PD-ABA-607

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PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

MALARIA CONTROL - NEPAL

Project Number : 367-0115

Project Paper Signed : June 27, 1975

Project Goal : To reduce morbidity, mortality and fertility at the national level so as to facilitate economic and social development in Nepal.

Project Purpose : To assist the Government of Nepal in strengthening its institutional capacity for monitoring and controlling malaria and concurrently to create the basis for an institution which has the administrative and operational capabilities to monitor and control communicable diseases in Nepal as well as provide other health services.

Estimated Project Funding : $3,754,500 (AID)
$8,754,119 (Total)

Project Completion Date : September 30, 1980 (extended one year from September 30, 1979 by USAID/Nepal)

Date Project Completion Report Prepared : December 13, 1980

Project Completion Report Prepared by : Lawrence T. Cowper, Regional Malaria Advisor

I. SUMMARY OF SERVICES PERFORMED AND GOODS FURNISHED BY MAJOR COMPONENT BY CONTRIBUTOR

USAID (9/30/80)

Dollar Funding (Grant)

ITEM		OBLIGATED	EXPENDED
PERSONNEL		$ 92,000	$ 92,000
PARTICIPANTS		$ 67,000	$ 59,000
COMMODITIES		$ 60,000	$ 60,000
	TOTAL	$219,000	$211,000

Rupee Funding (Grant)

	OBLIGATED	EXPENDED
(U-204 Report of 9/30/80)	Rs. 42,536,000	Rs. 42,215,000

The rupee funding was primarily for commodities. The GON converted Rupees to dollars for procurement of commodities mostly DDT, 75%, wdp.

The project was planned to provide a full time USAID malaria advisor over the life of the project (pg. 7. pp). However, the assigned malaria advisor was transferred in the Spring of 1978 by AID and not replaced by USAID/Nepal. Project monitoring responsibilities have been carried out by the USAID/Nepal's Office of Health and Family Planning and the Regional Malaria Advisor.

The USAID project projected three long term participant grants (statistics, entomology, parasitology) and these participants have completed their courses and returned to Nepal. Two of trained participants are working with National Malaria Eradication Organization (NMEO) and another (statistician) is with the Integrated Health program. The project also sponsored one participant for a 3 month course in Health Planning in FY 1977 in the U.S. In addition, a Regional Officer from NMEO has been sent for Masters of Public Health (MPH) training at Tulane University and is expected to return to Nepal by June 1981. The project also envisaged malaria training in India for 81 NMEO officers at Zone and District level. The total trained in India is as follows:
FY 1975 (24); FY 1976 (20); FY 1977 (19); FY 1978 (20); FY 1979 (21); FY 1980 (16 - departing January 1981) for a total of 120 participants trained in India.

Commodities furnished to the project under both the rupee and dollar funding consisted of insecticides, and limited amounts of spray operation equipment.

World Health Organization (WHO)

The WHO during the project provided technical assistance in the assignment of four malaria specialists, limited commodities consisting mainly of insecticides and anti-malaria drugs and participant grants. The cost of commodity inputs was $362,300 over the five year period. The cost of technical services and participants is estimated at $150,000 per year or $750,000 over the project period.

United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

The UNDP obligated $2.7 million dollars for insecticide procurement (DDT, 75% wdp) over the life of the project. All commodities under this obligation have been procured and have arrived in country.

United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF)

The UNICEF contributed $28,000 worth of anti-malaria drugs during the course of the project to fill an emergency lack of drugs for the project. All drugs have been delivered.

British Government

The British Government's inputs into the anti-malaria efforts over the project period is $864,500 which were used for procurement of vehicles (Landrovers), insecticides (malathion) and anti-malaria drugs (Fansidar). In addition, the British Government has furnished the services of senior scientists for the 1979 and 1980 External Assessment Panels which is estimated to cost $10,000.

Government of the Netherlands (GOTN)

During the last year of the project the GOTN provided $1,198,200 in aid to the project in the form of insecticides (malathion). Although this insecticide was provided for the 1980 program, it arrived late and the majority of this insecticide will be used in the CY 1981 spray operation.

Government of Nepal (GON)

The budget summary for the malaria control program over the project period is as follows:

	Budget approved	Budget received	Budget expended
FY 1977	Rs. 5,76,69,000	3,79,25,750	3,64,79,654
FY 1978	4,42,90,000	2,97,90,000	2,77,34,401
FY 1979	4,21,64,000	3,03,45,984	2,88,91,680
FY 1980	4,40,62,000	2,44,41,901	2,37,64,280

The NMEO budget expended for the program in relation to budget received equals in FY 1977 (96%); FY 1978 (93%); FY 1979 (95%); FY 1980 (97%). The budget figures above contain both GON and external inputs into the malaria program.

The level of required personnel for the project has been approximately 3,100 permanent people. The staff of the NMEO has had few vacancies during the project period except in Malaria Assistant positions. The turnover rate in Malaria Field Workers/Surveillance Agents has been high, usually above 10% each year, which requires a good deal of training effort.

