

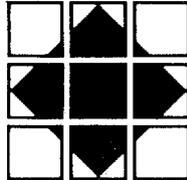
PD-ABP-738 95529

**Center for
Development
Information &
Evaluation**

**Economic and Social Data Services (ESDS)
Project**

Annual Report 1992

Contract # PDC-0000-Z-00-8034-00



THE PRAGMA CORPORATION

116 EAST BROAD STREET
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22046

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President
Jacques Defay

Established 1977

Clients

AID
World Bank
IDB
IFAD
OAS
Peace Corps

Fields

Agriculture/Rural Development
Health Water Sanitation
Financial Management
Private Sector Development
Conference Management
Participant Training (M-C)
Industrial Development and Finance
Microcomputer Application, Hardware and Software

Overseas Offices

Belize/Belize City
Tel: 45938
Telex: 120 VILLA BZ
Burkina Faso/Ouagadougou
Tel: 335339
Telex: RAN HOTEL 5273 BF
Indonesia/Jakarta
Tel: 793480
Telex: 47319 FINAS IA
FAX: 7996218
Panama/Panama City
Tel: 649369
Tel: 637842
Telex: 2116 TRTELCOR PA
Zaire/Kinshasa
Telex: 21536 LASCO ZR
Philippines/Manila
Southeast Asia Regional Office
Tel: 50-08-35/58-23-57
Telex: 40084 {WPFPM}

Countries

Africa

Benin
Botswana
Burkina Faso
Central African
Republic
Ivory Coast
Mali
Niger
Rwanda
Sierra Leone
Uganda
Zaire
Zimbabwe
Malawi
Lesotho

Latin America

Argentina
Belize
Bolivia
Costa Rica
Ecuador
Guyana
Honduras
Mexico
Nicaragua
Panama
Paraguay
Peru

Caribbean

Antigua
Barbados
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Haiti
Jamaica
St. Kitts/Nevis

Asia

Burma
India
Indonesia
Nepal
Pakistan
Philippines
Singapore

North Africa/ Middle East

Egypt
Jordan
Lebanon
Morocco
Tunisia
Yemen

B

**The United States Agency for International Development
Center for Development Information and Evaluation
Economic and Social Data Services (ESDS) Project
Contract # PDC-0000-Z-00-8034-00
The Pragma Corporation
Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 1992**

The enclosed report details the activities of the ESDS Project staff by quarter under Contract # PDC-0000-Z-00-8034-00 for the year ending December 31, 1992. Also enclosed are the Level of Effort and Status of Funds reports for each quarter.

The Pragma Corporation

116 East Broad Street
Falls Church, Virginia 22046
(703) 237-9303

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August 27, 1992

Mr. William Garrity
Contracting Office
Office of Procurement
Central Operations Branch
Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523

REF: Contract # PDC-0000-Z-00-8034-00

Dear Mr. Garrity:

Please find enclosed our narrative report for the above-reference contract for the quarter ending March 31, 1992, along with the required reports, i.e., I. Level of Effort and II. Status of Funds.

Sincerely,



Dina Towbin
Pragma Project Manager

cc: Maury Brown, A.I.D./POL/CDIE/DI
David Moore, ESDS Project Manager
Pat Brown-Wood, A.I.D./POL/CDIE

The United States Agency for International Development
Center for Development Information and Evaluation's
Economic and Social Data Services (ESDS)
Contract # PDC-0000-Z-00-8034-00
The Pragma Corporation
Report for Quarter Ending March 31, 1992

Level of Effort (Report Attached)

The attached report reflects that we have used the 604.7 days budgeted for this project during the period January 1 - March 31, 1992. Nine full-time positions and one part-time position are authorized under this contract.

Status of Funds (Report Attached)

Selection of Work Assignments:

Mr. David K. Moore, the ESDS project manager, carried out the requisite contract management functions. He also spent time interviewing for three ESDS staff openings, as well as spending these three months working with the In-Country Presence Task Force. In this capacity, Mr. Moore continued data collection and model building and refinement activities for the AID study investigating the antecedents of AID direct hire staffing patterns in the USAID missions around the world.

During the first quarter of 1992, Ms. Cheryl Crow continued in her ESDS capacity developing the Socio-Economic Data pages for the FY 1993 Congressional Presentation. She also provided data research, collection, and analysis for the Food and Humanitarian Assistance Bureau. Working with FHA, Ms. Crow continued the development and refinement of AID's Food Security Index. Ms. Crow also worked with the Research and Development Bureau (R&D) on a livestock econometric model building exercise.

In the first quarter of 1992, Mr. Charles Corry worked closely with the EUR bureau and reviewed World Bank and IMF documents on Stand-By arrangements and project documents as concerned Eastern European countries. He also continued basic provision of short-term analytical and graphical data support, as well as identifying, gathering and analyzing data for use as Economic Policy Performance Indicators.

During the first quarter of 1992, Ms. Joan Curry engaged in the data collection process and in the development of the statistical pages for the Agency's annual Report on USAID Developing Country Military Expenditures (620S Report). In conjunction with this task, Ms. Curry attended seminars in the Policy Bureau and collected research materials and investigated research methodologies on the military expenditures subject.

Ms. Kate Edmonds continued in her role providing support for the Africa Bureau and the activities of Mr. Nassif as outlined above. Ms. Edmonds resigned for the Pragma/ESDS contract in late January of 1992. In the middle of February 1992, Ms. Margie Whipple began working on the ESDS contract as the replacement for Ms. Edmonds. She spent the following six weeks engaged in ESDS training and support exercises and also provided analytical support, research, and statistics for the LAC publication mentioned above.

Mr. Andrew Karlyn continued in his role providing support for the Africa Bureau and the activities of Ms. Keating as outlined above. Mr. Karlyn resigned for the Pragma/ESDS contract in late February of 1992. In March 1992, Ms. Gayle Schwartz began working with the ESDS contract and assumed Mr. Karlyn's responsibilities with the Africa Bureau. She engaged in ESDS training and support exercises and also provided analytical support, research, and statistics for the Africa Bureau.

Ms. Barbara Keating worked closely with the Africa Bureau's Analysis, Research and Technical Support Office (ARTS), and in the month of January, continued to provide analysis and support for their Information Needs Assessment. This work also fed into and contributed to the Africa Bureau's Policy Analysis, Research and Technical Support (PARTS) analytical research agenda. During this quarter, Ms. Keating continued to provide statistical analysis, research and graphical support to the Bureau.

During this first quarter, Mr. Joe Nassif analyzed United States trade with Latin America and the Caribbean and produced tables showing time series data, growth rates, and projections. Mr. Nassif was also involved in collecting necessary data to be included in the forthcoming publication Latin America and the Caribbean: Selected Economic and Social Data.

Mr. C.K. Pang was hired at the beginning of the quarter and began work as a Research Assistant with the ESDS staff on January 2, 1992. During the first half of the quarter, Mr. Pang immersed himself in various technical training opportunities with regard to the analytical computer software and statistical analysis procedures used here at the ESDS. He also participated in a three day SAS training class, and participated in a seminar on the US Department of Commerce TradeNet Database. He also provided technical assistance and graphical analysis for the Agency's annual Poverty Reduction Report. He also furnished data in time series format and graphical presentations for a number of special requests coming from the Policy Bureau and the Administrator's office. Finally, Mr. Pang contributed back-stop and statistical support and trade data for the LAC bi-annual publication on Economic and Social Indicators.

During the first quarter of 1992, Ms. Elena Shirley continued in her capacity as the Economic and Social Data Diskette Service Manager. She downloaded over 100 data files from various international data sources housed on the AID/W mainframe and sent out the quarterly electronic up-dates to the ESDS service subscribers in over 40 USAID missions world-wide.

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THE PRAGMA CORPORATION
 PDC-0000-2-00-9334-00

Quarterly Report/		!! Quarter Ending 03/31/92			Report 04/18/92 to 03/31/92					Report 04/18/92 to 12/31/91				
Level of Effort:		!! Report 01/01/92 to 03/31/92												
		!! Days/ Current Quarter			Days/Cumulative Totals					Days/Cumulative Quarter				
		!! Ending 03/31/92			Ending 03/31/92					Ending 12/31/91				
Employee:	Name	!!---days---	---days---	---%age---	---Budgeted---	---%age---	---Balance---				---%age---			
Position	Name	Budgeted	Actual	+Overused	Days	Days	Spent	+Overused	Per Total	Remarks	Budgeted	Spent	+Overused	
		!!This Qtr.	This Qtr.	-Underused	(Total) thru 03/92	DTG	-Underused	Contract				thru 12/91	12/91	-Underused
Special Scientist/R.Baker/Noore		65.0	65.0	0.00%	1300.0	1091.0	1003.5	-8.02%	296.5		1026.0	1019.4	-0.64%	
Economist/Moore/Wassif		65.0	65.0	0.00%	1300.0	1091.0	600.8	-44.93%	699.2		1026.0	616.8	-39.65%	
Op. Finan. Analyst/Burn/Horsh/Curry		65.0	65.0	0.00%	1300.0	1091.0	759.0	-27.68%	511.0		1026.0	758.8	-25.07%	
Scientist-HRD/Foster/Kariyn		36.5	36.5	0.00%	1300.0	1062.5	770.3	-27.50%	529.7		1026.0	817.0	-20.37%	
Statistician/Prq Analyst/Horsch/Corry		65.0	65.0	0.00%	1300.0	1091.0	706.2	-35.27%	593.8		1026.0	796.2	-31.17%	
Statistician/Prq Analyst/Brown/Crow		65.0	65.0	0.00%	1300.0	1091.0	894.4	-12.44%	410.2		1026.0	892.9	-12.57%	
Research Assis./Wo/Edmonds/Pang		65.0	65.0	0.00%	650.0	975.3	705.6	-28.98%	-35.6		928.5	663.6	-28.53%	
Processing Oper./Watson/Shirley		38.3	38.3	0.00%	650.0	506.8	527.3	4.05%	122.8		468.5	500.4	6.81%	
Bureau/Barbara Keating		65.0	65.0	0.00%	0.0	125.0	65.0	0.00%	-65.0		61.1	61.1	0.00%	
Investment Analyst/Edmonds/Whipp		52.9	52.9	0.00%	0.0	106.5	52.9	0.00%	-52.9		53.6	53.6	0.00%	
Analyst/African Bureau/Schwartz		22.0	22.0	0.00%	0.0	22.0	22.0	0.00%	-22.0		0.0	0.0	0.00%	
Prq Consultant		0.0	0.0	0.00%	440.0	0.0	0.0	0.00%	440.0		0.0	0.0	0.00%	
		!!												
		!!	604.7	604.7	0.00%	9540.0	8272.3	6132.4	-25.87%	3407.6		7667.7	6091.6	-20.55%
		!!												

