

# A.I.D. EVALUATION SUMMARY PART I

(BEFORE FILLING OUT THIS FORM, READ THE ATTACHED INSTRUCTIONS)

IDENTIFICATION DATA

<b>A. REPORTING A.I.D. UNIT:</b> <u>USAID/Bangladesh</u> <small>(Mission or AID/W Office)</small>  (ES# _____ )	<b>B. WAS EVALUATION SCHEDULED IN CURRENT FY ANNUAL EVALUATION PLAN?</b> yes <input type="checkbox"/> slipped <input type="checkbox"/> ad hoc <input type="checkbox"/>  Eval. Plan Submission Date: FY ___ Q ___	<b>C. EVALUATION TIMING</b> Interim <input type="checkbox"/> final <input type="checkbox"/> ex post <input type="checkbox"/> other <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>D. ACTIVITY OR ACTIVITIES EVALUATED</b> (List the following information for project(s) or program(s) evaluated; if not applicable, list title and date of the evaluation report)					
Project #	Project/Program Title <small>(or title &amp; date of evaluation report)</small>	First PROAG or equivalent (FY)	Most recent PACD (mo/yr)	Planned LOP Cost (000)	Amount Obligated to Date (000)
388-0061	Food for Work III  Follow-up Study of the Development Impact of CARE Food for Work Roads in Bangladesh December 1986	1976	07/90	\$9,353	\$4,086

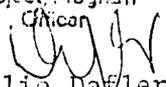
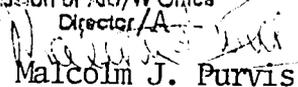
ACTIONS

E. ACTION DECISIONS APPROVED BY MISSION OR AID/W OFFICE DIRECTOR	Name of officer responsible for Action	Date Action to be Completed
Action(s) Required		
1. Develop a planning capacity for road and bridge improvement at the sub-district (Upazila) level.		
a. Provide material resources for adequate planning, i.e., maps ranging poles, plan books, etc.	USAID/CARE	6/88
b. Provide training in planning for current staff and additional staff where needed.	CARE, WFP	1/88
2. Identify development factors at the sub-district level to which sub-project selection should be linked.		
a. Identify complementary development programs and their areas of influence.	USAID/CARE/MRR	12/87
b. Identify growth centers and the major arteries of communication for priority linkage.		
3. Expand to the degree possible the construction of bridges and culverts to complete road improvement projects.	USAID/CARE	Continuous <small>(Attach extra sheet if necessary)</small>

APPROVALS

**F. DATE OF MISSION OR AID/W OFFICE REVIEW OF EVALUATION:** mo 10 day 28 yr 87

**G. APPROVALS OF EVALUATION SUMMARY AND ACTION DECISIONS:** Reviewed and approval updated 05/90

Project/Program Officer Signature:  Typed Name: Julie DeFler Date: <u>May/90</u>	Representative of Borrower/Grantee Douglas G. Atwood Date: <u>May/90</u>	Evaluation Officer Signature:  Ann Schwartz Date: <u>May/90</u>	Mission or AID/W Office Director/AA Signature:  Malcolm J. Purvis Date: <u>May/90</u>
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H. EVALUATION ABSTRACT (do not exceed the space provided)

ABSTRACT

I. EVALUATION COSTS

1. Evaluation Team  
Name

Affiliation

Contract Number OR  
TDY Person Days

Contract Cost OR  
TDY Cost (US\$)

Source of  
Funds

COSTS

2. Mission/Office Professional  
Staff Person-Days (estimate) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Borrower/Grantee Professional  
Staff Person-Days (estimate) \_\_\_\_\_

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Continued from Page One - Action Decisions

Responsible    Date to be  
Officer       completed

4.    Push for institutionalization of the Women's  
      Rural Maintenance Program.

CARE/CIDA      Continuous

## H. EVALUATION ABSTRACT (do not exceed the space provided)

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## EVALUATION ABSTRACT

The Food for Work program supported by USAID through CARE is one component of a national program which offers employment to large numbers of unemployed and underemployed laborers building rural infrastructure during a long slack season. This evaluation was conducted by a team of two expatriates and eleven locally recruited staffers. The objectives of the study were to: a) identify determinants of development impact; b) validate the findings of the original impact study completed three years before; c) recommend criteria for design and implementation of FFW road projects that will contribute to a positive development impact; and d) prepare a manual that details the procedures used for this study so that it might be carried out by Bangladeshi consultants in the future.

## FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS ARE:

1. FFW roads are having an economic and social impact on the areas they serve. Economically there have been positive impacts on transportation costs, farmgate prices, farm technology, agricultural production, and land values. Flood control may be enhanced or impeded. There is evidence of positive impacts in the social areas of communication, education, and health, with some indication of an increase in women's activities and an increase in crime.
2. The degree of effectiveness or development impact of a road project is related to: a) a time lag of two to three years before most of the development impact takes place; b) the ecology of the project area, especially the composition of the soil; c) the degree to which the project is integrated with other development projects; d) the degree to which development criteria are used in site selection; e) the degree to which structures such as bridges and culverts accompany the road project; and f) the extent to which the road is maintained.

The policy question raised by the above findings is how to ensure that the Upazila Parishads take into consideration the factors noted above in their deliberations on project selection. This requires a planning capability which the Upazilas presently do not have, and a capability to override local political pressures which dictate the dispersal of funds to unrelated sub-projects in every Union.

