arts teachers in Western Samoa and Leififi School has been fortunate to have had Peace Corps Volunteers to teach manual arts. Moreover, the successful implementation of this project and the manual arts program at Leififi is a credit to the Peace Corps Volunteers assigned to the school. However, we also feel that if an enthusiastic and experienced Vounteer is not available when the current Volunteer's tour is completed, the manual arts program at Leififi may grind to a hault. This would be a tremendous waste of time, money and talent that has been invested thus far. However, until the Western Samoa government can find a way to retain local teachers projects like this are risky at best.

7. VAIMUAGA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL MANUAL ARTS PROJECT (IAA# 5879038), VAIMUAGA Junior High School.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase hand and power tools for the wood working shop at Vaimuaga School. Support totaled: $5,244

Local support included the provision and a classroom and labor valued at: $2,136

Project period: July 24, 1985 to January 23, 1986.

BENEFICIARIES

The intended beneficiaries of this project are the 275 male students of Vaimuaga School.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to support the development a manual arts program at Vaimuaga School though the provision of hand and selected power tools.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by a Peace Corps Volunteer and the administration of Vaimuaga School.

OUTCOMES

The outcomes of the project have been negligible according to the Principal of the school. A few tools ordered under the project arrived prior to the departure of the Peace Corps Volunteer that initiated project. During this period, the PCV instructor was able to expose some of the students to the basics of woodworking and metal working. The remainder of the tool order and all of the power tools were received after the Volunteer instructor had completed his tour in December 1984. After the Volunteer left, the manual arts program at the school came to a halt. And, there has been no manual arts program at the school for the past two and a half years because the Principal has been unable to find a qualified manual arts instructor. She is, however, expecting to have a Peace Corps Volunteer assigned to Vaimuaga in 1988.

The tools are neatly stored under lock and key and are in good order. And, this project can be closed.

CONCLUSIONS

Due to a shortage of trained Western Samoan manual arts teachers projects of this type have a low probability of success unless Peace Corps can assure the provision of a volunteer teacher.

8. CHEMICAL SHED/DECONTAMINATION SUMP/RENOVATION OF AGRICULTURAL STORE/WAREHOUSE (IAA# 4879044), Agricultural Store, Western Samoa.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to support the construction of a chemical shed, the construction of a ventilated storage room, drainage system, decontamination sump and incinerator. Support totaled: $25,000

Local support included personnel for supervision and maintenance, a building site, and any additional costs. Support valued at: $50,000

Project period: June 29 to December 29, 1984

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to construct a chemical shed equipped with a ventilation and drainage system and decontamination sump. The chemical shed which was to be located on the wharf to store agro-chemicals which posed a potential environmental and health hazard. This project was reportedly seen as a model project for interdepartmental cooperation.

BENEFICIARIES

The grant document indicates that approximately 600 people were to benefit directly from the project, but that the entire population of Apia would benefit indirectly.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by a Peace Corps Volunteer assigned to the Agricultural Stores Corporation of Western Samoa. The chemical shed was completed by a contractor in Apia.

OUTCOMES

Unfortunately, the chemical shed has never been used. This reportedly resulted from a shift to containerized shipping of agricultural chemicals and a dispute over wharfage charges between government departments and the Agricultural Stores Corporation. Apparently, the ministry responsible for harbor management decreed the Agricultural Stores Corporation would be charged a holding fee for every day chemicals were held in the shed. And, after the shift from palletized to containerized shipping over 18 months ago, the need for a chemical shed on the wharf was completely eliminated as cargo is not even inspected until the containers are off the wharf.

CONCLUSIONS

This is an example of a well meaning, technically well designed project developed by a Peace Corps Volunteer that never got off the ground. It is likely that the shift to containerized shipping could not have been anticipated at the time the project was designed. Moreover, the wharfage charge issue was apparently part of the interdepartmental cooperation may have been settled at the time the grant was requested. Nevertheless, the chemical shed project has not met any of the objectives outlined in the proposal.

