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**CENTRAL AMERICA  
MARKETING TRIP REPORT**

**November 29, 1993-December 10, 1993**

**Contract No. DHR-5438-Q-00-191-00  
Development Strategies for Fragile Lands**

**Submitted By:**

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DESFIL Gender Specialist**

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## **DESFIL MARKETING TRIP: CENTRAL AMERICA**

### **Mary Hill Rojas, DESFIL, Gender Specialist**

#### **Introduction**

From November 13, 1993 to November 29, 1993 I worked with FINNIDA, the Government of Finland's international development agency, as chief of party for a project appraisal team. The team was to evaluate a project document to strengthen the municipal governments and foster development in five municipalities in Nicaragua. Taking advantage of my being in Central America, Bruce Ross, the chief of party for DESFIL (Development Strategies for Fragile Lands), asked me to visit three USAID Missions in Nicaragua, Honduras, and Guatemala from November 29 to December 10, 1993 to market DESFIL.

In preparation for the DESFIL marketing, I was briefed in Washington D.C. by James Riordan (LACTEC); Rosalie Norem (AID/WID); David Gibson (Global Environment Center); Pat Martin (AID/LAC/WID); Hugh Plunkett (LAC/DR/RD); and William Goodwin (LAC/DR/RD). I also read natural resource management project documents from each of the Missions to be visited.

I had four tasks: a) I was to identify a person to write a paper on the social impacts of forest policy for the workshop on forest policy, partially sponsored by DESFIL, for spring, 1994 in Washington, D.C.; b) I was to inform USAID personnel about the regional FAO/DESFIL workshop for Central America, " Perspectiva de Genero en los Proyectos de Desarrollo Forestal"; c) I was to market the services of DESFIL in general; d) I was to follow-up my USAID visits with proposals to the Missions for DESFIL technical assistance. This is the report on the trip.

**NICARAGUA**

NICARAGUA TRIP REPORT  
Mary Hill Rojas, Gender Specialist  
DESFIL

Monday, November 29, 1993 : USAID Mission Nicaragua

Met: Ralph Conley,NRM; Brian Rudert,NRM; Lawrence Odle, Director,Project Development.

In the States: Janet Ballantyne,Mission Director; John Doorman, Agricultural economist; Joy Doorman, women in development.

Meeting with Ralph Conley

Talked with Ralph Conley, Natural Resources and Environment, at length. He said that the Nicaragua Natural Resources Management Project is just now beginning.

It focuses on five areas:

A) Institutional Strengthening

The project is to strengthen IRENA, The Nicaraguan Institute of Natural Resources, administratively and technically. There is a technical assistance team hired to 1) strengthen administrative services; 2) provide in-service training; 3) help with down-sizing.

Nicaragua is in need of environmental legislation, i.e. many United States companies want to use the country as a dumping ground for toxic wastes; the dry tropical forests of the Pacific coast are almost gone; 2/3 of Nicaragua's forest cover is gone.

B) Policy Development Dialogue, and Implementation

The project is to analyze policy "to overcome the policy and legal constraints to sound management of natural resources." A scope of work was submitted under DESFIL to develop a Natural Resource Policy Inventory in Nicaragua in 1993. However, it seems the work is being done by another technical assistance team.

C) Environmental Education

The project is to promote awareness and values that support conservation and sustainable development among the general public.

D) Protected Areas and Buffer Zones

The project is to manage, use, and conserve natural resources in and around protected areas, especially The Miskito Keys, The Bosawas area and on the Pacific Coast with the remaining dry

tropical forests. There are continuing land disputes on the Pacific side and until these disputes are settled USAID will not work in the region.

Two NGOs have been contracted to work in the buffer zones of the Miskito Keys and the Bosawas area, The Nature Conservancy and The Caribbean Conservation Corporation (CCC) from Miami. They are to do studies of the bio-diversity of the area, mapping and socio-economic studies. They are also to help the people of these areas make a living while at the same time protecting the environment. The CCC, for example, trained divers (for lobster) and nurses along the coast. But "what do you do for those who don't dive?" as Mr. Conley said, mentioning ecotourism. The biggest challenge, however, is controlling poaching by everyone from the Japanese to the people of the East Caribbean. The Nature Conservancy is to have a socio-economic component but it was not fully developed in their proposal. The USAID Mission was "in a hurry" and let it go through, but this segment needs work.

December 13 and 14 there will be a USAID workshop in Managua (run by the Nature Conservancy?) on indigenous land claims for indigenous peoples. The people will be taken step by step through the process of reclaiming land. I spoke with a woman who was working on this project and she told me mostly men would come as "how could women be gone so long from their work?" Only 8% of those with titles to land in Nicaragua are women.

Anthony Stocks, an anthropologist from the University of Idaho on loan to RENARM under Cultural Survival, is working with the Nature Conservancy in the buffer zones of Bosawas.

#### 5. Plant Protection and Integrated Pest Management

The project will work to reduce health and financial risks associated with pesticide use, and improve the environmental health of the main agriculture region through a reduction levels of pesticide use and, where warranted, application of the most benign chemicals in a more rational fashion.

#### General Comments

1. In general Mr. Conley stressed their need for concrete results at the grassroots level, i.e. to organize Indian activities to help them make a living without destroying the environment. "What is needed is people who have an understanding of the area and the people, guided by the principal of participation." He is not looking for analyses and data gathering.

2. Mr. Conley was interested in the FAO/DEFIL Gender and Forestry Workshop. He felt a) the methodologies could be useful; b) the resulting case studies could be useful for training of IRENA staff and for the people in IRENA who will be working with people in the buffer zones. He mentioned that Nicaraguan foresters are well trained but until now mainly have focused on exploitation of the forests for commercial purposes and little on preservation and conservation.

Meeting with Lawrence Odle, director of the Office of Project Development. This meeting was unplanned and brief.

1. Mr. Odle has had the responsibility for the women in development segment of the Mission's strategy for a year. However, the WID component has been assigned to Joy Doorman who is in the United States with her husband John Doorman, an agricultural economist, who I had also hoped to meet. The Director of the Mission was also in the United States.

2. I spoke only briefly with Lawrence Odle but he said that the FAO/DESFIL workshop may be of interest to the Mission. He had sent Rosalie Norem's E-Mail about the workshop on to Joy Doorman. He felt it could be a part of the environmental education piece. (He also stressed that the management of the rural environment primarily comes from the urban areas from individuals, companies, absentee landowners etc.)

3. He mentioned that project funds are limited for training, however, they do provide funds to IRENA for training. A technical assistance team is developing the training schedule now and this may be a time to put the FAO/DESFIL workshop on the agenda. A change in this agenda to include the FAO/DESFIL workshop would need to be justified "in-house".

#### The Involvement of DESFIL

1. Monitoring and evaluation of the the socio-economic component of the buffer zones NRM project, especially with an eye to helping develop the Nature Conservancy component. It may be that Elizabeth could work with Anthony Stocks on the design of the socio-economic component of the Nature Conservancy project.

2. Having a participants from the Nature Conservancy and IRENA for the FAO/DESFIL Workshop to a) provide training in an area which seems to be weak (i.e. community participation and gender analysis); b) to develop a case study in the buffer zone where Nature Conservancy is working for the purpose of training IRENA staff and environmental education in general; c) through the training contribute to the Mission objective of strengthening IRENA in general.

3. There may be some possibilities of working with environmental legislation but it seems that policy is being covered by a technical assistance team already hired.

4. Working through Arleen Mayorga to help fulfill the USAID objective to strengthen IRENA (see attached letter to Joy Doorman for fuller explanation.)

