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**QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT  
APRIL - JUNE, 1992  
AID GRANT NO. DAN-4193-G-00-1078-00**

**SUBMITTED BY INFO UM AND THE RODALE INSTITUTE**

This is the third quarterly performance report submitted for Grant No. DAN-4193-G-00-1078-00.

**Comparison of Actual Accomplishments vs. Goals**

The Project Implementation Plan and Time Frame divides the project activities into three subsets: (a) assessment of needs and constraints, (b) development of institutional arrangements, and (c) project administration. This quarterly report summarizes the results to date for each of these three types of activities. As a point of reference, the original Time Frame submitted with the Project Workplan is also attached at the end of this report.

All of the activities planned for the three subsets listed above were implemented as planned. These activities are described below.

**Assessment of Needs and Constraints**

As noted in the attached Time Frame, the key activities planned for this quarter for Subset A (assessment) were the identification and analysis of constraints to information exchange among institutions operating at the same and different geographic strata (local, national, regional, and international). These activities were implemented as planned. A written report describing this analysis was circulated in draft form to the institutions that participated in the survey and workshops where the data was collected. The results of the analysis were also sent to INFORUM's board of directors for comments based on their experience in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and North America.

A copy of the draft report describing the assessment results has been submitted to Dr. Jim Bonner in the Office of Agriculture of the Research and Development Bureau of AID.

**Develop Institutional Arrangements**

As noted in the attached Time Frame, the key activity planned for the this quarter for Subset B (institutional arrangements) was an international workshop with representatives from potential collaborating institutions in Africa, Latin America, Asia, Europe, and North America.

The workshop was held June 15-18 in Los Banos, the Philippines. It was hosted by the Institute of Environment Science and Management (IESM) of the University of the Philippines at Los Banos and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI).

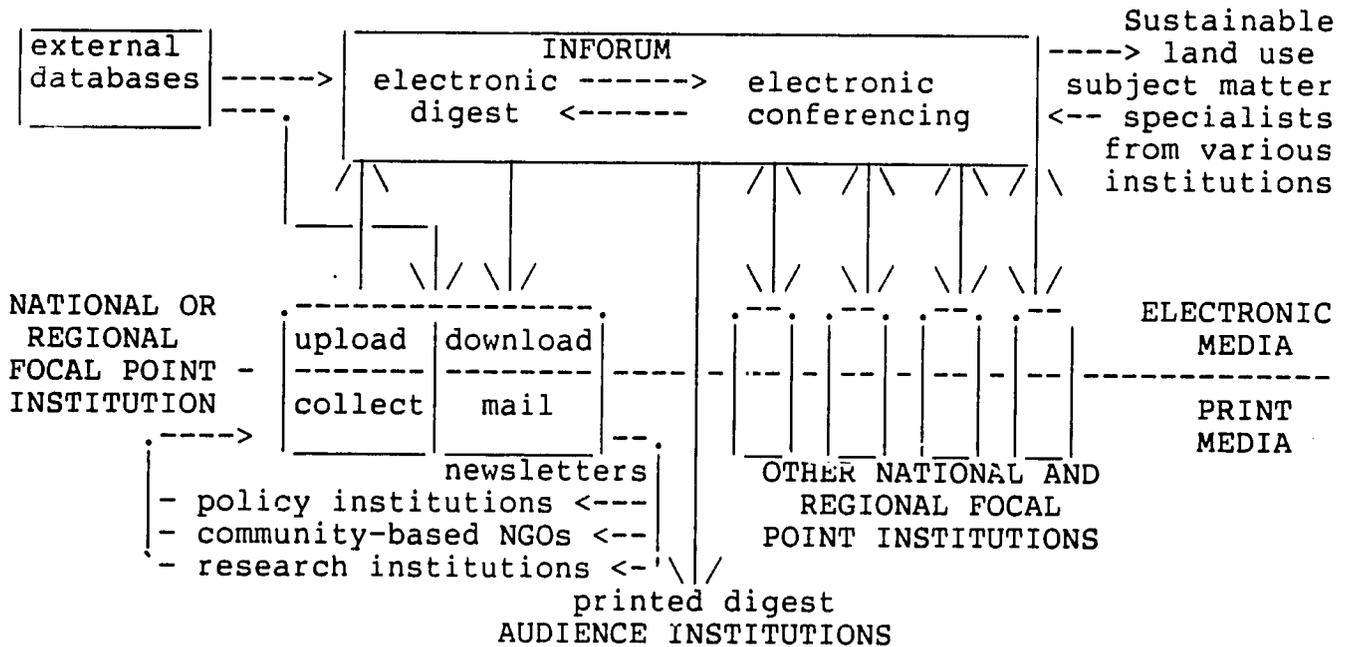
The following institutions sent representatives to the workshop:

	NAME	GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS
1.	Zimbabwe Energy Research Organization Harare, Zimbabwe Representative: Ms. Dorothy Manuel	S. Africa
2.	RIMISP (Red Internacional de Metodologia de Investigacion de Sistemas de Produccion) Santiago, Chile Representative: Dr. German Escobar	Latin America
3.	University of California - Davis Sacramento, California, USA Representative: Dr. Jill Auburn	N. America
4.	Rural Ecosystems Division Nanjing Institute of Environment; Nanjing, China Representative: Professor Li Zhengfang	N.E. Asia
5.	Institute of Environmental Science and Management; University of Philippines Laguna. Philippines Representatives: Dr. Gelia Castillo, Dr. Enrique Parcardo, Dr. Ben Malayang	S.E. Asia
6.	Senegal Regenerative Agriculture Resources Center; Thies, Senegal Contact: Mr. Pape Kane Diallo	W. Africa
7.	Kenya Energy and Environment Organization (KENGO) Representative: Mr. Brazille Simaro Masumba	E. Africa
8.	University of East Anglia United Kingdom Representative: Ms. Heather Brown	W. Europe
9.	IRRI; the International Rice Research Institute Los Banos, the Philippines Representative: Dr. Theodore Hutchcroft	Africa, Asia Latin America
10.	Philippines Ministry of Agriculture Representative: Mr. Roberto Villa	Philippines
11.	Philippines Rice Research Institute Representatives: Eulito Bautista, Ronilo Beronio	Philippines
11.	Southeast Asia Agroecosystem Network (SUAN) Representatives: Mariliza Ticsay-Rusco	S.E. Asia
12.	Overseas Development Institute United Kingdom Representative: Mr. Simon Zadec	Global
13.	The Rodale Institute The United States Representative: Ms. Virginia Hubbs	Global
14.	INFORUM Representative: Dr. Robert Hart	

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The workshop participants recommended that a global information exchange process be set up that integrates print and electronic media and includes electronic conferences on specific sustainable land use topics to "add value" to the information that is exchanged. A draft proposal describing the institutional arrangement and workplans that would be followed to implement the process was developed by the workshop participants.

Key elements of the proposed global information exchange process are depicted below.



The draft proposal developed by the workshop participants was reviewed and submitted to Dr. Jim Bonner in the Agriculture Office of the Research and Development Bureau of AID.

### Project Administration

As noted in the attached Time Frame, the only activity planned for the this quarter for Subset C (Project Administration) was this quarterly report. Other administrative activities that occurred this quarter were trips by INFORUM's Executive Director to various institutions that could play an important role in the development of the global information exchange system that is the key output of this project.

Important institutional contracts made during this quarter are described below.

1. Meeting with the Foundation for the Development of Polish Agriculture (FDPA) in Warsaw, Poland. Key activities included:

Monday, March 16: FDPA Headquarters in Warsaw. Meeting with Professor Dytczak, Warsaw Agriculture University. After a brief presentation on INFORUM's mission and past activities, Professor Dytczak invited Ms. Ponce to visit the University to discuss tele-communication linkages. (see activities on March 19 described below).