9. REFRIGERATION AND AIR CONDITIONING TRAINING (IAA# 4879057), Western Samoa Technical Institute.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase refrigeration and air conditioning teaching aids, testing and demonstration equipment, repair equipment and tools. Support totaled: $6,470

Local support included the provision of used air conditioners and refrigerators WSTI staff counterparts, and shop space valued at: $8,250

Project period: (1984)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to support the development of refrigeration and air conditioning training at the Western Samoa Technical Institute in Western Samoa (WSTI). Some tools and equipment were donated by businesses in Apia but additional training equipment and materials were necessary to provide an adequate course for students who would be seeking employment in the public and private sector.

BENEFICIARIES

The direct beneficiaries of the project have been the 21 students who have received training thus far as well as future students in the program.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by a Peace Corps Volunteer assigned to teach refrigeration and air conditioning repair at WSTI. Although the original volunteer has left, his successor has continued the training.

OUTCOMES

The AIP support made a contribution to the development of a respectable locally based refrigeration and air conditioning repair course. The training offered at WSTI at the time the grant was awarded, was through a New Zealand correspondence school curriculum. The Peace Corps Volunteers teaching refrigeration and air conditioning have developed a local one year course which is currently being expanded to a two year program at the suggestion of the private sector employers.

The private sector in Apia has been quite supportive of this project and has provided used equipment as well as opporunities for students to obtain experience by working on refrigeration and air conditioning systems in their establishments.

At the time of our site visit neither the acting principal nor the technical advisor to the Technical Institute were aware that USAID had provided support. They indicated that the Peace Corps Volunteer originally assigned to the Institute obtained the equipment from a variety of public and private sources. According to Peace Corps staff, the former principal was involved in the development of the AIP grant.

It is clear that the two Peace Corps Volunteers who have been assigned to the refrigeration and air coniditioning training program have done a commendable job and that the AIP supported equipment is being used very effectively. However, WSTI has been unable to obtain a counterpart for the Volunteers assigned to the refrigeration and air conditioning program. It appears that if Peace Corps is unable to assign someone to the program, it will cease to function. The WSTI administration is attempting to rectify the situation but has not received much encouragement from the Public Service Commission.

10. ULIMASAO LAB (IAA# 679044), Ulimasao School.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US support was used to purchase science laboratory equipment. Support totaled:	$5,000
Local support included the production of laboratory manuals, laboratory space euipped with sinks, electricity and furniture. Support valued at:	$6,000

Project period: August 29, 1986 to May 31, 1987.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to provide a science curriculum and laboratory for an adequate science education. While secondary students in Western Samoa are required to recieve science education and to pass the School C Examination, the laboratory equipment and curriculum available at the time the grant was made were inadequate.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of this project will be the entire student body of Ulimasao Secondary School.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by a Peace Volunteer assigned to teach science at the Ulimasao School and who has been given the responsibility of developing a new science curriculum at the school.

OUTCOMES

Although we were unable to visit the project site, the PCV who initiated the project reported that lab equipment has been ordered and he is now awaiting delivery. A new lab curriculum has been developed and is being used to the degree possible without the necessary equipment. The PCV involved in the project indicated that he would not be replaced by a Volunteer and fears that the curriculum he has developed will not be used after his completion of service. He indicated that the science curriculum which was being used at the school was based on the New Zealand system in which students receive instruction in biology, chemistry and physics each year of their secondary schooling. The Volunteer has attempted to move toward an American style science curriculum in which students receive training in the three sciences in subsequent years. Therefore, if he is replaced by a local teacher trained in the New Zealand science teaching style, he or she will probably not feel competant to continue with the new curriculum.

CONCLUSIONS

While this project appears to have been well planned and will be implemented before the Volunteer currently assigned to teach science at the school completes his tour. However, the future of the new science curriculum does not seem very bright. And, there is some question as to whether the lab equipment purchased under the AIP grant will be appropriate for the science curriculum which will be used in the future.