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The Pragma Corporation

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November 23, 1992

Ms. Anne T. Quinlen
Contracting Officer
Office of Procurement
Central Operations Branch
Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523

REF: Contract # PDC-0000-Z-00-8034-00

Dear Ms. Quinlen:

Please find enclosed our narrative report for the above-reference contract for the quarter ending June 30, 1992, along with the required reports, i.e., I. Level of Effort and II. Status of Funds.

Sincerely,



Dina Towbin
Pragma Project Manager

cc: Maury Brown, A.I.D./POL/CDIE/DI
David Moore, ESDS Project Manager
Pat Brown-Wood, A.I.D./POL/CDIE

The United States Agency for International Development
Center for Development Information and Evaluation
Economic and Social Data Services (ESDS) Project
Contract # PDC-0000-Z-00-8034-00
The Pragma Corporation
Report for Quarter Ending June 30, 1992

Level of Effort (Report Attached)

The attached report reflects that we have used the 679.5 days budgeted for this project during the period April 1 - June 30, 1992. Thirteen full-time positions and one part-time position are authorized under this contract.

Status of Funds (Report Attached)

Selection of Work Assignments:

Mr. David K. Moore, the ESDS project manager, carried out the requisite contract management functions. He also spent time recruiting and interviewing candidates for ESDS staff openings. Mr. Moore coordinated ESDS contributions and assignments to provide socio-economic data for the Development Economics Course taught to A.I.D. mid-to-senior level staff at FSI by Professor Margie Ensign. Mr. Moore also coordinated the ESDS response to POL/SP for research assistance and analytical support for a comparison study of industrialized countries' trade with less developed countries and A.I.D.-assisted countries. Mr. Moore also coordinated the ESDS response to a request from the Office of External Affairs for data and graphical presentations of U.S. exports to A.I.D. countries.

During the second quarter of 1992, Ms. Cheryl Crow completed data research, collection, and analysis for the Food and Humanitarian Assistance Bureau. Working with FHA, Ms. Crow identified methodological inconsistencies and made corresponding adjustments in the statistical calculations used by FHA to produce the original Food Security Index. The completed 1992 Food Security Index programmed by Ms. Crow represented a marked improvement in accuracy. An update to the 1992 index was requested by FHA. To produce the updated index, Ms Crow collected additional data which was not previously available, reconstructed the base data used to calculate the Food Security Index, corrected for any data errors, and recalculated the statistical formulas.

Under the supervision of Ms. Crow, significant attention was given to data base maintenance and data acquisition activities. New data was acquired from UNICEF (1992 State of the World's Children), OECD (Geographical Distribution of Financial Flows), Penn World Tables (Purchasing Power Parity), World Resources Institute (environmental indicators), and the World Health Organization (mortality, by age and sex). Ms. Crow used SAS to program the UNICEF, OECD, PWT, and WRI data into ESDS standard format. New data files were created on the the Economic and Social Data Base, and the converted data was then uploaded from the PC-level into the newly created mainframe file designations. In processing the WHO data tape, Ms. Crow acted as liaison with

Information Resources Management and verified the completed data transformation.

Ms. Crow also continued work with the Research and Development Bureau (R&D) in identifying relevant livestock production indicators and developing an econometric model which will be used by the R&D Bureau to design livestock projects in Africa.

During the second quarter of 1992, Ms. Joan Curry engaged in the database management and collection process. The OECD Geographical Distribution of Financial Flows to Developing Countries, the CIA World Factbook and AID's U.S. Overseas Loans and Grants or "Greenbook" were the focus of database management as were the Penn World Tables published by Drs. Heston and Summers and ESDS sources of Trade data. Ms. Crow converted the diskette version of the OECD database into SAS for uploading to mainframe. Data verification was engaged, comparing magnetic media figures with corresponding hardcopy and updated codebooks. The annual World Factbook contains economic, historical, social, political, demographic, geographic and other information about all countries. The CIA sends ESDS complimentary copies of the publication on diskette, tape, and hardcopy as well as the Handbook of Economic Statistics in hardcopy. The CIA recently released a Reference Guide on the NIS (12 newly independent states) of the former Soviet Union and the Baltic States. The AID "Greenbook" is produced annually according to AID's Fiscal Year (ending Sept. 30th) and contains historical data (from 1950) for each country that receives AID funding (loans & grants), including contributions to international financial institutions and assistance from major international organizations. ESDS receives a hardcopy of the document and the mainframe version is updated and converted to the standard ESDB format.

Two issues arose concerning The Penn World Tables (Mark V) database. The Mark V dataset had been deleted from the ESDS mainframe data library. With the assistance of Ms. Crow, Ms. Curry restored the database by converting the master copy (in ASCII) to SAS and creating a descriptor file for the variables. In addition, Ms. Curry incorporated AID's requirements into the Scope of Work requesting funding for the University of Pennsylvania's continued work on purchasing power parities for countries of operational concern to the Agency.

ESDS maintains several databases that are sources for international trade data. The IMF provides balance of payments (BOP) figures that are fairly standard from country to country in U.S.\$\$. The BOP data in the IFS is in local currency only. The Direction of Trade contains information for about 160 countries on the value of exports and imports between a country and its major trading partners. For the trade seminar for ESDS staff, Ms. Curry described IMF's BOP and DOT. Joe Nassif and C.K. Pang explained how to access and use the data provided by the National Trade Databank (on CD-ROM from the Department of Commerce) and the on-line United Nations Trade System, TRADENET and Bureau of Census' U.S. Merchandise Trade.

Ms. Curry's work in May centered around two research projects. For the Africa Bureau

and the ESDS staff liaison to AFR/DP, Ms. Curry submitted a request for detailed debt data to the World Bank's Debt Reporting System that publishes the annual World Debt Tables. Ms. Curry attended a World Bank gathering of donors involved in the Special Program Assistance funding for certain African countries. USAID is attempting to analyze means to alleviate some of the debt burden on these countries. Coincidentally, ESDS had been receiving since 1989 a computer tape from the DRS for the period 1986 to 1991 showing a breakdown for multilateral lenders particularly in regard to African countries. Ms. Curry requested a new tape with more detailed information on creditors (bilateral, especially the U.S.A. and multilateral e.g., IMF, Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank) for all reporting countries so as to include data relevant to all the Bureaus.

Also from the World Bank, Ms. Curry requested on diskette a list of variables to be extracted from their main database (BESD) that is used to produce many of their publications, the World Tables, the World Development Report, the Atlas, and the Social Indicators of Development. The database was converted into the ESDB standard format. The "Food Aid" variables will be provided by the World Bank on an annual basis so that the Food Aid Index may be calculated from year to year.

The AID codes assigned to countries of operational concern to the Agency has been revised to include newly created countries and update the former list. ESDS uses the country codes to standardize the databases on the mainframe. The codes had not been updated for some time so Ms. Crow and Ms. Curry meticulously reviewed the old codes and compared them with the newly published list. We checked for any changes in the corresponding countries and codes in the DAC, DRS, PWT, and WHO databases as well. A new country code file was created to incorporate the Agency's revisions and then merge with the international data sources for uniformity.

In June 1992, Ms. Curry acquired data acquisition in the program area of Natural Resources and the Environment. Ms. Curry contacted the World Resources Institute, which publishes the World Resources book to request a hardcopy of the volume and a newly released diskette containing the statistical part of the report. The World Resources Data Base (WRD) covers 483 variables on renewable and nonrenewable resources, 40% of which have time series data ranging from 2 to 75-year periods. WRD may be updated every two years. Ms. Curry will convert the database to the ESDB standard format for uploading to the mainframe.

The FAO periodically sends tapes to CDIE via an automatic distribution of the following reports: Agricultural Production Yearbook, Trade Yearbook, Fertilizer Yearbook, and Yearbook of Forest Products. Ms. Curry ordered and received the most recent hardcopies of the Yearbooks. She also contacted the FAO liaison office in D.C. to inquire into availability and status of the Fishery Database, the Commodities Database, the Food Balance Sheets and the possibility of obtaining AGROSTAT, which contains the Yearbook statistics and Fishery and Food Balance data, on tape. AGROSTAT is currently released

on diskette for use on the PC. The DC office is contacting FAO on our behalf and the computer specialist stated that the FAO is in the process of combining all of their data into a single database (WAICENT or World Agricultural Information Center) which will be available within the following year on-line or on tape.

