



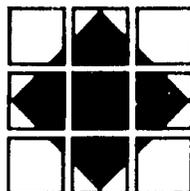
REPUBLIC OF ZAIRE

DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

***THIRD ANNUAL REPORT
NOVEMBER 1989 - DECEMBER 1990***

*USAID/ZAIRE AREA FOOD AND MARKET
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (660-0102)*

CONTRACT NO. AFR-660-0102-C-8002-00



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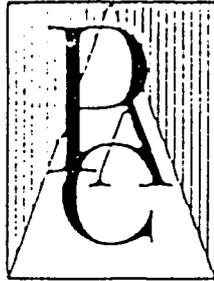
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AREA FOOD AND MARKET DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
(660-0102)
KIKWIT - BANDUNDU
3rd ANNUAL REPORT
NOVEMBER 1989- DECEMBER 1990

I. Introduction

The Third Annual Report covers the period from November 1, 1989 through December 31, 1990. The reporting periods were altered during the second quarterly report of 1990 to reflect coordination with the Government of Zaire reporting schedule and the calendar year.

1. Marketing and Processing Division (MPD)

A. Petit Kasai Market Site (PKMS)

The site at Petit Kasai was selected as a model rural market because of its convenient location along the paved road, the agricultural production, population and the number of rural markets in the area, among others. It is a center for commercial activities among many "collectivites". The land acquisition took place in June of 1990 and the construction began in the third quarter of the same year. The project will provide storage facilities, a market information system, communications facilities, savings, and credit access. This rural pilot market site will be used as a model for future market sites in the project area.

B. Cooperative pour Elevage, Agriculture et Artisanat d'Ekubi (CEAE)

The project assisted the CEAE in the construction of a rice processing center, the acquisition of a rice hulling machine and training for the use of this equipment. The trial for the processing activities started during the last quarter of 1990 with rice milling totals of 153 tons.

C. Project d'Alimentation et de Developpement Rural (PADR)

The project provided PADR with a wooden boat for its river marketing activities on the Lubwe river. PADR undertook two trials with the boat before being delegated the management responsibility of the boat by the project. The project also assisted PADR to make business contacts with a Kinshasa based company for the sale of 60 tons of cassava.

D. Centre Agricole de Lusekele (CAL)

During the third quarter of 1990, the project provided CAL with an 8 ton truck for the evacuation of agricultural produce and improvement of its marketing activities in the area.

E. Centre d'Expansion Rurale (CER) - Laba and Mbeo

All marketing activities of these CERs were conducted through "Combinat Bilim" (COMBILIM), the marketing branch of DPP.

F. Other Marketing Activities

Post-Harvest grain storage, a cassava soaker and solar grain dryer were the topics of Mr. Ted Wittenberger's consultancy during the first quarter of 1990.

2. Production Division (PD)

The PD's interventions related to the demonstration and multiplication fields of improved seeds and cassava cuttings with the NGOs, follow up visits, environmental resource management, and Women in Development.

3. Training Division (TD)

The TD activities involved extension training, visual aides, Women in Development, and motorcycle training for extension and marketing agents.

4. Research and Information Division (RID)

The RID was involved with a survey of the project extension system, compiling baseline data for the project, a baseline study for Petit Kasai, project implementation review, staff computer training, and Women in Development.

5. General Administration (GA)

There were T/A team member changes during the second and third quarters of the year. The contract was extended for one year. The project was honored by several visits, including the USAID Director and Deputy Director. The Project Implementation Unit (PIU) continued to hold regular meeting for planning project implementation activities.

Details for the above are covered in the following pages.

II. Background

1. Project Goals and Objectives

The purpose of the USAID/Zaire Area Food and Market Development Project is to improve agricultural production, processing, and marketing in Central Bandundu. This serves to achieve a broader project goal of raising the standard of living of the almost one million Zairians who populate the project area (34,000 square kilometers, the size of Belgium). More specifically, the project's objectives are:

- A. To increase the efficiency and effectiveness of rural markets and marketing systems.
- b. To increase the productivity of the individual farmer through improved extension services and training of extension agents.
- c. To increase the institutional capacities necessary for sustained economic growth in agriculture in the project area.

2. Approach and Strategy

The project is furthering these objectives through a two pronged approach and strategy. One prong is marketing development, which goes together with production and extension activities. The other prong involves conducting marketing, production and extension in concert with other project activities to build an institutional framework within which practical development can take place. Some of these interventions take the form of trials. The impact of these interventions can be seen fairly quickly and can be quantified. However, other long-term interventions are carried out over a longer period of time which involves a longer lag-time between implementation and impact. The impact will likely be less visible and less easily quantified, though not less important.

