

memorandum

DATE: May 21, 1985  
REPLY TO: Neboysha R. Brashich, *for B. Cooper & FOR*  
ATTN OF: AID Representative  
SUBJECT: Semi Annual Reports, 10/1/84 - 3/31/85  
TO: Dwight Johnson, Director LAC/DR

*PD-ABL-157*  
*94822*

Attached please find subject reports.

Attachment: a/s

*(9)*  
*5/22*

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I. PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

A. SUMMARY TABLE

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>IN US \$ 000</u>		<u>(10/84-3/85)</u>	
	<u>AUTH.</u>	<u>OBL.</u>	<u>CUM. EX.</u>	<u>EX. THIS PD.</u>
505-				
<u>ARDN</u>				
0006 Livestock Development	G1,350	1,350	168	153
	L1,900	1,900	525	366
0007 Rural Access Rds. and Bridges	G6,150	6,150	3,880	1,395
0010 Junior School of Agriculture (SDA)	G 50	50	29	14
0023 Accelerated Co-coa Production	G 615	615	0	0
<u>ESF and SDA</u>				
0005 Credit Rediscount Fund	L5,000	5,000	135	135
0011 Nat. Dev. Foundation of Belize	G 142	142	101	12
0012 Counterpart Fund II	L13,000	L13,000	0	0
	G 1,000	G 1,000	0	0
00025 Export Promotion	G 125	125	68	40
<u>HE, EHR and HIG</u>				
HG001 Home Improvement Loan	L2,000	L 2,000	470	160
0003 Housing Assis. for Home Improv.	G 400	400	400	205
0018 Increased Prod.-through Health	G7,000	1,500	0	0
0024 Village Health and Sanitation	G 500	500	44	44
0026 Guidance, Couns. Placement Service (SDA)	G 80	80	10	10
0029 Breast is Best League	G 50	50	4	4

B. STATUS OF NEW PROJECT DEVELOPMENT-FY 85

1. 505-0020 Training for Employment, LOP \$5 0-, FY 85 \$2.0M

USAID contracted a team of specialists to assist in developing the Project Paper in early April in order to be able to submit the PP in mid May. Although the team provided useful technical input regarding vocational training, sections on management and public administration training were found to be weak and the project's institutional location was not adequately designed. USAID now plans to submit the PP in mid June for AID/W review in early July. This will allow USAID to fully develop all components. The project's institutional placement has been worked out; since the project is focused on the private sector it will be placed in the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry, with a broadly-based board of directors. This and coordination arrangements are supported by the GOB. Assuming DAEC review in early July, 1985 and then expeditious authorization of the project, USAID expects to obligate by July 31.

2. Agricultural Production and Diversification 505-0020, LOP \$7.0 G, \$1.0 L, FY 85 \$1.3 G, 1.0 L

The PID was reviewed on 3/8/85 and the guidance cable requires a PID amendment which will modify the focus of the Project so that research and marketing of selected export crops would be carried out by private firms. TDY assistance from LAC/DR/RD will be in Belize one to two weeks beginning 5/5/85 to do the PID amendment. USAID hopes that the amendment can be completed within one week. USAID plans to proceed immediately in the contracting of a PP development team. If such a team can be in-country by the end of June, USAID will submit the PP during the latter part of July. An August obligation is planned.

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 - 30 April, 1984

PACD: Dec. 1988

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Natural Resources

Major Contractor: SECID

AID Project Officer: C. Jenkins

(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 activities plus contingencies to accomplish this purpose. These activities are:

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 525	G 168
This PD	L 366	G 153

--Status of Covenants and Conditions Precedent: All met

B. Major Outputs

--Four candidates for educational training have been selected. Three are currently studying in the U.S. The fourth will start in September 1985.

--All staff have arrived and are in place.

--Dairy plant construction has been rescheduled to begin in the next six months.

C. Other Accomplishments

--Project has sponsored 2 WID fellows (one presently in-country, one complete).

--Project members have taught 3 courses at BSA.

D. Follow-up Actions

An informal evaluation by the SECID/GOB/USAID Project Committee was held during the first quarter of FY 85. SECID presented the first annual work plan for the project. A review of progress to date surfaced the need for a more indepth look at the Toledo District swine improvement activity. Early indications were that this element of the project would either need to be redesigned or set aside.

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations: See above.

(IV) Problems and Delays

A. Toledo Program -- Swine Improvement

This part of the swine improvement project was terminated as a result of an intensive review of its potential for achieving the targeted outputs. Conclusions from the review were that given the complexity of the Mayan culture and farming system, any attempt to improve swine production should be included in a farming systems research project rather than in isolation.

The tour of the swine specialist for Toledo will be terminated o/a April 15, 1985.

B. Dairy Industry Development -- Construction of the dairy plant has been delayed. 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.

We are currently pre-qualifying contractors for IFB's for the dairy plant, and equipment. SECID is the procurement agent. As we expect to locate a number of qualified contractors in Belize, the expression of interest is restricted to Belize.