Ms. Curry serviced a request from USAID/Colombo (Sri Lanka) for purchasing power parity figures for GDP per capita and relevant documentation as well as any available cross country analysis. She downloaded variables from the PWT5 database for Sri Lanka and converted to Lotus spreadsheet and sent copies, electronic and xerox, of the following: 1) the ICP (1990) figures for 125 developing countries from the World Development Report, 1992, published by the World Bank, and; 2) real GDP per capita (PPP's) for 1989 for 160 countries (developing and industrialized) from the Human Development Report, 1992, by the United Nations Development Programme. Ms. Curry included literature on the World Bank's study of and technical notes on the ICP (International Comparison Project) of the U.N., the latter's summary results for 60 countries published in 1986 (based on the 1980 Benchmark), and an article about the Penn World Tables variables and methodology written by Drs. Heston and Summers in 1991.

Mr. C.K. Pang continued working as a research assistant with the ESDS staff during this quarter. Mr. Pang continued various technical training opportunities with regard to the analytical computer software and statistical analysis procedures used here at the ESDS. During the second quarter of 1992, Mr. Pang continued to provide trade data support to various offices within A.I.D. In April, Mr. Pang serviced a request from the Department of Agriculture's office of Technical Inquiry to provide U.S. and World trade and production data on peanuts. He also assisted this office in tracing El Salvador's exports of potted palms and papaya fruit to European countries. These tasks required the use of the U.S. Department of Commerce TradeNet System and the U.N.'s FAO database on agricultural trade and production. During this time, Mr. Pang also provided data support to the A.I.D. Office of General Counsel on the export activities and picture of the U.S., Japan, and Europe to both the LDC countries and the world.

In May of 1992, Mr. Pang provided research assistance and analytical support for and A.I.D. comparison study of industrialized countries' trade with less developed countries and A.I.D. assisted countries. The commodities tracked were broken up into the following commodity/product groupings: manufactured goods; non-fuel primary products; total merchandise trade. The exercise also required an extensive reassembly of pre-programmed country groupings, which triggered the U.S. Department of Commerce to reevaluate their present out-of-date pre-programmed country/regional grouping scheme.

During this period, Mr. Pang also assisted the ESDS Africa Bureau representative to provide the bureau economist with import data of selected agricultural products for Senegal. Mr. Pang also assisted the DI/R&RS staff in developing quantitative information and analysis of the market potential for computer products in Poland. The research required the use of U.N. trade data and DOC's National Trade Data Bank.

In response to a request from the office of External Affairs, Mr. Pang produced data and graphical presentations of U.S. exports to A.I.D. countries for use the August issue of Frontline. Mr. Pang also continued to provide research assistance to ESDS colleagues at the LAC Bureau. He assisted them in a study of the relationship between LAC export prices and their GNP levels over time. He also participated in examining whether the significant increase in LAC exports was attributable to large increases from selected countries such as Mexico and Brazil.

During the second quarter of 1992, Ms. Elena Shirley continued in her capacity as the Economic and Social Data Diskette Service Manager. She downloaded over 100 data files from various international data sources housed on the AID/W mainframe and send out the quarterly electronic up-dates to the ESDS service subscribers in over 40 USAID missions world-wide.

Ms. Kimberly Van Wagner was recruited to work on the ESDS contract during this second quarter of 1992 and was assigned responsibilities as the ASIA Bureau liaison. She began working with the ESDS contract on April 17, 1992. During the first half of the quarter, Ms Van Wagner was immersed in various technical training opportunities with regard to the analytical computer software and statistical analysis procedures used here at the ESDS. She also participated in a three day SAS training class and was introduced to the Department of Commerce TradeNet Database. She also provided technical assistance and graphical analysis for the LAC study on private consumption patterns in Central America. She also furnished data in time series format and graphical presentations for a number of special requests coming from the Policy Bureau, the Administrator's office, and the Office of External Affairs. Finally, Ms. Van Wagner contributed back-stop and socio-economic data for the Development Economics Course taught at FSI by Professor Margie Ensign.

Ms. Barbara Keating worked closely with the Africa Bureau's Analysis, Research and Technical Support Office (ARTS). This work also fed into and contributed to the Africa Bureau's Policy Analysis, Research and Technical Support (PARTS) analytical research agenda. During this quarter, Ms. Keating continued to provide statistical analysis, research and graphical support to the Bureau.

Ms. Keating was assigned from April to July to the Southern Africa Drought Task Force. During this time she analyzed food need requirements of each country in the Southern Africa Region, South Africa, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Ms. Keating assisted in preparing charts and graphs for testimony before The Select Committee on Hunger, and for other congressional hearings on the drought in both the House and the Senate.

In early June a pledging conference was held in Rome sponsored by the United Nations. For the U.S. delegation, Ms. Keating assisted in making briefing books, and created background summaries of the food aid, and non-food aid pledges of assistance to each Southern Africa country from the U.S. and other donor countries.

Ms. Keating participated as a member of a Telecommunications Needs Assessment team in the southern African region, visiting Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique and South Africa to see if telecommunications could assist in the movement of food throughout the region. After the visit to the region, she went with the team to Rome to confer with the World Food Programme, a United Nations agency. There the team found that WFP concurred with the findings of the team report, and were interested in setting up a telecommunications system whereby information about food movements could be captured and disseminated more easily.

Ms. Keating participated in the writing of the Telecommunications proposal, developing the project, and creating an implementation plan. Due to a variety of political issues, the proposal has finally been accepted, and the project should be implemented in the field in November.

Ms. Gayle Schwartz continued working with the AFR/DP. She engaged in various ESDS training and support exercises and also provided analytical support, research, and statistics for the Africa Bureau.

Ms. Schwartz assisted in preparation of briefing book for the April meeting of the Special Programs of Assistance for Africa at the World Bank. Tasks included assisting in drafting briefing papers which outline USG's position on debt relief and the mobilization of non-project assistance and drought related resources to SPA recipient countries, and briefing Sr. management on the progress of A.I.D.'s pledge.

Ms. Schwartz assisted in the information development for a tracking/monitoring system for A.I.D.'s non project assistance to recipient members of the World Bank's Special Programs of Assistance, and lower middle income African countries. System includes objectives of assistance, funding levels, and disbursements of funds.

Ms. Schwartz supported the Africa Bureau's performance based budgeting system by providing data and respective analysis used to determine allocation levels for approximately thirty-five countries funded by the Development Fund for Africa. She collected and input data for PBBS indicators, and produced summary tables for system indicators and data sources. She assisted in the writing of the annex, which described the budget allocation process for the indicators and respective data used. In addition, she provided analysis comparing GDP, population, budget levels on selected African countries.

Ms. Schwartz developed a detailed outline for AFR/DP's study on the impact debt and debt related issues have on the growth of African economies. This study will examine historical antecedents, treatment of past debt service and the importance of debt with respect to donor resource flows; provide a detailed analysis of debt composition, and service at country, regional and continent-wide levels; and report on the response of bilateral and multilateral donors, private banks, PVOs and NGOs, with specific emphasis on the U.S.; and identify critical issues for A.I.D. with respect to future position on debt and donor

assistance. She held meetings with various debt analysts in AID and State, and solicited inputs on study from the AID missions and the World Bank.

In the second quarter of 1992, Mr. Charles Corry worked closely with the EUR bureau and reviewed World Bank and IMF documents on Stand-By arrangements and project documents as concerned Eastern European countries. He also continued basic provision of short-term analytical and graphical data support, as well as identifying, gathering and analyzing data for use as Economic Policy Performance Indicators. Mr. Corry served as adviser on EUR Bureau plans for implementation of Magellan file management system.

Mr. Corry reviewed the LTS work product submitted on current household surveys, providing analysis on new data to DR/HPN. He also continued the basic provision of short-term research, analytical and graphical methods and softwares. He collected technical assistance data from Bureau, Agency and other Federal Agencies for submission to the OECD Center for Cooperation with European Economies in Transition data bank on donor assistance to Eastern Europe (CCEET). This activity included technical activities for direct communication with databank in Paris. Mr. Corry researched and presented graphical analysis of OECD donor assistance data, working with PDP staff.

Mr. Corry reviewed, analyzed and updated macroeconomic data for Bureau subject countries from both mainframe and hardcopy sources, including investment and privatization data. He assisted AA office with design and preparation of SEED program and economic data presentation for Congressional hearings. Mr. Corry continued work on AID/POL/PAR economic indicators, completing EUR data submission.

In the second quarter of 1992, Mr. Joseph Nassif assisted in the development of the Latin America and Caribbean Information System (LACIS) Through research efforts, Mr. Nassif and others redesigned the information/data component of the LACIS so that the user would be able to access information in user friendly manner. In addition, he supported the development of country profiles by researching and analyzing existing information and data, performed demonstrations on the LACIS, and trained LAC Bureau personnel on the informational content of the system. He supported a number of presentations on the LACIS to a variety of A.I.D. groups and individuals, including: Ronald Roskins and Regional Bureau AAs, Scott Spangler, DPP Chiefs from the Regional Bureaus, R&D, IRM, Regional Bureaus (NIS, AFR, ASIA, EUR), XA, Raymond Riffenburg (Mission Director, Dominican Republic), LAC Bureau Offices (DR, CAR, SAM, CEN, DPP), and CDIE/DI.