3. Reorientation of the project focus.

During the last quarter of the year, USAID and GOZ were discussing the redesign of project activities with the focus on marketing. Ideas and constraints were exchanged between the two parties with the aim of having a common vision. The expected goal and purpose under the marketing focus will be to improve food security and contribute to broad-based market oriented economic growth through development of more efficient, sustainable agricultural marketing systems which will involve the following:

- A. Reduce the marketing margin for cassava from central Bandundu.
- B. Increase availability of food supply at economical price to both rural and urban consumers.
- C. Increase income of rural food crop producers in the project area.
- D. Increase availability of consumer goods at lower price for rural food producers in the project area.
- E. Reduce malnutrition in targeted groups.

The Petit Kasai Market was developed as a pilot site where most of the marketing activities will be centered in support of the new project marketing focus. Lessons learned from this intervention will enable the project to replicate these marketing activities to other selected sites within the project area.

III. PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVING PROJECT OBJECTIVES

1. Marketing and Processing Division (MPD)

A. Petit-Kasai Rural Market Site

Petit-Kasai was chosen as a model rural market site because of its convenient location. It is a center for commercial marketing activity among many "collectivites" and has a small market. It is also along a paved road with merchants passing on their way to and from Kinshasa. Produce can be stored, sold and evacuated to Kinshasa easily. Petit-Kasai is surrounded by 12 rural market sites, 4 of which could be centralized into the existing/expanded Petit-Kasai site.

The project will provide storage facilities, a market information system, communications facilities, savings and credit access, management services, and wholesale and retail services. This rural pilot market site will be used as a model for future market sites.

On June 13, 1990, the project received the approval of the local administrative authority for two hectares of land for the construction of the market facilities as one of the GOZ's contributions for this intervention. Following the acquisition of the land, site preparation began during the same month. A construction firm in Kinshasa, Tubetra-Zaire, was contracted to provide technical assistance and supervise construction of the facility.

In the third quarter of 1990, construction began with the land leveled in preparation for the foundation. Reinforced concrete support footings were in place and cured by November when Tubetra-Zaire was able to mount the steel hangar. The completed hangar engineering design was approved by USAID engineers, with a Tubetra-Zaire guarantee for twenty years. Parking and access roads presented a problem due to rainwater drainage requirements. A Project 098 roads engineer advised on a design to alleviate the problem which included canals to divert the rainwater. Temporary canals were put in place along with temporary cisterns to hold the excess water. Seven steel shipping containers were transported to the site for use as storage, able to hold approximately 125 sacs of cassava per container.

One container will be used as an office for management of the site, housing radio equipment and providing a secure administrative center.

The project and CAL held discussions on CAL's potential interaction with the Petit-Kasai market site, including participation in market information collection, sharing resources and diffusion of resources. CAL agreed in principal, pending the analysis of the cost effectiveness of the operation.

B. Cooperative pour Elevage, Agriculture et Artisanat d'Ekubi (CEAE)

In the first quarter of 1990, construction began on a complex for storage and processing in Ekubi. Plans for the facility include a warehouse, fuel storage facilities and agricultural processing equipment.

Construction of the complex was completed in the third quarter and rice hulling and polishing equipment were installed in the fourth quarter. Official inauguration of the facility by USAID and the Government of Zaire is expected in January, 1991. CEAE staff members received training on the use and care of the rice huller and polisher, along with marketing and management training for operation of the complex.

In the fourth quarter of the year, trial runs of the rice processing equipment were conducted with the project supplying the fuel and lubricant. With a processing capacity of 2,000 kilograms of rice per hour, CEAE milled 153 tons of rice in 386 hours. Total receipts for milling reached 1,702,785 zaires.

Throughout the year, the Marketing and Processing Division assisted with the evacuation of 476 sacs (36 tons) of paddy rice from CEAE Warehouse in Ekubi to the project's warehouse in Kikwit for storage and sale. In addition, 611 sacs (46 tons) of peanuts were evacuated to the transit depot in Kikwit. These interventions had a positive impact on the CEAE's beneficiaries, and have led to the increase of CEAE membership and the expansion of its marketing activities to other surrounding villages and pre-cooperatives.

The project has also provided CEAE with marketing assistance, and connections to the consumers. These have led the CEAE to sign a contract with Bralima Company (a brewery) in Kinshasa and a Trader in Kikwit for a total sale of 844 sacs (12 tons) of unmilled rice, realizing 5,064,000 zaires. CEAE was also able to open a savings account at COOCEC in Kikwit with earnings from rice and peanut sales.

