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**TRAINING AND RESOURCE UNIT
FOR VITAMIN A
AND NUTRITION EDUCATION
"UNIDAD PRO VITAMINA A"**

**8TH PROGRESS REPORT
JANUARY - MARCH 1994**

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**Submitted by:
IEF-Headquarters
John Barrows, MPH, Director of Programs**

**NCBD/IEF-Guatemala
John Kepner, Country Director
Eugenia Saenz de Tejada (Kena), Project Coordinator
Elida Noemi Garcia Alvarez, Assistant Project Coordinator**

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AHRTAG	Appropriate Health Resources & Technical Assistance Group
CESSIAM	Center for Studies on Sensory Impairment, Aging and Metabolism
COINAP	Comision Interinstitucional para la Atencion de la Poblacion de las Areas Precarias de la Ciudad de Guatemala
CSCG	Child Survival Collaborative Group
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
HKI	Helen Keller International
IEC	Information, Education, and Communication
IEF	International Eye Foundation
INCAP	Institute for Nutrition of Central America and Panama
IVACG	International Vitamin A Consultative Group
MOH	Ministry of Health
NCBD	National Committee for the Blind and Deaf
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
Papyrus	Library Database
PCI	Project Concern International
PROVITA	Project Pro-Vitamin A
PVO	Private Voluntary Organization
SIMAC	Sistemas de Mejoramiento y Adecuacion Curricular
UNESCO	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UPVA	Unidad Pro Vitamina A
USAC	Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala
UVG	Universidad del Valle de Guatemala
VATG	Vitamin A Technical Advisory Group
VITAL	Vitamin A Field Support Project
VITAP	Vitamin A Technical Assistance Project
WHO	World Health Organization
WV	World Vision

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I. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The following report is the quarterly submission for the International Eye Foundation (IEF)/National Committee for the Blind and the Deaf (NCBD) project *Unidad Pro Vitamina A* (UPVA), covering a three month period from January through March 1994.

The project objectives are:

- 1) Conduct collaborative projects with other institutions.
- 2) Design and produce vitamin A and nutrition training materials for IEF/NCBD projects and where appropriate for other non-governmental organization (NGO) groups, ministries and related institutions.
- 3) Provide information and materials on vitamin A deficiency and nutrition education to NGO groups.
- 4) Conduct workshops, seminars and lectures for IEF/NCBD projects, ministries, and universities on vitamin A deficiency and nutrition issues.
- 5) Convene meetings for the IEF/NCBD and coordinate inter-institutional meetings between NGO groups on vitamin A deficiency.
- 6) Establish and maintain a library for vitamin A and nutrition education documents and materials.
- 7) Produce and disseminate a semi-annual newsletter on current vitamin A activities and resources.

II. EIGHTH PROGRESS REPORT, JANUARY - MARCH 1994.

A. Administrative Issues:

1. Computer breakdowns and inadequate hard disk storage space resulted in the postponement of deadlines for the production of some materials. These problems have now been solved and production timelines are on schedule.

B. Project Tasks:

1. Objective #1, Collaborative Projects:

- a. Vitamin A Materials Development Project (HKI/VITAP sponsored).

- * The calendar has been printed and will be distributed in April to all of the participating projects.
 - * The final version of the radio spots has been submitted to the project for a final review. Once finalized, it will be recorded and submitted to NGOs for translation into local languages and transmission by local radio stations.
 - * Handcards and flip charts were sent for production after obtaining price quotations and selecting a printer. They should be available for distribution in May.
 - * The summary report of the materials development project is almost complete. Work also continued on a draft version of a training manual in the use of the materials developed under this project. Both documents are scheduled to be finished by the end of August.
 - * The Project Coordinator met with Dr. Angelica Bixcul of the Ministry of Health (MOH) to discuss the needs of the MOH and possible collaboration with the Project.
 - * The Project Coordinator met with Marcia Griffiths, representing the Vitamin A Technical Assistance Project (VITAP), to discuss the development and production of the above mentioned materials.
 - * The project presented a poster about the Vitamin A Materials Development Project at a health and nutrition workshop sponsored by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in February.
2. Objective #2, Design and Produce Training Materials (other than those associated with the collaborative materials development project)
- * Copies of the booklets on iron and vitamin A were printed for continued distribution to interested organizations.