## I. EVALUATION COSTS

1. Evaluation Team		Contract Number OR TDY Person Days	Contract Cost OR TDY Cost (US\$)	Source of Funds
Name	Affiliation			
1.	Jonathan D. Hodgdon Samiruz Zaman	Abt Associates 165 Person Days	\$93,266	Project Funds
2.	Mission Staff	Person Days 60		
3.	Grantee Staff	Person Days 30		
2. Mission/Office Professionals Staff Person-Days (estimate) _____		3. Borrower/Grantee Professional Staff Person-Days (estimate) _____		

# A.I.D. EVALUATION SUMMARY PART II

## J. SUMMARY OF EVALUATION FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (Try not to exceed the 3 pages provided)

Address the following items:

- Purpose of activity(ies) evaluated
- Purpose of evaluation and Methodology used
- Findings and conclusions (relate to questions)
- Principal recommendations
- Lessons learned

Mission or Office: USAID Dhaka

Date this summary prepared: July, 1987

Title and Date of Full Evaluation Report:

Follow Up Study of The Development Impact of CARE Food for Work Roads in Bangladesh

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### SUMMARY OF EVALUATION FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

#### 1. Name of Mission Initiating the evaluation:

USAID Bangladesh; Follow-up Study of the Development Impact of CARE Food for Work Roads in Bangladesh, December 1986

#### 2. Purpose of the activity or activities evaluated:

1. FFW is designed to address three major goals: (a) providing employment to vulnerable groups during peak periods of unemployment; (b) promoting access to rural areas for agents of developments; (c) developing the capability of BDG institutions to manage development resources effectively. Program mechanics involve the distribution of wheat as wages to laborers who reconstruct rural earth roads during the work season, Dec. to May. The cooperating sponsor, CARE, assesses quantity of work accomplished and monitors the wages actually paid. Based on their findings, CARE calculates the quantity of wheat used by the BDG for the program and informs USAID who, in turn, orders that amount to be turned over to CARE from U.S. Govt. stocks. CARE then delivers this commodity to the BDG at the Port of Chittagong. In addition to the earthworks, bridging structures are built at appropriate locations in the road alignments using local proceeds of Title III (previously Title II) grants.

#### 3. Purpose of the Evaluation and Methodology Used

This evaluation was a follow-on of an earlier study by Abt Associates designed to identify the development impact over time of the roads completed by the project and, concomitantly, to identify those factors which influence the level of such impact. The review was conducted by (a) examining base line data collected on economic and social conditions in the immediate vicinity of those roads built before and during the period of the first study (in '80 and '83) and (b) re-examining the same road sites during this study ('86). For future analysis, base-line data was also collected on road alignments scheduled for reconstruction in FY'87.

#### 4. Findings and Conclusions

The study found that the completed roads:

- (a) Promoted improved communications among villages near the road and between villages and Upazila (Sub-District) Headquarters.

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- (b) Reduced travel time and transport costs to and from local markets through improved road conditions.
- (c) Increased primary school attendance.
- (d) Increased access to health service through reduced travel time and increased proximity to local clinics.
- (e) Increased commercial activity such as the establishment of new rice mills.
- (f) Increased areas under irrigation.

In order for reconstructed roads to have a strong development impact, two conditions are critical:.

- The roads must be fully passable by wheeled traffic (i.e. road surfaces uninterrupted by pot holes or eroded portions and the necessary bridges and culverts in place).

- Road projects must be planned to complement other development inputs, especially the expansion of rural electrification.

#### 5. Recommendations

1. The Program must encourage better local planning of FFW road and structure schemes so that lengthy and necessary road segments are completed at locations where complementary development inputs are being introduced. This will require both training in planning for local officials; some support equipment and materials; and a direct linking of project funding approval to this type of adequate planning.
  2. The FFW Program must also work to expand and improve the Rural Maintenance Program to provide routine maintenance for more of the FFW roads.
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6. Lessons Learned:

a. Before designing program goals involving counterpart institutions or agencies, an assessment should be made of the capacity of those institutions to meet the goals. For example, originally it was assumed that BDG sub-district administrations would select new road and bridge projects on the basis of greatest need, i.e. those roads and bridges that were most critical and were in greatest disrepair. Subsequently it was found that, in fact, new projects were selected on an area political basis, i.e., each Union in the sub-district's governing committee was given a project or a structure to ensure it's loyalty to the sub-district Chairman. Development impact was not the major criterion in project selection.

b. Layering of new goals on existing projects may require re-design or changes in inputs on the part of the counterpart agency, the donor, or both. FFW was designed as a relief project, then a rural infrastructure project, then an institutional development project although basic implementation strategies were not changed. Subsequent studies found that the BDG sub-district administrations in fact do not have the planning capacity or the personnel and transportation facilities to meet all these goals satisfactorily. In fact, additional resources, in terms of staff, vehicles, and reference materials such as maps and equipment, will be necessary before they are capable of meeting donor expectations.

ATTACHMENTS

K. ATTACHMENTS (List attachments submitted with this Evaluation Summary; always attach copy of full evaluation report, even if one was submitted earlier)

Follow-up Study of The Development Impact of CARE Food for Work Roads in Bangladesh, Final Report, December 1986

. COMMENTS BY MISSION, AID/W OFFICE AND BORROWER/GRANTEES

MISSION COMMENTS ON FULL REPORT

The evaluation was satisfactorily designed and carried out. Since it was a continuation of one done two years previously and was meant to provide a longitudinal perspective to the findings made then, the contractor had ample experience on which to draw. As a result, the contractor knew the field requirements well and was able to manage the activity effectively. Secondly, the data collected on the first evaluation and used as base line for the second will be used again for further study. Lastly, the findings are in accord with A.I.D. experience and confirm earlier observations.