Like most of the other projects mounted in Western Samoa, the personnel problems facing the country seriously reduce the probability of the project having any long term impact.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

1. ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING (IAA# 5879001), Wau Ecology Institute.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was use to purchase building materials for the construction of an Environmental Training Center. Support toaled:	$10,000
Local support included unskilled labor, furnishings, audio visual equipment, and curtains valued at:	$10,000
Additional finacnial support provided by the EEC and by the USAID funded International Human Assistance Program. Support totaled:	$25,250

Project period: (1985)

PURPOSE

The purpose of the AIP funding was to support the construction of an environmental training center at the Wau Ecology Institute, a non-profit training and research corporation in Morobe Province.

BENEFICIARIES

The project document indicates that approximatley 4,000 people will benefit from the project.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The project was inititated by the Wau Ecology Insitute administration with assistance from a Peace Corps Volunteer assigned to the Institute. Stage "A" of the training center project, which was funded under this grant, was completed by a local construction company.

OUTCOMES

The display hall and laboratory facilities (Stage "A") are impressive structures and may be adequate for the intended use. However, Institute staff indicated funds are still being sought for the construction of the second phase ("B") and the existing facilities will not be used until stage "B" is completed.

The Institute has experienced some staff turnover as the Acting Director has left the Institute to run for public office. The Director is on study leave and will be returning in June. At the time of the site visit, the Institute appeared to be in a holding pattern until the Director returned.

There was also some confusion about what the AIP grant had financed. Initially, Institute staff indicated that the grant had been used for the environmental training center. Subsequently, they stated the the AIP grant had been used to finance the construction of a rural development training center dormatory block.

We requested that the financial officer provide RDO/SP with an accounting of AIP funds to allow the project to be closed.

CONCLUSIONS

The Wau Ecology Institute has a very good reputation and is financially solvent because of its recurrent income from coffee. However, it appears that the current staff situation (ie. the lack of a director and acting director) has caused delays in the completion of the environmental training. Moreover, several individuals with whom we discussed the Institute program stated that overall Institute activity had declined in the last year or so. However, we hope that once the Director returns to the Institute the environmental training center will be completed.

It was undoubtedly difficult to anticipate staff changes and delays in funding for the second stage of the construction of the environmental center. However, this project does demonstrate the need to insure that a project is not dependent on subsequent funding to be implemented.

2. MOROBE PROVINCE SAIP (IAA# 6879011), Subsistence Agriculture Improvement Program, Morobe Province.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to provide professional assistance, travel, training supplies and equipment. Support totaled:	$17,500
Local support included the provision of staff, facilities, and local training materials. Local support is valued at:	$196,150

Project period: May 7 to November 30, 1986.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the AIP support was to assist with the development and implementaton of a training program for subsistence agriculture development in Morobe Province being conducted by the Subsistence Agriculture Improvement Program. The Program which was initiated by the Wau Ecology Institute was taken over by the Provincial Government about three years ago and has become the primary rural development effort of the Provincial Government.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the SAIP program will be rural dwellers in Morobe Province (80% of the population). The direct beneficiaries of the AIP funding were approximately 660 trainees who have subsequently become in village level extension workers under the SAIP program.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The AIP request was made by the Premier of Morobe Province with support from the Director of SAIP. Although provincial government support has increased for the Program from about $50,000 three years ago to $196,150 in 1986, there was a need for supplemental resources to institutionalize their efforts. Subsequent to the AIP grant, Provicial Government support for the Program was increased to about $238,000.