- * Work continued on the development of the vitamin A module for teachers. This module was revised based on pre-testing feedback.
- * The slide series and scripts to be utilized in vitamin A presentations to health care professionals were revised, based on results from pretesting.
- * Dr. Mendoza met with staff from the Nutrition Department at the University of San Carlos to discuss vitamin A-related training activities.
- * Over 700 copies of the vitamin A poster developed by the IEF-Cobán project were produced and sent to Cobán for distribution.
- * An informational pamphlet describing the services provided by the Project was printed for promotional use.
- * Development of art work for horticulture education materials began after the selection of a graphic designer.

3. Objective #3, Establish a Library for Vitamin A and Nutrition Education Document and Provide Information and Materials

- * The Project provided technical information on vitamin A to Dr. Sergio Mack of the U.S. Peace Corps, Project Hope, the MOH, INCAP and CeSSIAM.
- * The Project distributed copies of materials regarding micronutrients to members of the National Committee on Micronutrient Deficiencies.
- * Continued to collect questionnaires from NGOs to assess their need of vitamin A capsules.

4. Objective #4, Conduct Workshops and Lectures

- * The Project Coordinator presented a poster demonstration regarding the Vitamin A Materials Development Project at a two-day nutrition workshop sponsored by UNICEF in February.

5. Objective #5, Inter-Institutional Meetings

(See Objective #1A Vitamin A Materials Development Project)

6. Objective #6, Establish and Maintain Library

- * The Assistant Project Coordinator continued to enter data into Papyrus, the Center's library database. This work was significantly slowed down due to problems with faltering computer equipment and the assignment of other, more pressing tasks to the Assistant Project Coordinator.

- * Education materials for the library were received from María Maya, INCAP, *Centro Nacional de Desarrollo de la Mujer y la Familia*, UNICEF, FAO, *Colectivo Sol*, HKI/VITAP, the International Child Health Unit, AHRTAG, Pritech, the Xerophthalmia Club, Regsamuni, WHO and the Institute of Nutrition in Thailand, among others.

7. Objective #7, Produce Semi-Annual Newsletter

- * The fourth issue of the newsletter was published in February and distributed in March (see appendices). This edition contained: 1) articles describing the programs of the Peace Corps, Project Hope, ADRA, and Food for the Hungry, 2) articles describing the relationship of vitamin A deficiency to child morbidity and mortality and field testing of proposed behaviors to be promoted under a health education program, and 3) a listing of recent publications.

III. APPENDICES

Appendix 1	Semi-annual Newsletter, <i>Hablemos de Vitamina A</i>
Appendix 2	Summary Report - Formative Research and its Role in the Design of Activities Against Vitamin A Deficiency in Guatemala.
Appendix 3	Promotional Pamphlet - IEF Vitamin A Training Center
Appendix 4	Reports - Pretesting Training Materials
Appendix 5	Pretesting of Radio Spots (<i>Validacion Material Grabado</i>)
Appendix 6	Pretesting of Posters and Flip Chart Materials (<i>Validation Material Grafico</i>)
Appendix 7	Changes to Posters and Flip Chart Materials as a Result of Pretesting - Indigenous Areas (<i>Cambios a Material Grafico Para Area Indigena Con Base en Validaciones Realizadas</i>)
Appendix 8	Changes to Posters and Flip Chart Materials as a Result of Pretesting - Ladino Areas (<i>Cambios a Material Grafico Para Area Ladina Con Base en Validaciones Realizadas</i>)
Appendix 9	Testing Protocol of Nutrition Promotion Materials (<i>Protocolo de Validacion de Materiales de Promocion de Alimentacion Infantil Rica en Vitamina A</i>)
Appendix 10	Material Requirements (<i>Requerimiento de Materiales en Vitamin A</i>)
Appendix 11	Radio Spots