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AN IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE SUBPROJECTS

APPROVED UNDER USAID'S

BASIC NEEDS TRUST FUND (BNTF) PROJECTS

IN

DOMINICA

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BASIC NEEDS TRUST FUND PROJECT

Dominica Country Assessment

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to evaluate the economic and social impact of the subprojects approved under the Basic Needs Trust Fund project in Dominica.

Background Information

During the period 1985 to 1991, forty-five subprojects were approved and implemented by the Caribbean Development Bank in Dominica under USAID's Basic Needs Trust Fund (BNTF) project. The subprojects were implemented in three phases and were distributed as follows:

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|-----------|-------------|
| Phase I | 16 projects |
| Phase II | 23 projects |
| Phase III | 6 projects |

Phase IV of the BNTF program is currently being implemented. However, for purposes of this exercise, these projects have not been considered since it was not expected that they would have as yet realized their full potential.

Evaluation Methodology

Of the forty-five subprojects implemented, ten were selected for review. This represented just under a quarter (or 25%) of the total projects approved for Dominica. The list of projects is as follows:-

Water Systems

Giroude/Eggleston Water Supply
Bellevue Chopin Water Supply
Clifton-Cocoyer Water Supply

Health Centres

Clifton Health Centre
Massacre Health Centre
Riviere Health Centre

Schools

Bellevue Chopin Primary
Dublanc Primary
Snake Coe Primary
Scotts Head Primary

In order to assess the economic and/or social impact of the BNTF program, a visit was made to each of the project sites and interviews conducted with the project coordinators - e.g., headteachers and senior health and medical personnel, who were responsible for administration of the projects. Interviews were also conducted with residents living in the respective communities who were direct beneficiaries.

General Comments and Summary of Findings

The BNTF development program undertaken in Dominica addressed the basic needs of the people. In 1979, Hurricane David struck Dominica and completely destroyed more than 90 percent of all property, private and public, including school buildings and health centers. In almost all cases, these facilities were without pipe borne water. Subsequent to the destruction of these buildings, temporary make-shift timber and galvanized structures were erected by government with tremendous self-help support of the members of the community who were determined to provide accommodation for classes.

However, by 1985-86, when the BNTF program commenced, many of the structures were in a state of disrepair because of the poor quality of the materials utilized. In selecting its BNTF projects, the Government of Dominica accorded high priority to the replacement of these temporary structures and the improvement of the poor sanitary conditions.

The four schools which were included in the sample are "all age" schools provides first stage and, in some cases, second stage education for students between the ages of five and fifteen. (In the event that a child does not ascertain the required marks in the "Eleven Plus" common entrance examination, that child remains at the primary school until age 15 to complete the second stage of his or her education). The schools were constructed with reinforced concrete, with concrete blocks in full panels, and concrete roofs. This choice of technology is entirely adaptable to the Dominican environment. The Units are sufficiently strong to withstand hurricane force winds and have all designated hurricane shelters. None of the schools were established in new locations, hence there has been no reduction in travel time for students or teachers. Pit latrines and storm water drainage have been replaced by flushing toilets and running water. The performance of the teaching staff and students has significantly improved.

Adult education (evening) classes and other skill training programs are conducted at the schools.

The assistance provided under the BNTF program has resulted in significant and long lasting improvements in the physical environment and health and sanitary conditions at schools in Dominica.

Health Centres

With regard to community health centers, these facilities are now 100 percent stone structures with concrete roofs. The three centers which were reviewed are Type I centers. These centers provide primary health care which includes the eight basic service elements in accordance with WHO guidelines: - immunization:- TB/DPT/Polio/MMR; family planning, pre-natal, and some post natal services. However, no admissions or laboratory services are undertaken. These centers are used extensively by residents.

Water Systems

The three sites which I visited in which water systems have been implemented, were located in poor rural communities - Giroude, Clifton and Bellevue. Prior to this BNTF project, there was no pipe-borne water in these communities. The residents collected water for all their house-hold purposes from streams and rivers. The communities are all located on high elevation and for this reason, it was a particularly arduous and painstaking process to draw water.

The assistance from USAID permitted the Government to tap streams above the communities, to collect the water in holding tanks and then the use gravity flow to access the communities. A clean, safe source of water has now been made available to the residents. One resident in Bellevue - Chopin, whom I questioned as to whether she preferred the old system, stoutly replied, "No! No!". She pointed out the distance which she and other families in the district had to cover before the system was installed was about half a mile. This necessitated travelling up and down a very steep hill on average three - four times daily. The stream was used for every conceivable purpose, including, to provide drinking water, for washing clothes, for bathing. The possibility of having your drinking water contaminated in such situations, was ever present.