C. **Projet d'Alimentation et de Developpement Rural (PADR)**

PADR is one of the four NGOs the project is assisting. The project provided PADR with a wooden boat from project 660-098 for river marketing activities on the Lubwe river. The Lubwe river marketing trials began in November, 1989 for the evacuation of agricultural produce along the Lubwe river to Dibaya Lubwe. The objectives of the trials were to compare operating costs with revenues and the impact of such a marketing system on the beneficiaries, which is consistent with the project goals and objectives. The earlier findings of the trial were not conclusive. A second trial was initiated and continued until June, 1990, evacuating 49 tons of cassava and 3 tons of peanuts. The project assisted PADR in finding clients to buy its produce, signing a 1,920,000 Zaire contract with NOCAFEX to deliver 800 sacs (60 tons) of cassava to Dibaya-Lubwe for Kinshasa consumers.

The success of the second trial led the project to sign a management policy and procedure (by-laws) document, delegating the management responsibility of the boat to PADR. However, the project maintained the title of the boat, and the follow up right for the end use of this equipment.

D. **Centre Agricole de Lusekele (CAL)**

CAL received a new 8 ton truck in the second quarter of 1990, for the purpose of enhancing its marketing activities through the evacuation of agricultural produce. Technoserve, a US Kinshasa based NGO, was commissioned to undertake a study to assist CAL to find the most efficient uses for the truck, including constraints. The recommendations include gathering market information, identifying constraints, assembling produce from the local farmers, and coordinating marketing activities in the area.

During the last quarter, CAL's truck evacuated a total of 29 tons of peanuts, 30 tons of coffee, and 3 tons of cassava to markets in Kinshasa. The balance sheet for vehicle usage through December shows a positive balance of 2,642,785 zaires. This positive balance may increase with the completion of the Petit-Kasai market connection, reducing travel time and costs to Kinshasa as well as the possibility of increasing CAL's market area.

E. Centre d'Expansion Rurale (CER) - Laba and Mbeo

Prior to the fourth quarter of 1990, all marketing activities of CER were conducted through "Combinat Bilim" (COMBILIM), the marketing branch of DPP. Through a change in policy from DPP, CER - Laba and Mbeo will now be allowed to conduct their own marketing activities. The project will monitor the transitions, provide assistance and follow-up.

F. Other Marketing Activities

a. Post-Harvest Grain Storage Activities

Mr. Ted Wittenberger, Post-Harvest Specialist, conducted an informal survey of post-harvest storage activities. His emphasis was on the importance of on-farm and off-farm long-term storage and how it relates to the trading and merchant sector. Mr. Wittenberger produced a summary of storage practices for cassava, maize, millet, paddy rice and squash seeds. The conclusions indicate that kitchen storage and smoke-drying, the most common approach to storage at the village level, would be acceptable if there are improved sanitation practices. Outdoor receptacles are very susceptible to infestation and/or rats, and could be managed better.

Mr. Wittenberger stressed a three-pronged approach to reduce post-harvest losses: prototypes, technical training, and management training. A prototype granary has been designed, constructed and tested. Unfortunately, the granary was attacked by borers and will require additional testing of materials to alleviate this problem. Technical training for NGO extension personnel and Peace Corps Volunteers was recommended, focusing on improvement in harvesting, drying, storage, and processing at the producers'

level. Management training of personal and community storage facilities is needed at market sites and cooperatives to reduce post-harvest losses.

b. Cassava Soaker and Solar Grain Dryer

Mr. Wittenberger developed a prototype cassava soaker and solar dryer at Masamba in Kikwit III during the first quarter of 1990. Tests of this appropriate technology resulted in a cassava soaking time reduction from 90 hours to 36 hours, with drying time reduced from 120 hours to 72 hours.

This process created a more marketable, better quality, higher value product. Eight tons were soaked and dried. Modelled after the prototype developed by Ted Wittenberger, the Marketing and Processing Division completed construction of an "autobus" model solar dryer in Ekubi for drying cassava. The Marketing and Processing Division also used the same model for construction of a cassava soaking and drying complex for PADR at Niendongo.

Early in the year, the project assisted in the installation and testing of an appropriate technology, pedal-powered flour mill for cassava at Masamba Agriculture Center. The trials were suspended pending resolution of an inadequate ventilation problem.

