

PDO

ADM 2

PD-ABL-147  
94831

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS

April 1, 1985 - September 30, 1985

Belize

November 1985

I. PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

A. SUMMARY TABLE

(4/85-9/85)

In U.S. \$000

<u>PROJECT 505-</u>		<u>AUTH.</u>	<u>OBL.</u>	<u>CUM EX</u>	<u>EX THIS PD</u>	
<u>ARDN</u>						
0006	Livestock Development	G	1,350	1,350	257	89
		L	1,900	1,900	714	189
0007	Rural Access Roads and Bridges	G	6,150	6,150	4,644	764
0010	Junior School of Agriculture (SDA)	G	75	75	50	21
0023	Accelerated Cocoa Production	G	615	615	134	134
<u>ESF and SDA</u>						
0005	Credit Rediscount Fund	L	5,000	5,000	135	135
0011	Nat Dev Foundation of Belize (NDFB)	G	142	142	117	16
0012	Counterpart Fund II	L	13,000	13,000	2,500	2,500
		G	1,000	1,000	138	138
0025	Export Promotion	G	200	200	125	57
<u>HE, EHR and HIG</u>						
HG001	Home Improvement Loan	L	2,000	2,000	470	160
0003	Housing Assistance for Home Improv.	G	400	400	400	0
0018	Increased Prod. through Health	G	7,000	1,500	0	0
0024	Village Health and Sanitation	G	500	500	120	84
0026	Guidance, Couns. Placement Service (SDA)	G	80	80	17	7
0029	Breast is Best League	G	50	50	21	17

B. STATUS OF NEW PROJECT DEVELOPMENT - FY 86

1. 505-0028 Energy Planning, LOP \$.5m, FY 86 \$.3m

The PID is expected to be completed and approved by June 1986, and the project paper is expected to be completed and approved by October, 1986. The design team will work closely with the Belize Electricity Board (BEB), BEB's AID-funded management and financial advisor, and the Government of Belize (GOB).

2. 505-0027 Export and Investment Promotion, LOP \$2.3m, FY 86 \$.75m

The PID was completed and approved at Mission level in October 1985. The project paper team will start December 2, 1985, and is expected to complete the project paper by January 15, 1986. The project will provide assistance to the Belize Export and Investment Promotion Unit (BEIPU) and its parent institution, the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), in export, investment and tourism development and promotion. BEIPU has already hired its executive director, who will assist in the writing of the project paper.

3. 505-0019 Export Investment Credit, LOP \$4.0m, FY 86 \$1.5m

The PID is expected to be completed and approved by May 1986, and the project paper is expected to be completed and approved by July 1986. USAID expects to obligate by August 1986.

4. 505-0016 Toledo Small Farmer Development, LOP \$2.5m, FY 86 \$.6m

The PID is expected to be completed by January 1986, and the project paper is expected to be completed by May 1986. USAID expects to obligate by July 1986.

II. PROJECT LISTINGS

A. ARDN

1. LIVESTOCK

(I) Background Data

Project Title: Belize Livestock Development Project  
Project Number: 505-0006  
Date of Authorization: August 22, 1983  
Date of Obligation: August 26, 1983  
Amendment I - April 30, 1984  
PACD: December 31, 1988  
Implementing Agency: Ministry of Natural Resources  
Major Contractor: SECID  
AID Project Officer: Charles Jenkins, ADO

(II) Project Purpose: The purpose of the project is to improve small and medium farmers' production efficiencies in the rearing of livestock and to expand market outlets for these products, primarily through import substitution activities. The project will finance six major components plus contingencies to accomplish this purpose. The components are set forth below.

Programmed Funding by Component in US \$000

1. Swine Improvement Program:  
L 350  
G 420
2. Pasture and Forage Improvement Program:  
L 200  
G 260
3. Dairy Industry Development:  
L 540  
G 180
4. Pork and Beef Processing:  
L 40  
G 90
5. Policy Analysis and Formulation:  
L 220  
G 200
6. Meat Residue Testing:  
L 185

- 7.. Evaluation  
L 70
  - 8. Inflation  
L 210  
G 150
  - 9. Contingencies  
L 85  
G 50
- Totals: L 1,900  
G 1,350

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary (US\$000)

--Amount authorized:	L 1,900	G 1,350
--Amount obligated:	L 1,400	G 1,350
--Amount committed:	L 869	G 316
--Accrued expenditures:		
Cumulative	L 714	G 257
This PD	L 189	G 89

--Status of Covenants and Conditions Precedent: All met

B. Major Outputs

- Four candidates for long-term educational training have been selected and are currently studying in the U.S.
- Two short-term observation tours are completed. A third is scheduled for early November 1985. A fourth is yet unscheduled.
- All staff have arrived and are in place.
- Dairy plant construction will begin in November 1985.
- Twenty-week training for meat processors complete and highly successful.

C. Other Accomplishments

- Project has sponsored 2 WID fellows.
- Swine seminar extension agent training.

D. Follow-up Actions: Not applicable during this time frame.

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations: An evaluation is scheduled for late October 1985.

(IV) Problems and Delays.

Dairy Industry Development -- Construction of the dairy plant has been delayed until November 1985. Cost overruns on equipment and probable overruns in construction of the plant are a potential problem based on a revised estimate submitted by the sub-contractor responsible for this element of the project.

The bidding process was completed, but no contractors were chosen due to a constraint created by the need for a 100% performance bond. The requirement was reduced to a 20% bond and negotiations resumed. The contract is expected to be let in October 1985.

(V) Major Activities

A. Corrective Actions: See above

B. Major Project or Management Activities

- Complete project evaluation and advisory committee meeting.
- Complete trade policy report.
- Put demonstration pastures for dairy into use.
- Continue efforts to improve district pastures and establish nurseries.
- Teach BSA course and prepare pasture publications.
- Work with swine farmers to develop breeding operations.
- Establish market links between swine breeders and finishers.
- Coordinate swine production and processing-marketing requirements.
- Complete swine observation tour for extension agents.
- Sign contract for dairy plant and complete construction of the plant.
- Collect information for dairy marketing study.
- Tours.

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment No major implementation problems.

(VII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training: Under the SECID contract one Ph.D., and two B.S.' are currently being trained; one MS will start in September 1985.

B. Gray Amendment HBCU Contracts: Southern University (HBCU) sub-contracted under the SECID contract.

## 2. RURAL ROADS AND BRIDGES

### (I) Background Data

Project Title: Rural Roads and Bridges Project  
Project Number: 505-0007  
Date of Authorization: September 29, 1983  
Dates of Obligation: September 30, 1983  
Amendment 1 - December 19, 1983  
Amendment 2 - May 24, 1984  
Amendment 3 - November 20, 1984  
January 1, 1987  
PACD:  
Implementing Agency: Ministry of Works  
Major Contractor: Alex Powers, PSC  
Project Manager: Charles Jenkins, ADO

### (II) Project Purpose

Purpose: To increase the capability of the Government of Belize (GOB) to build, maintain and protect its rural access road infrastructure through training, technical assistance and equipment procurement.