In order to ensure that there are adequate funds to maintain and expand the service to other communities, government has instituted a metered system for households from which user fees are collected.

All of the sites that were reviewed are serviced by roads, water and electricity.

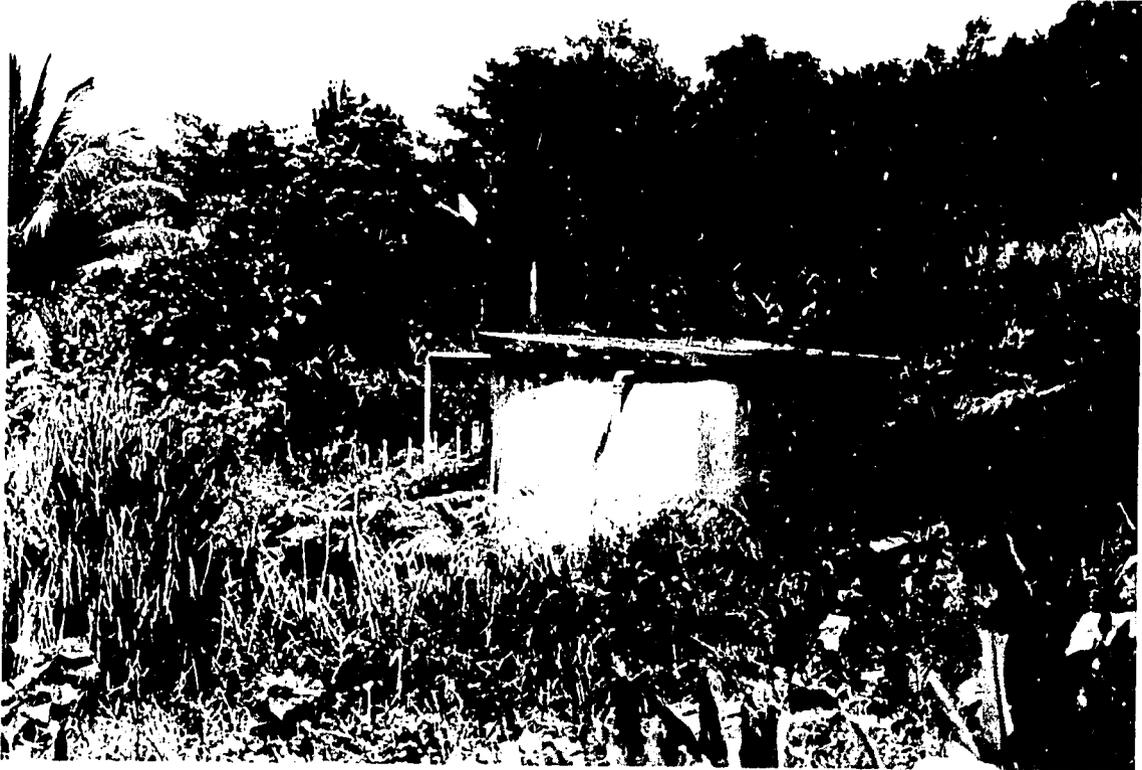
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|--------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Subproject | : | Bellevue Chopin Water Supply |
| Country | : | Dominica |
| Project Type | : | Water Supply System |
| CDB/USAID Grant | : | US\$124,944 |
| Total Project Cost | : | US\$133,548 |
| Commencement Date | : | June 1988 |
| Completion Date | : | August 1990 |
| Employment During Construction | : | 301 man weeks |
| Size of community | : | 360 |
| Student enrolment prior to AID grant | : | N/A |
| Student enrolment after AID grant | : | N/A |

Details of subproject: The village of Bellevue-Chopin is almost five miles south of Roseau, but is situated on a hill several thousand feet above Roseau. Prior to this project, the residents did not have pipe-borne water in their homes. They relied on roof collection and streams. The quality of the water in these situations was questionable and posed a threat to the lives of the people in this community.

Project Impact: Through this investment, the residents of Bellevue-Chopin have, for the first time, been presented with a safe and reliable water supply. Through the project, a pump was installed; a pumphouse and a 12,000 gallon reservoir constructed and a 3" - 800 feet main laid through which water is distributed to the village. Government has ensured that the project is adequately maintained and sustained by introducing a metered system through which user-fees are charged.