Mr. Nassif revised and edited a factsheet produced by XA, titled "Why Foreign Aid? Facts about the USAID Program". Some of the changes suggested included: updating data/information, suggesting alternative indicators/approaches, and correcting data/information.

Mr. Nassif continued his work with the databook Latin America and the Caribbean: Selected Economic and Social Data. This 259 page reference document contains graphs,

charts, and statistics on key macroeconomic, trade, investment, social, democratic and environmental indicators. Annual coverage begins in 1980 for most indicators. Estimates for 1991 and projections for 1992 are provided where available. The databook was sent to the printers the first week of April and returned in late May. Mr. Nassif created a one-page brochure advertising the databook. The advertisement includes databook description and cost.

Mr. Nassif prepared several memos for databook distribution, including addressed to Ronald Roskens, AA/OPS, Regional Bureau AAs, LAC Office Directors, LAC Mission Directors, and other distribution. He assisted in the preparation of a press conference designed to market the databook to the press, the Hill and newspapers.

Mr. Nassif continued his work with the LAC Bureau in assisting in the development coefficients of concentration for LAC Regional and Bilateral Programs. This study, prepared for LAC/DPP, generates Coefficients of Concentration (CCs) for LAC Bureau Programs using Development Assistance and Economic Support Funds budget data. The CCs are derived by measuring the difference between the perfect and actual distribution of program funds, yielding a statistical value between 0 and 1. Values approaching "0" represent a near equitable distribution of program funds between the nine areas of program emphasis, and values approaching '1" represent a nearly perfect program focus.

Mr. Nassif completed an A.I.D./LAC Staff Working Paper titled "Trends in Consumption Aggregates in Central America, 1968 to 1989" with Clarence Zuvekas. This paper examines trends in consumption in the five Central American countries (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua) from 1969 to 1989. It focuses particularly on the relationship between per capita consumption (total, private, and government), as measured in the national accounts data, and per capita GDP. Trends in per capita consumption provide a useful alternative to movements in per capita GDP as an indicator of changes in living standards.

Mr. Nassif continued to support the FTE staffing model which is being developed to provide the Latin America and Caribbean Bureau with a basis for projecting future staffing patterns for its Bilateral and Regional Programs. Regressions were run to show the relationship between U.S. Direct Hires overseas (dependent variable) and Development Assistance (independent variable #1), Economic Support Funds (independent variable #2), and PI-480 Title III (independent variable #3). The regressions ran yielded some very positive results.

Ms. Margie Whipple continued working on the ESDS contract as the trade and investment analyst for LAC during this quarter. She assisted in the development of LAC information in conjunction with LAC/DPP personnel and the LAC system administrator. Development included: Preparing data (mainly LOTUS spreadsheets and WordPerfect documents) for inclusion in the system. In the case of the LOTUS spreadsheets this involved formatting and preparing for printing all documents.

Ms. Whipple also assisted in the developing the macro definitions for the creation of dialogue boxes which allowed LACIS users to access data in a user-friendly way, and enabled LACIS users to print and manipulate files without previous knowledge of the software. Ms. Whipple also prepared documentation on the LACIS to assist the users in understanding the setup and types of data contained in the system. In addition, documentation was prepared for the system manager to enable location of text files which defined macros used in running the system.

Ms. Whipple attended and participated in presentations of the LACIS and training in the use of the system. Presentations were made to all LAC bureau staff as well as to many of the other regional and operational bureaus in the Agency. During this quarter, she also assisting in trouble-shooting and correcting problems with macro definitions, file naming configurations, and file location.

In the area of Trade and Investment Seminars, Ms. Whipple attended series of seminars entitled "Trade and Investment Strategies for Emerging Markets" sponsored by AID's Training and Staff Development Division which included the following topics: U.S. Agribusiness, Operational Strategies for Capital Projects in Emerging Markets, the Uruguay Round of GATT, and AID's Market Niche: Trade and Investment for Development.

With regard to mission-based requests, Ms. Whipple prepared a package of data for the use of bureau representatives on TDY in El Salvador and bureau economists. The package included International Monetary Fund's Balance of Payment, Direction of Trade, Government Financial Statistic and International Financial Statistics downloaded off the AID mainframe and converted into Lotus spreadsheets; DOC trade data (U.S. Imports for Consumption from El Salvador); two staff working papers and LAC bureau developed country profiles. Both paper and electronic format of data was provided.

With regard to individual, ad-hoc requests, Ms. Whipple also completed the following:

U.S. Direct Hire Staffing Model: assisted in running the USDH staffing model and analyzing the outputs of the model and prepared a summary paper detailing the various regression equations and the results of running the regressions.

LAC Major Trading Partners Table: created table (20-25 pgs. in length) detailing LAC imports in 1990. Table included world exports to LAC region by country and percentages of total of that country's imports that came from various trading partners. Also created table (20-25 pgs. in length) detailing LAC exports in 1990. Table included would imports from the LAC region and the percentage of total of each country's exports to various trading partners. Also created summary table of top trading partners (generally top 3 or countries that contributed at least 10% to total) in 1990 by origins of imports and destination of exports for each country in the LAC region. The primary source of data employed was the United Nations

Trade Data base.

LAC Commodity Price Project: Began work on project with Gary Linden and Jim Fox studying the effect of Primary Product price declines during the 1980's on LAC (GNP). Downloaded FAO data by volume and value of all LAC agricultural exports (by country and aggregated) for the past decade. Translated information into usable LOTUS spreadsheets for use in further analysis. Downloaded UN trade data for the LAC region (by country and aggregated) of all 3-digit (SITC) coded primary products (0,1,2,3,4 and 68). Downloaded UN trade data of the top 20 3-digit SITC coded exports at the 4 and 5-digit SITC level. Created spreadsheets of data, sorting by the total values of exports over 10 years in 1990 and 1980 for choosing which products to use in the model and made recommendations on product choice.

Miscellaneous: continued training bureaus staff, as requested, in the use of the LACIS, Lotus and WordPerfect software. Prepared graphs depicting data as need for presentations and testimony. Responded to individual requests for data to use for specific purposes as needed, including economic and social indicators.

THE PRAGMA CORPORATION
PDC-0000-Z-00-8034-00

Quarterly Report/ Report Level Of Effort:		!! Quarter Ending 06/30/92 !!							!! Report 04/18/88 to 12/31/91 !!				
		!! Report 04/01/92 to 06/30/92 !!			!! Report 04/18/88 to 06/30/92 !!				!! Report 04/18/88 to 12/31/91 !!				
		!! Days/ Current Quarter !!			!! Days/Cummulative Todate !!				!! Days/Cummulative Quarter !!				
		!! Ending 06/30/92 !!			!! Ending 06/30/92 !!				!! Ending 12/31/91 !!				
Employee:	Position	!!---days---	!!---days---	!!---%age---	!!---Budgeted---	!!---%age---	!!---Balance---	!!---%age---					
Name		Budgeted	Actual	+Overused	Days	Days	Spent	+Overused	Per Total	Remarks	Budgeted	Spent	+Overused
		This Qtr.	This Qtr.	-Underused	(Total)	thru 06/92	CTD	-Underused	Contract		thru 12/91	12/91	-Underused
Sen.Social Scientist/R.Baker/Moore		65.0	65.0	0.00%	1300.0	1156.0	1149.4	-0.57%	150.6	!	1026.0	1019.4	-0.64%
Macro Economist/Moore/Massif		65.0	65.0	0.00%	1300.0	1156.0	748.9	-35.22%	551.1	!	1026.0	618.9	-39.68%
Devlp. Finan. Analyst/Burn/Horsh/Curry		65.0	65.0	0.00%	1300.0	1156.0	888.5	-23.14%	411.5	!	1026.0	758.5	-26.07%
S. Scientist-HRD/Foster/Karlyn/Keating		65.0	65.0	0.00%	1300.0	1253.6	918.5	-26.73%	381.5	!	1026.0	817.0	-20.37%
Statistician/Prgm Analyst/Horsch/Corry		65.0	65.0	0.00%	1300.0	1156.0	850.1	-26.46%	449.9	!	1026.0	706.2	-31.17%
Statistician/Prgm Analyst/Brown/Crow		65.0	65.0	0.00%	1300.0	1156.0	1022.9	-11.51%	277.1	!	1026.0	892.9	-12.97%
Admn./Research Assis./Wo/Edmnds/Schule		65.0	65.0	0.00%	650.0	1058.5	793.6	-25.03%	-143.6	!	928.5	663.6	-28.53%
Data Processing Oper./Watson/Shirley		39.5	39.5	0.00%	650.0	546.3	579.4	6.06%	70.6	!	468.5	500.4	6.81%
Trade Investment Analyst/Edmonds/Whipp		65.0	65.0	0.00%	440.0	171.5	191.1	0.00%	248.9	!	53.6	53.6	0.00%
Policy Analyst/African Bureau/Schwartz		65.0	65.0	0.00%	440.0	87.0	171.5	0.00%	268.5	!	0.0	0.0	0.00%
Trade & Inv't Info Analyst/VanWagner		53.0	53.0	0.00%	440.0	53.0	75.0	0.00%	365.0	!	0.0	0.0	0.00%
Econ. Research Analyst/Mericle		0.0	0.0	0.00%	440.0	0.0	0.0	0.00%	440.0	!	0.0	0.0	0.00%
Research Analyst/Pang		2.0	2.0	0.00%	440.0	2.0	2.0	0.00%	438.0	!	0.0	0.0	0.00%
Short Term Consultant		0.0	0.0	0.00%	440.0	0.0	0.0	0.00%	440.0	!	0.0	0.0	0.00%
		679.5	679.5	0.00%	11740.0	8951.9	7390.9	-17.44%	4349.1	!	7606.6	6030.5	-20.72%