5. Involving the USAID Mission in the FAO/DESFIL Workshop by having the Mission send workshop participants.

Tuesday, November 30, 1993: Worked for FINNIDA

Wednesday, December 1, 1993

1. I spent the afternoon with Sra. Arleen Mayorga, IRENA, Coordinadora Consejo Consultivo Regional, Mujer y Desarrollo Sostenible. She also serves as the director of the IRENA Gender and Development Office funded by the Swedes. With us was , Jose G. Flores Rodas, PhD in

Forestry Economics, PAFTCA, Plan de Accion Forestal Tropical para Centro America. I was very impressed by the work her office is doing, i.e. field oriented, lots of community participation and the Consejo Regional seems to be well organized. They have produced educational materials, including participatory training methodologies and videos of a workshop and of a community group of women working with tree seedlings. As Dr. Rodas said they are tried and proven and worthy of funding. They have a component for small enterprises that includes making a traditional fiber from the Tuno tree, but no market; a continual problem worldwide

Arleen Mayorga had only recently received the proposal for the FAO/DEFIL Regional workshop on Gender and Forestry. She had sent the proposal to her colleagues in the Central American Region for their comments. First, I believe they have the capability to run the workshop themselves. My role should probably be as "advisor", contributing ideas for teaching methodology, workshop substance and serving as an editor for the written training materials. Sra. Mayorga also mentioned that an April Workshop is difficult as the first six months of the year is their busiest season and they are mostly out of the city and in the "campo".

#### POSSIBLE CONSULTANTS

1. Zobeida Hernandez, Director of Promotion and Credit, PRODESA, Juigalpa, Office phone: 081-2955
2. Klaus Talvela, agricultural economist, project planning, Rantatie 17, 04310 Tuusula, Finland - Phone: 358-0-251187.
3. Gustavo Gonzalez G2zquez, housing specialist and social development, CIAV/OEA, del H. Intercontinental 2 c. al Sur, 2c. abajo, Managua. Office Phone: 505-2-665038/9.
4. Sylvia Baretta, Gender Specialist and Forestry, c/o Klaus Talvela, Rantatie 17, 04310, Tuusula, Finland - Phone: 358-0-251187.
5. Mary Carol Ellsberg, project Manager (Social Development and Credit) Swedish Embassy, Apartado Postal 23 07, Managua. Phone: 662762.
6. Jukka Pakkala, Microenterprise development (he works at grassroots level and knows Nicaragua as well as a Nicaraguan), Finnish Embassy, Telephone: 668-619
7. Ing. Gutemberg Castro, natural resource management and policy, Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo y IRENA. Telephone: 31317/31323 (IRENA)
8. Sra. Arleen Mayorga L., Director of IRENA Gender and Development Office and Coordinator of the Regional Council for Women and Sustainable Development, Oficina IRENA KM. 12 1/2 Carretera Norte, Managua, Nicaragua. Telephone: 31317/31223. Fax: 31309.
9. Dr. Jose G. Flores Rodas, Forestry Economist, PAFTCA, Plan de Accion Forestal Tropical para Centro America, Apdo. 371-1007, San Jose, Costa Rica.

10. Juan Ramon Herrera Montoya, Excellent Chauffer, K. 3 1/2 Carretera Amasaya frente al Banco Nacional de Desarrollo, Tel: 663982

#### USAID PERSONNEL

1. Ing. Lawrence Odle, Director of Project Development, USAID/Nicaragua, P.O. Box C-167 ZP13, Managua, Nicaragua; Telephone: (505-2) 670502-04  
FAX: 75711
2. Mr. Ralph Conley, Natural Resources and Environment, USAID/Nicaragua, P.O. Box C-167 ZP13, Managua, Nicaragua; Telephone: (505-2) 72029-30; FAX:(505-2) 75711
3. Ms. Joy Doorman, WID Officer, and Mr. John Doorman, Agricultural Economist, USAID/Nicaragua, P.O. Box C-167 ZP13, Managua, Nicaragua; Telephone: (505-2) 670502-04; FAX: (505-2)75711

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January 5, 1993

Dear Ms. Doorman:

I was very sorry to miss you on my recent visit to Nicaragua. I had been in Nicaragua working with the Government of Finland and the Government of Nicaragua on an intergrated project to strengthen municipal governments to be able to work better with community-based development.

I am also working with DESFIL, a centrally-funded AID project, Development Strategies for Fragile Lands. DESFIL and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) are planning a regional workshop for Central America on gender and forestry for sometime in 1994. Its format is quite innovative. As I understand that you are the gender/WID officer for the Mission I wanted you to be aware of the workshop. I attach a description of it for your information.

The regional coordinator for the workshop may be Arleen Mayorga, the director of the Gender and Development Office of IRENA in Managua. I spoke with Sra. Mayorga while I was in Managua and I was very impressed by her and her office. I was wondering if there was not some way to connect my work with the regional workshop and USAID's interest in strengthening IRENA and in gender, i.e. by strengthening Arleen Mayorga's Gender and Development Office. I have outlined in more detail my thoughts on this which I also attach. Because of the workshop I will be in Managua working with IRENA and Sra. Mayorga and I could be of use to you as well perhaps at the same time. I have broad experience in linking democratization, community participation, participatory methodologies and gender with development and natural resource management.

I was impressed that a recent request for technical assistance to come out of USAID/Nicaragua to strengthen municipalities included a sociologist with experience in gender analysis, especially as I had just finished evaluating such a project for the Finns. It is always heartening to see gender being seriously considered.

Please thank Lawrence Odle for talking with me while I was in Nicaragua.

Very Sincerely,

Mary Hill Rojas, Ed.D.  
Social Scientist and Gender Specialist

cc Lawrence Odle



**DESFIL**  
Development Strategies for Fragile Lands

January 5, 1994

Ralph Conley  
Natural Resources and Environment  
USAID/Nicaragua  
P.O. Box C-167 ZP13  
Managua, Nicaragua

Dear Mr. Conley:

Thank you for meeting with me while I was in Managua before the holidays. I very much appreciated your taking the time to explain to me the Nicaragua Natural Resources Management Project. As you may remember I work as a social scientist and gender specialist with the centrally funded AID project, DESFIL, Development Strategies For Fragile Lands. After our conversation I had indicated to you that I would write explaining in greater depth the regional workshop on gender and forestry we spoke of and proposing other ways in which DESFIL might be useful to the USAID Mission. I attach our proposals to you. I am also sending copies of the workshop proposal to Joy Doorman and Lawrence Odle.

Again thank you for talking with me in Managua. Please also thank Brian Rudert for me for his help.

Very Sincerely,

*Mary Rojas*

Mary Hill Rojas, Ed. D.  
Social Scientist - DESFIL



## PROPOSAL FROM DESFIL TO THE USAID/NICARAGUA MISSION

### Introduction

1. DESFIL is a response to a critical need - recognizing the interaction between people and their environment in order to promote sustainable management of fragile lands. DESFIL focuses on the effective participation of local resource users, both men and women, in sustainable agriculture and forestry on steep slopes, in humid tropical forests, arid and semi-arid lands and low fertility agricultural lands. DESFIL is concerned with the people-level impact of natural resource projects and programs and in the conditions that enable people to adopt sustainable practices. To carry out this mandate DESFIL utilizes a multi-disciplinary team approach, experienced in linking natural resource management and sustainable agriculture with the social sciences.

2. The Nicaragua Natural Resources Management Project focuses on five areas: A) Institutional strengthening of IRENA, the governmental agency that oversees natural resources; B) Policy Development Dialogue and Implementation for Sound Management of Natural Resources; C) Environmental Education; D) Management and Use of Protected Areas and Buffer Zones; E) Plant Protection and Integrated Pest Management.

### A DESFIL Response

1. While Mary Hill Rojas was in Nicaragua she visited IRENA's Office of Gender and Development which is directed by Ms. Arleen Mayorga. The office has excellent experience in working with grassroots organizations and community participation in projects related to natural resource management. Ms. Mayorga is also the coordinator of the Regional Consultative Group on Women and Development for the Tropical Forest Action Plan and will be the coordinator for the DESFIL/FAO workshop on Gender and Forest Development. (See attached for a full description of this workshop).

Therefore, given USAID/Nicaragua's objective of strengthening IRENA and DESFIL's interest in community participation and gender, we propose:

A) That working through Ms Mayorga, USAID sponsor three participants for the FAO/DESFIL Training Workshop. Such participation would: a) provide training, and trainers, in participatory methodologies and gender analysis; b) result in a case study in a region in which USAID has an interest, i.e. protected areas and buffer zones; c) the case study produced which includes visuals, would have multiple uses, i.e. 1. for training; 2. for environmental education; 3. for "telling AID's story"; and 4. for providing additional socio-economic information on the case study region.