BELLEVUE-CHOPIN WATER SUPPLY

A photograph of the Reservoir in Bellevue-Chopin. This holds 12,000 gallons of water.



A photograph of a water meter. I saw these units frequently in the village of Bellevue-Chopin and throughout the country generally



BELLEVUE-CHOPIN WATER SUPPLY



I spoke to these residents of Bellevue-Chopin who were collecting water from one of the public water mains in the village. They were grateful for the service. Previous to this, they would have had to walk about half a mile to a stream down the hill.

While there had never been outbreaks of sickness in the village, having a safe source of water is welcomed.

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| Subproject | : | GiroudeI/Eggleston Water Supply |
| Country | : | Dominica |
| Project Type | : | Water Supply System |
| CDB/USAID Grant | : | US\$245,783 |
| Total Project Cost | : | US\$365,105 |
| Commencement Date | : | May 1988 |
| Completion Date | : | March 1990 |
| Employment During Construction | : | 489 1/2 man weeks |
| Size of community | : | 750 |
| Student enrolment prior to AID grant | : | N/A |
| Student enrolment after AID grant | : | N/A |

Details of subproject: GiroudeI is an agricultural community and is located high in the slopes of Morne-Anglais about 3-4 miles south-east of Roseau. Prior to this project, there was no pipe borne water in homes. Water was collected from roofs and drawn from streams. Residents had to walk about one mile to get water from a stream in the village.

Project Impact: Through this project, a safe source of water is now supplied to the residents of GiroudeI and Eggleston. The project provided three pumps, a booster station, a 80,000 gallon reservoir and a main to deliver the water to the residents. The project provides water mainly for households/domestic purposes and not agricultural purposes. Hence, there was no economic impact on productivity. At least no direct impact. However, (as you can see from the photograph attached) farmers, nevertheless, collect water from the public water mains, which is transported to their agricultural lands.