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STATUS OF FUNDS REPORT

Report Period: From 04/18/88 Through 06/30/92

Ref: Contract# PDC-0000-1-00-8034-00
PPC/ODIE/DI

Voucher # 51
Home Office # 8809-000
Period Ending June 30, 92

Line Items	Cumulative Funding Level					Jun. 92		
	(1) Budgeted Amount	(2) Obligated/Amend. # 15	3=(6+7+8+9) Spent To-date Actual	4=(2-3) "Balance Obligated" Amount	(5) %age	(6) Spent This Period	(7) Prev. Cumm. Jan.-May.92	(8) Prev. Cumm. thru Dec.91
						-\$51	-\$50	-\$43
1. Salaries	1,145,000.00	1,005,400.00	850,780.70	154,619.30	15.38%	28,539.99	126,943.51	695,297.20
2. Fringe Benefits	256,656.00	238,410.00	201,839.79	36,570.21	15.34%	7,135.00	51,171.99	143,532.80
3. Overhead	845,419.00	763,950.00	654,421.23	109,528.77	14.34%	22,475.24	145,424.58	486,521.41
4. T & T/Allowances	186,800.00	51,000.00	35,578.72	15,421.28	30.24%	2.00	925.60	34,651.12
5. Equipment	105,000.00	79,292.00	67,925.73	11,366.27	14.33%	258.87	16,566.23	51,100.63
6. Other D/Costs	178,102.00	173,501.00	136,226.35	37,274.65	21.48%	(816.05)	52,381.41	84,660.99
7. Sub-total	2,716,977.00	2,311,553.00	1,946,772.51	364,780.49	15.78%	57,595.05	393,413.32	1,495,764.14
8. Fixed Fee @ 7.50%	200,513.00	153,185.44	117,493.40	35,692.04	23.30%	4,319.63	29,506.00	83,667.77
9. Award Fee	24,697.56	24,697.56	24,697.56	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	24,697.56
Total Costs + Fee	2,942,187.56	2,489,436.00	2,088,963.47	400,472.53	16.09%	61,914.68	422,919.32	1,604,129.47

The undersigned hereby certifies:

(1) That payment of the sum claimed under the cited contract is proper and due and that appropriate refunds to AID will be made promptly upon request from AID in the event of nonperformance, in whole or in part under the contract, or any breach of the contract

(2) That information on the fiscal report is correct and such detailed supporting information as AID may require will be furnished at the contractor's office or base office, as appropriate, promptly to AID on request, and

(3) That all requirements called for by the contract to the date of this certification have been made

by: 
Name: Fred C. Gupta
Title: Financial Manager
Date: 7/2/92

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The Pragma Corporation

116 East Broad Street
Falls Church, Virginia 22046
(703) 237-9303
TELEX 203507 PRAGMA FSCH UR
FAX (703) 237-9326

December 29, 1992

Ms. Anne T. Quinlan
Contracting Officer
Office of Procurement
Central Operations Branch
Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523

REF: Contract # PDC-0000-Z-00-8034-00

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

Please find enclosed our narrative report for the above-reference contract for the quarter ending September 30, 1992, along with the required reports, i.e., I. Level of Effort and II. Status of Funds.

Best wishes for a happy new year.

Sincerely,



Dina Towbin
Pragma Project Manager

cc: Maury Brown, A.I.D./POL/CDIE/DI
Pat Brown-Wood, A.I.D./POL/CDIE
Jacques Defay, President, The Pragma Corporation
Mohammad Fatoorechie, Vice President, The Pragma Corporation
David Moore, ESDS Project Manager, The Pragma Corporation

The United States Agency for International Development
Center for Development Information and Evaluation
Economic and Social Data Services (ESDS) Project
Contract # PDC-0000-Z-00-8034-00
The Pragma Corporation
Report for Quarter Ending September 30, 1992

Level of Effort (Report Attached)

The attached report reflects that we have used the 821 days budgeted for this project during the period July 1 - September 30, 1992. Thirteen full-time positions and one part-time position are authorized under this contract.

Status of Funds (Report Attached)

Selection of Work Assignments:

ROSSLYN

The principal third quarter activities of ESDS staff in Rosslyn included data acquisition, database maintenance, and responding to data requests.

Ms. Cheryl Crow converted data from the United Nation's State of the World's Children to a standard ESDB SAS format. Ms. Crow created a descriptor file for the UNICEF data and uploaded the new data sets to the A.I.D. mainframe. Ms. Curry verified data accuracy and reviewed descriptors for final version on the mainframe.

At the request of Ms. Curry, the World Bank agreed to incorporate data from the Bank's Debt Report System into the World Debt Tables report issued annually by the World Bank in December/January. Due to Ms. Curry's efforts, a more detailed breakdown of the lending activities of other major creditor multilateral institutions will be reflected in the World Tables for the first time. Ms. Curry also obtained hardcopies and diskette packages of the World Bank's World Tables, 1992 and Social Indicators of Development 91/92. The databases were placed on the CDIE network, and then converted to standard ESDB format for uploading to the mainframe. Ms. Curry also corrected errors in the ESDB World Debt Tables descriptor file by creating a new replacement file and uploading it to the mainframe.

Ms. Curry acquired the World Resources Database 92/93 produced by the World Resources Institute. Ms. Crow converted this to standard ESDB format and added these new files to growing list of new data resources available through ESDS.

Ms. Crow, Ms. Curry, and Mr. Schuler produced an updated mainframe version of the recently revised AID three digit country codes. Over 15 ESDB data files were reprogrammed to reflect the country code revisions.

At the request of the CDIE LAN Steering Committee, Ms. Curry compiled an extensive inventory of all software packages used by ESDS, including: the hardware location, number of copies, and corresponding serial or license numbers. Ms. Curry provided the CDIE LAN administrator with a list of basic software programs for all ESDS staff in Rosslyn and in New State. Ms. Curry, Mr. David Moore, ESDS Project Manager, and Joe Nassif, ESDS Bureau Coordinator, discussed the standard software packages that ESDS staff would need to fulfill their responsibilities regardless of access privileges to applications on host office networks. Ms. Curry wrote a memo based on the agreed upon software policy for ESDS and its implications for acquiring additional software.

Cheryl Crow and Joan Curry met with officials at the United Nations to discuss the update status and statistical methodologies used in the design of U.N. databases. Ms. Crow and Ms. Curry also inquired about the planned research and development for other new U.N. data sources. Official meetings with U.N. offices included: 1) UNSIS, UN Statistical Information System; 2) National Accounts; 3) Population and Demographic data; 4) Women's Indicators and Statistics Data Base; 5) International Trade; 6) International Comparison Project; 7) International Industrial Statistics; 8) International Energy and Environment Statistics; 9) UNICEF, United Nations' Children Fund; 10) UNDP, United Nations' Development Programme; and, 11) Center for Transnational Corps. Based on the information learned from these meetings, Ms. Curry wrote a memo for CDIE detailing the relationship of data produced by the U.N. International Comparison Project to the Penn World Tables and the national accounting system.

The Budget Office requested computer-generated maps for the 620(s) Report to Congress that reflect the various ranges of percentages for countries grouped according to AID's regional bureaus. For the first time, the USSR and Eastern European countries were included in the analysis. The SAS mapcodes used in the program to produce the maps via a plotter printer were updated by Ms. Curry to show the unification of Germany and the break up of the former Soviet Union. Once the maps were completed, the Budget Office sent the entire Report to the A.I.D. Administrator's Office for clearance.

Other specific data requests completed by Ms. Curry included: beef production and export information for Costa Rica from the USDA World Agriculture Trends and Indicators, FAO Production Yearbook, and on-line UN Trade databases; OECD financial flows data to be used in Congressional testimony on Nicaragua; environmental data from the World Resources Database and related sources for national budget data allocated to management of natural resources; and data on exports and production of timber and wood products for the Philippines from 1970 to 1990. In addition, Ms. Curry downloaded data for Mr. Ulrich Ernst (ROCAP/San Jose) from the World Bank's World Tables, 1992, World Debt Tables 91/92, and OECD's Geographical Distribution of Financial Flows mainly for Central American countries.

Specific data requests completed by Mr. Schuler during the third quarter include: research and analysis on US economic and foreign assistance ties with Egypt; finding figures on US

cashew trade; data gathering for a report on the General System of Preferences; etc.

BUREAU SUPPORT FROM ROSSLYN

Mr. David Schuler developed "Economic Country Profiles" for the Africa Bureau's MIS, presenting the data in Lotus spreadsheets. The profiles include data on population, national accounts, prices, balance of payments, and external debt. Mr. Schuler completed data sheets for 20 African countries, drawing exclusively from the IMF's Recent Economic Profiles (RED's), which are prepared by visiting teams of IMF economists and are generally regarded as the most accurate and recent source for economic data. Along with Ms. Gayle Schwartz and Ms. Barbara Keating, the ESDS analysts have tried to determine the best way to standardize the profiles and have tackled various problems that have arisen including: how to convert BOP data in other currencies, what source to use for population, how to deal with conflicting figures, etc. Data sheets have been compiled for many of the Africa Bureau's key countries, but work continues as the profiles are modified and are transferred to the Bureau/MIS.