Statement of Objectives: In order to fulfill the purpose given above, this project has set a number of objectives to be achieved through implementation of this project. They include:

- Rehabilitation of 300 miles (or 27%) of Belize's rural roads.
- Provide bridging material for the construction of some 55 high-level all-weather river crossings on roads selected for rehabilitation.
- Reduced costs per mile for rural road maintenance by 33%.
- Reduced costs per mile for rural road construction by 50%.
- Training of over 150 foremen, equipment operators and laborers in rural road construction and rehabilitation.
- Training of 100 road maintenance workers.
- Training of 75 equipment shop mechanics and allied tradesmen.
- Establishment of an improved internal management and control system for the Ministry of Works (MOW).
- Establishment of a permanent, national system for the maintenance of Belize's rural road system.
- Preparation of a national rural access road inventory.

### Programmed Funding by Component in US \$000

To accomplish the objectives listed above, funds (all Grant) have been programmed by inputs.

1. Technical Assistance	\$1,637
2. Equipment	\$2,431
3. Spare parts	\$ 347

4. Fuel/lubricants .	\$	0
5. Shop tools		200
6. Shipping/transport		896
7. Local labor costs		0
8. Const. materials		425
9. Contract const. cost		0
10. Contingency		41
11. Inflation		35
12. Admin. expenses		138
Total		<u>\$ 6,150</u>

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary

--Amount authorized: DA/G \$6,150  
--Amount obligated: DA/G \$6,150  
--Amount committed: DA/G \$5,928  
--Accrued expenditures:  
    Cumulative \$4,644  
    This PD \$764  
--Status of Covenants and Conditions Precedent: All met

B. Major Outputs

--Establishment of central and district maintenance functions - November 1983. (Completed)

--Determination of order and priority of districts and roads for reconstruction. January 1984. (Completed)

--Rural access road maintenance training operations begin at the district level. March 1984. (Completed)

--Maintenance superintendent begins to operate at district level improving district maintenance operations. March 1984. (Completed)

--Beginning of rehabilitation training for rural access roads. April 1984. (Completed)

--First 80 miles of rural access road rehabilitation training. January 1985. (Completed)

--First iteration of MOW plan completed. January 1985. (Completed)

--Cumulative total of 200 miles of rural access road reconstruction training completed. January 1986.

--Control of equipment turned over to MOW. December 1986.

--Project assistance completion date: January 1, 1987.

C. Other Accomplishments and Overall Status

- (1) Inputs - All personnel on the technical assistance team are in country. With the arrival in September of 3,000 linear feet of culvert, all project equipment and material have been procured, thus completing the specified project inputs.
- (2) Road Selection and Bridge Site Selection - All candidate roads in six districts have been ranked. In August, with selection from the ranked list of approximately 50 miles of road in the Stann Creek district and approximately 50 miles of road in the Toledo district, road selection in four of six districts has been completed and authorized by USAID/Belize and MOW. Of the 103 bridge sets that arrived in country, 60 have been allocated to present, the remaining 43 are in the process of being allocated.
- (3) Road Maintenance Training Unit (MTU) - All six district MTU's have their full complement of equipment in place in each district, and road maintenance activities have ensued. Periodic training visitations are made by the CRTU Road Specialists to the districts to advise on maintenance techniques.
- (4) Management Improvement Component (MIC) - A data base for the MOW's planning and budget has been compiled and is continually being upgraded. An inventory of roads in Belize has been completed. A five-year operational plan and budget was completed in May 1985 and is currently being reviewed. A first iteration of an improved management and control system has been accomplished and is in the process of incorporation into the MOW present system.
- (5) Equipment Maintenance Component (EMC) - All spare parts ordered for project equipments are in country. Equipment and tools procured to upgrade district shops have been allocated with a few exceptions to the respective district shops. These will be allocated next quarter. The equipment maintenance specialist has assisted the district shops in setting up the equipment and is in the process of adhering to a more vigorous schedule for training in equipment maintenance to first eschelon capability.
- (6) Bridge Erection and Installation Component (BEIC) - All bridge sets (103) have arrived in Belize, and the MOW is in the process of contracting building contractors to construct the necessary abutment and center piers. The bridge specialist has been sorting the spans and associated hardware into bridge sets, painting spans where necessary to avoid corrosion. Bridge sets have been allocated and transported to proposed bridge sites.

D. Follow-up Actions: N/A

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations

The Rural Access Roads and Bridges Project has progressed beyond 'start-up' activities and steady progress is being made towards achieving the Project's purpose and goal. The equipment and technical assistance personnel were in-country as promptly as could be expected and road rehabilitation began in August 1984. The Project Paper (PP) implementation schedule was optimistic in expecting road rehabilitation to begin in March 1984 and consequently the Project is approximately six months behind the PP schedule. Considering the greater-than-average rainfall during several months in the 1984-85 rainy season, and the longer-than-anticipated haul to obtain adequate road material, it is doubtful that this six-month lag can be recovered. The Project PACD should be extended at least six months if the target 300 miles of rehabilitated roads is to be accomplished.

On the roads already rehabilitated to the PP specifications in the Belize and Cayo Districts, very little maintenance, if any, is being done. Intensity and distribution of rainfall, flooding borrow pits, and difficult working conditions in general have been a continuous problem. Road maintenance is a critical issue as deterioration may soon result and major reconstruction would be required. The Project supplied equipment spread for rural road maintenance is in place in each district but more emphasis needs to be placed on training and MOW management capability to institute capable follow-up.

In the Equipment Maintenance Component, allocation of project purchased tools to the districts is not complete and needs to be rectified. The equipment specialist has been engaged in other activities and has been unable to follow a continuous schedule. Implementation of a more formal training plan is recommended.

Effective participation in the management improvement component by the MOW is not very evident. The management specialist has gathered enough data to formulate a 'first iteration' of a planning system and much progress has yet to be made before an effective planning system is on-line.

The majority of the bridge sets are still in storage under unsuitable conditions at the Belize Port. Bridge sets arrived in fair condition, except for the small items, such as nuts and bolts, which were stored in boxes. Many of the boxes were broken and their contents rusted and intermixed. A few spans contained some rust. The storage area at the Port is small, not easily accessible and subject to flooding and corrosive sea air. Recommendation is made to move the sets to some adequate facility inland.

The quantity, inventory control, and storage conditions of spare parts to support project equipment appears adequate at present. Tire usage was severely underestimated and additional tires should be purchased.

Although the overall capability of the project personnel is considered very good, certain operational changes were recommended during the October 1985 project evaluation. One proposal is to phase the personnel involved in bridge erection into the road maintenance personnel training, as maintenance is a critical factor and a major thrust of the Project.