(V) Major Activities

A. Corrective actions: See above

B. Major Project or Management Activities

--Plans for April -- June

Several specific items are scheduled to be completed in the next quarter. A feed inventory with projections to 1990 will provide a basis for planning livestock numbers and policy needs to stimulate feed production.

Timing seasonal pasture operations is most important. Procuring commodities, establishing grass and legume nurseries and completion of 100 acres of improved pasture at Central Farm are primary targets for the quarter.

High priority for the swine program will be continued improvements of facilities at Central Farm and the outlying district stations. Also, swine feed constraints need to be addressed. Corn prices are strongly tied to supply, resulting in corn being much too expensive to feed pigs economically. Alternative feeds need to be examined.

The dairy program will focus on beginning construction of the processing plant. Additional resources in the form of a WID fellow and a Peace Corps volunteer will be available to work directly with farmers to improve on-farm sanitation and handling of milk, a vital first step to providing a quality product. A third priority will be to identify a plant manager to be trained and available when construction is completed. The term of the dairy coordinator is being extended to cover the revised schedule of activities.

--Plans for July -- September

DAIRY

- Complete construction of pilot plant.
- Ship and install milk processing equipment.
- Prepare for market demand study.

POLICY

- Complete supply response report on swine, dairy and cattle.
- Complete report on the impact of varying tariff levels on pork and dairy imports.
- Advise on policy issues as required.
- Serve as Chief of Party.

MEAT PROCESSING

- Complete planned 6 months of training and demonstration for Belize meat processors.

SWINE

- Continue workshops and train in swine production.
- Set up and monitor result demonstrations.
- Teach course at BSA.
- Assist with management and health project at Central Farm.

PASTURE AND FORAGE

- Seed Central Farm pasture.
- On-farm pasture demonstration.
- Distribute seeds and establish farm nursery.
- Conduct workshops.
- Teach course at BSA.

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment

No major implementation problems

(VII) Special Concerns

- A. Participant Training: Under the SECID contract 1 PhD., 2 B.S. currently being trained, MS to start in September, 1985.

B. Gray Amendment/HBCU's: 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 and Amendments: Initial - September 30, 1983; Amendment 1 - December 19, 1983; Amendment 2 - May 24, 1984; Amendment 3 - November 20, 1984

PACD: January 1, 1987

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Works

Major Contractor: Alex Powers, PSL

Project Manager: C. Jenkins

### (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' 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: 3,880
  - This period: 1,395
- 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 begins 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. (Partially completed - see below)
- First iteration of MOW plan completed. January 1985.
- 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) Arrival of technical assistance team - By mid-April of 1984 the complete technical assistance team, with the exception of the bridge specialist, was in country. The bridge specialist arrived in Belize early this quarter.

(2) Equipment Procurement - This quarter marked the completion of the MTU equipment procurement with the arrival of the tractor/brush cutters. All project equipment is now in country.

(3) Materials Procurement - At quarter's end project culverts and some spare parts had not been received but were anticipated early next quarter. Delivery of these items would complete all anticipated project procurement.

(4) Road Selection - All road selection activities were finalized this quarter. Final district road selections were produced for Toledo, Stann Creek, and Corozal Districts. The Road Priority Committee was also engaged in assisting with the task of consigning bridge sets to river crossings.

(5) Construction/Rehabilitation Training - Once again both project CRTU's were hampered by excessive rainfall and flooding conditions. In this quarter the Cayo District CRTU completed the Santa Elena-Chiquibal Road Junction road segment and was partially relocated to the San Ignacio-Bullet Tree Falls road segment. In Belize District the CRTU completed the Old Northern Highway-Bomba section. This road section included a 546.4-yard-long causeway. The Belize District CRTU also completed nearly half a mile of the Old Northern Highway-Nago Bank road segment. The total amount of roads that were completed by both CRTU's was 24.9 miles at quarter's end. Personnel from both CRTU's attended a Caterpillar Operator Training Seminar in mid-February.

(6) Road Maintenance Training - All district MTU's now have a full complement of equipment since project tractor/brush cutters have arrived. Delivery of the machines to each district is expected early next quarter. Road maintenance training and managerial oversight assistance from project road specialists continued. Personnel from all six district MTU's also attended the Caterpillar Operator Training Seminar.

(7) Management Improvement - During the reporting period the first year of the five-year operations plan and budget for roads maintenance was completed. Completion of the entire five-year plan is expected next quarter. Three sets of briefings to explain the operations plan and budget were conducted for

various MOW personnel while field data collection efforts to complete the balance of the five-year plan continued. Difficulties stemming from certain district's lack of response to data requests persisted and the Office of Planning and Budget's IBM microcomputer was inoperative during January.

(8) Equipment Maintenance - The arrival of spare parts necessary to maintain all project Ford vehicles was delayed due to unavailability of a major portion of the order. Ford spare parts are now expected in Belize in early April as are spare parts necessary to maintain all project Excess Property vehicles. The balance of project shop tools arrived this quarter and they were transported to the Central Shop in Belmopan for distribution to the District Shops, CRTU's, and various project personnel. The Project Equipment Maintenance Specialist was also actively engaged in providing logistic support to the CRTU's.