B) Ms. Mayorga's office at IRENA is dealing constantly with community participation and

participatory methodologies. Their skills and their leadership is excellent. With strengthening, the office could serve some of the needs of the USAID Natural Resource Management Project for community participation in buffer zones and protected areas and for reaching people to fulfill the objectives of the plant protection and pest management component.

Ms. Mayorga's office could also provide other IRENA personnel with needed community participation skills. Simultaneously, IRENA would be strengthened, an objective of the Natural Resource Management Project.

DESFIL could provide services in working with the IRENA Gender and Development Office to a) assess where the office needs strengthening in order to be able to serve IRENA with an expanded mandate; b) develop a proposal with that office to strengthen its mandate and c) provide for continuing oversight of the program. These services could be provided in conjunction with the DESFIL/FAO Workshop which will most likely take Dr. Rojas to Nicaragua this next year.

C) DESFIL is able, also, to provide monitoring and evaluation for the socio-economic components of the Natural Resource Management Project. For example, the DESFIL anthropologist might work with the Nature Conservancy, a non-governmental organization working with USAID in the buffer zones and protected areas of Nicaragua, to strengthen their socio-economic component especially as it regards community participation.

D) In general, DESFIL can be supportive of USAID/Nicaragua by conducting social impact assessments, advising on participatory methods and assessing lessons learned in the areas of the USAID portfolio where there is a need to link people and their environment in order to promote the sustainable management of fragile lands.

# **Gender Analysis and Forestry Training in Central America**

## **A Proposed FAO/DESFIL Workshop for the Possible Involvement of USAID Nicaragua**

### **Background**

In November 1992 in Nicaragua the "Consejo Consultivo Regional Mujer y Desarrollo", the Tropical Forestry Action Plan for Central America and the Tropical Forestry Action Plan for Nicaragua, in coordination with several international donor agencies, organized the first regional workshop on "Gender Considerations in Forestry Development Projects" in Central America. The main objective of this workshop was to identify how the participation of local community members, both men and women, could be encouraged in Tropical Forestry Action Plan projects.

The workshop participants recognized the need for gender-based information in order to improve project planning and implementation. Also stressed was the need for training of foresters and forestry planners in the importance of gender considerations and the need for more gender positive policies through the Tropical Forestry Action Plan.

### **The Proposed Workshop**

The proposed workshop, "Perspectiva de Genero en los Proyectos de Desarrollo Forestal", is one outcome of the first workshop held in Nicaragua. The workshop is proposed for September, 1994 and is to serve the seven countries of Central America, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Honduras, Belize, Guatemala and El Salvador. The workshop is organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations' Community Forestry Department with the support of DESFIL, Development Strategies for Fragile Lands, a centrally funded project of the United States Agency for International Development. The workshop is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, the Swedish International Development Agency, the World Resources Institute, PROCOFOR/PAFT, and the Forest, Trees and People Program of FAO.

The workshop is based on a model that has been used successfully in south Asia:

1. A region is chosen within each of the Central American countries as a case study.
2. Teams of three participants are chosen from each of the Central American countries; one participant is a forester (or a related field) from the case study region or a forester who knows the region well. The other two participants are chosen for their willingness to become trainers in their own countries in gender analysis and forestry and who work professionally with the social impacts of environmental policies and projects.
3. The first phase of the workshop is a five day regional session to train participants in a) gender analysis, b) rapid rural appraisal, and c) case study writing.
4. The second phase of the workshop is field research and documentation carried out during two months by each team in their own countries in their selected case study region. The teams

gather detailed information on the activities, resources and constraints of women and men living in the case study region, using participatory methodologies and gender analysis. A workshop photographer documents visually the case study regions in each of the countries. The team then writes up their case studies.

5. The third phase of the workshop is the training of trainers. With their case studies and visuals in hand the two members of the country teams who will do training in gender analysis and forestry return for a regional seven day workshop on training of trainers. The agenda includes learning participatory training methodologies, conducting needs assessments, setting training objectives and designing agendas and evaluations. The week ends with mini-workshops where each national team leads others through an analysis of its case study.

6. The fourth phase of the workshop is for the teams to return to their own countries to write proposals for funding for a national pilot workshop on gender and forestry.

7. The fifth phase is to hold a national pilot workshop led by those trained at the regional workshop

Background

### **The Possible Involvement of USAID Nicaragua**

It is proposed that the FAO/DEFIL workshop would contribute to the objectives of USAID Nicaragua in several ways:

1. The workshop trains trainers in participatory methodologies and gender analysis, both important in developing community participation at a local level.
2. The workshop produces a case study from Nicaragua on natural resource management which can be used for environmental education or for training.
3. The workshop produces visuals that can be used to "tell AID's story", for environmental education and for training.
4. The workshop through the development of the case study provides more information on the project area chosen.
5. From speaking with Ralph Conley, I feel USAID Nicaragua may be interested in documenting, through the workshop, one of the buffer zones or protected areas targeted under the Nicaragua Natural Resources Management Project. At the same time, USAID Nicaragua may want to choose as participants for the workshop personnel from IRENA, thereby contributing to the USAID/NRM objective of strengthening that government agency.
6. Sra. Arleen Mayorga, Director of the Gender and Development Office of IRENA, may be the regional coordinator for the workshop. Her office is dealing constantly with community participation and participatory methodologies. Their skills and their leadership are impressive. With strengthening, the office could serve some of the needs of the USAID Natural Resource

Management Project for community participation in buffer zones and protected areas and for reaching people to fulfill the objectives of the plant protection and pest management component. Support of the DESFIL/FAO workshop may be a first step in strengthening this Office.

7. Nicaragua is one of two sites being considered for the workshop, the other being Costa Rica.

### **Funding**

There is some funding for participants to attend the workshop. However, USAID Nicaragua would be responsible for much of the funding for the three member team.

## **HONDURAS**

**TRIP REPORT - HONDURAS**  
**DESFIL-Mary Hill Rojas**

Friday, December 3, 1993

Meetings with Dwight Steen, Director of Agriculture and Rural Development; Margaret Harritt, Environmental Advisor; Ramon Alvarez Lazzaroni, Forestry Specialist; Joleen Sanjac, Chemonics/U of Wis. USAID Consultant

1. Met with Dwight Steen, Director of Agriculture and Rural Development. He spoke of the changes in the legislation and policy of both agriculture and forestry and how particularly CODHEFOR, the forestry agency, is moving from a corporate structure to a semi-autonomous government agency. CODHEFOR until now has been mostly interested in timber sales, its board of directors using the sales money as they saw fit. The emphasis for USAID has been on the timber industry and receiving fair market value for standing timber. CODHEFOR will also have under its aegis protected areas and one "problem" are the people who live in the area. There is or will be a technical assistance team for community participation attached to a pilot national park. Many of the old laws, such as prohibiting land rentals, the inability of landowners to own the trees on their land (trees were government property), and the lack of incentives to use land intensively have all added to the destruction of the environment and a need for the new agricultural policy reform.

Mr. Steen also indicated that there has been a great interest among all donors and the World Bank and IDB in the social impacts of policy. However, although there is coordination among the donors, it is a bit unclear who is doing what in assessing the social impact of new policies. There are some donors, like the Germans, who only involve themselves in projects where community participation is central. Others, like USAID, deal with it as a general principle but do not give it center stage. USAID, through Ted Downing of the University of Arizona, has developed a monitoring and evaluation system for social impacts but Dwight Steen has not seen Downing's report yet. Therefore, the system has yet to be put in place.

There is a scope of work for a technical team who will implement the forestry policy reforms. Other problems that Mr. Steen mentioned are land distribution and titling, nutrition, implementing policy, and encroachment onto forest lands. He said that USAID basically was not doing much so far on the social impacts of agricultural policy; but, he added, everyone recognizes the importance of it. He also mentioned that the consciousness of the Nicaraguan people is being raised about the need to care for the environment. He also mentioned that Al Merkle, with whom I was to meet, was in Guatemala and basically worked with agribusiness.