It appears that adequate financing is available to complete the Project but it is recommended that a major block of remaining funds be moved from other line items into the contingency line item to provide flexibility needed in a Project of this kind.

In general, Project progress is satisfactory considering the problems encountered. To achieve maximum benefit however, the MOW will have to participate more effectively, especially in the bridge, management improvement, and roads maintenance components.

(IV) Problems and Delays: At this stage in project activities all components in the program are exhibiting reasonable progress. Excessive rainfall has hindered road rehabilitation progress and the recent evaluations have recommended that the PACD be extended six months so that project output of 300 miles can be reached. Other problems and developments were identified during the evaluation process and the major ones are presented in the Evaluation Summary above.

(V) Major Activities During Next Six Months

A. Completed Action: See above.

B. Major project activities

--Road rehabilitation and associated training will continue with action taken on evaluation recommendations.

--Follow-up maintenance by MTU's on roads rehabilitated will be emphasized.

--The management and planning tool developed by MIC will be constantly updated and upgraded and focus placed on integration into the present MOW management system.

--Activities surrounding bridge erection will be accelerated as much as possible, i.e., contracting, construction, etc.

--Project implementation will be closely monitored.

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment: No major implementation problems.

(VII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training: None.

B. Gray Amendment/HBCU Contracts: None.

3. BELIZE JUNIOR SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

(I) Background Data

Project Title: Special Development Activities Fund  
Project: Belize Junior School of  
Agriculture (OPG)  
Project Number: 505-0010  
Date of Authorization: June 14, 1984  
Date of Obligation: June 15, 1984  
Amendment I - September 23, 1985  
PACD: June 15, 1986  
Implementing Agency: Peace Corps/Belize  
Major Contractor: None  
AID Project Manager: Charles Jenkins, ADO

(II) Project Purpose

A two-year agricultural project in Belize to offer primary school leavers an education in agriculture, encourage the expansion and diversification of agriculture, and develop agricultural marketing procedures, thereby strengthening the self-sufficiency of Belize.

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary (US\$000)

--Amount authorized: \$75  
--Amount obligated: \$75  
--Amount committed: \$75  
--Accrued expenditures:  
    Cumulative: \$50  
    This period: \$21  
--Status of Covenants and Conditions Precedent: All met

B. Major Outputs

--Completed first year.  
--Increased community participation in school.  
--Upgraded physical structures.  
--Hosted Peace Corps training which used facilities during summer holiday and brought in added revenue.

C. Overall Status

--21 students completed first year.

--21 new first-year students were admitted for September 1985.

--The GOB has requested a second BJSA be created in another district.

D. Follow-up Actions: N/A

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations: N/A

(IV) Problems and Delays: The school continues to work with its board of directors to resolve the issue of ministry jurisdiction for the school. This will be resolved during the next six months.

(V) Major Activities During Next Six Months

A. Completed Action: See above.

B. Major project activities

--Complete first term for both first and second year students.

--Resolve jurisdictional issues.

--Develop an optional third-year curriculum.

--Begin transferring operations of school to Belizean counterparts.

--Begin financially independent activities.

C. AID/W Actions: None.

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment: No major implementation problems.

(VII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training: N/A

B. Gray Amendment/HBCU Contracts: N/A

4. COCOA

(I) Background Data

Project Title: Accelerated Cocoa Production -  
Project Number: 505-0023  
Date of Authorizaton: July 30, 1984  
Date of Obligation: July 31, 1984;  
Amendment 1 - January 10, 1985  
December 31, 1987  
PACD:  
Implementing Agency: PADF  
Major Contractor: PADF  
AID Project Officer: Charles Jenkins, ADO

(II) Project Purpose

The purpose of this project is to accelerate the rate at which small farmers in Belize establish cocoa planting, utilizing improved varieties and cultural practices developed by the Hershey Food Corporation at the Hummingbird Farm.

This project will provide direct assistance to sixty farm families in the establishment of cocoa plantations. During the life of the project:

- a total of 600 acres of cocoa will be established;
- 60 small farmers will be fully trained in improved cocoa production technology;
- 6 Government of Belize extension agents will be trained as trainers in cocoa production and extension;
- 20 Government of Belize extension agents will in turn be trained in cocoa production and extension;
- methodology specifically adapted to accelerate cocoa establishment in other areas of Belize will have been perfected and institutionalized.

Programmed Funding by Component in U.S.\$

Salaries	\$244
Home office support	\$ 66
Travel	\$ 56
Training	\$ 7
Administrative expense	\$ 11
Equipment	\$ 51
Loans	\$ 25
Evaluation	\$ 20
Overhead	<u>\$135</u>
Total	\$615

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary (in US\$000)

--Amount authorized: \$615 grant  
--Amount obligated: \$615 grant  
--Amount committed: \$615  
--Accrued expenditures:  
    Cumulative \$134  
    This PD \$134  
--Status of Conditions Precedent: All met

B. Major Outputs

--Farmers selected and assigned land at Ringtail Village.  
--Cocoa nursery established at both Hummingbird Hershey and Valley of Peace.  
--Planting and housing activities well under-way at Ringtail Village.  
--Project evaluation complete.

C. Overall Status: The project is on track, and even ahead of schedule in some areas.

D. Follow-up Actions: N/A

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations

In early September 1985 an evaluation of the Cocoa Project was undertaken. General opinion was that the project has been very successful thus far. Recommendations were made to improve the project and more effectively utilize project personnel.

(IV) Problems and Delays

--The road into the project's Ringtail Village needs work to complete it and facilitate access.  
--More land needs to be acquired in the Ringtail Village area that is suitable to farming. Much of the initial land proved to be unsuitable.  
--Credit availability for the participants in the Valley of Peace area must be speeded up.

(V) Major Activities

A. Corrective Actions: Project personnel are acting on the evaluation recommendations by improving coordination, re-writing work plans, including Peace Corps Volunteers in technical work, and working more closely with GOB officials in resolving policy problems.

B. Major Project or Management Activities

--Finish road into Ringtail Village.

--Continue planting and housing activities.

--Register and open credit union at Hummingbird Hershey for project participants.

--Officially register Ringtail Village as a village with the GOB.

--Expand activities in Valley of Peace.

C. AID/W Actions: N/A

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment: No major implementation problems.

(VII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training: 12 planned but none to date.

B. Gray Amendment/HBCU Contracts: No contracts contemplated.

B. ESF and SDA

1. CREDIT REDISCOUNT FUND

(I) Background Data

Project Title: Credit Rediscount Fund  
Project Number: 505-0005  
Date of Authorization: March 24, 1983  
Date of Obligation: March 29, 1983  
PACD: December 31, 1985  
Implementing Agencies: Central Bank; four commercial banks in Belize  
Major Contractors: None  
AID Project Manager: Peter B. Lopera

(II) Project Purpose: To increase private sector investment in all productive activities except those which are not net earners of foreign exchange.