(9) Bridge/Erection Maintenance - This quarter witnessed the arrival of the project bridge specialist in early January. During the reporting period much of the effort put forth by the bridge team consisted of repacking and sorting bridge hardware that had been unsatisfactorily packed and sorted both in Germany and in the U.S. Additionally, the project bridge specialist and his MOW counterpart began hauling bridge sets and hardware to their respective sites. At the end of the quarter four crossing sites had received their allotted spans.

D. Follow-up Actions: N/A

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations: None to date - see below

(IV) Problems and Delays

At this stage in project activity all components of the program are exhibiting reasonable progress. Despite setbacks encountered in achieving project short-term goals, all long-term implementation objectives appear obtainable. An upcoming project evaluation will review the project financial plan. In particular, it is clear at this point in project activity that the budget element spare parts does not contain enough funds to ensure smooth functioning of construction equipment throughout the project life. The spare parts budget element should be increased from surplus funds contained in budget elements such as construction equipment and contingency.

As excessive rainfall and flooding have slowed progress, the evaluation will also closely scrutinize road rehabilitation mileage progress for both MRTU spreads. If it is seen that the long-term objective of completion of 300 rehabilitation miles by

project's end cannot be accomplished, it will be necessary to either revise construction/rehabilitation schedules to reflect more realistic goals or to extend the length of the project so that the 300 miles are assured of completion. It may also be well advised to step up CRTU production during the dry season by means of overtime incentives for work crews. This incentive may be effective in recapturing completed mileage and, if implemented in timely fashion, may preclude the necessity of project schedule revision or extension.

(V) Major Activities During Next Six Months

A. Completed Action: See above.

B. Major project activities

--Rehabilitation training will continue.

--The first project evaluation is expected in May, 1985.

--Bridge construction will continue.

--MOW five-year Plan of Operations to be completed by August, 1985.

(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 15, 1984  
Date of Obligation: June 15, 1984  
PACD: June 15, 1986  
Implementing Agency: Peace Corps/Belize  
Major Contractor: None  
AID Project Manager: C. Jenkins

(II) Project Purpose

A 2-year agricultural project in Belize to offer primary school leavers an education in agriculture to encourage the expansion and diversification of agriculture, and to develop agricultural marketing procedures, thereby strengthening the self-sufficiency of Belize.

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary (US\$000)

--Amount authorized and obligated: 50  
--Amount committed: 49  
--Accrued expenditures:  
    Cumulative: 29  
    This period: 14  
--Status of Covenants and Conditions Precedent: All met

B. Major Outputs

--School opened September 17, 1984  
--Curriculum developed and continuing to be upgraded

C. Overall Status

--25 students completed first term.

--Of note are the high grade levels of the students. This is a credit to the teachers and the students, as they are using standards set by the school system and these students had previously left primary school with no plans to continue their education.

D. Follow-up Actions: N/A.

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations: N/A

(IV) Problems and Delays

The school is currently working with its board of directors to resolve the issue of which ministry has jurisdiction for the school. This will be resolved by the end of the third quarter.

(V) Major Activities During the Next Six Months

A. Completed Action: See above.

B. Major project activities: 24 students to complete first year in June.

C. AID/W Actions: None.

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment

No major implementation problems.

(VII) Special Concerns: N/A

4. COCOA

(I) Background Data

Project title: Accelerated Cocoa Production  
Project number: 505-0023  
Date of authorization: July 31, 1984  
Date of obligation: July 31, 1984; Amendment 1 - January 10, 1985.  
PACD: December 31, 1987  
Implementing agency: PADF  
Major contractor:  
AID Project Officer: C. Jenkins

(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.

The AID Grant has been programmed by input as follows (in US\$000): Salaries - 244; home office support - 66; travel - 56; training - 7; administrative expense - 11; equipment - 51; loans - 25; evaluation - 20; overhead - 135; total obligated to date - 615. In addition Bz.\$130,000 in ESF local currencies was contributed by the GOB.

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary (in US\$000)

- Amount authorized: DA/G 615
- Amount obligated: DA/G 615
- Amount committed: 615
- Accrued expenditures: 0
- Status of Conditions Precedent: All met

B. Major Outputs

--Project start-up activities are complete.

--Selection of the first groups of farmers to participate in the project from both Hershey and the Valley of Peace is almost complete.

--Housing loan guidelines have been completed with the Development Finance Corp.

--GOB extension personnel have been selected.

C. Overall Status: The project is on track.

D. Follow-up Actions: N/A

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations: None yet.

(IV) Problems and Delays

The local currency deposit of Bz.\$130,000 was delayed by the GOB. We expect the deposit to be made in the third quarter.

(V) Major Activities

A. Corrective Actions: N/A

B. Major Project or Management Activities

--Cocoa nursery establishment April and May, 1985.

--Workshops on land preparation and nursery maintenance, establishing cocoa plantations and others. (ONGOING).

--Land lottery for Hershey farmer participants, May, 1985.

--Seedling arrival May, 1985.

--Housing programs beginning June, 1985, and continuing through the year.

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's: No contracts contemplated.

