

memorandum

DATE: 12 March 1991

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: D. Robertson, Contractor *D. Robertson*

SUBJECT: Project Assistance Completion Report-
Inland Fisheries II, OPG 517-0162

TO: Project Committee and Files

This report documents the final status of the subject project as of the PACD, as amended, of December 31, 1985.

I. Project History:

This is the second OPG to Servicio Social de Iglesias Dominicanas (SSID). The first OPG terminated on March 30, 1982. This OPG was signed on April 2, 1982. The amount of the grant was \$76,000. It was amended on May 13, 1982. The purpose of the amendment was to allow SSID to use some of the grant funds to bridge the period between the expiration of the old grant and the beginning of the new one. It was again amended on March 3, 1983 to add \$150,000 and again on January 11, 1984 to add a final \$50,000. The total amount obligated for the life of the grant was \$276,000.

The stated purposes of the grant were; to expand existing hatchery facilities to increase current fresh water fish production; to establish a system of information gathering and analysis to be used as baseline data for a future nationwide fish production program; and to promote improved communication and coordination among participating agencies (SSID, Peace Corps, INDOTEC and FUDECO) in the development of aquaculture.

II. Inputs:

Over the life of the project AID funds in the total amount of \$249,360 were disbursed. SSID, the Peace Corps, INDOTEC and FUDECO contributed services.

III. Accomplishments:

The project proved that fish production can be a viable activity in an area where fish has not traditionally been a regular item in the diet of the population. Fish now is readily consumed and production is expanding, albeit within a limited area.

An unexpected accomplishment of the project was that a group of 20 university students, majoring in biology and pisciculture joined together to commercially exploit some 60 ponds which they

decided to build and manage.

IV. Achievement of Purpose:

Existing hatchery facilities were indeed expanded during the life of this project. The other 2 purposes as well were, in part, satisfied. The Missions final internal evaluation of the project made the following recommendations:

1. That the pond exploitation be limited to a maximum of 2 farmers. Optimally, each farmer ought to manage his own pond. It was evident that the quality of management of the ponds decreased with an increase in the number of owners. As the responsibilities are dissipated, there is less follow through and the output decreases.

2. That a revised format be used to record and tabulate the harvesting data to facilitate analysis and the drawing of conclusions and the making of recommendations. Records are kept on each farmer for; the dates the ponds are stocked, the date and amount of fish harvested, and the amount of fish sold. The data is on handwritten sheets and there is no compilation of data and no sign of any analytical work done with this data.

3. In regard to the third objective, the Peace Corps continues to participate actively in the project by providing 2 volunteers. Cooperative Agreements were signed with INDOTEC and the relationship was maintained until 1984. INDOTEC made available its laboratory facilities, biologists, and four 100 m² ponds for experimenting with Tilapi and Carp, and water quality. After 1984 INDOTEC dropped out of the program. The relationship with FUDECO continues to be positive. Together with FUDECO, SSID built three 300 m² ponds to experiment with feed and fertilizer and fingerling production. FUDECO held a total of 7 training courses through 1984 with a participation of 270 farmers. Among these farmers are 5 who act as extension agents and are now able to produce fish independently.

The training courses covered the following topics; sexing, feeding, fertilizing, use of fish in daily diet, demonstrations made by nutritionist, yield and pond management, and smoking and curing of fish.

4. That after the second or third harvest, fingerlings be sold to the farmers at a price which would cover SSID's production costs.

Once a pond is harvested, SSID provides the fingerlings to restock the pond. The evaluators suggested that SSID charge for the fingerlings for the restocking. This would help SSID to

cover costs and would teach the farmer a lesson in private enterprise.

V. Lessons Learned:

The project demonstrated that with proper motivation, farmers are willing to convert some of their land into fish ponds and engage in fish raising to improve their own diet and to increase their cash earnings.

There were too many implementing agencies involved in this project. This was a small PVO activity and burdening the implementation with coordination among 4 distinct agencies was too much.

Clearance

ARD: L Laird: LL date: 3/25/91
 CON: K LeBlanc: KL date: 4/2/91
 PRG: T Connell: TC date: 4/2/91
 PDS: R Mathia: (in draft) date: 3/14/91

Drafted: D. Robertson: 3-14-91: PDS:
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