2. Met with Margaret Harritt, Environmental Advisor, PhD in Forestry, North Carolina State. She has an interest in gender and women in development but little experience in the area. Her job is two-fold: A) Networking with government agencies across the spectrum of USAID programs, projects and policies to assure the environmental integrity of AID work; B) Follow-up on USAID projects, i.e. LUPE just had its mid-term review and she will comment on the evaluation; C) Backstopping of projects, always with an eye to the

environment. She provided me with a list of possible people who may be appropriate for the "The Social Impacts of Forestry Policy" paper. One central theme of the paper could be the social impacts of the Agricultural Modernization Law.

She told me that Buy-Ins had a bad reputation at the USAID Mission because they were to have a core research agenda that made them specialists in an area, yet this seldom happened in their haste for buy-ins. The Mission would rather put together their own teams and bring in their own people. She confirmed what we at DESFIL have spoken of at our staff meetings, namely that the centrally-funded programs are caught between two mandates: 1) to bring in buy-ins, no matter what they are; 2) to contribute to a core research agenda which, because of lack of time, is given short shrift or is ill-defined.

Margaret was interested in attending the FAO/DESFIL workshop herself. I could not answer her question on whether or not it was only for host country nationals but told her I thought not. We talked about the USAID/WID position in Honduras, quite weak. Gender analysis also does not receive the attention it should; she explained it in terms of the conservative nature of the Mission but I believe it has to do with being ill-defined in people's minds. It is one reason I approach gender and women from the side of community participation, i.e. gender analysis is a very effective tool for analyzing communities to assess their needs and for understanding the incentives and benefits of a project as perceived by a community. It is also a very valuable tool in engaging the participation of both men and women in project design, implementation and self-monitoring. I will go touring with Margaret and her husband on Sunday.

3. Met, briefly, with Ramon Alvarez Lazzaroni; he is a Forestry Specialist and project manager for the forestry project. He suggested several names for the "Social Impacts and Forest Policy" paper but had little time to talk of his own project. He also took an interest in the FAO/DESFIL workshop - I will send him a copy of our proposal.

4. Met with Joleen Sanjac. She is a USAID Consultant, Agricultural Economist, under contract with Chemonics and the University of Wisconsin from the State University of New York, Albany. She and a team are in Nicaragua to study the impact of the new Agriculture Modernization Law and to advise on the on-going policy dialog for the law. We talked of a variety of things connected with the law and of her work at SUNY. She has interest in the FAO/DESFIL workshop. We will meet for breakfast. She mentioned ANAMUC, Asociacion Nacional de Mujeres Campesinas.

Later: After further conversations with Joleen one area of interest for both her and for me is the impact of the new agricultural law on women. Under the Agricultural Reform in Honduras women were unable to receive titles to land through the cooperatives. Now there is to be "gender equity" under the new agricultural law with which she is working. There is also a titling project of USAID where women have received titles to land with some interesting results, i.e. "in a land titling project, women received title to less land than men (one hectare maximum for women; but after two years, women were successful enough to be making production loans to the men who had received more land." (Estes, "Gender and Natural Resources in Honduras", DESFIL/AID, 1993.) She is interested in following this and

so am I ,

Monday, December 6, 1993

1. Met with Peter Hearne with whom I worked under ECOGEN/SARSA/USAID/LUPE in southern Honduras. He is the project officer for LUPE which is a large technical assistance project in sustainable agriculture and natural resources, with a heavy component of working with farm families through extension and contact farmers. He is the gender representative for the agricultural sector of the Mission. He told me that recently Chemonics did a mid-term evaluation of the project (Jerry Owens and Evo Kalchvek (?)) The evaluation recommended that gender be integrated throughout the project. LUPE had begun with women in development, focusing on women in quite traditional ways, i.e. cooking and recipes. The new gender idea is to have both male and female agronomists working with vegetable gardens and improved techniques for grains, i.e. seed selection, spacing for plants, green manure, etc. with both men and women. One component of the women in development approach will remain, namely the improved stoves which burn less firewood.

Peter also told me that they were initiating a system of contact farmer trainers, the elite of the contact farmers, who would work for the project ten or twelve days each month. The system of training them and administering the system will fall to CARE which will serve as the umbrella organization for five non-governmental organizations working at the field level.

Peter was also very interested in the FAO/DEFIL workshop, thinking in terms of sending LUPE personnel for training. He suggested that September would be a good month to hold the workshop, with the second part in January. He felt USAID could fund the travel and per diem of three participants.

2. Met with Carmen Zambrana who is the gender officer and in that position serves as the link between the deputy mission director who serves as the chair for the "Gender Considerations in Development" Committee and the technical offices. She is also the Evaluation Officer for the Mission. She told me that there was a mission from the AID/WID Office Washington, D.C. here doing a Mission-wide study of how gender has been integrated into Mission activities. The study is led by Pat Martin LAC/WID who I met with in Washington before I left. There is also a Municipal Development Project which conducts town meetings. The data on the participants at the meetings are being disaggregated by sex and an emphasis is being placed on how women and men are involved. The Future Group did a study on how women and men use the municipal governments - one finding was that men go for legal information and women for services, i.e. water, electricity etc. She talked about the Fundacion Vida which DEFIL helped formulate; it is set up as a foundation for soliciting grants. A part of the criteria for receiving grants is that the applications must include gender analysis. DEFIL through Valerie Estes was instrumental in establishing this criteria. The Foundation is just getting under way and has yet to award funds. However, it would be interesting to monitor the Foundation to see how this criteria is implemented.

Ms. Zambrana also mentioned the interest in women and land tenure in the new Policy Analysis and Implementation Project on the Agriculture Modernization Law.

3. I met with Ian Walker of the Director of ESA Consultants. He was recommended as someone who had written a paper on the social impacts of forest policy. He explained the study and gave me a copy of the paper, "El Impacto de las Politicas de Ajuste Estructural Sobre El Medio Ambiente en Honduras". (The Impact of Structural Adjustment Policies on the Environment in Honduras) One of the problems it addresses is deforestation. It may not be exactly what we want. However, his company with a California firm hope to be the finalist on a bid for a World Bank project in Honduras to do remote sensing of degraded areas and then "ground truth" the areas by sending in teams of social scientists to do rapid rural appraisals. The University of Wisconsin will also be involved with this: Becky Brown, ecological evaluations and Tom Yule, forest sociologist. It sounded very much like what Bill Fiebig is doing in west Africa. He spoke highly of Mario Ardon in La Escuela Panamericana de Zamorano who is a rural sociologist and may be a more likely candidate for a co-author of the forest and policy paper. He is out of the city now, however. It seems Ted Downing from the University of Arizona who did the monitoring and evaluation plan for Dwight Steen is also working with ESA.

#### POSSIBLE CONSULTANTS

1. Cecilia Sanchez and Blanca Dole, Consultants on gender, all woman company, "Uno mas Uno". Apartado 3583, Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Telephone: 324093.

2. Jolyne Sanjak, Assistant Professor of Economics, (Agricultural Economics) State University of New York at Albany  
Albany, New York 12222 Telephone: 518-442-4751

She is now working with Chemonics/USAID for the PAIP Project in Honduras managed by Chemonics

3. Eliabeth Dunn, Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, 223-C Mumford Hall, University of Missouri - Columbia, Missouri 65211. Phone: 314-882-8816; FAX: 314-882-3958.

4. Celina Kawas, Tegucigalpa, Honduras  
Consultant in Gender; excellent in conducting workshops  
Telephone: 321706

5. Linda Casey - University of Michigan Population Fellow  
Compiling training materials in Spanish on family planning  
Vecinos Mundiales  
Apdo. 3385  
Tegucigalpa Telephone: (504) 32-7471

6. Sara R. Walter and John Young, business and financial planning  
Praxis, p.o. Box 526150, Miami, Florida 33152-6150  
Honduras Phone: 504-32 9721

7. Ian Walker, Director, ESA Consultores: Economics, Society and the Environment; He works with Alston Thomas who USAID Margaret Harritt recommended and with Rogerlio Harritt, Margaret's husband, who is a forest economist. He also has a gender specialist working in the office. Apartado Postal 4227, Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Telephone: (504) 38-8570/71; FAX (504) 38-8572.

8. Mario Ardon, teaches at La Escuela Panamericana at Zamorano; highly regarded for participatory methods, rapid rural appraisals etc. Telephone: (504)- 766140.