2. Production Division (PD)

A. Demonstration / Multiplication Fields

Season B began in the first quarter of the year with 26 new sites. New varieties of improved seeds and cassava cuttings were introduced along with improved farming techniques. Improved Cassava cuttings (F100), about 21,600 meters, were distributed to EPIF/CAL and PADR, and 75 kilograms of rice (R66) were distributed to CER in Laba. In DPP, 18 multiplication and demonstration fields were planted in 12 villages with improved varieties of peanuts, soybeans, cowpeas and corn. In PADR, 6 demonstration and multiplication fields of cassava were planted in 6 villages. The project also assisted and monitored CAL's planting of 48 demonstration and multiplication fields in 48 villages with improved peanuts, corn, cassava and

cowpeas. Four additional demonstration and seed multiplication fields were planted at CAL with cowpeas and peanuts. Yield data were being recorded for all this production.

Season A, 1990-1991, production activities also included improved seed and cassava cutting distribution. Twenty-five sites were planned with 4 participating NGOs: CAL, CEAE, PADR, and DPP. Bicycle distribution is expected to help extension agents monitor the sites. Based on plans and projections, seed distributions for Season A began in August. Total distributions of 1,673 kilograms of corn, 2,025 kilograms of peanuts, 607 kilograms of rice, 185 kilograms of cowpeas, and 178 kilograms of soybeans were made to extension workers from the 4 NGOs. During Season A, 9 multiplication fields were prepared at CAL and on-farm trials were used. Collaborating farmers numbered 82 on 82 trial fields covering 3.28 hectares, using soybean, peanut and corn crops.

Demonstration and/or multiplication in Season A, 1990-1991, with CAL, DPP, CEAE, and PADR totaled 328 fields covering 75 hectares. 3,254 farmers collaborated during the season, using improved varieties of cassava, corn, peanuts, cowpeas, soybeans and rice.

Further, demonstration and multiplication for cassava was hindered because of an increase in the price of cassava cuttings from the suppliers (SENARAV). The planned purchase of 40,000 meters of cassava cuttings was not possible, so the approach of diffusion of improved materials from farmer to farmer was used. It should be noted that during the quarter, the project encouraged each NGO to increase the size of their fields to allow greater yield at the end of the season. The advice was well taken by the NGOs, the project providing technical assistance and follow up visits. The goal was to make these NGOs self sufficient in improved seeds and cuttings.

The project also assisted the NGOs with a recuperation plan for seeds and cuttings at the end of the season. To date, 27,800 meters of cassava cuttings and a good quantity of improved seeds have been obtained via this method.

The exclusion of the Production and Extension Division as part of the project component and the focus of project activities on marketing precluded the follow up of production activities and the collection of harvest data for the season.

B. Feedback on Objectives

As part of its follow up field visits, the project received feedback from farmers, extension workers, and villagers who used new farming techniques and improved seeds. Rice, corn, cassava and peanuts were evaluated. With the exception of cassava, all yields were higher using new varieties. Taste was also rated higher than the local varieties. Corn milling was more difficult with the new varieties and storage of corn and cassava created more problems than local varieties.

Additional multiplication fields with the NGOs was discussed in line with the revised work plan. Improved varieties will be planted with project assistance in providing seeds, cuttings and technical expertise. It is anticipated that existing NGOs should be self-sufficient in seeds and cuttings by the end of the season harvest 1990-1991. Hence, any extra improved seeds and cuttings generated through this plan will be used to assist new NGOs.

Discussions were held with CEAE farmers regarding the objective of project multiplication fields (consciousness-raising). These discussions centered on the importance of keeping a portion of peanuts distributed (626 kg) for multiplication purposes in subsequent seasons.

The project identified 55 farmers in CAL who are willing to try improved varieties of cowpeas, peanuts, and soybeans during Season B. Project multiplication fields in Kingulu established a trial comparing 5 new varieties of cassava as recommended by SENARAV. Two varieties of cassava from DPP and Laba areas were collected for thorough evaluation by SENARAV.

C. Environmental Resource Management/Tree Nurseries

The project initiated discussions with USAID for a proposed nitrogen-fixing tree project. The emphasis includes environmental resource management/reforestation to counter the slash and burn techniques employed in farming.

During the second quarter, the project established tree nurseries at Masamba Agricultural Center and in Kikwit III. Seeds for three types of trees are being used, Acacia, Delonix, and Agave Trees. In the third quarter of 1990, eight tree nursery sites were established through EPIF/CAL, CAL, PADR, and DPP. An additional six sites are planned. Approximately 16,400 trees were planted in villages through the NGO extension system. Some trees were also planted at the Petit Kasai Market Site.

Seven training sessions on tree nurseries were held with extension workers from the above groups. A technical bulletin for reforestation/tree nurseries was distributed and used in the training sessions.