Mr. C.K. Pang prepared trade data for the Near East Bureau. The data will be used to research on trade trends in the Near East region. In preparing the data, Mr. Pang surveyed several databases related to trade and investment.

ASIA

ESDS Asia Bureau representative, Ms. Kimberly VanWagner, obtained indicators for the Bureau's budget allocation model to assist the FPM office with the annual bureau budget request. At the Bureau's request, Ms. VanWagner prepared several summary tables, assisted FPM office director in writing up explanation of bureau budget model, adapted the bureau budget allocation model to include all USAID countries to see how Asia allocation compared with LAC and Africa, and prepared graphs for the Bureau's Annual Budget Submission focus exercise.

She also reviewed how other regional bureaus include democracy indicators into their budget allocation models, and wrote up brief summary of the methodology used by the Africa Bureau.

The ESDS representatives met with various Asia Bureau office directors concerning the proposed information management system. ESDS staff obtained the office directors comments, concerns and needs towards putting together a viable system which will meet the different requirements of each office.

In an effort to extend support to USAID missions in the Asia region, the ESDS representative reviewed staffing patterns to identify all country economists and prepared a mailing list for mission economists.

During the third quarter, ESDS analysts reviewed several documents and provided written comments, questions, and briefing summaries for the Asia Bureau. Documents examined include an export promotion project review, the Helsinki agreement, a paper entitled "Effects of Recent Industrial Reforms in Vietnam: A Remarkable Transformation to the Market Economy?". Analysts also attended and prepared written summaries of the Mongolia and Philippines core group meetings conducted at the World Bank, participated in several debriefings of mission personnel concerning the programs and economic situations in Asian countries.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Ms. Margie Whipple, the trade and investment analysts in the LAC Bureau, assisted bureau economists with a major study on the impact of declining non-petroleum primary product export revenues on the LAC region's economic growth as a whole in the 1980's. To determine which products could be used in study, Ms. Whipple researched specialized information on petroleum breakdowns by products; determined a standard data source for price information; analyzed OECD commodity imports from the LAC region; obtained labor force statistics from World Labor Report; and exchange rate information from World Bank. Finally, Ms. Whipple gathered information for each individual country in the region on actual export revenues for 1980-1990; actual export prices for commodities that comprise at least 90% of the countries cumulative exports during the time period (these were used to calculate volumes); and an estimate of what commodity export earnings would have been in real terms if prices had remained at their average real 1960-1980 levels from 1980-1990 and all of the above mentioned indicators that pertain to the individual country (i.e. percent change in real GDP).

After collecting the necessary data elements for the non-petroleum products study, Ms. Whipple then calculated percent change in real GDP (local currency), nominal GDP (local currency), percent change in population, nominal gross domestic investment (local currency), and percent change in total real export revenues (\$US). A regression equation was developed by Ms. Whipple which analyzed GDP growth as a function of annual percent change in both exports and population, as well as investment as percent of GDP. The results were pooled into data set for years 1961 to 1989.

A significant portion of Ms. Whipple's time during the third quarter was allocated toward the compilation and production of economic and social profiles for approximately 27 countries in the LAC region. Ms. Whipple also designed trade and investment profiles incorporating the following indicators and areas of information:

business climate summary, real GDP growth rates, GDP in US\$, annual CPI rates, national minimum wage/day (or some similar measure of wages), unemployment rates, literacy rates, primary education enrollment, measure of investment risk in the country, total exports and exports to the U.S., total imports and imports from the U.S., direct foreign investment, private investment/GDP, U.S. direct foreign

investment position, debt service ratio, reserves, interest rates (deposit and lending), language, currency and exchange rates, country infrastructure, labor force, principal exports, principal imports, major trading partners, major industries, free trade zones, international agreements, tariffs, quotas and other non-tariff barriers, foreign ownership incentives/restrictions, financial system, and taxes and repatriation.

Data country profiles and investment data sheets were reformatted by Ms. Whipple into Lotus, and linked to other spreadsheets in LAC Information System (LACIS). Ms. Whipple further modified the LACIS to ensure that all linked spreadsheets are updated on a regular basis and have consistent information.

Ms. Whipple attended the annual conference of the Latin American Studies Association, where she participated in a series of seminars on macroeconomic trends and development theories applied to the LAC region. While at the conference, Ms. Whipple surveyed economists and social scientists on current data requirements and sources; and established information exchange mechanism with conference participants and Latin America/Caribbean organizations.

As 1992 data was received from international institutions, the ESDS bureau representative revised macroeconomic country profiles stored in the LAC Information System (LACIS). The data updates will be incorporated into the Latin America and Caribbean Selected Economic and Social Data book.

CENTER FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT SERVICES (CTIS)

In preparation for the opening of the new CTIS office, Mr. C.K. Pang attended training sessions on the Development Information System and the World Bank Minisis System. Mr. Pang also attended several meetings with CTIS contract manager and staff to discuss the operations of CTIS. Along with other CTIS staff, Mr. Pang consulted with the Office of Investment, Office of Emerging Markets, as well as other offices within the Private Enterprise Bureau.

Mr. Pang assisted the CTIS staff in preparing materials for demonstration in the CTIS opening day ceremonies. Dr. Roskens, the A.I.D. Administrator, hosted the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Since the official opening of the Center, Mr. Pang has responded to hundreds of inquiries for prospective business information in developing countries.

AFRICA

ESDS analyst in the Africa Bureau, Ms. Gayle Schwartz, compiled data, charts and supporting summary documents for USG's Biannual Donor Report to the SPA. The report included the latest figures on allocations and disbursements of non-Project Assistance for

the SPA-1 and SPA-2 periods, gross disbursements and debt relief for selected lower middle income countries, and drought assistance to southern Africa.

Ms. Schwartz researched and collected trade data to support bureau's response to the "Buy America" legislation before Congress. Data analysis was provided by the ESDS staff member to help formulate trade related arguments and graphs for AA/AFR in discussions with Congress on the impact of legislation on African economies.

Ms. Schwartz actively participated in the examination of USAID's proposal to relieve three African Countries of their PL-480 debt burden. Ms. Schwartz met with OMB representative to review (and obtain) the economic model for budget scoring of proposed debt relief. The ESDS analyst also met with Debt for Development Coalition to discuss the economic viability of various alternatives to official debt forgiveness.

Working with ESDS colleagues and bureau staff, ESDS bureau representatives have begun development of Africa Bureau's Management Information System (MIS) demo to be presented to Senior Bureau management. ESDS analysts met with bureau economists to address the issues of overlapping data requests for a variety of reporting requirements and to discuss bureau's development of the economic component of the Africa MIS. A list of variables and data sources to be incorporated in MIS were presented to the economist for review and comment. Finalized The approach for developing economic profiles were finalized for the 40 African countries to be included in the MIS.

STAFF TRAINING

Mr. David Schuler attended a SAS fundamentals training seminar, and developed his skills with the various software packages used by ESDS, particularly Lotus and Harvard Graphics.

A formal training schedule was designed for new ESDS staff. Ms. Curry conducted training sessions on the following ESDB databases: FAO Yearbooks, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, United Nations Population, Bureau of the Census International Data Base and special Congressional Presentation indicators, AID Greenbook, and OECD Financial Flows and External Debt. In addition, Ms. Curry also instructed new staff on how use the Management Information System designed for CDIE management. Mr. C.K. Pang trained new ESDS staff in research methods and analysis of trade data.

The entire ESDS staff attended an initial briefing on Program Information for Strategic Management (PRISM). ESDS and PRISM staff discussed the Program's objectives, focus on indicators, database development, and possible areas of mutual interest and collaboration. Along with Asia Bureau staff, the ESDS attend two additional training sessions on the background, purpose, methodology, and phase II activities of PRISM.