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary

--Amount authorized: \$5.0 million ESF Loan  
--Amount obligated: \$5.0 million  
--Amount committed: \$355,000  
--Accrued expenditures:  
    Cumulative \$135,000  
    This PD \$135,000  
--Status of Covenants and Conditions Precedent: All Conditions Precedent were met by August 26, 1983.

B. Major Outputs

Targets from PP

--40 new investments  
--Discount fund established on a permanent basis  
--Banking policy and institutional change resulting in longer term credit and appraisal banking.

Status

Unfortunately, disbursement has occurred for only three sub-loans totalling \$355,000; but \$6.5 million in loan applications are now being processed. Yet, the commercial

banks' general conservatism, concentration on high interest, quick turnover, over-drafts and short-term loans along with prohibitive collateral policies still are constraints to moving the loan funds. It should be noted that the inability and unwillingness to engage in medium- and long-term investment is characteristic of commercial banks in Central America. This is understandable: medium- to long-term investment/development lending is labor intensive and requires promotional activities as well as monitoring efforts.

C. Other Accomplishments and Overall Status: USAID has succeeded in bringing all parties concerned together to communicate the urgency of disbursing the loan funds, jointly identify constraints, and agree on a plan of action. These actions are described below, under "Major Activities During Next Six Months".

D. Follow-up Actions from Prior Report: The Project Agreement was amended on November 17, 1984 to include loans for industry and tourism. The Central Bank also agreed to guarantee up to 75% of loans on a case-by-case basis. USAID has also followed up on proposals for citrus production. Unfortunately, most citrus projects do not qualify according to PD-71, since orange concentrate is being exported to the U.S. Previously, orange concentrate had been exported to CARICOM countries, especially Trinidad and Tobago. The Caribbean market was supplanted by U.S. producers' demand. The U.S. producers find the sweetness of the Belizean orange suitable for concentrate blending. Belizean orange producers are not willing to give up that secure U.S. market in order to obtain financing under the loan. USAID and the Central Bank have agreed to raise the discount from 75% to 100%.

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations: A comprehensive evaluation was carried out by A.D. Little during March 1984. Most of the recommendations of this evaluation have been implemented and use of loans has been expanded, constraints on maturity terms have been loosened and the Central Bank has assumed greater risk.

(IV) Problems and Delays

The constraints to disbursement have been:

--Liquidity: Commercial banks are experiencing a liquidity crunch and do not have sufficient funds to meet the 25% cofinancing requirement for each loan.

--Guarantee: Although the Central Bank approved guaranteeing loans up to 75% several months ago, official approval was slow in being attained from the Ministry of Finance.

--Lack of readily 'bankable' projects: Until recently, the commercial banks have not received many proposals with sufficient data or information on which to act.

--High interest rates: Potential borrowers claim that the prime rate, currently set at 14% by the Central Bank is too high for medium- and longer term investment credit.

--Collateral requirements by commercial banks: Potential borrowers claim that the collateral requirements (150% of loan value) are too high. Collateral pledged on loans, would include developed real property, machinery readily saleable in Belize, and negotiable instruments.

--Ineligibility of citrus projects: There is high interest on the part of the Central Bank, commercial banks, and potential borrowers in exporting citrus concentrate to the U.S. Loans would be for large amounts and would quickly draw down on loan funds. However, PD 71 does not permit this undertaking.

(V) Major Activities During Next Six Months: USAID believes that the lack of promoting the CDF with the commercial banks and potential end-users resulted in a standstill in implementation. Therefore, the steps listed below will continue. If these steps result in additional significant progress by the PACD of 12/31/85, USAID will extend the PACD.

A. Corrective Actions

--Lack of bankable projects: The Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) will continue to assist users in designing proposals. There has already been significant approval in project proposal design. Commercial banks have pledged their full cooperation. USAID will take steps to ensure that the Central Bank fulfills its role of promoting and managing the Discount Fund.

--High interest rates: The governor of the Central Bank will raise this issue with the Central Bank Board of Directors and the Ministry of Finance.

--High collateral requirements: Improved presentation of proposals may have a beneficial impact in collateral requirements. Otherwise, banks are not very flexible on this matter.

--USAID will continue to work with the commercial banks to facilitate the flow of project proposals through the approval process. With a demand already of \$6.5 million, this activity is very important.

B. Major Project or Management Activities: USAID will amend the Agreement to permit a 100% discount as discussed above.

C. AID/W Actions: None anticipated.

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment: This project requires significant management attention.

(VII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training: N/A

B. Gray Amendment/HBCU Contracts: USAID will give full consideration to 8(a) sources should need for TA arise. Such a need is not anticipated at this time.

## 2. NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

### (I) Background Data

Project Title: National Development Foundation of Belize  
Project Number: 505-0011  
Date of Authorization: April, 1983  
Date of Obligation: July 28, 1983  
PACD: September 30, 1986  
Implementing Agency: National Development Foundation/Pan American Development Foundation  
Major Contractor: None  
AID Project Manager: Doug Willmore, PDO

### (II) Project Purpose

Provide 410 Belizean micro-entrepreneurs with credit, business guidance, and technical assistance to help them improve their employment opportunities, increase income, expand productivity, and mobilize and involve the local successful private sector in the establishment of the National Development Foundation, whose on-going programs will assist micro-entrepreneurs.

NDFB extends small loans to beneficiaries who meet eligibility criteria determined by the Foundation. Along with all loans, beneficiaries who meet eligibility criteria will receive technical guidance and training in marketing strategies, financial management, accounting and other business skills appropriate to small-scale productive activities.

### Programmed Funding by Component in U.S.\$

Personnel	\$ 15,000
Training	\$ 17,000
Commodities	\$ 52,000
Transportation	\$ 26,400
Survey/Eval.	\$ 9,000
Overhead	\$ 22,600
	<u>\$142,000</u>

### (III) Project Status

--Amount authorized: \$142,000 G  
--Amount obligated: \$142,000  
--Amount committed: \$142,000  
--Accrued expenditures:  
    Cumulative \$117,000  
    This PD \$ 16,000  
--Status of Conditions Precedent: All met  
    GOB ESF L/C contribution Bz.\$770,000

B. Major Outputs

Target: Credit and technical assistance delivered to 410 beneficiaries by end of project. Through September 1, 1985, 145 loans in the amount of Bz.\$508,523 have been granted. 56 loans for Bz.\$244,640 are still being considered.

Target: NDFB staff trained and in place. This target has been reached.

Target: NDFB legally established with functioning Board of Directors and increasing local membership. This target has been reached.

Target: Management systems, operational policies and procedures, accounting and financial systems in place. This target has been reached.

Target: Sufficient ability and track record to attract additional external resources. NDFB committed to raise Bz.\$150,000 in country. To date Bz.\$50,000 has been raised. External resources of U.S.\$162,000 has been raised against a LOP target of U.S.\$374,000.