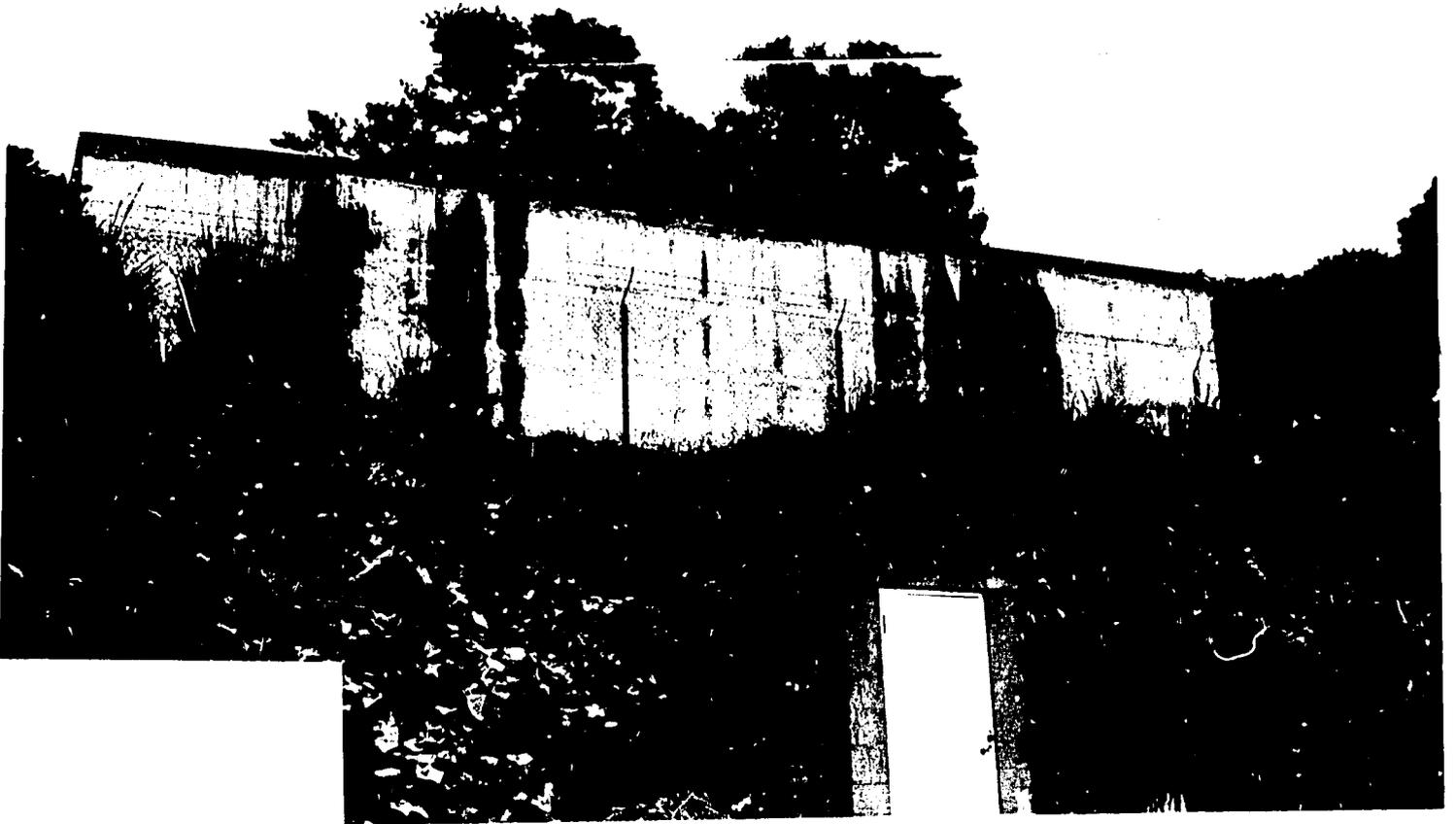
Giroubei/Eggleston water supply

Two photographs of farmers collecting water from the public water main for use on their agricultural lands.



Giroude/Eggleston Water Supply

A photograph of the Reservoir



This reservoir holds 85,000 gallons and serves a community of approximately 750 people. This facility provides the residents with a clear, safe source of water in their homes.

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| Subproject | : | Clifton-Cocoyer Water Supply |
| Country | : | Dominica |
| Project Type | : | Water Supply System |
| CDB/USAID Grant | : | US\$53,914 |
| Total Project Cost | : | US\$54,414 |
| Commencement Date | : | March 1985 |
| Completion Date | : | April 1987 |
| Employment During Construction | : | 127 1/2 man weeks |
| Size of community | : | 450 |
| Student enrolment prior to AID grant | : | N/A |
| Student enrolment after AID grant | : | N/A |

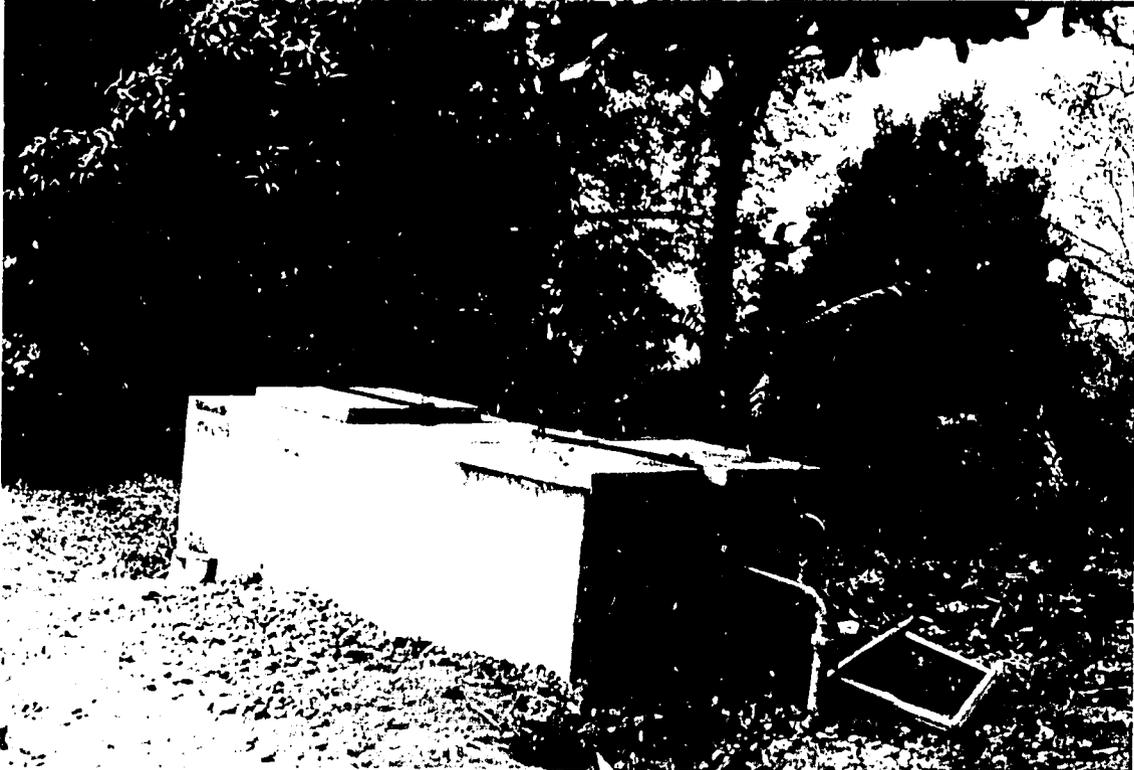
Details of Subproject: The villages of Clifton and Cocoyer are located in the north of the island with approximately 450 residents. Like the other communities visited, they too had no pipe borne potable water prior to the implementation of this project. The residents travelled long distances from their home to obtain water from a stream which served all their domestic needs.