9. Becky Brown, Ecological Evaluations and Tom Yule, Forest Sociologist, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

#### USAID NAMES

1. Dwight Steen, Director, Office of Agriculture and Rural Development, USAID/Honduras/RD, Unit 2927, APO AA 34022-3480; Telephone: 504-36-9320; FAX: 504-36-77-76

2. Margaret Harritt, PhD  
Apdo. 3453  
USAID Mission  
Tegucigalpa, Honduras FAX: 504-36-93-20  
Telephone: (o) 504-36-93-20; (h) 504-311950

3. Ramon Alvarez Lazzaroni, Forestry Project Officer  
Apdo. 3453, USAID Mission, Tegucigalpa, Honduras  
Telephone: 504-36-93-20

4. Peter Hearne, LUPE Project Officer  
Apdo. 3453, USAID Mission, Tegucigalpa, Honduras  
Telephone: 504-36-93-20

5. Carmen Zambrana, Project Evaluation and Gender Officer; serves as the link between the Deputy Director of the Mission who serves as the Chair of the Gender Considerations in Development Committee and the technical offices.  
Apdo. 3453, Tegucigalpa, Honduras Telephone: 504-36-93-20



January 11, 1993

Dear Margaret:

I am now back in the office after a trip to Guatemala and Finland, landing in Minneapolis for the holidays. I remember with gratitude your welcome to me at the USAID Mission in Honduras and the help you gave to me. I also thank you and your husband for the fine Sunday in the mountains. The combination in the two of you of the hospitality of the southern United States and Brasil is dynamite.

I had told you I would send a summary of the proposed FAO/DESFIL workshop on gender and forestry, "Perspectiva de Genero en los Proyectos de Desarrollo Forestal", for Central America. Please find it attached.

While I was in Honduras visiting with USAID personnel I was particularly interested in the following:

- a) the reorientation of LUPE as regards WID after the mid-term evaluation. As you may remember I had worked with LUPE briefly in southern Honduras. The case study to come out of that project is almost complete. It would be interesting to monitor this reorientation as a companion piece to the case study. I will write of this to Peter Hearne.
- b) the gender-based criteria for funding from the Fundacion Vida. I believe this is a model for other such funds and, therefore, it would be very useful to monitor its implementation.
- c) the new Agriculture Modernization Law. Honduras seems to be an interesting case study on women and land tenure, from the agrarian reform that did not deal with the issue with negative consequences for women to the new law that I understand does deal with the issue. One note in a report I read in Honduras mentioned that "in a USAID land titling project, women received title to less land than men (one hectare maximum for women) but after two years, women were successful enough to be making production loans to the men who had received more land." (Estes, 1993) Given the interest in women and land tenure worldwide, I would hope USAID could capitalize on the lessons learned from the Honduras experience.

My special regards to Rogerio. I am hoping that some way can be worked out to include ESA Consultants in the workshop on forest sector policy reform in the LAC region in Washington, D.C. So I will be in touch with Ian Walker. I also am hoping that ESA won the bid for the Land Sat/"ground truthing" project. If so we need to link the man at DESFIL doing similar work with ESA.

At any rate keep DESFIL in mind and if there is any way we can be of service, especially

with assistance that links the social sciences and fragile lands let us know. In the meantime, I once again send my thanks to you. I also very much appreciated the briefing Dwight Steen gave to me and I will copy this letter to him.

Very Sincerely,

*Mary R*

Mary Hill Rojas, Ed.D.  
DESFIL: Social Scientist

cc D. Steen



**DESFIL**  
Development Strategies for Fragile Lands

January 13, 1993

Dear Sra. Zambrana:

Just a note to thank you for meeting with me while I was in Honduras. Since that time I have been traveling and enjoying the holidays. I wanted to send you a summary of the "FAO/DESFIL Workshop, 'Perspectiva de Genero en los Proyectos de Desarrollo Forestal'", which I mentioned when I was with you. I also include a copy of the letter that I sent to Margaret Harritt which lists some of the interests I have from my visit to Honduras. Your insights were very helpful.

Wishing you a very joyful 1994,

With Best Regards,

*Mary Rojas*

Mary Hill Rojas, EdD.  
DESFIL-Social Scientist

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January 13, 1993

Dear Peter:

I hope you had a good holiday. After meeting with you in Honduras I went to Guatemala, Washington D.C., Finland and finally landed for Christmas in Minneapolis with family and friends. So I am just now back in the office. I wanted to thank you for visiting with me. It was good to see you again and to hear of your family.

I spoke with Barbara Thomas-Slaytor and Ann Marie Urban the other day. The case study for LUPE is finished (and Ann Marie's master thesis, which is a longer version). Barbara sent it to me and this weekend I will edit it and meet with Ann Marie to put on the finishing touches. I believe there are some graphics yet to be done etc. But you should see it soon.

I was interested in your description of the reorientation for LUPE-WID that came out of the mid-term evaluation. At some point it may be useful to do a study of these changes as a part of "lessons learned" for AID. Such a study would make a nice companion piece to the case study. If you are ever interested in such a study I would be willing to draft a proposal of what I have in mind.

Also I attach a description of the FAO/DESFIL workshop on gender and forestry, "Perspectiva de Genero en los Proyectos de Desarrollo Forestal". We spoke of this workshop in Honduras. I believe LUPE staff might benefit from it.

As always, I send my best regards to you.

Very Sincerely,

Mary Hill Rojas, Ed.D.  
DESFIL-Social Scientist

# **Gender Analysis and Forestry Training in Central America**

## **A Proposed FAO/DEFIL Workshop for the Possible Involvement of USAID Honduras**

### **Background**

In November 1992 in Nicaragua the "Consejo Consultivo Regional Mujer y Desarrollo", the Tropical Forestry Action Plan for Central America and the Tropical Forestry Action Plan for Nicaragua, in coordination with several international donor agencies, organized the first regional workshop on "Gender Considerations in Forestry Development Projects" in Central America. The main objective of this workshop was to identify how the participation of local community members, both men and women, could be encouraged in Tropical Forestry Action Plan projects.

The workshop participants recognized the need for gender-based information in order to improve project planning and implementation. Also stressed was the need for training of foresters and forestry planners in the importance of gender considerations and the need for more gender positive policies through the Tropical Forestry Action Plan.

### **The Proposed Workshop**

The proposed workshop, "Perspectiva de Genero en los Proyectos de Desarrollo Forestal", is one outcome of the first workshop held in Nicaragua. The workshop is proposed for September, 1994 and is to serve the seven countries of Central America, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Honduras, Belize, Guatemala and El Salvador. The workshop is organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations' Community Forestry Department with the support of DEFIL, Development Strategies for Fragile Lands, a centrally funded project of the United States Agency for International Development. The workshop is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, the Swedish International Development Agency, the World Resources Institute, PROCOFOR/PAFT, and the Forest, Trees and People Program of FAO.

The workshop is based on a model that has been used successfully in south Asia:

1. A region is chosen within each of the Central American countries as a case study.
2. Teams of three participants are chosen from each of the Central American countries; one participant is a forester (or a related field) from the case study region or a forester who knows the region well. The other two participants are chosen for their willingness to become trainers in their own countries in gender analysis and forestry and who work professionally with the social impacts of environmental policies and projects.
3. The first phase of the workshop is a five day regional session to train participants in a) gender analysis, b) rapid rural appraisal, and c) case study writing.
4. The second phase of the workshop is field research and documentation carried out during two months by each team in their own countries in their selected case study region. The teams gather detailed information on the activities, resources and constraints of women and men living in the case

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study region, using participatory methodologies and gender analysis. A workshop photographer documents visually the case study regions in each of the countries. The team then writes up their case studies.

5. The third phase of the workshop is the training of trainers. With their case studies and visuals in hand the two members of the country teams who will do training in gender analysis and forestry return for a regional seven day workshop on training of trainers. The agenda includes learning participatory training methodologies, conducting needs assessments, setting training objectives and designing agendas and evaluations. The week ends with mini-workshops where each national team leads others through an analysis of its case study.

6. The fourth phase of the workshop is for the teams to return to their own countries to write proposals for funding for a national pilot workshop on gender and forestry.