Target: Conduct small business and marketing surveys. Three surveys have been conducted to date. This target has been reached.

C. ~~Other~~ Accomplishments: Loans have created 57 new jobs and increased the earning power of 130 more individuals. The loan payback record is excellent--there is a delinquency rate of only 4.2%. Technical assistance has reached 67 individuals.

D. Summary of Audits: The last audit was conducted on December 27, 1984. It found that the NDFB was under budget and was maintaining an adequate accounting system. We advised the Foundation that AID funds should be kept separate from other Foundation funds. The accountant indicated he would comply with our suggestion.

(IV) Problems and Delays

At the close of the three-year project it is envisioned that the Foundation will be financially- and managerially-sound and supported by the local private sector. The Foundation, however, agreed to raise Bz.\$150,000 to pay for project costs. It looks doubtful that the Foundation will be able to raise this money from membership development and fund-raising activities. According to the Foundation's accountant the organization had managed to raise Bz.\$50,000 during the period

July 28, 1983, through July 1, 1985. The Foundation members are aware of the cash-flow problem. The cash problem will be more evident once the ESF AID funds are spent, shortly after the close of the 1985 calendar year. We note that the Foundation reported it will press on for local fund-raising activities.

(V) Major Activities During Next Six Months

Continued expansion of successful credit operations and technical assistance to micro-businesses. Greatly increased fund-raising efforts and activities.

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment

The project has no major implementation problems and is meeting its original objectives of providing credit, technical assistance, and business guidance to micro-businesses. We expect the continued expansion of its efforts, as well as a stronger effort by fund-raising activities.

(VII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training

- New starts - 1 male, 1 female
- Returnees - 3 males
- In training - none

B. Gray Amendment/HBCU Contracts: Project does not contemplate contract needs. However in the past a small business assessment by a minority firm (Mintz Report) was completed.

3. COUNTERPART FUND II

(I) Background Data

Project Title: Economic Support Project Counterpart  
Fund II (ESF)  
Project Number: 505-0012  
Date of Authorization: February 25, 1985  
Date of Obligation: February 28, 1985  
PACD: August 31, 1986  
Implementing Agencies: Ministry of Finance, Central Bank of  
Belize  
Major Contractors: None  
AID Project Managers: Peter B. Lopera, PDO  
Mohamed Tanamly, CONT

(II) Project Purpose: To assist the GOB in attaining  
stability in its external accounts.

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary

--Amount authorized: \$13 million ESF Loan  
\$ 1.0 million ESF Grant  
--Amount obligated: \$13 million ESF Loan  
\$ 1.0 million ESF Grant  
--Amount committed: \$ 7.5 million ESF Loan  
--Accrued expenditures:  
Cumulative \$ 2.5 million ESF Loan  
\$ 138,000 ESF Grant  
This Pd \$ 2.5 million ESF Loan  
\$ 138,000 ESF Grant

--Status of Covenants and Conditions Precedent: CPs to  
disbursement of first, second and third tranches of U.S.\$2.5  
million each have been met. Disbursement has been made.

B. Major Outputs

--Balance-of-payment support to input \$13 million worth of U.S.  
goods.

--GOB local currency development expenditures equivalent to \$13  
million under GOB Capital II Budget.

--Removal of quantitative trade restrictions.

--Restructuring debt and improving management of the Belize  
Electricity Board (BEB).

--Restructuring the Belize Marketing Board (BMB).

Status: Implementation of this economic support program is well underway. A study on the divestiture of the BMB is being completed. The BEB advisor has been in place since September 15 and a study is currently being completed on domestic and foreign trade regime.

C. Other Accomplishments: The EEB with the help of the USAID advisor is close to meeting the CPs for a \$15 million World Bank power expansion project.

D. Follow-up Actions: N/A

E. Audits and Evaluations: None to date.

(IV) Problems and Delays: None to date

(V) Major Activities During Next Six Months: Analysis of BMB and trade studies, with decision on appropriate actions to be taken, as well as the mid-program evaluation.

C. AID/W Actions: N/A

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment: This program has no major implementation problems.

(VII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training: N/A

B. Gray Amendment/HECU Contracts: N/A

4. EXPORT PROMOTION

(I) Background Data

Project Title: Export Promotion (OPG)  
Project Number: 505-0025  
Date of Authorization: June 13, 1984  
Date of Obligation: June 15, 1984  
PACD: February 28, 1986  
Implementing Agency: Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI)  
Major Contractor: None  
AID Project Manager: Peter Lapera, PDO

(II) Project Purpose: To provide support for the Belize private sector export-investment promotion activities.

Programmed Funding by Component in U.S.\$

New Orleans World Fair	\$ 75,000
Trade missions	\$ 55,300
Salaries and benefits	\$ 30,000
Vehicle	\$ 15,000
Advertising, export promotion	\$ 9,000
Evaluation	\$ 5,000
Miscellaneous	\$ 4,000
Contingencies	\$ 6,700
	<u>\$200,000</u>

(III) Project Status: As planned, BCCI instigated and conducted trade missions to the Far East, Europe, and the U.S. These have resulted in sales of Belizean products, real estate, and tourist packages, as well as great interest in future investments and exports now being followed up.

A. Financial Summary (US \$000)

--Amount authorized: \$200  
--Amount obligated: \$200  
--Amount committed:  
--Accrued expenditures:  
    Cumulative \$125  
    This PD \$ 57

B. Major Outputs

--Undertaking of four trade and investment missions.  
--Dissemination of information about specific Belizean opportunities.

--Participation in New Orleans World Fair.

--Hire BEIPU Executive Director, Assistant Director, and Accountant.

(IV) Activities During Next Six Months

Export Promotion

- Hiring of BEIPU Executive Director
- Hiring of BEIPU Account Executive
- Formulation of BEIPU standard operating procedures
- BCCI establishes export/investment promotion activity, in coordination with Ministry of Economic Development

Information Exchange

--Trade, investment and tourist information with U.S., Latin, Caribbean, European and Far East Chambers of Commerce.

--Matching of in-country investment opportunities with interested foreign investors (joint ventures and other arrangements).

--Preparation of trade and investment promotional material.

(V) Major Project or Management Activities

A. Corrective Actions: Increase intensity of follow-up actions by BCCI after trade missions are completed.

B. Major Project or Management Activities: Mission completion and approval of PP for \$2.3 million follow-up export promotion project.

C. AID/W Actions: Concur in USAID approval of \$2.3 million export promotion project with BCCI.

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment: No major implementation problems.