Monday, March 16: Visit to the U.S. Embassy. Mr. Bose (FDPA) and Hart and Ponce met with Dr. Weyland Beeghly, Agricultural Counselor of the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw. Dr. Beeghly did his thesis research at IRRI and has had considerable experience with the concept of sustainable agriculture. He expressed his interest in INFORUM's activities, and was present in the INFORUM Seminar held at FPDA on Wednesday.

Tuesday, March 17: FDPA Headquarters in Warsaw. Meeting with staff from the Potato Institute of Bonin. Ms. Ponce gave a brief summary of CIP's programs and its interest in INFORUM's Electronic Conferencing services. Bonin has ongoing collaborative projects with CIP and other international institutions, and they give priority to research on PLRV virus. Their germplasm has been registered under the international data banks, and they have developed varieties resistant to PLRV virus. They also showed their interest in future collaboration with CIP and INFORUM for sustainable research activities.

Tuesday, March 17: Visit to the Ministry of Agriculture. Mr. Bose (FDPA), Hart and Ponce visited the Ministry of Agriculture in Warsaw. They met with Ms. Lidia Kurek, Director of the Department of Crop Production, who presented an extensive background on the actual state of the Agricultural Research in Poland. One of the functions of the Ministry of Agriculture is to assign priorities for Agricultural Research for all the Research Institutions in Poland. She explained their financial situation and that they are trying to survive a critical phase, and that some institutions could be closed or unified for economic reasons.

March 18: INFORUM Seminar (FDPA Headquarters in Warsaw). Dr. Hart gave an extended explanation of INFORUM background and mission, to a group of more than 20 Polish institutions on Agricultural Research, Universities, members of the Academy of Sciences and Private institutions. After the presentation, Dr. Hart asked some key questions to the audience, and the discussion was opened to all the participants.

Among the topics discussed were: (1) what does sustainable agriculture mean in Poland; Many people in Poland associate sustainable agriculture with two types of farming systems: organic agriculture and integrated farms, (2) the importance of water resources in Poland. Soil type and past management has led to significant problems, (3) the current financial situation among Polish agricultural institutions, and (4) the potential role of INFORUM.

March 19: Visit to the Warsaw Agriculture University. Professor Dytczak took Ms. Ponce on a guided tour of the Computer facilities of this University. He is a specialist on Expert Systems (Fuzzy Systems) for Water and Land Use Systems. Their faculty make use of 386 and 486 workstations for Computer-aided engineering. The students take advantage of the facilities to improve their computer skills for their future work.

## 2. Visit to ISNAR in the Hague, The Netherlands

Robert Hart met with Paul O'Nolan to discuss ISNAR's approach to information exchange among national research institutions. Hart gave a seminar to senior ISNAR staff. After the seminar, a few people stayed to discuss potential cooperation between ISNAR and INFORUM.

## 3. Visit to Overseas Development Institute in London

Robert Hart met with John Farrington to discuss the progress to date on the study to evaluate constraints to information exchange among institutions involved in the development of sustainable land use systems. Extensive discussion and reviews of initial results were held with Simon Zedec, principle author of the report.

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4. Visit to the Centro Internacional de la Papa (CIP) to organize an Andean Agroecosystem Network and to present the concept of INFORUM International Digest that could facilitate information exchange among Andean institutions and between these institutions and those with similar interests in other countries. Key activities included:

March 30 - April 2: attend workshop where representatives from all of the Andean countries presented the current state of their research in the high altitude tropics.

April 1: meeting with Dr. Hubert Zandstra, Director General of CIP and chair of the "sustainability" committee of the CGIAR to discuss cooperation with CIP and with the eco-regional initiative of the CGIAR.

April 2: one-half day working session with Dr. Carmen Siri, the Coordinator of the Information Division of CIP to develop a draft proposal to be submitted to IDRC.

