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PA-ABD-352
74189
ACTION MEMORANDUM FOR THE MISSION DIRECTOR, USAID/MALAWI

From: Stephen T. Norton, Chief, PID Division *SM*

Date: April 15, 1991

Subject: Grant for Phalombe Disaster Assistance

ACTION: You are requested to approve a \$340,000 emergency grant to the Government of Malawi to assist in the rehabilitation of some of the rural water supply systems affected by the disaster in Phalombe.

DISCUSSION:

A. Background

On March 10, 1991 at 8:00 a.m. the Phalombe Plains in Malawi's Mulanje District were hit by a severe rock avalanche/flash floods originating from Michesi Hills and Mulanje Mountain due to incessant heavy rains on 8th and 9th March which saturated the residual rock material and fractured rock. The water also increased lubrication along fissures and fractures due to increased pore fluid pressure. This was compounded by the fact that rock mass and residual cover were resting at slope angles greater than the angle of repose, i.e. 35 degrees. Consequently, and due to the gravitational pull, there was an instantaneous downhill movement of large boulders and residual rock material. The pressure relief at the source resulted in releases of masses of underground water from the hills which further facilitated the movement and added water to the already existing flash flood conditions.

The rock avalanche/flash floods have either swept away or buried under the thick rock/mud deposits human beings, houses, livestock, crops and vegetation. It also deposited huge rock boulders and tree trunks as well as huge quantities of mud as it crossed the nearly flat land areas such as the Phalombe Trading Center. Similar such events have taken place at Chiringa and Naminjiwa. The Government of Malawi soon after declared the Phalombe Plains a disaster area.

Following the disaster, the Government set up a team to assess the nature of the damage and to estimate the cost of emergency assistance for the area. The team, under the Chairmanship of the Regional Administrator (South), determined the following:

B. Total Area Affected

It is estimated that over 300 square kilometers have been affected by the rock avalanche/flash floods. The distribution of the villages so far identified to have been affected is as follows:

<u>Traditional Authority</u>	<u>Villages</u>
Mkhumba	Chabuka, Kalinde, Mukaki, Nasiyaya, Mpini, Naminjiwa, Sombani, Mbembembe, Mikomwa, Kalinde, Thuruwe, Plaloni and Nampinga.
Nazombe	Mpaliya, Sukasanje, Mwezule, Operiwa (Nambiti area), Namsanya, Ziduba/Chitekesa, Ndungunya, Mwalala, Chiringa, Mwatole and Chiduba.
Phalombe Urban	The Phalombe Trading Center and Bokosi Village.

In addition to these villages, the following have been identified but not yet grouped per Traditional Authority: Kachali, Nambote, Kumpeluya, Mwalabe, Kalima, Beni and Mkaki. Also, Kambenje Village in T/A Mkanda outside Phalombe is affected.

C. Total Population Affected

It is estimated that the total population of Phalombe Sub-district in 1990 was 240,000. Preliminary estimates indicate that about 19,320 farm families have been affected variously by the disaster which, taking an average family size of 4.4, gives a total affected population of 85,000.

D. Extent of Damage

The landslide has resulted in a substantial number of deaths and injuries, and damage to the socio-economic infrastructure. The preliminary estimate is that 50,000 of the local population have been made homeless. It is evident that the dimension and extent of the disaster is beyond the capacity of the Government of Malawi. International assistance is urgently needed to cope with the requirement to replenish the Government resources already used and to cover the unmet needs for both emergency, medium and long-term periods. The emergency grant, therefore, will specifically assist in one component of this disaster relief effort, i.e., the re-establishment of the rural piped water schemes.

E. Water Supply

A lot of work has been done with respect to the water supply system since the disaster occurred. Specifically, the Ministry of Works immediately started trucking clean water to Phalombe and an international NGO made temporary connections to get water into a holding tank. The Health Surveillance Assistants and the Village Health Volunteers organized chlorination of unsafe water sources in several centers. Two boreholes were drilled at Phalombe and Nalingula School.

The Government team proposed that the plan for the emergency short-term phase of the disaster relief effort should include the Phalombe urban area with regard to temporary piped water supply, emergency groundwater supply, rehabilitation of 10 old boreholes and drilling of at least 5 new boreholes.

For the medium term, it was proposed that 4 rural piped water schemes be repaired, 28 old boreholes be rehabilitated and the Phalombe major rural piped water scheme be repaired and rehabilitated. For the long term, the Phalombe urban water supply system will be rehabilitated.

Before the disaster there were 5 rural piped water schemes serving a total of 280,000 people in the following areas: Phalombe minor, Phalombe major, Migowi, Chiringa and Sombani. A sixth scheme, Phalombe urban piped water, supplied the trading center and Phalombe Secondary School.