B. ESF and SDA

1. DISCOUNT FUND

(I) Background Data

Project Title: Belize Commercial Discount Fund Project (CDF)  
Project No: 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. Lapera

(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: \$135,000  
--Accrued expenditures: \$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 charge resulting in longer  
term credit and appraisal banking.

Status

Unfortunately, disbursement has occurred for only one sub-loan totalling \$135,000; implementation has not moved.

Changes in banking policy have not taken place. The commercial bank's general conservatism, concentration on high interest, quick turnover, over-drafts and short term loans along with prohibitive collateral policies are major 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 since the semi-annual pipeline review held last November: the Project Agreement has been amended (Nov. 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 oranges are being exported to the U.S. Previously, oranges had been exported to Caricom countries, especially Trinidad and Tobago. The Caribbean market was supplanted by demand by U.S. producers who 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.

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations

A comprehensive evaluation was carried out by A.D. Little during March 26, 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

This immobility described above exists in spite of apparent investor interest in the "CBI Loan". At various points in time potential projects for funding have totalled, on an estimated basis, several \$ million. However, subloans were never made for such potential projects.

The constraints to disbursement are many-fold:

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

--Guarantee: Although the Central Bank approved guaranteeing loans up to 75% several months ago official approval has not been attained from the Ministry of Finance.

--Lack of readily "bankable" projects: The commercial banks have not received 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 are too high. Collateral pledged on a one-to-one ratio with 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 to U.S. Loans would be for large amounts and would quickly draw down on loan funds. However, PD 71 does not permit.

(V) Major Activities During Next Six Months

USAID believes that the lack of promoting the CDF with the commercial banks and potential end-users has resulted in a standstill in implementation. Therefore, the steps listed below will be taken prior to mid-June, 1985. If these steps result in significant progress by the PACD of 12/31/85, USAID will extend the PACD. If no or very little movement has occurred, we will consider deobligating the loan. It should be noted that a private sector officer will be assigned to Belize in July, 1985, who will coordinate the corrective actions listed below.

A. Corrective Actions

--Liquidity crunch: To overcome the liquidity crunch, commercial banks, Central Bank and USAID have agreed to raise the discount from 75% to 100%. This was a recommendation made by A.D. Little in their report of March, 1984.

--Guarantee: The Central Bank (CB) has agreed to expedite approval of the 75% CB guarantee and formally communicate the guarantee to the commercial banks.

--Lack of bankable projects: The Belizean Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) will design and distribute promotional material including guidelines for preparing proposals. This material will be approved by all four commercial banks. 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 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.

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 has major problems which require significant management attention.

(VII) Special Concerns

Gray Amendment: 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

### (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 to mobilize and involve the local successful private sector in the establishment of the National Development Foundation whose on-going programs will assist micro-entrepreneurs.

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

### (III) Project Status

#### A. Financial Summary

--Amount authorized and obligated: 142,000 G  
Amount committed: 142,000  
Accrued expenditures  
    Cumulative 101,000  
    This PD 12,000  
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 May 1, 1985, 114 loans in the amount of Bz.\$233,411.64 have been granted. 30 loans are still being considered.

Target: NDF/B staff trained and in place. This target has been reached.

Target: NDF/B 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. Bz.\$26,483 has been raised to date. Goal is Bz.\$150,000 for the life of the project.

Target: Conduct small business and marketing surveys. 3 surveys have been conducted to date. This target has been reached.

C. Other Accomplishments: Loans have created 64 new jobs and increased the earning power of 143 more individuals. Loan payback record is excellent; delinquency rate of only 2.8%. Technical assistance has reached 47 individuals.

D. Summary of Audits - Last audit was conducted on December 27, 1984. It found that the NDF 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. But, the Foundation agreed to contribute Bze.\$150,000 to pay for project costs. It is 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 Bze.\$26,483.00 during the period July 28, 1983, through April 28, 1985, about 58% of the life of the project. 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 they will press on for local fund raising activities. They recently held a large fund-raising dinner on May 2, 1985, which seemed successful yet, the full amount of funds raised from this event will not be known for sometime.

(V) Major Activities During Next Six Months

Continued expansion of successful credit operations and

technical assistance to micro-business. 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

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

B. Gray Amendment/HBCUs: 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 No.: 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  
Mohammed Tanamaly, 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 Disbursed: 0.0

--Status of Covenants and Conditions Precedent: CP's to disbursement of first tranche of U.S. \$2.5 million have been met. Disbursement has been requested.

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

Status: Implementation of this economic support program has just begun. The CP's to initial disbursement were met end March, 1985. The scopes of work for BEB management and financial advisors have been completed and these positions were advertised in the Wall Street Journal.

C. Other Accomplishments: During the reporting period, the PAAD was completed and the Agreement signed. The agreement conditions BOP assistance on major progress in reducing parastatal debt.

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:

A. Corrective Actions: N/A

B. Major Project or Management Activities:

--Contracting of financial and management advisors for the Belize Electricity Board

--Contracting of trade specialist for study of domestic and foreign trade regime

--Contracting of agricultural specialists in commodity stabilization

C. AID/W Actions: Assistance in the above contracting actions, as needed.

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

(VII) Gray Amendment and HBCU: N/A

4. EXPORT PROMOTION

(I) Background Data .