Project Impact: The problem was resolved by the construction of a 5,000 gallon holding tank which overflowed into two 3,000 gallons break-pressure tanks. This subproject provide the residents not only with a clean, safe source of water for domestic use but also helped the community, which is agricultural, to improve production yields.

Interviews were held with three residents of this community. Two had running water in their homes, but the third, who was most appreciative of the service, hoped to raise the money soon to cover the installation costs. The two, who have pipe borne water in their homes, do not envisage going back to the old days of pit latrines or long walks to the stream. The local council in the area will soon be erecting a protective fence around the break pressure tank (see photograph attached). This will prevent children and other inquisitive individuals from tampering with the tank.

CLIFTON-COCOYER WATER SUPPLY

A photograph of the break pressure tank which holds approximately 3,000 gallons of water.



This is a photograph of the stream by the bridge in Clifton where the residents formerly collected their water for domestic purposes to bathe, wash their clothes and other wares



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| Subproject | : | Clifton Health Center |
| Country | : | Dominica |
| Project Type | : | Health Center |
| CDB/USAID Grant | : | US\$163,681 |
| Total Project Cost | : | US\$172,203 |
| Commencement Date | : | December 1985 |
| Completion Date | : | June 1986 |
| Employment During Construction | : | 462 1/2 man weeks |
| Size of community | : | Approx. 700 |
| Student enrolment prior to AID grant | : | N/A |
| Student enrolment after AID grant | : | N/A |

Details of Subprojects: The village of Clifton is about 7 miles north of Portsmouth. Prior to the construction of the USAID-financed center, basic health care services were delivered to the 700 villagers by a visiting nurse from the medical facility in Portsmouth in a dilapidated rented building.

Project Impact: Through the project, a single-storey reinforced concrete structure has been constructed. The facility has an examination room, treatment rooms, waiting area and living quarters for a resident nurse. The center is a Type I health care facility. It provides the basic health care services:- Immunization, family planning, pre-natal and post natal care. The new facility is not only an improvement on the old physically, but pregnant mothers can now have their babies delivered at the center. There has been a slight marginal increase in the number of patients seeking health care services. With the change in location, the facility now has more improved amenities - pipe borne water and electricity. This gives the residents an over-riding sense of pride, and heightens their confidence about the quality and safety of the service. Transportation beyond Portsmouth is unscheduled, and unreliable, hence the real value of a reliable health care facility in this rural community becomes more evident.

The facility is used on a regular basis for practical (hands-on) training for nurses and nursing assistants.

CLIFTON HEALTH CENTER

A photograph of the Clifton Health Center



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| Subproject | : | Massacre Health Center |
| Country | : | Dominica |
| Project Type | : | Health Center |
| CDB/USAID Grant | : | US\$60,877 |
| Total Project Cost | : | US\$83,728 |
| Commencement Date | : | July 1987 |
| Completion Date | : | April 1988 |
| Employment During Construction | : | 304 1/2 man weeks |
| Size of community | : | Approx. 1200 |
| Student enrolment prior to AID grant | : | N/A |
| Student enrolment after AID grant | : | N/A |

Details of Subproject: The village of Massacre is located within close proximity to Canefield Airport. There was no health care facility in this village prior to the project. With the establishment of a low income project in this area, the size of the population has increased significantly in recent years. The center serves about 1200 persons from the communities of Canefield and Massacre. Before the facility was established, residents would have had to travel about three miles to the Mahaut Health Centre or four miles to Princess Margaret Hospital in Roseau.

Project Impact: The new center is a Type I center which provides the full range of basic health services excluding laboratory service and admissions. Because of its proximity to Canefield Airport, the Center is used on a regular basis by persons who are not residents in Canefield or Massacre. Government now pays the salary for the staff nurse and two nursing assistants, who manage the center.