D. Women In Development

Catherine Reid with the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) continued to develop and extend improved practices and techniques for and with women farmers. Plans have been made with CAL to improve their infrastructure to accommodate additional training needs. Based on the success of EPIF/CAL, proposals were generated to model expansion into EPIF/DPP. The goals of EPIF/DPP are to refine an extension approach directly for women with sensitivity to their needs. Training for staff and extension agents in gender issues is planned. A pilot activity in Lakas and Ipamu parishes has begun, adapted to meet the specific needs and abilities of the area and DPP, with the project to serve as advisor. SENARAV responded to a request to participate in the WID program by providing 2300 meters of cuttings for EPIF/CAL.

EPIF ended its intervention at CAL and started to expand its activities with women in the Idiofa area under "Developpement Progres Populaire" (DPP). A team from the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), contractor for EPIF activities, visited DPP. The project provided technical assistance to EPIF in the area of extension, management and negotiation in setting up women's

development activities at DPP. The focus was on the inclusion of women in program interventions, including the use of new farming techniques and seed varieties, and appropriate technologies, such as a hand mill for cassava and maize. The ICRW team was impressed and recommended expansion to other NGOs, using EPIF/CAL accomplishments as a model.

E. Craftsmen/Artisans

The project introduced activities designed to improve the quality and availability of locally made agricultural tools and equipment. During the first quarter, trials were completed for blacksmith technic improvements with the objective of utilizing appropriate technologies. In the second quarter of 1990, the project gave training and materials to four artisans at CEAE for the production of watering cans, pails, spades, rakes, machetes, hoes and wheelbarrows. These items are sold to cooperative members. Assistance in technology management is also being provided. During the third and fourth quarters, the project expanded its support to the local artisans. Tools and equipment for tinsmiths and blacksmiths at CAL, DPP, PADR, and CEAF were purchased locally. The recipients of the tools and equipment had received training in Bas-Zaïre in 1989. The purchases were made locally at prices comparable to those in the U.S. and substantial savings in shipping costs were realized. The total value of this equipment equals 9,828,541 zaires.

F. Status of the Extension System

The Production Division completed a status report of the DPP extension system as follow-up to a 1989 study and recommendations. DPP has demonstrated improvements, such as upgrading the quality of extension personnel, providing transportation for agents, increased frequency of agent visits, improved standard of living in local villages, and regular in-service training sessions for personnel. Future recommendations were made involving extension personnel, increased women involvement, and participatory approaches.

G. Technical Bulletins

The project developed several technical bulletins for extension agents to assist outreach to local farmers. In the first quarter of 1990, Craig Smith, the Project Agronomist, and Dougou Keita, RAV's Extension Specialist, drafted a bulletin for improving cassava production, first in a planned series. Two additional technical bulletins were ready for printing and distribution.

3. Training Division (TD)

A. Extension Training

An integral aspect of project activities, Training complemented other project actions. This includes marketing training for NGO staff members, training project staff in management techniques, a team building workshop for project staff, and establishing a training plan as part of the 1990 work plan. Overseas technical training also took place during the last quarter of the year. Hence, Mr. Ngoy Hamadi, the project Production and Extension Chief, and Ms. Kuma Kuma, Director of CER-Laba, were among 8 attending an Agricultural Extension Training Program in Israel. Effective extension among rural populations was emphasized through classroom discussions, debates and visits to Kibbutzes.

Bulletins and extension training manuals have been developed as an aid to the training process. Six manuals in French and Kikongo were produced for NGO agriculture agents by Wendy Ascher, Extension Specialist, and five manuals on grain storage activities were prepared by Ted Wittenberger, Post-Harvest Specialist. Bulletins generated by the Training Division include technical information for fending off insects and rodents, prevention of rotting and the proper storage of beans, corn, peanuts and millet, and the construction of tree nurseries.

Specific training held throughout the year include three management and cooperative administration training programs for depot managers and extension agents from CEAE-Ekubi, PADR and Peace Corps Volunteers. The objectives of the training included ways to organize cooperatives, improve administrative procedures, and enhance financial management and accounting systems.

The major emphasis was on improving overall management and organization of cooperatives. Six months following the training, the project provided follow-up and monitoring. Lusekele harvest training was conducted by Dr. Craig Smith and Cit. Kingidila, project staff member, for CAL extension agents in Lusekele area with the objective of improving installation and harvest of produce for ease of data collection and comparisons.

Preparation for a training program for directors, managers and accountants of savings and loan institutions "Cooperative d'Epargne et des Credits" (COOPECs) began. An agricultural training seminar in collaboration with OPEZ, a private training group in Kinshasa, was held during the third quarter of the year. The focus was on agricultural resource management. Seven NGOs and the project staff participated. Themes covered were soil treatment and conservation, farming techniques, farm labor management, animal traction, managing the harvest, marketing and accounting.

