

# memorandum

DATE: November 27, 1980

REPLY TO: Thomas F. Cornell, Program Officer

ATTN OF:

SUBJECT: Project Assistance Completion Report for Small Project Assistance (598-0625)

TO: Project Committee and Files

This report documents the final status of the Small Project Assistance (SPA) program as of the Project Assistance Completion Date (PACD), December 31, 1980.

I. Brief Project History

The Small Project Assistance (SPA) Program was created on January 28, 1983, when Peace Corps Director, Loret Miller Ruppe and A.I.D. Administrator, M. Peter McPherson, signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the institutions to define the procedures under which SPA funds would be provided by A.I.D. The SPA Program is designed to encourage and support self-help efforts by local communities by funding projects through Peace Corps Volunteers.

The LOP amount of US\$160,000.00 is the result of an original agreement and three amendments which were signed under A.I.D. Project Number 598-0625. (See attached table with SPA Program Agreements).

Peace Corps, during the life of Project SPA 598-0625, spent a total of US\$166,939.00 for project activities. According to A.I.D. accounts, a total of US\$151,199.00 was disbursed to Peace Corps/D.R. during the aforementioned period, thus the difference of US\$15,740.00 was obtained from other Peace Corps resources.

II. Delivery of Project Inputs and Accomplishments:

During the FY 1983, a total of US\$38,402.00 was disbursed by A.I.D. in four model projects:

- a) Small Consumer Store (Buen Hombre).
- b) Small Animals Project (Finca San José).
- c) Self-sustaining farm (Frente de Mujeres Amantes del Progreso).
- d) Agroforestry Demonstration Project (La Siembra).

Based on the experience of the aforementioned model projects, a total of US\$34,207.00 was disbursed during FY 1984. The 44 activities were broken down into four categories, as follows:

<u>Type of Project</u>	<u>Number of Projects</u>
Educational Leadership Projects	5
Mini Grants (not to exceed \$500.00)	15
Small Projects - Built on SDA Concept	23
Model Project - Finca San José - Phase II	<u>1</u>
Total Activities	44 ====

During FY 1985, 44 small projects were executed with A.I.D. resources the amount of US\$38,590.00. These activities are classified as follows:

<u>Type of Project</u>	<u>Number of Projects</u>
Health	12
Education	10
Animal Raising	6
Agriculture	5
Fisheries	6
Construction of Community Facility	<u>5</u>
Total Activities	44 ====

During FY 1986, SPA Projects used US\$40,000.00 from A.I.D. to execute 33 subproject. These US\$40,000.00 were under to Amendment Number Three of the SPA Agreement. The classification of the activities for FY 1986 are as follows:

<u>Type of Activity</u>	<u>Number of Project</u>
Agriculture	9
Business	9
Solar Energy	7
Community Const. Facilities	4
Health	2
Animal Raising	<u>2</u>
Total Activities	33 ====

As we can see in the above table, during FY 1985, the most important activities were related to Health, while in 1986, Business and Agriculture were the most common. The main reason for this is that, starting in 1986, health related activities were funded through SPA Health, a separate entity from the SPA Program.

### III. Counterpart Contribution

The counterpart contribution for each of these community projects was established at 25% percent of the total project cost. Counterpart contributions were used mainly to cover labor and administrative costs.

### IV. Progress Towards Achievement of Project Purpose

The main purpose of the program, which is to encourage and support self-help efforts of local communities by financing small project activities through Peace Corps volunteers, was achieved to a great extent. To date, relations with Peace Corps and Dominican community institutions have been enhanced thanks to the financial support of the SPA Program.

Project SPA 598-0625 has achieved the goal of supporting Peace Corps Volunteers activities and has significantly contributed to the acceptance and success of their grassroots work in the Dominican Republic.

### V. Requirement for Continued Monitoring

There is no requirement for continued monitoring of project activities due to the termination of all activities related to SPA Agreements for FY 1983, 1984, 1985 and 1986 (Project SPA 598-0625).

### VI. Summary of Lessons Learned

- The demand for SPA Program activities increased as it became known in the rural communities. In 1986, it was necessary to establish an amendment to the original SPA Agreement to include Health-Related Activities.
- In November, 1987 the SPA Coordinator position was created to improve the monitoring and follow up process of the Program.
- On July 21, 1988, activities related to SPA Amendment No. 3 were terminated with a delay of six months. The PACD for activities was December 31, 1987, but most of the PCVs took more than one year for project activity completion.

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