A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE MASSACRE HEALTH CENTER



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| Subproject | : | Riviere Cyrique Health Center |
| Country | : | Dominica |
| Project Type | : | Health Center |
| CDB/USAID Grant | : | US\$59.137 |
| Total Project Cost | : | US\$61,126 |
| Commencement Date | : | June 1986 |
| Completion Date | : | February 1987 |
| Employment During Construction | : | 211 1/2 man weeks |
| Size of community | : | 800 |
| Student enrolment prior to AID grant | : | N/A |
| Student enrolment after AID grant | : | N/A |

Details of Subprojects: Before the establishment of the health center, the delivery of health care services in the village of Riviere Cyrique was non-existent. As a result, villagers, of approximately 800 persons, had to travel about four miles to La Plaine for basic health care.

Project Impact: The health center which was constructed in Riviere Cyrique is a Type I facility. All the basic health care services - immunization, family planning services, pre and post natal care are provided at the facility. The services are now more accessible to the residents. Riviere Cyrique is a poor agricultural community and the beneficiaries are essentially low income persons.

RIVIERE CYRIQUE HEALTH CENTER

A photograph of the Health Center in Riviere Cyrique



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| Subproject | : | Bellevue Chopin Primary School |
| Country | : | Dominica |
| Project Type | : | School Construction |
| CDB/USAID Grant | : | US\$120,375 |
| Total Project Cost | : | US\$192,321 |
| Commencement Date | : | December 1989 |
| Completion Date | : | May 1991 |
| Employment During Construction | : | 938 man weeks |
| Student enrolment prior to AID grant | : | Approx. 100 |
| Student enrolment 1994 | : | 84 |
| Size of communities | : | Approx. 360 |

Details of subproject: The old school building was completely destroyed by Hurricane David. There was, at the time, no running water nor flushing toilets at the school. Pit latrines were erected. There were four existing classrooms. This community is about 5 miles from the capital, Roseau. The technology utilized in construction is entirely adaptable to residents in the community and the building hardly needs any maintenance.

Project Impact: The new school has five classrooms. As a result, the pupil/classroom ratio has decrease from 25:1 to 16:1. The school is utilized by adults in community for meetings, skills training programs and adult education classes.

Indirect benefit: A health center was constructed on the adjoining compound. This is a new facility, but because of its proximity to the school, the immunization program for the children can be easily administered and monitored.

A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE BELLEVUE CHOPIN PRIMARY SCHOOL



Note the solid nature of the structure, in particular the roof. Yet the design and materials used allows air to easily filter through the building keeping it cool. This building will withstand hurricane force winds.

About 15-20 feet beyond the arrow is ^{the} Health Center. Because of its close proximity to the school it is easy to ensure that all children in the village are immunize .

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| Subproject | : | Du Blanc Primary School |
| Country | : | Dominica |
| Project Type | : | School Construction |
| CDB/USAID Grant | : | US\$380,751 |
| Total Project Cost | : | US\$446,091 |
| Commencement Date | : | October 1985 |
| Completion Date | : | August 1986 |
| Employment During Construction | : | 492 1/2 man weeks |
| Size of community | : | |
| Student enrolment prior to AID grant | : | 180 Approx. |
| Student enrolment after AID grant | : | 134 (1994) |

Details of Subprojects: The village of Du Blanc is located on the western coast of Dominica. The original school building was built over forty years ago. It was damaged by Hurricane David in 1979 and was repaired by community self-help. However, after six years, it has served its usefulness and had become a health hazard for the 200 students attending school there.