Key contacts:

Dr. Jim Bemis: Communications  
Dr. Carmen Siri: Coordinator of the Information Division  
Dr. Hubert Zandstra: Director General of CIP  
Dr. Mario Tapia; coordinator of the workshop  
Dr. Dale Bandy; representative from ICRAF

5. Meeting with Mr. Loren Schultze and others in the Europe Bureau. After a brief presentation of INFORUM's background, Robert Hart presented the results of a meeting held in Warsaw, Poland (see trip report March 13 -24). Possible funding for the Polish institutions cooperating with the Foundation for the Development of Polish Agriculture (FDPA) was discussed. Loren Schulte then asked for a list of contracts in Hungary made by Ms. Ana Maria Ponce, INFORUM's electronic services coordinator who lives in Budapest.

Key Contacts:

Mr. Loren Shultze: Food Systems Division, Bureau for Europe  
Dr. Kathryn Stratos: Food Systems Division; Bureau for Europe  
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6. Meeting with Bill Hargrove and Robert Gurevich to discuss cooperation between INFORUM and the SANREM CRSP. Two types of cooperation were discussed: (1) the SANREM CRSP could consider contracting INFORUM to provide electronic links among the institutions collaborating in Burkina Fasso, Guatemala, Honduras, and the Philippines, and (2) a pilot study could be developed in the Philippines. Robert Hart agreed to write up a preliminary proposal for the Philippines pilot project and discuss it with the AID mission in the Manila.

Key Contacts

Dr. William Hargrove; Director of the SANREM CRSP  
University of Georgia

Dr. Robert Gurevich; Executive Secretary of the Center for  
PVO/University Collaboration in Development  
Center for Improving Mountain Living  
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7. Meeting with various institutions in Hungary.

June 1: Meeting with faculty at Godollo University in Godollo, Hungary. Ms. Ana Maria Ponce and Robert Hart gave brief presentations about INFORUM and its electronic conferencing services.

June 2: Meeting at the Technical University of Budapest. Various faculty presented brief descriptions of their current tele-communications projects. Of particular interest was the work being done with radio data transfer that would allow data transfer in places where telephones are not reliable.

June 3: Robert Hart gave a formal seminar at KFKI (the Research Institute for Measurement and Computing Techniques). After the seminar Hart and Ponce met with the Institute's Director and Deputy Director, and the heads of the Divisions for Computer Networking and Informatics. It was agreed that a proposal should be developed to obtain funding for a collaborative initiative with INFORUM.

Key Contacts in Hungary:

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Head of International Department

#### **Why Goals Were Not Met (If Applicable)**

All goals as specified in the grant were met.

#### **Financial Status**

As of June 30, 1992 expenses billable to this grant total \$85,301 (out of a total of \$170,800 obligated for the project). It should be noted that this total does not include the travel and other costs for the workshop (budgeted at \$40,000) and other significant expenses for activities this quarter that, due to billing procedures, were not available to be included in this total. During the final quarter, the Overseas Development Institute will be paid the final payment for expenses incurred on the assessment (estimated at approximately \$25,000).

A full financial report was submitted to the Office of Financial Management with a copy to the Project Officer in the Office of Agriculture on July 15, 1992.

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TIME FRAME ATTACHED TO THE PROJECT WORK PLAN

1991

1992

ACTIVITY

S O N D J F M A M J J A

ACTIVITY	1991	1992	1992	1992
	S	O	N	D
<b>A. Assessment of Needs and Constraints</b>				
1. Identify strata information exchange & institution types.		***		
2. Investigate needs, constraints and opportunities within strata.		*****	*****	
3. Investigate needs, constraints and opportunities among strata.			*****	
4. Write report summarizing results				***
<b>B. Develop Institutional Arrangements</b>				
1. Identify potential co-publishing institutions		*****		
2. Convene a workshop of potential co-publishers			**	
3. Identify key co-publishing personnel				**
4. Set up communication links among co-publishers				****
5. Compile and distribute first edition of the Digest				**
<b>C. Project Administration</b>				
1. Submit Quarterly Reports		*	*	*
2. Submit Special Report (assessment)				**
3. Submit Second Year Proposal				**
4. Submit Final Report				**

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