Training in extension methods was conducted for 24 agents from DPP. Demonstration plot techniques were discussed and shown. DPP also received agricultural extension training for trainers seminar at Idiofa. The seminar continued for twelve days, led by 3 project staff and one DPP extension agent. Sessions included classroom discussion, audio-visual presentations, experimental methodologies, and a visit to a multiplication field a Mbele-Mukor

B. Visual Aides

Agronomist Dr. Craig Smith began efforts to produce posters and materials for extension and marketing outreach. Local artists were contacted to sketch pictures and illustrations. The project thrust was to complement extension activities with visual aides to reinforce the training and reach a broader audience. During the first quarter of 1990, Wendy Ascher, Extension Specialist and Cit. Kaziama, Agronomist, conducted a visual aides training session for 30 CAL and Peace Corps extension agents in Lusekele. A manual was produced and written in Kikongo with 30 drawings, emphasizing how to improve extension activities using visual aides. Mr. Kaziama also conducted a session at CEAE in Ekubi.

During the last quarter of the year, the project presented a training session with PADR on the use of visual aides in extension activities. Ten extension agents from PADR were in attendance.

C. Women In Development

The Training Division, under the leadership of its Director Mr. Tanda, provided support for a gender issue training session conducted by Ms. Mimi Gaudreau, a training specialist. Organized by EPIF/CAL and Ms. Ascher, the training included 22 individuals from the project, SNV, SENARAV, GTER, COOCEC, and Project 098. Other Women In Development activities involved extension training and team building exercises with CAL staff members.

D. Motorcycle Training

Motorcycle and auto mechanic training was offered to four NGOs; CAL, DPP, PADR, and CEAE. Unfortunately, only two participants attended due to budget constraints. Mechanics from CAL and DPP participated in the July 1990 training for motor vehicle maintenance and repair. Conducted by Cyclor-Kinshasa, the training focused on Yamaha 125 assembly, maintenance and repair. The objective of the training was to prepare them for the motorcycles they will be receiving from the project.

4. Research and Information Division (RID)

A. Personnel

Ms. Wendy Weidner and Ms. Lynette Johnson, Project Information Specialist and Intern, respectively, arrived in the first quarter of the year. Their stay with the project lasted for eight months.

B. Rice Market Survey - Kikwit

During the first quarter of 1990, the Research and Information Division conducted a rice marketing survey in three Kikwit markets. The objectives of the survey were to determine the amount of rice marketed, the sales and consumption in the area, to describe the sellers, and assess the potential for additional rice marketing.

C. Project Extension System

In the second quarter of 1990, the project prepared a survey of the extension system. The goal of the survey was to decide if the extension messages are being received and if new techniques are being adapted through the NGO extension system. The project intends to determine how the NGO extension agents work with farmers, how farmers receive the messages, at what rates are new techniques and seeds being adapted, and what constraints are being experienced by farmers and agents. The project developed 3 questionnaires, collected data on targeted populations, and selected sample size. Thirty-four candidates were tested as enumerators and preparation of logistics for the survey was begun.

The survey questionnaire was administered in the third quarter of the year. Ten enumerators were selected for the shortlist and a training session was conducted for them. In July, a pre-test in the village of Mopulu was conducted, where enumerators were evaluated and six were chosen from the ten. In CAL, DPP, CEAE, and PADR, 31 villages were chosen as the sample. A total of 324 interviews were held, 182 with contact farmers and 142 with non-contact farmers. In August, during the second phase of the survey, the project interviewed 17 extension workers from four NGOs. Following the interviews, the Research and Information Division coded the questionnaires and began analyzing the data, assisted by 2 representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture.

Evaluation of the project's extension system was completed in the fourth quarter of 1990. Data collected from the previous quarter was analyzed. Preliminary results of the survey were discussed with USAID/ARD. The project is preparing a report on the findings, conclusions and recommendations.

D. Baseline Data

During the first quarter, the project published a bulletin "Fiche du Projet" with current information on Project 102's activities and accomplishments. In addition, Mr. Walter West, a consultant and former T/A team member, completed a baseline data synthesis and wrote "Synthesis of Data on Agricultural Production and Marketing".

This document contains information and data on production and marketing, and contributes to the development of a baseline for monitoring and evaluating the project's activities. Out of the baseline data, the project has been able to identify nine new NGOs as potential partners, with the recommendation that the project expand to 2 or 3 new NGOs per year.