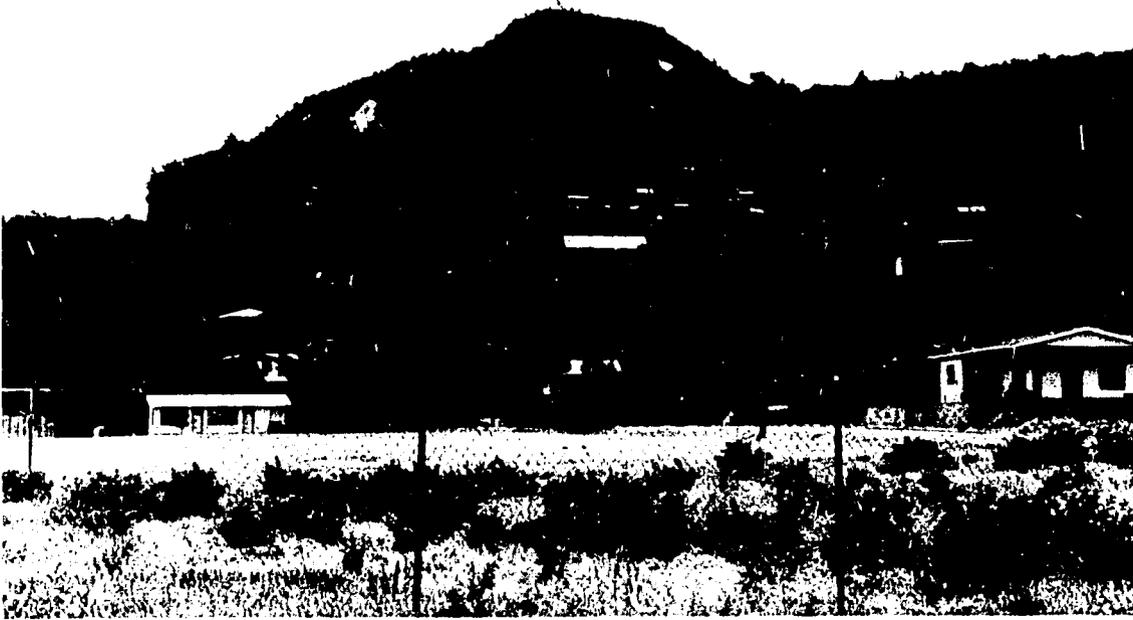
Project Impact: The new school is located about one mile from the old site, however, it continues to be the catchment for children living in Du Blanc and Bioche. The new facility is established on more spacious surroundings and has all the basic amenities - pipe borne water, electricity, telephone, flushing toilets. The community through the Parent-Teachers Association has taken great pride in their new school. Through their combine efforts, they were responsible for fencing the school premises and paving the access road leading to the school. This augers well for the sustainability of this facility.

Bioche and Du Blanc are fishing and farming communities and as a result, groups such as the Banana Association and the fisheries and cultural division have, on occasion, used the building to host seminars and hold workshops. The building is also used by the scouts for camping and by the community to hold summer camp for the children. The reduction in the number of children attending the school is due essentially to the increase in school places which have been made available at the secondary level.

This facility is beneficial to this rural community and is utilized for a multitude of social and educational purposes.

DU BLANC PRIMARY SCHOOL

A photograph of the old primary school. This is the building which is encircled in the photo. [This was taken from the site where the new school is located. It was not possible to journey to the old site]



The (new) Du Blanc Primary school. The facility is well maintained by government with clear self-help community support.



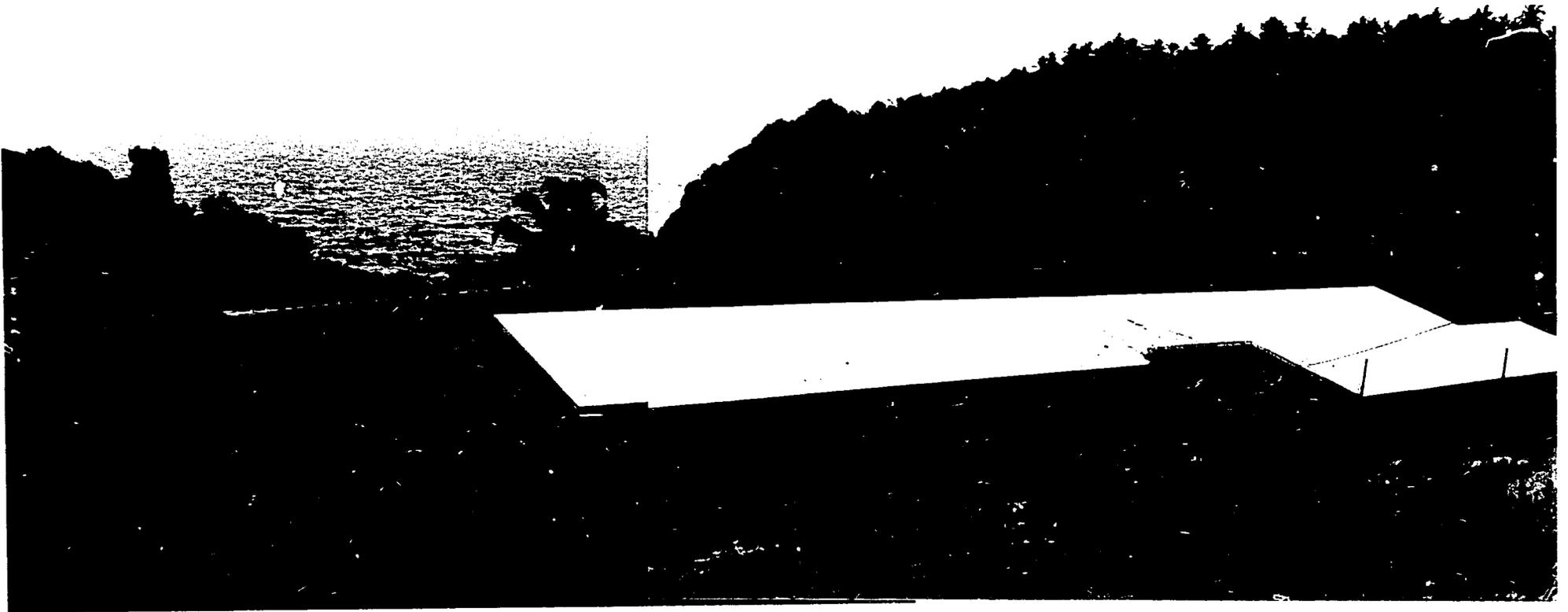
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|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Subproject | : | Snake Coe Primary School |
| Country | : | Dominica |
| Project Type | : | School Construction |
| CDB/USAID Grant | : | US\$132,843 |
| Total Project Cost | : | US\$282,363 |
| Commencement Date | : | December 1989 |
| Completion Date | : | March 1991 |
| Employment During Construction | : | 768 man weeks |
| Size of community | : | 460 |
| Student enrolment prior to AID grant | : | 172 |
| Student enrolment after AID grant | : | 172 (1994) |

