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MALAWI SELF HELP RURAL PIPED WATER PROJECT

612-0207

Project Assistance Completion Report (PACR)

1. Project Purpose

To assist the Government of Malawi (GOM) in its rural piped water program which, in turn, will provide safe water to a significant percentage of Malawi's rural population.

2. Background

The Project Assistance Completion Date (PACD) of the project was December 31, 1988 and the Terminal Disbursement Date (TDD) was September 30, 1989. At the time of writing the close out report for the project, both dates were well past.

In 1980, USAID agreed to provide the GOM Ministry of Works (MOW) a total of \$6,000,000 for support of the water program through 1985 (subsequently extended to December 1988). The USAID grant, however, strengthened the then-existing water program by incorporating into it a Hygiene Education and Sanitation Promotion (HESP) component to be implemented by the Ministry of Health (MOH). The HESP component was responsible for promoting improved latrines, washing slabs and a variety of behavioral practices intended to maximize the health benefits resulting from the improved water supplies.

3. Accomplishments

By the end of the project, the MOW with USAID financing had undertaken 22 new schemes serving 314,000 people (exceeding significantly the design population of 241,000), while the MOH had provided HESP services reaching an estimated 270,000 people. USAID mid-term (1983) and final (1986) project evaluations found the program in both ministries to be effectively implemented and,

in general, to have achieved more than anticipated by the Project Paper
See below for details of each scheme:

<u>SCHEME</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>REGION</u>	<u>ESTIMATED*</u> <u>POPULATION</u>	<u>YEAR</u> <u>COMPL.</u>
Liwonde	Machinga	South	23,000	1983
Kasanje/Nanyangu	Ntcheu	Central	54,000	1983
Iponga	Karonga	North	5,600	1983
Chitipa & Extensions	Chitipa	North	46,000	1987
Mwanza	Chikwawa	South	40,000	1987
Chimaliro (Champhira N.)	Mzimba	North	24,000	1984
Zumulu	Machinga	South	23,500	1984
Mwansambo/Kasakula	Ntchisi	Central	25,000	1984
Misuku	Chitipa	North	3,700	1984
Mirala	Machinga	South	13,000	1985
Makwawa	Zomba	South	16,000	1985
Chimaliro S. (Champhira S.)	Mzimba	North	32,000	1987
Zomba West	Zomba	South	60,000	1987
Msaka	Mzimba	North	3,000	1987
Mwansambo/Mwadzama	Ntchisi	Central	18,000	1987
Augmentation (rehabilitation)	Mulanje	South	N/A	1988
Lifutazi	Nkhata Bay	North	11,000	1987
Mulanje Southwest	Mulanje	South	<u>24,000</u>	1988
	SUB-TOTAL		421,800	

* Based on 1977 Population Census

A particular interest was the development within rural communities of widespread demand for HESP services as well as water supply services. Although HESP had received only 5 per cent of the original USAID grant, MOH has now significantly improved their provision of focused hygiene and sanitation guidance to rural communities. Moreover, both the MOH and the MOW are pleased with the interministerial involvement created under the USAID grant and both have expressed strong interest in expanding the HESP component in order to fully complement the well established water program.

Project Inputs

USAID

PROJECT ELEMENT	ELEMENT DESCRIPTION	OBLIG. TO DATE	EARMARKS TO DATE	COMMIT. TO DATE	EXPEND. TO DATE
	TOTALS	5,704,416	5,704,416	5,704,416	5,704,416
01	CONSTRUCTION	4,983,075	4,983,075	4,983,075	4,983,075
02	MONITORING	299,598	299,598	299,598	299,598
03	COORD. & EVAL.	421,743	421,743	421,743	421,743

Government of Malawi

The contributions by GOM and villages in the USAID-assisted project is \$2 million, of which the villagers contributed \$1,633,000 for installation and maintenance of the systems. Villages have provided local infrastructure (water tap and health committees), labor (all the trenching for pipes), and maintenance of aprons, slabs and plumbing hardware. USAID financing has paid for pipes and non-expendable equipment (e.g. vehicles) and for some recurring costs (e.g. personnel) MOW and MOH.

Expansion of Services

Construction of New Water Schemes

It is estimated that over 1,000,000 rural inhabitants could be served by gravity-fed piped schemes in Malawi. A list of 15 high priority projects (fourteen new schemes with a design population of 245,000 and one augmentation project involving the replacement of deterioratingbestos-cement pipes in an old water system (Namitambo) with new PVC pipes) have been proposed for USAID financing under the new bilateral

health project Promoting Health Interventions for Child Survival (PHICS). The project will support the cost of TA, in-country training, commodities, some operating expenses and support the cost of a community based maintenance of rural water supplies study which is critical to the operation and maintenance of the rural water schemes.

b. Hygiene Education and Sanitation Promotion

Under the new bilateral Health Project PHICS, HESP activities will be expanded in Malawi. To do this, PHICS will support in part the salaries of four additional senior professionals, one to serve at headquarters and three to act as regional HESP coordinators, 10 supervisors, 50 Health Assistants (HAs), and 250 Health Surveillance Assistants (HSAs) during the life of the Project. This staffing level will allow the MOH to reasonably expand HESP services to the rural population. In addition to promoting the use of water and latrines for health, HESP will assist in the construction of washing slabs near rural water supply taps and latrine slabs.