E. Petit Kasai Baseline Study

In collaboration with local NGOs, the Pragma Corporation hired Technoserve, a local NGO to undertake a baseline study for the Petit Kasai Market Site. This study was under the supervision of Mr. Nkoy Baumbu, the Project Director, and Mr. Nga-Ambun Kabwasa, the Chief of Party, who provided valuable insight and contribution to the baseline study team. The team was composed of two consultants from Technoserve, Mr. Ebaka Ebongo Ngwa and Mamingi Mfundu Lumbu, Director of Program and Consultant, respectively, and two project staff; Mr. Kilek Gerd and Ntetani Makola, Director of Marketing and Processing Division and from the Research and Information Division, respectively. The latter two were included in order to provide their inputs and to insure the use of their services and experience for future surveys. The objectives of the survey are to gather data in the area and present findings and recommendations for future improvement and interventions.

F. Women In Development

The Research and Information Division completed a baseline study for EPIF/CAL's Women In Development program. The focus was on village activities and household/farming systems. Initial conclusions indicate a high participation rate among women in the village activities and on the farm.

G. Project Implementation Review

The Research and Information Division worked with other project divisions to collect and analyze data for USAID/Kinshasa's Project Implementation Review.

H. Computer Training

Ms. Lynette Johnson conducted a two-week Wordperfect course for 8 project Cadres. She also trained 5 members of the project support staff in Lotus 1-2-3 software. Also in August, Ms. Lee Gwatin from USAID/ PEP/ Kinshasa trained 3 project staff on PROCTITE, a bibliography database system for organizing and tracking documents. The PROCTITE system will be for use in the project library.

5. General Administration (GA)

The Project Implementation Unit (PIU) continued to hold regular meetings leading toward the project management and implementation activities.

During the fourth quarter of 1990, an inventory was prepared of training equipment available for project use and other expendable and non-expendable properties under the contractor's custody. This was part of the annual inventory accounting as required by the contract terms and conditions.

There were personnel changes and consultant services during the year. The project had consultancy services of Mr. Ted Wittenberger, Post-Harvest Specialist, who conducted an informal survey of post-harvest storage activities and Dr. Thomas Fattori, Marketing Specialist, who provided marketing services to CAL and wrote a report on the market development of Petit Kasai.

Mr David Olson, the project Chief of Party, left the project during the first quarter of 1990. Mr. Wade Gregory from Pragma Home Office acted as interim COP for three weeks during the second quarter of the year. His tasks included updating and revising the Project's 1990 work plan. The new Chief of Party, Nga-Ambun Kabwasa, arrived on May 15, 1990 and assumed leadership responsibilities and duties immediately.

Mr. Walter West, (RID) Advisor, was no longer with the project and was replaced by Ms. Wendy Weidner who left the project at the end of her contract in the fourth quarter.

Ms. Wendy Ascher (Extension Specialist), and Dr. Craig Smith (Agronomist) left the project at the end of their contracts in October 31, 1990. Ms. Lynette Johnson left the project also at the end of her assignment in the fourth quarter.

Mr. Fattori returned to the project in September 1990 as a long term Marketing Specialist posted in Kinshasa. The position of Extension Specialist and Agronomist were consolidated to one, and a new T/A team member Mr. Keita Dougou was hired in October 1990 as the Outreach Specialist in the PD. After all these changes, the T/A team members are composed of the following:

Nga-Ambun Kabwasa, Chief of Party

Charles Toby Vaughan, Administrative Specialist

Thomas Fattori, Marketing Specialist

Dougou Keita, Outreach Specialist

With the exception of Mr. Fattori who is based in Kinshasa, the T/A team members are based in Kikwit, the project site.

Pragma's contract was extended for one year.

Several development strategy meetings were held with USAID/ARD and PDO staff, Eric Tollens (USAID Consultant), and project staff regarding the potential of rural market sites. Discussions centered on wholesale markets in Kinshasa, linkages between rural marketing and market towns, and the importance of communication, information and management training. The objective of promoting rural market sites is seen as the decrease of transport costs and marketing time, targeted for rural assemblers and Kinshasa-based traders. Also discussed were linkages with Project 098 and the need for creative credit programs for rural traders and assemblers. In other meetings, DMPCC in Kinshasa and project staff discussed 5 market studies in Kinshasa on retail, wholesale, truck and boat transporters, and city assemblers, while City Train and the project discussed cooperative marketing activities and a transport system for bringing Bandundu produce into Kinshasa.

The project developed the 1991 work plan and local currency budget. The Chief of Party and Project Director met with the Project Officer and the Assistant Project Officer to review the work plan and budget. Both documents were approved by USAID in December 1990. The work plan integrates the four functional divisions: Marketing and Processing, Production and Extension, Research and Information, and Training.