Project title: Export Promotion (OPG)  
Project No.: 505-0025  
Date of Authorization: April, 1984  
Date of Obligation: June 13, 1984  
PACD: December 31, 1985  
Implementing Agency: Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
(BCCI)  
Major Contractor: None  
AID Project Manager: Peter B. Lapera

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

(III) Project Status: As planned, BCCI set up a pavillion at the New Orleans World Fair from June through November of 1984. This resulted in sales of Belizean products, real estate, and tourist packages, as well as interest in investment now being followed up.

(IV) Activities During the Next Six Months

Trade Missions

--Carimex May, 1985  
--Far East June, 1985  
--Western states, U.S., August, September, 1985  
--Others as appropriate

Export Promotion

--BCCI establishes export/investment promotion acitivity, in coordination with Ministry of Economic Development

Information Exchange

--Trade, investment and tourist information with U.S., Latin, Caribbean 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.

--Hire key personnel for export promotion unit for a six month period.

(V) Major Project or Management Activities

A. Mission Actions

-- Amend Grant Agreement to add \$75,000 from SDA OPG 9999 to fund the above activities

--Approve reprogramming of Project Agreement Budget

--Extend PACD from December 31, 1985 to February 28,1986

--Mission completion and approval of PID for \$2.0 export promotion project.

-- Cable CN to add \$75,000 and extend activities.

B. AID/W Actions

--Process CN

--Concur in USAID approval of PID and PP for \$2.0 million export promotion project with BCCI.

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  
Estimated Completion Date: September 30, 1988  
Implementing Agencies: Development Finance Corporation (DFC),  
Belize Credit Union League (BCUL), Holy Redeemer Credit  
Union (HRCU), and individual credit unions throughout the  
country.  
Major Contractors: Mahlon Barash, CHF Resident Technician  
Ray Ocasio, CSHF Housing Policy Specialist  
AID Project Manager: Sonny Low, RHUDO/ROCAP

(II) Project Purpose

1. Support and expand private sector participation in the financing and construction of shelter.
2. Stimulate and strengthen the institutional capacity of the local credit union system.
3. Preserve the existing housing stock of below median income families.
4. Assist GOB to rationalize its housing delivery system.

The project will provide \$2 million of housing guaranty resources of which \$1,750,000 will be used by credit unions in urban areas to provide home improvement loans for families with below median incomes and \$250,000 will be used 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 have 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 million (HG)  
 \$400,000 ESF Grant to CHF for TA  
 \$60,000 DA addition to CHF grant for TA

--Amount Contracted \$2,000,000 (HG)

--Amount Disbursed:  
 Cumulative: \$469,749.54  
 Reporting Period: \$160,258.54

--Amount Obligated: \$400,000 ESF grant plus \$60,000  
 addition to grant.

--Amount Committed:  
 Cumulative: \$450,000 for grant  
 Report Period \$ 50,000 for grant

--Status of Covenants and Conditions Precedent: Except for CPs related to Mobilization of Savings (Section 6.08) and Final Disbursement (Section 5.05), GOB met CPs for investor selection (Section 5.02) on 11/15/83 and other CPs on 1/16/84 and 2/84. GOB is in compliance with all covenants at this time.

B. Major Outputs

As of 3/31/85

	Loans Pro- grammed	Value of Loans Programmed	Number of Loans Disbursed Period	Cumulative	Value of Loans Disbursed Period	Cumulative
BCUL	-	\$1,750,000	57	236	\$87,383.54	\$284,374.54
HRCU	-		-	55	-	87,500.00
DFC	-	\$250,000	46	67	\$72,875.00	97,875.00
TOTAL	1,300	\$2,000,000	103	372	\$160,258.54	\$469,749.54

C. Other Accomplishments and Overall Status

1. A PES evaluation was completed on the project and its findings and recommendations were shared with the various HILP project participants. The major evaluation finding was that continued credit union participation in the project had to be premised upon a decision to review and increase the HIL on-lending interest rate to above 12% so that an adequate spread could be provided to maintain project financial viability.

2. Six project implementation letters covering a variety of areas were issued to follow-up with PES evaluation findings and recommendations.

3. Arrangements with the CHF Resident Advisor to institutionalize with the DFC the oversight responsibilities for the HG-001 project were formalized so that they could be put in place prior to the resident advisor's June 30, 1985 departure.

4. Discussions continued with the previous and new GOB administrations regarding the scope and timing of follow-up technical assistance on the development of the national housing policy.

5. HRCU liquidated its advance and closed out its participation in the HILP.

6. RHUDO's Assistant Director for Central America traveled to Belize to join the AID Representative to discuss with Belize's new Housing Minister, Prime Minister, and top level credit union system officials the new administration's desires to continue with the implementation of the HILP and to determine the possibility of an increase of the on-lending interest rate above 12% to maintain the project's financial viability. Affirmative responses were given on both of these points by the new administration.