OUTCOMES

The impact of the SAIP program has been very impressive. Although the Program has not acheived universal coverage in Morobe Province, impact of the Program in the areas we visited was quite visible. SAIP gardening methods which include, an emphasis on nutrition, the promotion of subsistence agriculture, the establishment of settled mixed gardens (as opposed to shifting cultivation gardens at increasing distances from settlements), the planting of fruit trees for home consumption, the use of compost and the development of home cattle, pig, poultry and sheep projects. The Program has worked very closely with youth groups and women's groups and has established a growing network of village level extension workers.
The production of fruits, vegetables and animals in SAIP affiliated villages has exceeded the demand for subsistence food and farmers are currently selling the surplus at local markets. Some SAIP trained farmers have already shifted to commercial mono-crop production of tomatoes and onions.

SAIP training activities appeared to be a continuous effort and the staff of 17 were constantly on the move. The Program is also expanding its geographical coverage--they have been primarily active in five of the thirty-five constiuencies in

the Province including a fairly extensive urban program in Lae. They are also moving into subsistence rice production and are seeking technical assistance in wetland rice and taro production.

CONCLUSIONS

Although the AIP grant in 1986 was small in comparison to the Provincial inputs, it seems clear that resources are very well utilized. SAIP staff are extremely dedicated and they are constantly stretching resources to expand the program, geographically and substantively.

It is clear from discussions with the Provincial Premier and the Program Director that they are seeking additional financial and technical resources. They are aware of the fact that as they expand activities, management will become more and more of a problem. They are, therefore, encouraging and supporting the development of activities within the provincial women's program and other local private voluntary organizations.

Given the caliber of management within SAIP, the provincial women's program and Kum-Gie, a local non-profit involved in the development of manufacturing, future AIP support of these organizations would be a good investment.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

1. PARIPAO WATER SUPPLY (IAA# 6879013), Paripao Ward, Guadacanal Province.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase a solar pump, solar panels, cement and other construction materials for a water system in Paripao Ward. Support totaled:	$15,800
Local support included labor and local materials as well as engineering assistance from the Solomon Island Government valued at:	$5,135

Project period: May 8 to November 30, 1986.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the project was to construct a solar pump water system to serve three villages in the Paripao Ward of Guadacanal Province. The villages were situated such that a gravity feed system was not feasible because of the location of the villages in relation to the primary water source in the area.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries have been the 250 people living in Kiolo, Tatau and Tenapari villages and two smaller settlements in the ward.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by the village health committee and Peace Corps couple living in the area. After completing a major toilet construction effort, the committee embarked on the water project with assistance from the Ministry of Health and Public Works Department (PWD). It took a total of five months between the time the application for AIP funds was submitted and funds were actually available.

The adult population of the area was divided into five work groups which along with PWD supervisors designed and built a reservoir, holding tanks, and pumping and reticulation system to serve the three main villages in the area. Over a two and a half month period, the work groups maintained a strict schedule despite the fact that Cyclone Namu occurred in the early weeks of construction.

A total of seven stand pipes now serve three villages and there has been no shortage of water since the project was completed.

OUTCOMES

The water system was completed in September 1986 and now provides a more than adequate supply of potable water for the three main villages. The system has become a "show place" for residents of Guadacanal as well as the provincial and national government departments engaged in water and sanitation development.

Two new settlements have been developed since the completion of the project and the village health committee is considering extending the system by adding a single stand pipe in each of the smaller settlements.

The village health committee is now seeking funds to fence the reservoir and area surrounding the PVC panels and to

provide a concrete base for the bank of panels. This request is now being considered by the provincial government.

CONCLUSIONS

This is an excellent example of what can be accomplished through the Accelerated Impact Program. The villages involved were motivated and well organized. The Volunteers working with the villagers were competent and hard working. And, together accomplished their goals.

Provincial government officials indicated that the villages involved in this project were unusually well organized, and that the development and implementation of such an ambitious project would only be possible in a very limited number of villages. They also noted that the PCVs who worked with the community were exceptional.

At first glance, a water project costing over SI$ 30,000 may appear extravagant by Solomon Island standards. However, because many villages can employ gravity feed systems, not all villages require such expensive water systems. Moreover, this project has and will continue to serve as an example of what Solomon Island villages can accomplish.

