

**Management Training and Economics Education Project for Central
and Eastern Europe
Project No. 180-0029**

**Monitoring and Evaluation Contract
Contract No. DHR-0029-C-00-5059-00**

MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT - MAY 1996

28 JUNE 1996

Submitted to:

Office of Human Resources (ENI/HR/TE)
Bureau for Europe and the New Independent States
U.S. Agency for International Development
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A. INTRODUCTION

The Management Training and Economics Education Project (MTEEP) is based on using institution-to-institution linkages to undertake short term, high impact training while simultaneously upgrading Central European institutions for long term management and economics education. The Project was initially approved in 1990, and is expected to continue through 30 June 1999. The purpose of this monitoring & evaluation contract is to provide technical assistance for formative monitoring and summative expert evaluation of MTEEP. Currently there are eleven active grants to U.S. universities working with partner institutions in nine Central and Eastern European countries which are covered by these services. The contract was signed in July 1995. This is the tenth monthly report of activities.

B. OVERALL ACTIVITY STATUS

Proceedings for the Project Directors' Work Session held in Budapest, Hungary in April were distributed to the approximately 60 attendees and others interested in the MTEE Project.

Spring monitoring site visits were completed, with those to Albania (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) and Bulgaria (University of Delaware) extending into May.

Trip reports of the April/May monitoring site visits were completed and sent to the USAID Project Officer. In addition, a debriefing session on these site visits was held between the evaluation team and USAID/HR/TE staff.

A detailed outline for the first summative evaluation report, due at the end of July, was completed. Questionnaires were sent to Project Directors, in-country Coordinators, and Partner Institution Representatives for their self assessment of each project efforts. This will be done on a semi-annual basis and the results included in the semi-annual reports prepared by the evaluation team.

The monthly progress and financial reports were submitted to USAID. Two newsbriefs were distributed.

C. GRANTEE UPDATES

During the month of May, most contacts with Grantees were related to the development of the annual report. More detailed information about each project may be found in this report. In addition, a summary of the status of grantee quarterly reports received was made and grantees requested to provide any past reports not on file starting from the beginning of the Datex contract in July 1995.

Central Connecticut State University - Poland

This program is no longer being funded through MTEEP and therefore will not be reported on in the future.

Indiana University - Hungary

Discussions with IU focused on its negotiations with USAID/Hungary to shift its programs towards medium rather than large enterprises. IU was instructed to inform USAID/Washington about its discussions with USAID/Hungary and its intent to shift the focus of the project. Reports current through March 1996.

SUNY/OIP - Hungary

The team was in communication with the US project director for clarification regarding program activity. The program appears to be moving along well. Reports current through December 1995.

SUNY/Buffalo - Latvia

The team was in communication with the US project director for clarification regarding their program activity. This program appears to be moving along well. Reports current through March 1996.

Texas A&M International University - Lithuania

Reports current through March 1996.

University of Delaware - Bulgaria

Reports current through March 1996.

University of Maryland - Poland

The team communicated electronically with the US project director to followup on the concern raised at the Work Session by the USAID/Poland project officer that UMD was not progressing quickly enough. The US project director responded on his way to Lodz to meet with project staff and review plans for the opening of the LEMBA program in October. Further discussions will follow as his response was not complete. Draft reports through March 1996 were received but they are outlines and are incomplete.

University of Minnesota - Poland

Reports current through March 1996.

University of Nebraska/Lincoln - Albania

Reports current through March 1996.

University of Pittsburgh - Slovakia and Czech Republic

The team contacted in-country Czech Republic staff for participation information for the project. Reports for CERGE are current through March. The Slovakia in-country director reported that the firing of colleagues from Slovak institutions had not had an impact on the UPitt partner, the Economics University. Reports are current through December 1995.

Washington State University - Romania

Reports current through March 1996.

D. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED/ACTIONS TAKEN

In general, all continues to move smoothly.

E. CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Activities continue generally on schedule.

F. PLANS FOR JUNE, 1996

- Begin data analysis and report writing for first annual summative evaluation report
- Collect quarterly accrual reports from grantees for USAID
- Newsbriefs distributed
- Monthly report to USAID