7. The BCUL Executive Committee announced its support of a move to increase not only the on-lending interest rate by CUs participating in the HILP, but also for all CU lending activities. Ratification of such a move is to be considered by individual CUs at their Annual Meetings scheduled for April and May.

D. Follow-up Actions from Prior Report

--Define scope and schedule additional follow-up technical assistance on development of national housing policy.

--Seek responses from GOB on PILs Nos. 12 and 13.

--Monitor addition of new CUs to participate in HILP.

--Finalize arrangements with CHF Resident Advisor on transfer of responsibilities for project oversight of HILP to DFC.

--Monitor GOB and CU's responses to PES evaluation findings and recommendations.

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations

PES evaluation of project was completed in October, 1984. Major findings and recommendations included: a) increase of HILs on-lending interest rate was required to maintain financial viability of project; b) additional funding should be added to TA grant to retain resident advisor in-country through 3/31/85, to support BCUL project monitoring, and to support housing policy TA follow-up; c) need to institutionalize within DFC project management/monitoring responsibilities related to HILP implementation; d) change disbursement basis to first come, first served; e) clarification of lending criteria required; f) provision of additional definition of management control/monitoring responsibilities for certification of eligible HILs; and g) definition of geographical areas where DFC rural program was permitted to operate. Project has never been audited to date.

(IV) Problems and Delays

The resistance of CUs to increase HILP on-lending interest rate above 12% to provide themselves with a more adequate margin to cover overhead costs has made the project financially non-viable. Consequently, until an affirmative decision is taken to address this problem, it is expected that the project will limp along. If this is not the case, the Mission will terminate the project this FY.

(V) Major Activities During Next Six Months

A. Corrective Actions

The BCUL Executive Committee announced in March its support to increase on-lending interest rates of all CU lending activities, not just those associated with the HILP. This would have positive impacts upon the pace of HILP disbursements. However, actual implementation of the BCUL Executive Committee's pronouncement must be ratification of the proposal by individual CUs during their Annual Meetings scheduled for April and May. If favorable action is taken on this, the HILP will have possibilities of being transformed into a financially viable project. If not, the Mission will terminate the project.

B. Major Project or Management Activities

--Monitoring of CU Annual Meeting actions on increasing on-lending interest rates.

--Move to facilitate use of HILP funds for individual water and sewer hook-ups in Belize City as discussed with GOB's Prime Minister and Housing Minister, once project can be made financially viable.

--Provision of requested follow-up TA to GOB for national housing policy development.

--Oversee transition between departure of CHF Resident Advisor and full assumption by DFC of HILP implementation oversight.

C. AID/W Actions: None.

(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: None.

2. INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY THROUGH 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 (MOH)  
Major Contractor: None yet contracted.  
AID Project Manager: Mary Ellen Duffy Tanamly,  
General Development Officer

(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 (US \$ 000)

--Amount authorized: \$7,000,000 DA (Grant)

--Amount obligated: \$1,500,000 DA (Grant)

--Amount committed: 0

--Accrued expenditures:

Cumulative: None.

This PD: None.

--Status of Covenants and Conditions Precedent:

Not yet satisfied. Terminal Date for C.P.'s is July 26, 1985.

B. Major Outputs:

Work had not been initiated on any of the major outputs of the project by the end of the reporting period, owing to the short interval between project agreement and the end of the period. Listed below are some of the major targets of the project, on which implementation will start in the coming months.

- 1) Reduction in target house spraying for malaria control from a 1985 level of 17,000 to an EOP level of 10,000 by the targeted and stratified spraying of residual insecticides, where and when needed.
- 2) Establishment of a functioning, effective and continuous epidemiological, parasitological and entomological surveillance system evidenced inter alia by 100% collection and examination of slides, and reporting within 10 days back to District Evaluators.
- 3) Establishment of malaria and Aedes Aegypti control education and information programs.
- 4) Drilling of tubewells, installation of handpumps, and submersible pumps, and erection of storage reservoirs in some 60 rural communities.
- 5) Installation of 3000 latrines in rural localities.
- 6) Establishment of a functioning national water quality control laboratory.
- 7) Active community involvement in the planning, construction and maintenance of water systems.

C. Other Accomplishments:

During the reporting period, the Project Identification Document was favorably reviewed by the DAEC, a Project Paper (PP) team was assembled, and the PP was developed, and finally, in March 1985,:

- a) the Project Authorization for US \$7 million was approved, and
- b) the Project Grant Agreement for the initial obligation of US \$1.5 million was signed by the Government of Belize and USAID.

D. Follow-up Actions: None.

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations: None undertaken.

(IV) Problems and Delays: None.