The work plan activities are aimed at interventions with PADR (river trials), CEAE (marketing and processing), CAL (marketing site and services), COOCEC (investment credit), and DPP (demonstration and multiplication fields). Training is to be included in support of all NGO activities.

During the last quarter of 1990, the project prepared a document titled "A Summarized Overview of the Project, Identification of Participating Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the Type of Project Interventions". This document is part of the project library.

In the last quarter of the year, several meetings with Project 098 were held to exchange views on the preparation of an annual plan and to improve collaboration. The issue of counter-part funds was addressed by a follow-up audit by USAID's Office of the Controller, in charge of counter-part funds. The project accounting system was certified as meeting USAID's financial management guidelines.

In the second and third quarter of the year, the new USAID/Zaire Mission Director, Charles Johnson and Deputy Mission Director, Baudouin de Marcken, visited the project site, including Masamba agriculture center and the project depot where produce is stored and marketed. In August, Mr. Kena Mwauke, Secretary General of Animation and Community Development, Ministry of Agriculture, visited the project and went to Ekubi to visit CEAE. Also visiting the project were the Project Officer, Carol Felkel, and the USAID/Zaire Economist, Kifle Negash. They travelled to Idiofa, Laba, Impini, Ekubi, and Petit-Kasai with the COP to see project activities at DPP, CER/Laba, PADR, CEAE, and the market development site. The Assistant Project Officer, Mr. Nkiere Mbo Wassa, also visited the project activities in the field.

In the last quarter of the year, several meetings were held with USAID in Kinshasa with the Project Officer, Contracting Officer, the Controller, and other ARD staff.

The Chief of Party travelled to the Home Office in Falls Church, Virginia for consultation, review, and coordination of project activities during the extension.

During the first quarter, Pragma received approval on contract amendment number two for procurement of the project's commodities. Ms. Lynda Barrow, Administrative Assistant for the Home Office, visited Zaire to set up the logistics of receiving commodities. During the first quarter, commodities listed under the contract agreement began to arrive in Zaire. This included computer equipment, office supplies, agricultural tools, photographic and audio-visual equipment. Mr. Toby Vaughan, Administrative Specialist in charge of logistics anticipating the arrival of radio systems, discussed their use with COOCEC (the recipient). The project also was awaiting delivery of 100 bicycles. Distribution plans called for 40 to go to the Division of Marketing and Processing, 30 for CAL, PADR, DPP, and CEAE, with the balance of 30 to remain with the project. In addition to the bicycles, the project is awaiting delivery of 22 motorcycles, with distribution plans of 4 for the project, 8 for NGOs and 10 for COOCEC.

During the last three quarters, several shipment of equipment arrived, with agricultural implements distributed to NGO agents and office commodities in use for the project. Other items will be distributed once protocols between the project and the NGOs are drafted. A monitoring system is in place to follow commodities to the end user for project related activities. Four 16 kva generators and spare parts arrived and are awaiting clearance. Some items were stolen from crates while awaiting clearance at N'Djili airport. Ten bicycle fenders arrived from Pragma, with others expected to arrive soon. Many tools were purchased in Kinshasa from the procurement list, as prices were comparable and the cost of shipping was significantly reduced. The procurement paper trail began to try to solidify the tracking and monitoring of commodities. Most of the remaining commodities were received in Zaire. Any small items which have not been procured will be purchased locally in Kinshasa. Once the sub-grant agreement is approved by the Project Officer, distribution of the commodities will proceed.

IV. Major Problems and Constraints Encountered

1. Personnel changes and the non-replacement of T/A team staff, such as the Research and Information specialist, resulted in increased additional project management responsibilities for the COP in filling some of the technical scope of work activities of these T/A personnel and had disrupted some project activities.
2. The stationing of the Marketing Specialist in Kinshasa also increased field responsibilities and duties of the COP, resulting in a periodic filling in of a technical vacuum for rural marketing activities in the area.
3. Decrease of incentive to GOZ cadre and staff.
4. Delay in getting USAID approval for the sub grant agreements for delivery of commodities to NGOs.
5. Increase in the cost of fuel and lubricant.
6. Difficulties in the evacuation of agricultural produce due to the poor condition of roads and bridges in the rural areas.
7. Delay in the procurement of commodities and vehicles.

V. Recommendation

1. Review the decision for replacement of the Research Information specialist.
2. Review other means for providing incentives to the GOZ personnel.
3. Approve the sub grant agreements for delivery of the commodities to intended NGOs.