(VII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training: N/A

B. Gray Amendment/HBCU Contracts: N/A

C. HE, EHR and HIG

1. HOME IMPROVEMENT

(I) Background Data

Project Title:	Home Improvement Loan Project
Project Number:	505-HG-001 and 505-003
Date of Authorization:	September 9, 1982
Date of Implementation Agreement:	December 17, 1982
Date of Loan Agreement:	January 16, 1984
PACD:	September 30, 1988
Implementing Agencies:	Development Finance Corporation (DFC), Belize Credit Union League (BCUL), and individual credit unions throughout the country
Major Contractor:	Cooperative Housing Foundation
AID Project Manager:	Alexi Pannehal, RHUDO/ROCAP Sam Dowding, GDO

(II) Project Purpose

--Support and expand private sector participation in the financing and construction of shelter.

--Stimulate and strengthen the institutional capacity of the local credit union system.

--Preserve the existing housing stock of below median income families.

--Assist GOB to rationalize its housing delivery system.

The project will provide \$2 million of housing guaranty resources which will be used by credit unions in urban areas to provide home improvement loans for families with below median incomes and by the Development Finance Corporation (DFC) for home improvement loans in rural areas not reached by credit unions. Also a \$400,000 ESF grant plus \$60,000 has been provided to the Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF) to finance the services of a resident advisor and a variety of short-term technical assistance to facilitate the successful implementation of the project. The HG resources are to finance approximately 1,300 home improvement loans.

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary

--Amount authorized: \$2,000,000 (HG)  
 \$ 400,000 ESF grant for CHFTA  
 \$ 60,000 DA grant for CHFTA

--Amount obligated: \$ 400,000 (ESF)  
 \$ 60,000 (DA)

--Amount contracted: \$2,000,000 (HG)

--Amount disbursed:  
 Cumulative \$ 470,000  
 This PD \$ 160,000

--Amount Committed:  
 Cumulative: \$ 400,000 for grant  
 Report Period: \$ 0 for grant

--Status of Covenants and Conditions Precedent: GOB has met all required CPs for investor selection and disbursement from escrow.

B. Major Outputs

	No. of Loans Disbursed		Value of Loans Disbursed	
	This Period	Cumulative	This Period	Cumulative
BCUL	54	290	88,344.21	372,718.75
DFC	49	116	141,800.00	239,675.00
HRCU	--	55	--	87,500.00
	103	461	229,144.21	699,893.75

C. Other Accomplishments and Overall Status

--Responses from the GOB were received during this period on PIL numbers 12, 13, and 17. On PIL number 12, the GOB agreed that loans programmed should be accepted for disbursement on a first-come-first-serve basis. As a result the limitation of \$250,000 for disbursements by the Development Finance Corporation is now removed.

Regarding PIL number 13, the GOB rejected the USAID offer of using December 17, 1982 as the beginning date of reimbursement of eligible loans. The GOB agreed to extension of the PACD to September 30, 1988 as offered in PIL number 17.

--Disbursement request numbers 4 and 5 totalling \$141,800 were approved. At the end of the reporting period a recommendation for the sixth disbursement amounting to \$88,344 was made by RHUDO/CA.

--Mission was advised in a meeting with the new Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Housing, that the draft housing policy had been approved without changes by the GOB cabinet, at the end of September. Written confirmation of this and a request for technical assistance to develop an implementation plan, are expected during the next reporting period.

--Despite months of Mission and RHUDO/CA urging, there has been little movement toward increasing the credit unions' onlending interest rate to 14%. At the end of the reporting period, four of the nine participating credit unions had agreed to the increase, one had rejected the increase, and the remaining four were non-committal. Mission has requested the BCUL to respond by November 15 on the final decision of the participating unions.

D. Follow-up Actions from Prior Report: None

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations: None

(IV) Problems and Delays: The continued reluctance of credit unions to increase the onlending interest rate in the HILP has slowed the project considerably. Earlier in this reporting period it appeared that the situation would have been resolved soon. CUs held their general meetings and Mission was advised that all participating unions would be writing the Ministry of Housing by September 30 indicating their decision to increase the interest rate. This promise did not materialize at that date.

(V) Major Activities During Next Six Months

A. Corrective Actions: Mission now does not have any confidence in the credit unions agreeing to increase the interest rates. It is now anticipated that soon after November 15, efforts will have to be put in motion to modify the project to exclude some or all of the credit unions. The DFC has indicated its confidence that disbursements can be accelerated, should it be approved, to make loans in urban as well as rural areas. Mission will examine the soundness of this level of confidence by DFC and modify the project as appropriate. Early termination of the project remains an option.

B. Major Project or Management Activities

--Secure, in writing, confirmation that CUs have agreed to the increased interest rate for the HILP.

--Modify the project, as appropriate, depending on the outcome of the item above, in order to stimulate increased disbursements from escrow.

--Provide follow-up TA to GOB for implementation plan for the national housing policy.

C. AID/W Actions: Mission would appreciate the turn-around time between recommendations for disbursements, and deposit of the funds to the GOB account being reduced. Advice via cable as soon as the deposits are made would also help Mission management.

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment: This project has major problems which require significant management attention. Currently, management has taken all the actions that it can to get the project back on track. Whether it does or not will be strictly dependent upon the GOB and CUs' responsiveness to the recommendations offered to address project problems. Such should be evident within the next six months.

(VII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training: N/A

B. Gray Amendment/HBCU Contracts: N/A

2. INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY THROUGH BETTER HEALTH

(I) Background Data

Project Title: Increased Productivity Through Better Health  
Project Number: 505-0018  
Date of Authorization: March 21, 1985  
Date of Obligation: March 26, 1985  
PACD: March 31, 1989  
Implementing Agency: Ministry of Health, Labour, and Sports (MCH)  
Major Contractor: None yet contracted  
AID Project Manager: Mary Ellen Duffy Tanamly, GDO

(II) Project Purpose

To control the incidence of malaria and dengue fever nationally by 1988 to a level where they are no longer public health problems; to extend coverage of water and sanitation in rural communities in the three districts of Cayo, Stann Creek, and Belize; and to improve the national water quality control program.

--Major Activities:

Malaria/Aedes Aegypti Control	\$1,886,000
Water and Sanitation	\$3,008,000
Project Management	\$1,892,000
Contingencies	\$ 214,000
Total	\$7,000,000

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary (U.S.\$)

--Amount authorized: \$7,000,000 DA (Grant)  
--Amount obligated: \$1,500,000 DA (Grant)  
--Amount committed: 0  
--Accrued expenditures:  
    Cumulative: 0  
    This PD: 0  
--Status of Covenants and Conditions Precedent: Not yet satisfied. The terminal date was extended to October 15, 1985.

B. Major Outputs

--Since the Conditions Precedent to first disbursement under the project had still not been satisfied by the end of the reporting period, none of the Project's activities have been activated. The MOH has, however, continued its limited program

in house spraying for malaria control and ultra-low volume spraying for Aedes Aegypti control in selected areas. The MOH program is limited primarily by inadequate staffing, and transportation to reach all target areas. Fulfillment of the Conditions Precedent will permit use of the ESF Counterpart Funds that the Mission and the GOB have allocated, as well as project funds for vehicles and insecticides to expand and intensify these programs.