(V) Major Activities:

A. Corrective Actions: None.

B. Major Project or Management Activities

1. The Conditions Precedent to first disbursement are expected to be satisfied by the GOB by July 26, 1985. Mission will, however, urge that they be met as early as possible in order to expedite other project actions which are dependent on the satisfaction of the CP's.
2. Mission has initiated the process for contracting an 8(a) firm to provide project management services. AID/W - SER/CM will assist mission with the contracting process. It is expected that the team of long-term advisors will arrive in country by July 1, but this is dependent on the CP's being satisfied before that time.
3. Mission will also proceed to finalize commodity procurement lists for the project in preparation for proceeding with procurement as soon as the CP's are satisfied.
4. After the arrival of the project management team, short-term technical assistance will be provided in the following areas, among others:
  - a) Epidemiology (6 person weeks);
  - b) Entomology (6 person weeks);
  - c) Ultra-Low Volume Spraying Technology (4 person weeks);
  - d) Appropriate Technology for rural water systems (8 person weeks).
5. Training programs planned for MOH participation during this period include:
  - a) Vector Control (6 weeks);
  - b) Vehicle Maintenance (possibly 6 weeks);
  - c) U. S. observation tours and site visits for Malaria, Aedes Aegypti and Water and Sanitation officials.
6. Operations Research in alternative control methods for the Malaria and Aedes Aegypti components will be started.
7. Construction of storage and office facilities at the Matron Roberts Health Center site will also be started.

C. AID/W. Actions:

AID/W cooperation in facilitating the following actions will be particularly important to mission:

1. Negotiation of contract for Project Management Technical Assistance.
2. Identification of procurement service agents for the commodity procurements.

(VI) Mission Director's Assessment: No major implementation problems. The Mission is moving expeditiously in starting up this project.

(VII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training: None yet.

B. Gray Amendment/HBCU contracts: No contract signed, but Mission anticipates that the contract for Project Management long- and short-term technical assistance will be with an 8(a) contractor.

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  
Date of PACD: December 31, 1987  
Implementing Agency: CARE/Belize  
Major Contractor: N/A  
AID Project Manager: Mary Ellen Duffy Tanamly,  
General Development Officer

(II) PROJECT PURPOSE: To assist the GOB in developing an integrated training program in Nutrition, Food, Education, and Water and Sanitation in 18 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	62,687
Total	<u>\$500,000</u>

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary (US \$ 000)

--Amount authorized:	G	\$500,000
--Amount obligated:	G	\$500,000
--Accrued expenditures:		
Cumulative:		\$ 44,000
This PD:		\$ 44,000

B. Major Outputs

The grant agreement was signed August 30, 1984, authorizing the amount of \$500,000 to CARE. The first increment of \$200,000 was obligated by the original grant agreement, and the second, of \$300,000, by an amendment to the agreement

which was executed on January 11, 1985. Following is a report on the activities on which work was scheduled to start by March 31, 1985.

- 1) Recruitment of Project Personnel: a Project Coordinator, Health Educator, Water Engineer, and two district coordinators have all been recruited.
- 2) Orientation of senior GOB officials, District GOB Staff, and Village Council representatives: This has been completed. At least 10 meetings were held between the various GOB officials and CARE/Belize officials. Councils in 45 villages have been oriented to the project.
- 3) Development of village selection criteria, selection of villages, and execution of baseline surveys: These have all been completed. Richard Donovan, WASH Consultant, was in country twice in this connection during the reporting period. Village profile surveys were completed in 55 villages. Household surveys of two of the 16 selected villages have also been completed. A third visit by Donovan was scheduled for April/May to complete the analysis of the surveys and the writing of the report.
- 4) Purchases of vehicles and equipment, handpumps and accessories: A Ford van, 2 motorcycles, and a generator have been purchased. The van is equipped with padded secure boxes for transporting audio-visual equipment. A decision was taken to standardize the type of pump to be used nationally. The India Mark II pump was selected as technically superior and requiring less maintenance than the other candidates. The pumps have been ordered through CARE/New York, but procurement has not started. A waiver to permit this purchase is to be processed by USAID. Eighty pumps will be ordered in this tranche in order not to delay the implementation program in FY86. The remainder will be ordered in FY87.
- 5) Review of educational materials, and work with Media Specialist: The Media Specialist has been identified: Mrs. June Mehra of The Media Group at the University of Hawaii. She will not arrive until May. In the interim, however, the Health Educator has been reviewing what materials already are available in the villages and determining what more may be required. Orders have been issued for some books.

No progress has yet been made on the following activities on which it has originally been estimated that work would have started:

- purchase of construction materials;
- training of health education counterparts;
- village-level training in latrine construction
- village-level handpump installation and maintenance training;
- well drilling;
- latrine construction.

With the exception of "training of health education counterparts," these have all been delayed because they are dependent on the completion of other events. The health education counterparts have not been trained because the GOB has not yet identified them.

C. Other Accomplishments:

Apart from the difficulty experienced in contracting the Health Educator and Water Engineer, resulting in 2- and 4-month delays, respectively, the other aspects of the project have proceeded without significant hitches. It is anticipated that the next six months will see an increase in the rate of project implementation.

D. Follow-up Actions: None.

E. Summary of Audits and Evaluations: Not yet done.

(IV) Problems and Delays

The problems encountered so far are not major, but they are the usual ones encountered in project start-up. Briefly, the significant delays are:

- 1) The GOB needs to assign the health education counterparts.
- 2) Handpump procurement has been a longer process than anticipated.