II. STATUS OF COMPLETION OF PROJECT ELEMENTS INVOLVING CONSTRUCTION, IMPORT OF MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

It should be recognized that AID assistance to malaria control started as early as 1954 with a small project called Insect-Borne Disease Control (IBDC). In 1958, the WHO pilot project in malaria control and the USAID program joined together to assist the newly created Nepal Malaria Eradication Organization (NMEO). The present project under review is a part of a series of USAID projects since 1954 aimed at malaria control. AID is continuing to assist GON in its anti-malaria activities in the 1980-85 period through the newly approved "Integrated Rural Health/Family Planning Services" (367-0135). The only remaining monitoring function for this project (# 367-0115) is the one outstanding participant still at Tulane University. This participant is expected to return to Nepal by June, 1981. There was no construction element in this project.

All other AID assistance to this project has been completed, i.e., technical assistance, commodities and participants to India.

III. SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF PROJECT IN LIGHT OF THE PURPOSES STATED IN THE PROJECT PAPER

Purposes

1. The reduction of malaria to the level of 0.5 Annual Parasite Incidence (API) at which level malaria is no longer a public health problem.

1. The API levels for the last three years are:

FY 1978 - 1.3
FY 1979 - 1.07
FY 1980 - 1.31

Note:

(a) The majority (60%) of cases come from nine districts (FY 1980).

(b) Approximately 30% of all reported cases are imported from India.

2. The existence of an active case detection (ACD) program covering the malarious areas which will provide an accurate epidemiological assessment of the rate of malaria.

2. ACD mechanism in place, functioning except in Integrated Districts. Annual Blood Examination Rates. (ABER)

YEAR	NMEO AREAS	INT. DISTRICTS
FY 1978	17.4	8.21
FY 1979	16.4	8.5
FY 1980	14.95	5.92

Note: 10% is accepted minimum standard for ABER.

3. The existence of a response mechanism to combat focal malaria in those areas which are integrated into the general health services and that Passive Case Detection (PCD) is in place and operating.

3. Mechanism not fully established and limited response to focal malaria is available in Integrated Districts. Increase in indigenous cases as below:

YEAR	NEMO	INT. DISTRICTS
FY 1977	5220	316
FY 1978	4407	1847
FY 1979	3458	2631

PCD represents less than 10% of collected slides.

4.	A capacity to train and retrain personnel in the light of changing needs within NMEO.	4.	FY 1980 training in Nepal: Account. training - 2 Clerk training - 2 Refresher Training - 49 (Inspector levels) Basic training - 26 Basic training (lab)- 16 A Section of Research and Training was established in the NMEO during 1979.
5.	The formulation of a long range policy and plan by the Government of Nepal to contain malaria after the assistance of USAID has been terminated.	5.	The NMEO Plans of Operation matches the Five Year Plans of GON. The GON policy for the malaria control program is (1) aimed at nationwide malaria control, (2) prevention of mortality from malaria and reduce morbidity, (3) maintain achievements so far gained, and (4) aimed at eradication of the malaria from the country as a long term objective.

IV. FURTHER INPUTS INTO THE PROJECT TO BE PROVIDED BY OTHERS AND EXPECTED COMPLETION OF SUCH INPUTS

The anti-malaria activities in Nepal will continue for many years ahead and no expected completion date can be forecasted at this time. It is expected that a malaria component will remain within the Ministry of Health even after all NMEO field operations are integrated into the general health services. The integration process must proceed slowly and the new USAID/Nepal Project Paper on "Integrated Rural Health and Family Planning Services" goes as far as saying. "It is concluded that, at the present time, the integration of malaria control may not be cost effective in certain circumstances" (Pg. 3, Annex 1). Consequently the new project is designed to support malaria control efforts in both integrated and non-integrated districts through 1985.

The World Health Organization is expected to continue to support malaria control activities in the years ahead in the areas of technical assistance, limited commodities, participants and research. Technical assistance is now limited to one Senior Malariologist and a transport specialist.

The Government of Nepal has requested malaria control program assistance from the West Germany, Japan and the Netherlands as well as with USAID for the FY 1981-85 period.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS ON EXTENT AND PERIOD OF FURTHER MONITORING AND REPORTING AND ON FURTHER PROJECT EVALUATION REQUIRED

As this project is a part of a continuing USAID assistance effort in malaria control there is an on-going monitoring, reporting and evaluation system in action. The impact of this project will be judged more in the next few years than immediately upon its completion.

The one remaining specific activity to be monitored for this program is the remaining participant in the U.S. being funded through this project (Janak Das Shrestha ETA 6/81). It is recommended that the USAID/N Office of Financial Management take on the responsibility of closing the project financially at the appropriate time. The USAID/N Office of Financial Management should be able to close the accounts of this project by July 1981 at the latest.

The malaria program activity in Nepal will be evaluated by an External Review Panel during the period 22 March - 4 April, 1981. This review document as well as the program evaluations of FY 1976 - FY 1979 can be made a part of this Project Completion Report.