--At the GOB's request, Mission twice extended the terminal date for satisfying the Conditions Precedent to August 26, 1985 and October 15, 1985, via Project Implementation Letters Nos. 1 and 2, respectively. (FYI - the required CP's were satisfied on October 10, 1985 end FYI.).

--A national coordinating committee for the Water Supply and Sanitation Project now underway in Belize has been established since April 1985. The committee meets once monthly and has so far drafted policy guidelines which have been submitted to the Minister of Health for his review. A Health Education subcommittee has also been established and this also meets once monthly to review progress and problems.

--Mission initiated a PIO/T requesting AID/W to negotiate a contract for project management and technical assistance services with an SBA 8(a) firm. The contractor selected on the basis of technical proposals was PRAGMA Corporation/Medical Care Development (MCD) joint venture. The contractor sent its three nominees for the Project Manager/Vector Control Specialist, Health Education/Community Development Advisor, and Water and Sanitation Specialist on a familiarization visit to Belize during September at Mission and GOB request. Both Mission and GOB were satisfied with the team composition. Minor reservations were brought to the attention of both the contractor and the AID/W contracting officer. It is now anticipated that the team will arrive in Belize by January 1, 1986. Final contract negotiations are proceeding and should be concluded by December 1, 1985.

Mission has worked with the MOH to develop preliminary lists of commodities to be procured during this first year. These lists will be finalized and procurement initiated soon after the satisfaction of the Conditions Precedent.

--Discussions have been held with the MOH with regard to the establishment of the water control laboratory. A list of equipment and supplies has been developed and laboratory space identified. Assistance has been received from the Medical Laboratory Specialist assigned by Project HOPE to the MOH, in the development of the equipment and supplies list. It is

anticipated that the project may not need to invest in a separate laboratory building as proposed in the project description.

C. Other Accomplishments and Overall Status: The project is somewhat behind schedule due mainly to the tardiness by GOB in satisfying the Conditions Precedent, and the long contracting process. The training, both in country and participant, which it had been hoped would have started during the latter part of CY 1985 must now be postponed for early CY 1986.

D. Follow-up Actions: None.

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations: None.

(IV) Problems and Delays: Because of a change in key personnel, the GOB/MOH experienced some difficulty in putting together documentation "in form and substance satisfactory to AID in fulfillment of the Conditions Precedent". This resulted in two extensions of the terminal date and a loss of two-and-a-half months. In addition, the lengthy contracting process was not anticipated and this has hindered initiation of the training and technical assistance aspects of the project.

(V) Major Activities During the Next Six Months

A. Corrective Actions: None.

B. Major Project or Management Activities

--Satisfaction of the Conditions Precedent.

--Contracting of PRAGMA/MCD joint venture to provide project management and technical assistance services finalized.

--Procurement of project commodities including hand pumps, well drilling rig, vehicles, laboratory and educational equipment.

--Arrival by January 1, 1986 of the project management team.

--Technical assistance to the MOH in the areas of epidemiology, entomology, ULV spraying technology, and drilling rig operation.

--Participant training at a U.S. institution in vector control.

--Construction of office and storage facilities for project personnel and material.

C. AID/W Actions

--M/SER/CM is currently assisting Mission in the contracting of PRAGMA/MCD to provide project management and technical assistance services.

--Mission expects to use the newly instituted IQC mechanism for contracting a procurement service agent. SER/COM assistance in this regard will be requested.

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment: No major problems encountered.

(VII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training: None yet.

B. Gray Amendment/HBCU Contracts: The proposed contractor PRAGMA/MCD, for the project management and technical assistance services is registered under the SBA 8a Program as are the other firms from which technical proposals were requested.

3. VILLAGE HEALTH AND SANITATION

(I) Background Data

Project Title: Village Level Water Supply and Sanitation  
 Project Number: 505-0024  
 Date of Authorization: August 30, 1984  
 Date of Obligation: January 11, 1985  
 PACD: December 31, 1987  
 Implementing Agency: CARE/Belize  
 Major Contractor: N/A  
 AID Project Manager: Mary Ellen Duffy Tanamly, GDO

(II) Project Purpose

To assist the GOB in developing an integrated training program in Nutrition, Food Education, and Water and Sanitation in 16 villages located in the Corozal and Orange Walk districts of Belize. Essential elements of the project are seminars/workshops and educational programs in health and nutrition education, the drilling of 160 wells equipped with handpumps, and the construction of 1600 pit latrines. Costs associated with major aspects of the project are:

Personnel	\$112,540
Materials & Equipment	301,140
Operations & Evaluations	23,633
Contingencies and overhead	<u>62,687</u>
Total	\$500,000

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary (U.S.\$)

--Amount authorized: \$500,000  
 --Amount obligated: \$500,000  
 --Accrued expenditures:  
     Cumulative: \$120,000  
     This PD: \$ 84,000

B. Major Outputs

--Installation of handpumps has not yet started. The order has been placed by CARE/New York for the required handpumps, but due to a late advance during the latter part of the report period, it is not expected that they will arrive in country before the end of 1985. Installation will not therefore start before January 1986.

--An exemplary community VIP latrine has been constructed at the school in the village of Buena Vista. Members of the community including school children participated in the construction of the latrine from slab, riser and collar construction, (using ferrocement), to erection of the cabins.

--Discussions are ongoing regarding modification of the design of the slab and riser in order to make them more acceptable culturally, hygienically and economically to the communities. Initially, slabs were designed to be three inches thick, but this has so far been modified to two inches. Risers were constructed with perpendicular sides, but in order to decrease splashing and improve cleaning, now have the sides sloping away from the top of the riser to a wider hole in the slab.

--Mrs. June Mehra, Media Specialist from the University of Hawaii, spent one month with the project in May. She provided invaluable assistance in the development of health education materials. She is expected to make a second visit during early 1986.

--Water and Sanitation teams, consisting of teachers, village councillors and other community members, have been formed in each of the two project villages so far selected (Buena Vista and San Antonio).

--A Project Coordination Committee has also been formed. The Committee meets once monthly, alternatively in the two districts. These meetings have served to keep various resource persons who are not in daily contact with the project apprised of the progress made and problems encountered.

--Richard Donovan, the WASH Consultant, made his third and final visit to Belize in April/May. During this visit, Mr. Donovan was engaged mainly in tabulating and analyzing household survey data and preparing the final report. Surveys were completed for 127 households in the two villages.

### C. Other Accomplishments

--All of the five planned staff members for the project have been recruited and are functioning.

--The Health Educator has been collaborating with the representative of the French organization Enfants Refuges du Monde in the training of volunteer community health workers.

--The Sanitary Engineer attended a one-week orientation in the installation and use of India Mark II handpumps in Haiti.

--Two members from each of the Village Water and Sanitation teams are being trained in the promotion of health education.

D. Follow-up Actions: None.

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations: None.