(V) Major Activities

A. Corrective Actions: 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,  
General Development Officer

(II) Project Purpose: To provide support for the  
effective job market placement of Belizean youth.

--Major Activities:

Establish a Guidance & 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 (US \$ 000)

--Amount authorized:	G	\$80,000
--Amount obligated:	G	\$80,000
--Amount committed:	Cumulative:	\$80,000
	Reporting Period:	none
--Accrued expenditures:	Cumulative:	\$10,000
	This PD:	none

B. Major Project or Management Activities

- 1) It is proposed to procure the India Mark II pumps directly from a firm in India. As soon as these arrive, well drilling operations will commence.
- 2) In the interim, the Water Engineer will proceed to Haiti to become familiarized with the installation of the pump, and the nature of the training programs used in that country for making communities aware of the maintenance requirements for the pump, among other areas. Community orientation will proceed along with well drilling and handpump installation.
- 3) The WASH Consultant, Richard Donovan, will return by late April to work on the analysis and report for the village household survey.
- 4) The selected Media Consultant will arrive in early May to work with the preparation of materials for use by both the Health Educator and Water Engineer. The media programs on radio and television will also proceed consequent to this first leg of the consultancy.
- 5) Training in latrine construction will precede actual construction, but the latter will commence before the end of the next reporting period.

C. AID/W Actions:

None foreseen in the short term. Requests will be made if need for assistance arises.

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

(VIII) Special Concerns

A. Participant Training: None.

B. Gray Amendment/HBCU contracts: No contracts.

B. Major Outputs

1. Establishment of the Guidance and Placement Centre  
--The CVSS staff have secured the physical facilities for the Centre and ordered office equipment and furniture. Other necessary steps have been taken to set up the Centre. A candidate has been identified to work as Placement Officer to head up the Centre's service. This person's appointment is being reviewed by the Advisory Board. The Coordinator attended an orientation workshop and observed operation of a career placement office at Florida A & M University.
2. Establishment of an Advisory Committee and Appointment of a Special Advisor  
--The Advisory Committee has been formulated and is meeting regularly. Advisors have been identified and consulted for project start-up.
3. Information and Resource Collection Abroad and in Belize  
--Potential employers have been visited to determine needs, interests and vacancies. Lists have been compiled of local training resources, reference materials and resource persons. A library has been developed for collected material. Resource material from the U. S. and the U. K. has been ordered.
4. Public Information  
--New releases using a variety of media have been circulated to inform the public about the Center and Placement Service. A relationship has been developed with the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) for collaboration. The BCCI membership includes all of the business leaders from medium and large firms in the country.

(IV) Major Activities

- A. Corrective Actions: No corrective actions required as of the date of this report.
- B. Major Project or Management Activities

There has been some delay in purchasing necessary furniture and equipment for the Centre. The procurement process will be more closely monitored by the Mission.

All project activity will continue and intensify. The staff of the Center will be completed. The Center will attempt to reach 50% of the target for 300 clients within the reporting period. Linkages with schools and employers will be developed so that young people leaving school will be better prepared to enter the job market.

VI. Mission Director's Assessment

No major implementation problems.

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,  
General Development Officer

(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	<u>\$ 4,218</u>

Total \$50,000

(III) Project Status

A. Financial Summary (US \$ 000)

--Amount authorized:	G	\$50,000
--Amount obligated:	G	\$50,000
--Amount committed:	Cumulative:	G \$50,000
	Reporting Period:	\$50,000
--Accrued expenditures:		
Cumulative:		\$ 4,000
This PD:		none

B. Major Outputs

1. Management/Fund Raising
  - a. A capable Belizean woman has been selected and hired as the Executive Director of the BIB League. She has been oriented and assisted by the American volunteer who was serving as the Director for the past few years.
  - b. Fund raising through a membership drive has continued.
  
2. Training Activities
  - a. Training sessions have been held for nurses in five district health centers.
  - b. The BIB League Executive Director has begun training 17 nursing students at the Belize School of Nursing to become Breastfeeding Counselors/Promoters.
  - c. Counselors have been selected for training in districts throughout the country.
  - d. Red Cross rehabilitation workers have been trained in breastfeeding under special circumstances.
  
3. Educational Programs
  - a. The BIB League personnel have been active in developing educational materials for mothers and distributing them in appropriate settings.
  - b. Classes have been held regularly in maternity wards, clinics, and other community settings.
  - c. Special counseling has been offered at the High Risk Maternity Clinic.
  - d. The Breastfeeding Hotline and Lending Library continue as community services.
  
4. Promotion
  - a. Breastfeeding Certificates have been awarded to 80 women who have fully breastfed their babies for at least four months.
  - b. Television and radio promotional spots and talks have been aired.
  - c. Several other displays and talks have been given in the country.

(IV) Major Activities

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

B. Major Project or Management Activities

1. 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 Executive Director will attend La Leche League meetings in the U.S. and will visit similar U.S. community programs.

2. Training

The BIB League will continue to educate resource persons who will disseminate breastfeeding information to the public. Targets are for 10 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.

3. 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. Additional information sheets about different aspects of breastfeeding will be produced and distributed country wide.

4. 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.