7. The fifth phase is to hold a national pilot workshop led by those trained at the regional workshop

### **The Possible Involvement of USAID Honduras**

It is proposed that the FAO/DEFIL workshop would contribute to the objectives of USAID Honduras in several ways:

1. The workshop trains trainers in participatory methodologies and gender analysis, both important in developing community participation at a local level.
2. The workshop produces a case study on a natural resource project of interest to USAID in Honduras which can be used for environmental education or for training.
3. The workshop produces visuals that can be used to "tell AID's story", for environmental education and for training.
4. Peter Hearne, LUPE Project Officer, thought it may be that LUPE personnel would benefit from participation in such a workshop. Similarly, Margaret Harritt, Environmental Advisor, had an interest in the workshop.

### **Funding**

There is some funding for participants to attend the workshop. However, USAID Honduras would be responsible for much of the funding, travel, hotels and per diem, for the three member team. There is no workshop fee.

**GUATEMALA**

**TRIP REPORT - GUATEMALA**  
**DEFIL-Mary Hill Rojas, Gender Specialist**

Wednesday, December 8, 1993

1. Met with Jerry Bauer, USAID Environmental Advisor. He heads up a self-help, rural roads project run through the GOG department of transportation. The project has been going for ten years and has been successful. They have a regional engineer, a topographic specialist and some 45 social workers. The community initiates the process by submitting a proposal for a road. The social workers organize the communities once they have been selected for a road. There is also a component of environmental education that the social workers implement through the schools and community groups. It includes tree nurseries and reforestation. Jerry would really like an evaluation of the program. He is quite impassioned about the position of women in Guatemala and I believe he would like the evaluation to highlight the women's work within the project. His enthusiasm and energy is both catching and winning.

Jerry Bauer took me to meet Eugenia de Celada who is a community organizer and works with women and participatory methods. She had recently put on one of the first conferences on women, the environment and development in Guatemala with participants from the Central American region. According to J. Bauer she is "the best". I also met with Vicky Flores who directs the social workers for the rural roads project. She explained to me the social worker's duties. They seem to do rapid rural appraisals and collect extensive social data through a lengthy formal survey, which Jerry thinks is too long and not used.

Jerry also offers a course on rural road construction with environmentally sound impacts and community participation. He has given it here and in Bolivia. He also mentioned others: A) Hilda Rivera, CARE, Guatemala City; B) Bruce Cabarle, World Resources Institute, Washington, D.C. both do work with community participation. My feeling is that what would be very useful would be a study on the community participation practices used in Central America, linking them to gender analysis and women in development under the general rubric of "democratization".

2. Met with Keith Kline, Natural Resources and project coordinator in the Peten region: "Proyecto de la Biosfera Maya". Keith said that of the Community Natural Resource Management Project (CNRM) only the Watershed Management Project was approved, which is being implemented by CARE (Ron Savage). The Policy component which was developed with input from DEFIL was not approved. It was that component that I found so useful as it has sections on a policy dialogue with local peoples. Keith said there have been a series of internal policy meetings and a rough draft of their thinking is attached. The redesigned policy component of CNRM will be based on the thinking to come out of these meetings.

He mentioned a woman, Elsa Chang, who is Guatemalan and divides her time between Guatemala and the World Resources Institute in Washington, D.C. She has just recently finished her master's degree at Duke University in policy. She has worked closely with Hilary Lorraine, the RENARM policy advisor. The two of them seem likely authors for the "Social Impacts of Forest Policy" paper for the spring DEFIL workshop. He also mentioned others who had written on the Peten as anthropologists: Scott Atran, Systems Specialist, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan and

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Norman Schwartz, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware.

4. Met with Margaret Kromhout and Liliana Gil. Margaret is the EID officer and also a programs officer, i.e. project design and support services. She mentioned that the Mission has little WID/Gender information available, i.e. bibliographies, lists of women's organizations. However, there is a core group of interested people. There was an intern who was at the Mission this past summer who did some work organizing the WID/Gender library.

Margaret and Liliana are both new to their positions. Margaret said that one facet of her job is monitoring and evaluation and that in this way she can track the WID/Gender project components and make sure all data is disaggregated by sex. She had lived and worked in Honduras and mentioned the Fundacion Vida criteria for gender and the inclusion of women as being a model to follow. She also mentioned that the Guatemala Mission has done work on girl's education. Interestingly, neither the AID five areas of emphasis nor their own strategies include education. They put girl's education, therefore, under their strategy for "smaller families".

Thursday, December 9:

1. Met with Henry Tschinkel. He spoke of the USAID funding of "Madelena", a regional program run through CATIE to promote the cultivation of multi-purpose trees. The personnel from this program should go to the FAO/DEFIL Gender and Forestry Workshop. (Contact: Phil Cannon, CATIE, Turrialba, Costa Rica) He gave me CATIE'S publication catalogue and for the most part they have focused on the technical aspects of trees. They could use a section on community participation and gender analysis it seems. He also told me that, as in the United States, when all the trees begin to disappear people become interested in replanting and preserving some old growth in national parks. That is the the best, he believes, that can happen in Central America.

He confirmed that the policy component of the Community Natural Resource Management Project had not been approved and that they are working on redesigning it. Fred Mann (who was out of the country) is involved with this. The ROCAP Regional Office and USAID are now merged. RENARM, Proyecto Manejo Regional de las Recursos Naturales y del Medio Ambiente, is financed by USAID/ROCAP. CATIE has four of the components, Watershed Management. Multi-use Trees, Produccion en Bosques Naturales and Integrated Pest Management. Joan Goodin of GENYSYS apparently did a gender and WID review of RENARM and Rosalie Norem, USAID/WID, has an interest in the program.

Henry mentioned two potential people for the Forest Policy Workshop: Stanley Heckadon, Panama who has done years of work on the social impacts of reforestation; Gerald Murray, anthropologist, University of Massachusetts;

2. Met with Ray Waldron. Between meeting with Henry Tschinkel and Ray Waldron I met, in passing, Bill Sugrue who had just arrived from a trip. Met at length with Ray Waldron. He had helped backstop DEFIL from the AID side. We talked mostly about policy and the forestry and policy workshop. He mentioned a DEFIL conference that had been held in Panama that he said was deadly because of the format, i.e. everyone had a paper to present.

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We talked of participatory methods for workshops and he suggested three subjects that would lend themselves to group exercises and be helpful to the Guatemala Mission as well: A) USAID are about to have a small grants fund for NRM projects for researchers, academics etc. to do research on policy. They are trying to determine the criteria for such a fund. He can envision the workshop participants doing an exercise on determining the eligible topics for funding. This would be useful for the participants, as well, as they would share their interests amongst themselves; A complementary topic would be how these topics and criteria fit in with national priorities and Agenda 21, etc.; B) He also would like group work to define what is a policy activity; C) Finally, he commented it would be interesting to give groups the statement: "it is widely held that livestock is a major contributor to deforestation. In your country, what policy would you write that would alleviate this problem". The point of this exercise is not to come up with answers, although this would be interesting as well, but to highlight the fact that "policy" means different things to different people. This would be a good exercise to begin the workshop as a working definition of policy could come out of it for purposes of the workshop.

Ray Waldron mentioned that he would like to help structure this workshop and if we can send a Scope of Work he would see what he could do. He also mentioned a simulation game run by Clark Abt which did not work well. It was based on The Green Book; the problem was that the idea was good but the participants did not take it seriously and so it turned into a parlor game. The other concept to shape group exercises around would be "Policy Analysis, Formulation and Dialog and Social Impacts".

He mentioned two people for follow-up: the wife of Hans Tatenbach (he couldn't remember her first name), PhD Cornell who is working with IICA in San Jose, Costa Rica on a study on gender. Sounds as if she is advising them also on how to integrate gender throughout the work of IICA. The other is Evan Mercer, forester, see below for address etc., who is conducting three case studies similar to ECOGEN with rapid rural appraisals, household surveys and in-depth mini-case studies of farmers in the Phillipines, Uganda and Guatemala. The funding comes from the USDA Forestry Support Program, which is also providing funds for the FAO/DESFIL Workshop on gender and forestry.