(IV) Problems and Delays

The handpumps have not yet arrived and may not until very late 1985. This has delayed the start of the well drilling component of the project, which is now scheduled for late November 1985.

CARE/New York is expected to finalize the procurement of audiovisual equipment, including a video cassette recorder, cassette tapes, and a video monitor early in the next reporting period. The absence of this equipment has limited the content of the health education program somewhat.

(V) Major Activities

A. Corrective Actions: The project budget is to be adjusted to reflect more accurately the planned local and foreign exchange expenditures.

B. Major Project or Management Activities

--Health education training of school teachers and school children, and continued training of village teams.

--Arrival of handpumps and start of installation program.

--Well-drilling initiated.

--First interim evaluation of the project.

--Additional technical assistance by media advisor in the production of health education materials.

C. AID/W Actions: None.

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment: No major implementation problems.

(VIII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training: None.

B. Gray Amendment/HBCU Contracts: None.

4. GUIDANCE, COUNSELLING AND PLACEMENT SERVICE

(I) Background Data

Project Title: Pilot Guidance Counseling and Placement Service, OPG  
 Project Number: 505-0026  
 Date of Authorization: August 28, 1984  
 Date of Obligation: August 30, 1984  
 PACD: December 31, 1987  
 Implementing Agency: Council of Voluntary Social Services  
 Major Contractors: None  
 AID Project Manager: Mary Ellen Duffy Tanamly, GDO

(II) Project Purpose

To provide support for the effective job market placement of Belizean youth.

--Major Activities:

Establish a Guidance and Placement Center	\$56,000
Establish an Advisory Committee	\$ 4,000
Determine Guidance & Placement Informational Resources Available Locally	\$ 2,000
Inform the Public and Related Agencies about the Center	\$10,000
Contingencies	<u>\$ 8,000</u>
Total	\$80,000

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary (U.S.\$)

--Amount authorized: \$80,000  
 --Amount obligated: \$80,000  
 --Amount committed:  
     Cumulative \$80,000  
     This PD 0  
 --Accrued expenditures:  
     Cumulative \$17,000  
     This PD \$ 7,000

B. Major Outputs

--Establishment of the Guidance and Placement Center. The job placement service is now fully staffed with appropriate

individuals. In addition, a Peace Corps Volunteer is serving as a consultant to the project in counselling. The Citizen Advisory Committee is meeting regularly.

--Guidance and Employment Counselling for young adults. The Center has offered guidance and counselling to 160 individuals using the Center. The staff has also offered school consultation to the graduating class of several schools in the country. The Center has carried out training activities for young people. Thirty-six persons were placed on jobs between May and September. Eighty-four employers are registered with the Center; of this number, 39 have used the service. Fifty-seven jobs have been placed with the agency; of this number, 36 have been filled by the Center.

(IV) Major Activities

A. Corrective Actions: No corrective actions required as of the date of this report.

B. Major Project or Management Activities: The Center will continue to offer job placement and counselling services throughout the country. The service will be extended to 500 clients by 1997.

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment: No major implementation problems.

(VII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training: None

B. Gray Amendment/HBCU Contracts: None

5. BREAST IS BEST LEAGUE.

(I) Background Data

Project Title: Breast Is Best League, OPG  
Project Number: 505-0029  
Date of Authorization: January 11, 1985  
Date of Obligation: February 12, 1985  
PACD: December 31, 1987  
Implementing Agency: The Breast Is Best League  
Major Contractor: None  
AID Project Manager: Mary Ellen Duffy Tanamly, GDO

(II) Project Purpose

To strengthen the services and expand the outreach of the Breast Is Best League. The Project will help to employ an Executive Director for the Breast Is Best League to continue the promotion of breastfeeding in Belize.

--Major Activities:

Management/Fund Raising	\$25,013
Training	\$ 8,327
Educational Programs	\$10,007
Promotion	\$ 595
Contingencies	\$ 4,218
Total	<u>\$50,000</u>

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary (U.S.\$)

--Amount authorized: \$50,000  
--Amount obligated: \$50,000  
--Amount committed:  
    Cumulative \$50,000  
    This PD \$50,000  
--Accrued expenditures:  
    Cumulative \$21,000  
    This PD \$17,000

B. Major Outputs

--Management/Fund Raising

--The Executive Director participated in the La Leche League Tenth International Conference. The BIB program was considered as one of the world's best breastfeeding information distribution centers. The BIB League has officially been accepted by the

National Maternal and Child Health Committee when decisions for the MCH Program for the entire country are made.

--Fund raising through a membership drive has continued.

--Training Activities

--BIB League staff participated in a workshop for 14 refugee health workers in the Orange Walk District.

--Monthly meetings have been held with breastfeeding counsellors. Student nurses have been trained to be breastfeeding counsellors.

--Forty-eight teachers countrywide representing various preschools were given three sessions on the promotion of breastfeeding to parents.

--Educational Programs

--Weekly visits are made to the Belize City Hospital prenatal clinic. During a woman's first visit, good nutrition and breastfeeding are encouraged and BIB League services explained.

--Breastfeeding books are loaned to mothers and fathers throughout the country.

--A thrice-weekly breastfeeding promotion visit is made.

--Promotion

--Three major radio talk shows on breastfeeding have been aired--two in English and one in Garifuna.

--BIB League diaper bags, T-shirts, baby carriers, and other promotional gadgets are being made and sold.

(IV) Major Activities

A. Corrective Actions: No corrective actions required as of the date of this report.

B. Major Project or Management Activities

-- Management/Fund Raising

The BIB League will continue its fund-raising activities both locally and abroad. Monthly BIB League Executive Board and quarterly Advisory Board meetings will be held regularly. The BIB League will collaborate with other nutrition/health groups.

-- Training

The BIB League will continue to educate resource persons who will disseminate breastfeeding information to the public. Targets are for 20 new breastfeeding counselors to be trained in the next six months, several workshops to be held for health workers, and continuing education to be offered to 30 experienced breastfeeding counselors. The BIB League Executive Director will continue to participate in training seminars for Peace Corps Volunteers, Red Cross Health Workers, and other lay and medical groups that request training.

-- Educational Programs

The BIB League plans to continue creating and distributing resource materials and providing educational settings for informing the general public, with emphasis on pregnant and lactating mothers. Breastfeeding Information Centers will be set up in three of the six districts. The BIB League is working with a neonatologist to promote breastfeeding at the high-risk nursing level and in trying to set up a milk bank.

-- Promotion

Efforts to create a positive attitude about breastfeeding will be continued. A variety of media will be utilized for these activities, including television, newsletters, calendars, T-shirts, Breastfeeding Awards, pamphlets, etc. Promotional activities are to be coordinated closely with the MOH and private groups.

(V) Mission Director's Assessment: No major implementation problems.

(VII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training: None

B. Grant Amendment/HBCU Contracts: None