Details of Subprojects: The village of Snake Coe is located in the heart of the Carib Reserve territory. The Dominica Caribs are indigenous and have their own local council and chief. The Snake Coe Primary School was extensively damaged by Hurricane David in 1979. The building, at this time, was repaired by community self-help. Snake Coe Primary School is an all age school and is a catchment for children from Mahaut, Gaulette and Salisbury.

Project Impact: Now that the new Snake Coe school has been constructed, there has been a reduction in the classroom: pupil ratio from 1:34 to 1:25. This has resulted in an improved performance rating for the school. The school received 12 more passes this year than it did in 1993 in the common entrance examination. The headteacher also stated that because of this improved performance he had received applications from residents in out lying villages for places at the school. Parents were prepared to have their children commute over longer distances in the hope of receiving a better education. The kinds of children attending Snake Coe are from lower income families.

SNAKE COE PRIMARY SCHOOL

A photograph of the old and new building of the Snake Coe Primary School



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| Subproject | : | Scotts Head Primary |
| Country | : | Dominica |
| Project Type | : | School Construction |
| CDB/USAID Grant | : | US\$104,776 |
| Total Project Cost | : | US\$129,906 |
| Commencement Date | : | May 1985 |
| Completion Date | : | April 1986 |
| Employment During Construction | : | 671 1/2 man weeks |
| Size of community | : | Approx. 700 |
| Student enrolment prior to AID grant | : | N/A |
| Student enrolment after AID grant | : | 118 (1994) |

Details of Subproject: The former school was completely destroyed by the hurricane in 1979. The Government of Dominica through its own efforts succeeded in rebuilding the ground floor of the school. (Scotts Head was one of the areas hardest hit by the hurricane). It was the main primary school in the south and provided accommodation for about 200 children.

Project Impact: AID funds were used to construct the second storey of the building providing 600 sq.ft. of additional classroom space. The building also has all the basic amenities. This new school, like others constructed under the BNTF program, has made a significant impact in this poor community. This Scott's Head school is not only an "all age" school, but more precisely it is a Junior Enrichment school. It has received equipment under the USAID-sponsored skills training project and is specifically designed/designated to provide those slow achievers who are unsuccessful in the common entrance examination with marketable and productive skills which will enhance the ability, after leaving school to better quality for available job opportunities.

A 5,000 gallon water tank was also constructed by USAID at the Scotts Head School. This supplies the school with a clean reliable supply of water. The village of Scotts Head is located in an area of low rainfall. In addition, low pressure was not sufficient to supply the village and the school with water. The tank has ensured that the supply is regular.

SCOTTS HEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

The ground floor of the school was constructed by the Government of Dominica



The second storey of the building was constructed by USAID



SCOTTS HEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

The water tank shown in the photograph was also constructed under the USAID BNTF project