THE PRAGMA CORPORATION
PDC-0000-2-00-8034-00

Quarterly Report/ Report Level Of Effort:		Quarter Ending 09/31/92 !!Report 04/01/92 to 09/31/92 !							Report 04/18/88 to 09/31/92			!Report 04/18/88 to 12/31/91		
		Days/ Current Quarter Ending 09/31/92			Days/Cummulative Todate Ending 09/31/92				Days/Cummulative Quarter Ending 12/31/91					
Employee: Position	Name	---days---	---days---	---%age---	---Budgeted---	---%age---	Balance-	---Balance---	---%age---	Remarks	Budgeted	Spent	+Overused	
		Budgeted	Actual	+Overused	Days	Days	Spent	+Overused	Per Total		thru 12/91	12/91	-Underused	
		This Qtr.	This Qtr.	-Underused	(Total)	thru 06/92	CTD	-Underused	Contract					
Sen.Social Scientist/R.Baker/Moore		66.0	66.0	0.00%	1300.0	1222.0	1215.4	-0.54%	84.6		1026.0	1019.4	-0.64%	
Macro Economist/Moore/Nassif		66.0	66.0	0.00%	1300.0	1222.0	814.9	-33.31%	485.1		1026.0	618.9	-39.68%	
Devlp. Finan. Analyst/Burn/Horsh/Curry		66.0	66.0	0.00%	1300.0	1222.0	954.5	-21.89%	345.5		1026.0	758.5	-26.07%	
S. Scientist-HRD/Foster/Karlynn/Keating		66.0	66.0	0.00%	1300.0	1319.6	984.5	-25.39%	315.5		1026.0	817.0	-20.37%	
Statistician/Prgm Analyst/Horsch/Corry		66.0	66.0	0.00%	1300.0	1222.0	916.1	-25.03%	383.9		1026.0	706.2	-31.17%	
Statistician/Prgm Analyst/Brown/Crow		66.0	66.0	0.00%	1300.0	1222.0	1088.9	-10.89%	211.1		1026.0	892.9	-12.97%	
Admn./Research Assis./Wo/Ednds/Schuler		66.0	66.0	0.00%	650.0	1124.5	859.6	-23.56%	-209.6		928.5	663.6	-28.53%	
Data Processing Oper./Watson/Shirley		16.5	16.5	0.00%	650.0	562.8	595.9	5.88%	54.1		468.5	500.4	6.81%	
Trade Investment Analyst/Edmonds/Whipp		66.0	66.0	0.00%	440.0	237.5	257.1	0.00%	182.9		53.6	53.6	0.00%	
Policy Analyst/African Bureau/Schwartz		66.0	66.0	0.00%	440.0	153.0	237.5	0.00%	202.5		0.0	0.0	0.00%	
Trade & Inv't Info Analyst/VanWagner		66.0	66.0	0.00%	440.0	119.0	141.0	0.00%	299.0		0.0	0.0	0.00%	
Econ. Research Analyst/Mericle		66.0	66.0	0.00%	440.0	66.0	66.0	0.00%	374.0		0.0	0.0	0.00%	
Research Analyst/Pang		66.0	66.0	0.00%	440.0	68.0	68.0	0.00%	372.0		0.0	0.0	0.00%	
Analyst for Near East Bureau/Dougherty		12.5	12.5	0.00%	440.0	12.5	12.5	0.00%	427.5		0.0	0.0	0.00%	
Short Term Consultant		0.0	0.0	0.00%	440.0	0.0	0.0	0.00%	440.0		0.0	0.0	0.00%	
		821.0	821.0	0.00%	12180.0	9772.9	8211.9	-15.97%	3968.1		7606.6	6030.5	-20.72%	

STATUS OF FUNDS REPORT

Report Period: From 04/19/88 Through 09/30/92

Ref: Contract# FDC-0000-1-00-8034-00
 PFC/CDIE/DI

Voucher # 54
 Home Office # 8809-000
 Period Ending Sept 30, 92

Line Items	Cumulative Funding Level					Sep. 92		
	(1) Budgeted Amount	(2) Obligated/Amend. # 15	3=(6+7+8+9) Spent To-date Actual	4=(2-3) "Balance Obligated" Amount	(5) %age	(6) Spent This Period	(7) Prev. Cum. Jan.-Aug. 92	(8) Prev. Cum. thru Dec. 91
1. Salaries	1,145,000.00	1,045,400.00	948,790.72	96,609.28	9.24%	33,291.65	220,201.87	695,297.20
2. Fringe Benefits	256,656.00	248,410.00	226,342.30	22,067.70	8.88%	8,322.91	74,486.59	143,532.80
3. Overhead	845,419.00	788,950.00	731,604.12	57,345.88	7.27%	26,217.17	218,865.54	486,521.41
4. T & T/Allowances	186,800.00	51,000.00	45,315.61	5,684.39	11.15%	1,722.70	8,941.79	34,651.12
5. Equipment	105,000.00	79,292.00	82,487.16	(3,195.16)	-4.03%	59.57	31,326.96	51,100.83
6. Other D/Costs	178,102.00	173,501.00	167,150.73	6,350.27	3.66%	7,189.23	75,300.51	84,660.99
7. Sub-total	2,716,977.00	2,386,553.00	2,201,690.64	184,862.36	7.75%	76,803.24	629,123.26	1,495,764.14
8. Fixed Fee @ 7.50%	200,513.00	153,185.44	136,612.25	16,573.19	10.82%	5,760.24	47,184.24	83,667.77
9. Award Fee	24,697.56	24,697.56	24,697.56	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	24,697.56
Total Costs + Fee	2,942,187.56	2,564,436.00	2,363,000.45	201,435.55	7.85%	82,563.48	676,307.50	1,604,129.47

The undersigned hereby certifies:

(1) That payment of the sum claimed under the cited contract is proper and due and that appropriate refunds to AID will be made promptly upon request from AID in the event of nonperformance, in whole or in part under the contract, or any breach of the contract

(2) That information on the fiscal report is correct and such detailed supporting information as AID may require will be furnished at the contractor's office or base office, as appropriate, promptly to AID on request, and

(3) That all requirements called for by the contract to the date of this certification have been made

by: _____
 Name: Prem C. Gupta
 Title: Financial Manager
 Date: _____

The Pragma Corporation

116 East Broad Street
Falls Church, Virginia 22046
(703) 237-9303

TELEX 203507 PRAGMA FSCH UR
FAX (703) 237-9326

February 5, 1993

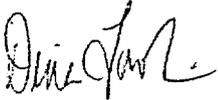
Ms. Anne T. Quinlan
Contracting Officer
Office of Procurement
Central Operations Branch
Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523

REF: Contract # PDC-0000-Z-00-8034-00

Dear Ms. Quinlan:

Please find enclosed our narrative report for the above-reference contract for the quarter ending December 31, 1992, along with the required reports, i.e., I. Level of Effort and II. Status of Funds.

Sincerely,



Dina Towbin
Pragma Project Manager

cc: Maury Brown, A.I.D./POL/CDIE/DI
Pat Brown-Wood, A.I.D./POL/CDIE
Jacques Defay, President, The Pragma Corporation
Mohammad Fatoorechie, Vice President, The Pragma Corporation
David Moore, ESDS Project Manager, The Pragma Corporation

The United States Agency for International Development
Center for Development Information and Evaluation's
Economic and Social Data Services (ESDS) Project
Contract # PDC-0000-Z-00-8034-00
The Pragma Corporation
Report for Quarter Ending December 31, 1992

Level of Effort (Report Attached)

The attached report reflects that we have used all of the 976.4 days budgeted for this project during the period October 1 - December 31, 1992. Thirteen full-time positions and one part-time position are authorized under this contract.

Status of Funds (Report Attached)

Selection of Work Assignments:

POL/CDIE

ESDS analysts, Ms. Joan Curry and Mr. David Schuler completed several economic and social data requests for both USAID and AID/W staff. These include:

- o 1) an Africa Bureau request for an urgent response to USAID/Addis Ababa regarding worldwide cotton, textile, and apparel trade;
- o 2) updated IMF data for Egypt, Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Rwanda, and Sri Lanka;
- o 3) data from the World Resources Institute, USDA, and FAO production and trade data for USAID/Colombo;
- o 4) updated data for Kenya, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Malawi from the World Bank, UNICEF State of the World's Children, UNDP Human Development Report, and World Resources Institute;
- o 5) a USAID/Cairo request for diskette copies and user documentation on the World Tables, Social Indicators of Development, World Debt Tables, and World Development Report as published by the World Bank, as well as technical notes for various IMF data bases;
- o 6) four separate requests for trade data for the Africa, Europe, LAC, and Near East Bureaus;
- o 7) selected economic, social and environmental indicators for a POL/CDIE/SDS evaluation in Panama; and
- o 8) provided back stopping services for ESDS bureau liaisons traveling to Asia and Africa (e.g., briefing on data, downloading of data, and securing of literature or other useful information).

Mr. Joe Nassif and Mr. David Schuler completed production of U.S. bilateral trade tables, updated on a quarterly basis. The ESDS analysts wrote programs in SAS, Lotus, and DBMScopy and batch files which will produce updated 50 trade tables in less than a day. The resulting trade tables have been forwarded to senior economists in each regional

bureau for review and comment.

In addition, Mr. Nassif and Mr. Schuler co-authored a report for POL/CDIE/SDS which reviews international trade data reported by USAID missions in PRISM. The report examines sourcing, definitional and other problems involved in extracting trade statistics.

Ms. Joan Curry reviewed a study prepared by Dr. Henry Kenny for the Near East Bureau on trends in military expenditures in the Middle East during the 80's and possible scenarios for the 90's. The Near East, defined as the traditional Middle East and all of North Africa, spends an average of 14 percent of GNP on defense and includes 8 of the top 10 military spenders in the world. With just 4.5 percent of world population, it accounts for 57.5 percent of global arms imports. The Middle East arms control initiative launched in May 1991 has been useful in stimulating arms control talks among the Big Five--The United States, Russia, China, The United Kingdom and France. Four scenarios, based on assumptions of levels of defense spending depending on the outcomes of ongoing recipient and supplier negotiations, were presented to analyze the implications for allocation of resources in AID-assisted countries.

Ms. Joan Curry was asked by CDIE to serve on an advisory committee for the Penn World Tables (PWTs) project maintained by the University of Pennsylvania. At the first meeting, on October 5th, the discussion focused on the use of the Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) data in AID reporting and by other international/regional organizations. Lee White, the Deputy Director of CDIE/DI, distributed a memo written by Ms. Curry on the use of the PWTs by the United Nations' International Comparison Project (ICP).

Ms. Curry also attended a November 9th meeting of the Penn World Table Project Advisory Committee. The Committee convened to analyze and make recommendations regarding three critical areas. The first issue is to identify a likely "home" for project continuation. Second, the PPP data work has been almost wholly supported by A.I.D. since 1985 under a grant arrangement with the University of Pennsylvania. The Agency can no longer bear the full cost of subsidizing the production of the Penn World Tables, and an alternative funding source must now be identified. The final issue requires the feedback from Agency analysts on the importance of the PPPs in measuring the relative economic and financial performance at the country level.