F. Grant Assistance

The Grant funds will be used for the construction, reconstruction and emergency maintenance of the following 4 rural piped water schemes: Phalombe minor, Migowi, Chiringa and Sombani.

The funds will enable the Government of Malawi, through the Ministry of Works, to procure the required pipes, fittings and supplies from local and, if necessary, regional suppliers. USAID/Malawi may, at the Government's request, procure the required materials on behalf of the Ministry of Works directly from the suppliers through the issuance of purchase orders or contracts. The Government, however, may purchase the materials with their own resources and then submit claims along with evidence of payment to USAID for reimbursement. Appropriate A.I.D. documents will be issued subsequent to the issuance of the Grant to enable USAID and/or the Government to procure the required materials. Since this is an emergency disaster assistance activity, A.I.D.'s source and origin procurement regulations are not applicable. Additional information on the implementation of the Project will be conveyed through Project Implementation Letters.

Section 110(A) of the U.S. Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, does not apply because of the emergency nature of these funds. However, the Grantee contribution to the Project will be "in-kind" and consist primarily of technical assistance and labor provided by staff of the Ministry of Works and the residents of the project areas, and materials and supplies utilized in the rehabilitation efforts.

The Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) has approved this emergency assistance and provided the necessary fiscal data.

This assistance will be provided in addition to the \$25,000 already granted to four non-governmental organizations in Malawi under the Ambassador's disaster relief authority.

RECOMMENDATION: That under the authority delegated to you under Section 5, paragraph B of Delegation of Authority No. 551 (Revised), you approve the subject grant to the Government of Malawi and concur in the signing of the grant by the U.S. Ambassador on behalf of A.I.D. by signing below.

Approved: Carol A. Sealey

Disapproved: _____

Date: 15 April 1981

4.

Clearances: RBamin, CONT: Uganda 4/15/91 RP
CBrown, RLA/REDSO: Nairobi 09108
OFDA, AID/W: State 103591
KRRikard, DD: Chloroquine

Doc:0837C

LIMITED SCOPE GRANT AGREEMENT

Between the United States of America, acting through
the Agency for International Development (A.I.D.)

and

The Republic of Malawi
(Grantee)

1. Project Title:
Phalombe Disaster
Assistance

2. A.I.D. Project Number:
907-1037

The above named Parties hereby mutually agree to carry out the Project described in this Agreement in accordance with (1) the terms of this Agreement, including any annexes attached hereto, and (2) any general agreement between the two governments regarding economic or technical cooperation.

3. Amount of A.I.D. Grant:
\$340,000

4. Grantee
Contribution to
the Project:
See Annex A

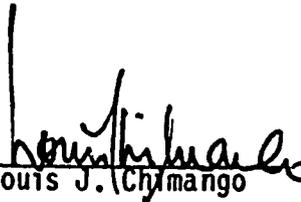
5. Project Assistance
Completion Date:
October 31, 1991

6. This Agreement consists of this title page and Annexes A and B

7. For the Grantee

8. For the Government of the United
States of America

SIGNATURE:


Louis J. Chimango

SIGNATURE:


George A. Traill III

TITLE:

Minister of Finance

TITLE:

Ambassador

DATE:

16th April, 1991

DATE:

16/4/91

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ANNEX A
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

BACKGROUND

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THE PROJECT

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The funds provided herein will enable the Government of Malawi, through the Ministry of Works, to procure the required pipes, fittings and supplies from local and, if necessary, regional suppliers. USAID/Malawi may, at the Government's request, procure the required materials on behalf of the Ministry of Works directly from the suppliers through the issuance of purchase orders or contracts. The Government, however, may purchase the materials with their own resources and then submit claims along with evidence of payment to USAID for reimbursement. As described in Annex B, appropriate A.I.D. documents will be issued subsequent to the issuance of the Grant to enable USAID and/or the Government to procure the required materials. Since this is an emergency disaster assistance activity, A.I.D.'s source and origin procurement regulations are not applicable. Consequently, paragraph F. of Annex B (Project Agreement Standard Provisions Annex) is hereby deleted.

Section 110(A) of the U.S. Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, does not apply because of the emergency nature of these funds. However, the Grantee contribution to the Project will be "in-kind" and consist primarily of technical assistance and labor provided by staff of the Ministry of Works and the residents of the project areas, and materials and supplies utilized in the rehabilitation efforts. Therefore, the first sentence of paragraph B.(2) of Annex B is hereby deleted.

Additional information on the implementation of the Project will be conveyed through Project Implementation Letters, in accordance with paragraph O. of Annex B.

Fiscal Data

Project No: 907-1037
Appropriation: 72-11X1035
Budget Plan Code: JFDX-91-29612-HG41
RCN: M210142
Obl. Doc. No.: LSGA-907-1037-A-00-1001
Amount: \$340,000
Reference: 91 State 111007