He gave me a copy of the USAID Guatemala NRM Strategy.

3. Met briefly with Hilary Lorraine who had just come in from a trip. She told me of a woman, Silvia Marin, who is very good with workshops and had done a workshop exercise in Honduras using a matrix to try and get at the social impacts of forestry policy. She is with PAFCA in Costa Rica and her telephone is below. As with many people Hilary thinks "community forestry" when I mention the topic of "social impacts of forest policy". I believe many of the people recommended to me for this topic have done community forestry, but have not really looked at the sub-set of that which would be the impact of policy on people. Hilary also mentioned that she is working closely with George Johnston.

#### USAID PERSONNEL

1) Jerry Bauer, Environmental Advisor, USAID, Unit 3323, APO AA 34024 Telephone: (H) (502-2) 341880; (O) (502-2) 720059; FAX (502-2) 311151.

- 2) Keith Kline, Natural Resources and Coordinator of the Proyecto de la Niosfera Maya; USAID, Plaza Uno, Primera Calle, 7-66, Zona 9, Guatemala, Guatemala. Telephone: (505-2) 320202, 320322; FAX, (505-2) 311151.
3. Margaret Kromhout, Programs Officer, Project Design and Support Services. Gender Officer. Works with Elizabeth Warfield. USAID/Guatemala, APO AA 34024.
4. Liliana Gil, Assistant to Margaret Krumhout. USAID, Primera Calle 7-66, Zona 9 Ciudad de Guatemala, Guatemala.
5. Henry Tschinkel, Forestry Specialist: Peten Project, Oficina de Recursos Naturales, 1a. Calle 7-66, Zona 9, Guatemala, Guatemala. Telephone: (502-2)320322. FAX: (502-2)31-11-51.
6. Raymond Waldron, Oficina de Recursos Naturales, 1a Calle 7-66, Zona 9, Guatemala City. Telephone: (502-2) 32-03-22; FAX: (505-2)31-11-51.
7. Hilary Lorraine, Policy Advisor, Oficina de Recursos Naturales, USAID 1a Calle 7-66, Zona 9, Guatemala. Telephone: (502-2)320322; Fax: (505-2)31-11-51.

#### POSSIBLE CONSULTANTS

1. Eugenia de Celada, Community participation, gender etc., c/o Jerry Bauer, USAID, Unit 3323 APO AA 34024; Telephone: (502-2) 341880; FAX, (502-2) 311151.
2. Hilda Rivera, Community participation, PACA-CARE, Guatemala City, Guatemala. (Contact through USAID Mission Jerry Bauer or Keith K,line)
3. Phoebe Landsdale, Pan American Foundation, Washington, D.C., community participation, and Bruce Cabarle, WRI, Washington, D.C., give workshops on community participation.
4. Lina Barrientos, Social Scientist, Diagnostic Studies, University of San Carlos (USAC) Telefono: (502-2) 76-07-90 to 94.
5. Look up Ruthie Shepherd in Wyoming, former Peace Corps; knows Keith Kline and would like to work internationally again. Her family has a working ranch but also accepts dudes.
6. Gerald Murray, Anthropologist, Forestry and people in the Peten, University of Massachusetts, 61 Canton Ave., Milton, Massachusetts 02186. Telephone: (H) 617-698-9451; (O) 617-495-2026.
7. Stanley Heckadon, Social Impacts of Reforestation, Panama, Telephone: 325734 (need country and city code) Office in the Smithsonian, Panama: 276022 (need city and country code).
8. Silvia Marin, conducts workshops on policy and social impacts, PACA (PAFTCA?) San Jose, Costa Rica, (506) 349580; FAX: (506) 245-057.



January 13, 1993

Dear Mr. Bauer:

Just a note to thank you very much for meeting with me while I was in Guatemala with DESFIL. I appreciated your taking time to introduce me to Eugenia de Celada and Vicky Flores. Certainly their enthusiasm and yours speak well of the work you are doing with the rural roads project.

I am hoping that your need for an evaluation of the project and my interest in looking at how gender and environmental issues interact in such projects may lead to our being able to work together in some capacity. Certainly, I am also interested in your work in community participation. I'm particularly interested in the natural links between democratization, community participation, gender analysis and women in development. I will be talking with Rosalie Norem of the AID/WID Office this week, mentioning these ideas.

In the meantime, please give my best regards and my thanks to Eugenia de Celada and Vicky Flores. My best to you, too for a good 1994,

Very Sincerely,

*Mary Hill Rojas*

Mary Hill Rojas  
Social Scientist, DESFIL

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January 13, 1993

Dear Margaret and Liliana:

I write to thank you very much for meeting with me while I was visiting Guatemala for DESFIL. Since being with you I have been to Finland for FINNIDA, landing in Minneapolis for Christmas with my family. Now, however, I am back in Washington, D.C., in the office. I had mentioned I would send you a summary of the regional FAO\DESFIL workshop on "Perspectiva de Genero en los Proyectos de Desarrollo Forestal". Henry Tschinkel thought that personnel from the "Madelena" program at CATIE may be appropriate for this workshop. He suggested I write to Phil Cannon of CATIE, which I will do. However, I wanted you to know of the workshop and when the final date is set for it I will make sure to let you know.

I also was very interested in your work with women and gender. If I can be of help to you in some way please let me know. I have extensive experience setting up gender and development programs and integrating gender into overall natural resource management programs. For your information, therefore, I attach my vita and a list of the consultancies I have during the past few years.

I hope all is well with you both. My Minnesota Christmas was filled with Guatemalan presents for my family. Please keep in touch.

With Best Regards,

Mary Hill Rojas  
Gender Specialist, DESFIL

cc Henry Tschinkel

## **Gender Analysis and Forestry Training in Central America**

### **A Proposed FAO/DEFIL Workshop for the Possible Involvement of USAID Guatemala**

#### **Background**

In November 1992 in Nicaragua the "Consejo Consultivo Regional Mujer y Desarrollo", the Tropical Forestry Action Plan for Central America and the Tropical Forestry Action Plan for Nicaragua, in coordination with several international donor agencies, organized the first regional workshop on "Gender Considerations in Forestry Development Projects" in Central America. The main objective of this workshop was to identify how the participation of local community members, both men and women, could be encouraged in Tropical Forestry Action Plan projects.

The workshop participants recognized the need for gender-based information in order to improve project planning and implementation. Also stressed was the need for training of foresters and forestry planners in the importance of gender considerations and the need for more gender positive policies through the Tropical Forestry Action Plan.

#### **The Proposed Workshop**

The proposed workshop, "Perspectiva de Genero en los Proyectos de Desarrollo Forestal", is one outcome of the first workshop held in Nicaragua. The workshop is proposed for 1994 and is to serve the seven countries of Central America, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Honduras, Belize, Guatemala and El Salvador. The workshop is organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations' Community Forestry Department with the support of DEFIL, Development Strategies for Fragile Lands, a centrally funded project of the United States Agency for International Development. The workshop is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, the Swedish International Development Agency, the World Resources Institute, PROCOFOR/PAFT, and the Forest, Trees and People Program of FAO.

The workshop is based on a model that has been used successfully in south Asia:

1. A region is chosen within each of the Central American countries as a case study.
2. Teams of three participants are chosen from each of the Central American countries; one participant is a forester (or a related field) from the case study region or a forester who knows the region well. The other two participants are chosen for their willingness to become trainers in their own countries in gender analysis and forestry and who work professionally with the social impacts of environmental policies and projects.
3. The first phase of the workshop is a five day regional session to train participants in a) gender analysis, b) rapid rural appraisal, and c) case study writing.
4. The second phase of the workshop is field research and documentation carried out during

two months by each team in their own countries in their selected case study region. The teams gather detailed information on the activities, resources and constraints of women and men living in the case study region, using participatory methodologies and gender analysis. A workshop photographer documents visually the case study regions in each of the countries. The team then writes up their case studies.

5. The third phase of the workshop is the training of trainers. With their case studies and visuals in hand the two members of the country teams who will do training in gender analysis and forestry return for a regional seven day workshop on training of trainers. The agenda includes learning participatory training methodologies, conducting needs assessments, setting training objectives and designing agendas and evaluations. The week ends with mini-workshops where each national team leads others through an analysis of its case study.