2. RARA SAWMILL (IAA# 6879037), Rara Village, Malaita Province.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was used to purchase a portable sawmill and to support training in the operation and maintenance of the mill.
Support totaled: $11,000

Local support included cash and labor valued at: $6,100

Project period: August 29, 1986 to May 31, 1987.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to develop a sawmill operation to provide wood for housing rehabilitation following cyclone Namu. Trees downed by the cyclone provided a potential source of local timber for housing reconstruction and the sawmill helped meet the need for timber and may provide a potential source of income.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries of the project have been 150 people living in Rara Village and the surrounding area.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by the former Prime Minister of Solomon Islands with assistance from the International Human Assistance Program of the Solomon Islands. A village committee was organized to oversee the project. An operator and repairman were selected. The Walkabout Saw Mill group in Papua New Guinea supplied the mill and provided training to the operator and repairman.

OUTCOMES

Although we were unable to visit the project, IHAP reported that the mill has been operating since November, 1986. The two people trained to operate and repair the mill have unfortunately left the project but it is still being operated by villagers. Villagers have provided both logs and fuel for the mill and the operator is being paid by IHAP.

There have been some local political problems which have limited the impact of the project to Rara village and its immediate surroundings. This, however, may be resolved and the benefits of the project will be spread to a larger number of people.

This project has provided timber for a housing rehabilitation program being conducted by IHAP using training materials supported by the US Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance although there is no formal relationship between the mill project and the IHAP rehabilitation effort.

CONSLUSIONS

This project has apparently achieved a moderate degree of success and this can be attributed partly to the development capability of the people of Rara village which has successfully implemented other projects. We would also guess that IHAP must also be credited with the development and implementation of the project.

3. GUADACANAL HOUSING (IAA$ 6879004), Tasimauri Local Council.

PROJECT SUPPORT

US financing was provided to support the purchase of building materials for teachers houses in the Tasimauri area. Support totaled: $15,300

Local support included labor, transport and local materials valued at: $21,800

Project period: March 4 to September 30, 1986.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to support the construction of ten "permanent material" housing units for teachers in the Tasimauri area of the Weather Coast of Guadacanal Province. Local weather conditions on the Weather Coast result in the rapid deterioration of bush material housing and such materials are not readily available to teachers from outside the area.

BENEFICIARIES

The direct beneficiaries of the project are to be ten teachers and their families. However, adequate housing for teachers in the area will help insure a more productive staff for the local school.

PROJECT INITIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

This project was initiated by the Tasimauri Local Council through the Provincial Ministry of Local Councils.

OUTCOMES

The construction of the teachers' quarters has not been started because the funds have not been released to the local council. National and provincial government officials have felt that the local council could not be trusted with the funds as there have been instances in which councils have diverted project funds to cover recurrent council costs.

Although we were unable to visit this project or to discuss the question of the local capacity to manage grant funds, we understand that after an exchange of correspondence between the Assistant Administrative Officer (AAO) serving the area and the national government minister holding the funds, the funds are being released to the local council. A new

account for the funds is being set up and the AAO will be responsible for disbursements.

CONCLUSIONS

The problems encountered in the implementation of this project reflect the general problems resulting from decentralization in the Solomon Islands. There is a general feeling among national government officials that the provincial governments, the area councils and the local councils do not have the capacity to plan and manage development. A signficant amount of effort is now being made, however, to develop capacity at the provincial level through a UNDP funded training program.

There appears to be a need to work through the established small projects system developed in Solomon Islands. That is, the Provincial Development Unit (PDU) has been set up to handle small projects vetted and managed through the provincial governments. While the PDU has been ineffective in the past, resources have been allocated to signficantly improve the PDU and if this project were handled through the PDU implementation would not have been delayed. Moreover, we believe that integrating AIP into developing small project support systems will not only result in better projects but also stimulate and support local capability to develop and manage small projects.