6. The fourth phase of the workshop is for the teams to return to their own countries to write proposals for funding for a national pilot workshop on gender and forestry.

7. The fifth phase is to hold a national pilot workshop led by those trained at the regional workshop

### **The Possible Involvement of USAID Guatemala**

It is proposed that the FAO/DEFIL workshop would contribute to the objectives of USAID Guatemala in several ways:

1. The workshop trains trainers in participatory methodologies and gender analysis, both important in developing community participation at a local level.

2. The workshop produces a case study on a natural resource project of interest to USAID in Guatemala which can be used for environmental education or for training.

3. The workshop produces visuals that can be used to "tell AID's story", for environmental education and for training.

4. Many of those I spoke with at the Guatemala USAID Mission had an interest in the workshop. For example, Henry Tschinkel felt the personnel from the Madelena project connected with CATIE and funded by AID might be appropriate participants for the workshop. Margaret Kromhout and Liliana Gil who are the WID officers were interested in the workshop. Jerry Bauer, who himself offers workshops on community participation, felt the workshop would be valuable for the personnel in his project on rural roads and environmental education.

### **Funding**

There is some funding for participants to attend the workshop. However, USAID Honduras would be responsible for much of the funding, travel, hotels and per diem, for the three member team. There is no workshop fee.

## SUMMARY AND FOLLOW-UP

## **FOLLOW-UP: CENTRAL AMERICA MARKETING TRIP**

### **NICARAGUA:**

1. Send information about FAO\DESFIL Regional Workshop, "Perspectiva de Genero en los Proyectos de Desarrollo Forestal" to Ralph Conley, Lawrence Odle and Joy Doorman.
2. Call Jose Rodos at PAFTCA about possible paper on the social impacts of forest policy for the D.C. workshop on same.
3. Talk with Marilyn Hoskins about the FAO\DESFIL workshop and tell her of the meeting with Arleen Mayorga.
4. Develop project idea to strengthen the "Gender and Development Office" of Nicaragua's IRENA, in support of USAID/Nicaragua's NRM project, and document the strengthening process as a model for other Missions.
5. Follow-up letters to those in USAID with whom I met

### **HONDURAS:**

1. Send information about FAO\DESFIL Regional Workshop, "Perspectiva de Genero en los Proyectos de Desarrollo Forestal", to Margaret Harritt, Peter Hearne, Carmen Zambrana.
2. Talk with Ian Walker about revising his paper, "Impacto de las Politicas de Ajuste Estructural sobre el Medio Ambiente en Honduras" to fit the needs of the forestry and policy workshop in D.C.
3. Investigate the possibility of three project ideas in Honduras with Rosalie Norem and Nancy Diamond, AID\WID: a) Monitor and document the reorientation of the WID program of the LUPE project sponsored by USAID/Honduras. Develop the documentation as a companion piece to the ECOGEN case study on WID issues in Honduras. b) Monitor, document and provide recommendations for the USAID/Honduras-supported Fundacion Vida's small grants program that includes gender-differentiated initiatives. c) Provide technical assistance to USAID/Honduras to assess, document, and disseminate lessons learned from the USAID assisted development and implementation of gender and tenure aspects of the new Agriculture Modernization Law.
4. Follow-up letters to those in USAID with whom I met

## GUATEMALA:

1. Send information about FAODESFIL Regional Workshop, "Perspectiva de Genero en los Proyectos de Desarrollo Forestal" to Margaret Kromhout and Henry Tschinkel.
2. Letter to Jerry Bauer suggesting the possibility of an evaluation of his rural roads project, especially th environmental education component, with a view to community participation and gender.
3. Talk with Rosalie Norem about the idea of parlaying an evaluation of Jery Bauer's rural roads project into a broader-based support of gender and WID throughout the Guatemala USAID Mission.
4. Follow up within the United States to Elsa Chang ( works at WRI; possible paper for the forest policy D.C. workshop) and Evan Mercer who is doing ECOGEN type case studies with support from the USDA Forestry Support Program.
5. Explore possibility of a participatory pre-conference workshop on policy working with Ray Waldron, to be held before the forest and policy workshop in D.C.
6. Follow-up letters to those in USAID with whom I met

## REGION-WIDE:

1. Document how "community participation" is being used, i.e. very useful would be a study on the lessons learned from the community participation practices used by a variety of practitioners, i.e. Mario Ardon, in Central America, linking these practices to the AID mandate for democratization, including analysis and women in development.
2. Document "Lessons Learned" about gender and natural resource management throughout Central America.
3. Document how the USAID Missions in Central America are currently "getting at" the monitoring and evaluation of social impacts of natural resource management; suggest ways to monitor and evaluate for social impacts of NRM through workshops etc. (Contact Ted Downing, U. Of Arizona)

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## SUMMARY

The Central American Marketing Trip conducted by Mary Hill Rojas, the gender specialist for DESFIL played a vital role in shaping the DESFIL Gender Program for 1994. The Gender Program will focus on community participation, using gender analysis and the women in development literature, to better understand the interaction between people and their environment for sustainable management of fragile lands.

In accordance with the DESFIL mandate, there are three objectives for the program for 1994: A) To carry out research on gender and the environment; B) To provide service to USAID Missions related to gender and the environment; C) To assure dissemination of the results of the research and service. To fulfill these objectives the following activities will be carried out working in conjunction with the DESFIL team:

### Research

- \* Conduct a research project based on data from a literature review, project documents, interviews and, if feasible, field work on "Lessons Learned from Using Gender Analysis and Including Women in Natural Resource Management Development Projects"
- \* Write a monograph on "Understanding the Links Between Democracy, Community Participation, Gender Analysis and Women in Development as Practiced in Natural Resource Management Projects."
- \* Edit a research paper on the social impacts of forest policy for the DESFIL sponsored workshop, "Forest Sector Policy Reform in the LAC Region" and write the introduction for the paper.
- \* Develop a monograph in conjunction with ECOGEN/SARSA on lessons learned about participatory methodologies and gender analysis using a case study from Honduras dealing with natural resource management.
- \* The research will contribute to the DESFIL synthesis document. Therefore, the research will be presented in a format compatible with that of the synthesis document. However, the research will also be written in formats appropriate for articles, technical bulletins and newsletters when necessary.

### Service

- \* Market DESFIL to USAID Missions
- \* Train USAID personnel from Central America in gender and forestry through the FAO/DESFIL regional workshop, "Perspectiva de Genero en los Proyectos de Desarrollo Forestal".

- \* Involve USAID Central America personnel in the DESFIL-sponsored workshop on "Forest Sector Policy Reform in the LAC Region".

The following ideas for service activities are subject to development of buy-in support from the indicated Missions.

- \* Strengthen the "Gender and Development" Office of the Government of Nicaragua's IRENA, in support of USAID/Nicaragua's NRM project, and document the strengthening process as a model for other Missions.
  - \* Monitor and document the reorientation of the WID program of the LUPE projects sponsored by USAID/Honduras. Develop the documentation as a companion piece to the ECOGEN case study on WID issues in Honduras.
  - \* Monitor, document, and provide recommendations for the USAID/Honduras-supported Fundacion Vida's small grants program that includes gender-based funding criteria.
  - \* Provide Technical Assistance to USAID/Honduras to assess, document, and disseminate lessons learned from the gender and tenure aspects of the new Agriculture Modernization Law.
  - \* Provide Technical Assistance to USAID/Guatemala to evaluate the environmental education component of the Mission-supported rural roads project. Use this evaluation as the basis for a WID/Gender training workshop for Mission personnel.
- Dissemination
- \* Provide leadership for a FAO/DEFIL Workshop on incorporating the results of gender analysis in the design, implementation, and monitoring/evaluation of forestry and agroforestry projects in Central America
  - \* Train DEFIL core team members in gender analysis and participatory methods.
  - \* Write four technical bulletins on gender and the environment
  - \* Disseminate the results of the research through available means, i.e. conferences, seminars, newsletters, technical bulletins
  - \* Establish and maintain networks for professional growth and for dissemination of DEFIL materials, i.e. the gender and environment network, the GENESYS project, women and development officers at AID and USAID missions.

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