Ms. Curry researched the harmonization process of the United Nations' System of National Accounts (SNA) and related International Monetary systems of macroeconomic accounts including: Balance of Payments statistics (BOPs); Government Finance Statistics (GFS); and money and banking statistics (MBS). The IMF is revising the BOP manual to reflect harmonization with the external sector accounts of the SNA, and a revision of the MBS is also planned. The UN will be publishing a new SNA Manual and Handbook in 1993 to incorporate the new harmonization methodologies. The UN is adding two "satellite" accounts--environmental accounting and social accounting--which will be linked to the National Accounts. Environmental and resource accounting would reflect defensive

expenditures against the unwanted side effects of production and consumption (such as pollution) and resource depletion and degradation. The social accounting would be based on the currently non-monetized contribution of household or social services to the national product.

In the area of general data base maintenance, Ms. Crow and Ms. Curry completed the following tasks: 1) updated technical codes and notes for the U.S. Overseas Loans and Grants, the UN International Trade Statistics Yearbook, Direction Of Trade Statistics, International Finance Statistics, African Development Indicators, SICE Manual, WISTAT Manual, and the World Bank STARS databases 1992 Manual; 2) purchased IMF Manuals (e.g. External Debt Definitions and Coverage, Balance of Payments: Revised Draft, and The IMF's Statistical Systems) to be used for training ESDS staff in statistical methodology and for general reference; 3) purchased Trends in Developing Economies and Social Dimensions of Adjustment: An Overview published by the World Bank, Foreign Trade Statistics Manual published by the U.S. Census Bureau; 5) acquired and processed magnetic tapes for the most recent IMF subscription series, UN World Population Prospects, FAO Trade Yearbook, and OECD Geographical Distribution of Financial Flows; 6) revised inventory of ESDS databases to include newly acquired data sources; 7) drafted a survey/questionnaire polling USAID mission staff on the usefulness of the diskette service and inviting suggestions for other data sources; and 8) researched the status of The U.S. Census Bureau's International Database moving to CD-ROM (or cartridge) and HIV/AIDS database on diskette, FAO's WIACENT (on-line in 1993), USDA's World Agriculture: Trends and Indicators (on diskette).

Mr. Nassif provided support toward POL Activities, including:

- * Continuing development of the U.S. Competitiveness Trade program with David Schuler. He held meetings with Jim Fox to initialize the process and scheduled and ran a meeting attended by personnel from POL (R. Dwivedy, Mike Crosswell) LAC (Mary Ott), ASIA (Peter Davis, K. Van Wagner), AFR (Y. Lee) and others.
- * Completing the PRISM International Trade Analysis (with Dave Schuler)- 25 page analysis presented to Sandra Rowland.
- * Providing U.S. trade data with Costa Rica to R. Dwivedy.

REGIONAL BUREAU SUPPORT/COORDINATION

Mr. Nassif continued his daily work responsibilities as Bureau Coordinator by coordinating bureau activities and responsibilities, developing and supporting the MISs in LAC, AFR, ASIA, and NE and serving as part-time liaison to the LAC Bureau.

Mr. Nassif performed ESDS Bureau Coordinator functions including:

- * Attending ESDS staff and DI meetings, and resolving equipment problems/access and Pragma issues/details.
- * Preparing Bureau Analysts for TDYs to Africa and Asia by developing work scopes

and gathering equipment.

- * Back-stopping for bureau personnel in AFR and ASIA while they were away on TDYs including finishing an ASIA trade competitiveness study, working on ASIA Country Profile development/Data analysis, and attending bureau meetings.
- * Producing Industrialized Country Exports to ASIA tables with dollar values and shares.
- * Setting-up meetings for ESDS Bureau Analysts on the informational use and probable regional Bureau use of Oracle.
- * Performing administrative functions.

EUROPE

Mr. Corry assisted the Europe Bureau in hosting Jaroslav Kux, Director for Social, Consumption, and Service Statistics Division, CSFR Federal Statistical Office. Mr. Kux met with country desk officers, the bureau's trade and country economists, as well as World Bank and Bureau of Labor Statistics officials. He provided extremely current data from his office in both published and diskette formats that is superior to that available via the IMF or other multilateral sources. Mr. Corry received and distributed the new data from Jaroslav Kux. This data was helpful to both desk officers for Czech and Slovak republics, EA staff and the indicator exercise.

In preparation for the new Clinton Administration, Mr. Corry produced graphics for the Transition Team, and completed narratives and tables summarizing EUR's program activities. Mr. Corry also provided several sets of graphic analysis of both program and administrative data for a major presentation to OMB staff by the Deputy Assistant Administrator.

In support of the PDP/EA trade economist, Mr. Corry assembled, analyzed and graphed trade data for CEE countries. PDP/EA utilized this information and graphics in memorandum for AA/EUR to demonstrate that, after severe dip in trade in 1990 and 1991, all three countries have realized a return to former levels through a large increase in exports to market economies. Hungary has continued to enjoy strong export performance and a resultant large current account surplus.

As part of an ongoing activity, Mr. Corry reviewed data and format of USG financial assistance to Eastern Europe for submission to G-24 Scoreboard via State to Paris. Advising EUR division and State Department staff on optimal collection, storage and presentation of data, Mr. Corry recalculated cumulative SEED Act assistance and non-SEED Act assistance using historically correct exchange rates.

At the request of the Europe Bureau, Mr. Charles Corry and Ms. Joan Curry researched democratic pluralism, economic restructuring, and quality of life indicators for use by A.I.D.

in graduation policy consideration and evaluation/progress activities for EUR program countries. In selecting macroeconomic indicators, the ESDS analysts compared relevant data presented by the IBRD, the IMF, Central Statistical Offices of EUR program countries, and private sector intelligence firms like PlanEcon. Drawing upon the expertise and experience of the sectoral technical staff (chiefs of Energy, Environment and Agriculture Division of Development Resources Office), the ESDS analysts determined which indicators in these sectors were both meaningful and available. In discussions on the housing sector, Mr. Corry received suggested indicators from experts at the Urban Institute regarding housing production, consumption and conditions affecting quality of life. The analysts also reviewed current literature of transition in the housing sector across Eastern Europe, as pertains to both privatization and economic restructuring (pricing) and quality of life (mobility, overcrowding, living conditions). Mr. Corry then contacted a housing expert at World Bank to discuss indicators appropriate for evaluation purposes for efforts to decrease housing subsidies and increase the housing stock quantity and quality. The ESDS analysts continue to glean data in reports published by FBIS and contract services like PlanEcon, and have reviewed critical indicators for environment/health in IBRD Strategy Papers for Romania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and Poland.

Mr. Corry reviewed income and poverty data provided by expert country teams to the Luxembourg Income Study and tabulated current minimum subsistence income levels for Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary. After discussions with the director of the Freedom House Comparative Survey of Freedom, Mr. Corry received the sub-category scoring for each of EUR's countries via fax and compared those results with our current data on democratic pluralism.

During the fourth quarter, Mr. Corry repeatedly performed several on-line data searches from the OECD CCEET Technical Assistance database. Search topics included: 1) tax policy projects; 2) environmental training; 3) labor markets and social safety nets; and 4) trade and export promotion policies. These searches were performed for EUR/PDP/EA, EUR/DR/ENR, EUR/DR/HPN, and consultants contracted to design the Removal to Impediments to Trade Enhancement Project. Mr. Corry also attended a meeting with GAO staff on the technical and practical aspects of using this databank. In a related activity, Mr. Corry reviewed financial disbursement data submitted the OECD for the Development Assistance Committee report required by State Department staff.

LATIN AMERICA

ESDS analyst, Ms. Margie Whipple, provided updated information for inclusion in the LAC Bureau's transition fact book which will be given to the new Clinton Administration. Inputs included colored maps of the Latin America Caribbean region showing DA and ESF expenditures by country, and coordination and standardization of LAC country data profiles. At the request of the LAC transition team, Ms. Whipple prepared paper on the A.I.D. organization overseas for the LAC region. Information included missions by location, principal function, name of principal officers, size of staff by category, size of

program and OE budgets in FY 1991 and 1992.

Ms. Whipple extracted trade data from the United Nations and International Monetary Fund to determine intra-regional exports with other LAC countries and regional trading groups (i.e. Mercosur, CACM, CARICOM, etc.); as well as regional exports totals to the world (all trading partners), the United States, Japan, and the EC. (1985-1991 time series data was used). The data was then used to create intra-regional trade tables for approximately 23 countries in the LAC region.

At the request of the A.I.D. mission in the Dominican Republic, Ms. Whipple began a study comparing various import/export data and sources. The purpose of the study is to ascertain how trade values are calculated by the various data sources. Ms. Whipple found that discrepancies in reported values are occurring due primarily to non-reported reexports and artificially low levels of exports being reported by businesses within the country trying to evade taxes.

Other examples of research requests completed by Ms. Whipple include:

- o 1) produced spreadsheets of U.S.- Mexico trade at the 2 digit SITC level for the years 1989-1992;
- o 2) compiled data/information for LAC economists regarding history of Caribbean Basin Initiative, especially congressional involvement in foreign aid, to be used in responding to various task force inquiries provoked by the 60 Minutes/Nightline investigation of AID export promotion activities;
- o 3) updated macroeconomic country profiles, stored in the LACIS and incorporated into the Latin America and Caribbean Selected Economic and Social Data book, as 1992 data was received for various countries;
- o 4) prepared diskettes of pertinent files and data for Bureau economist to take on assignment to the Nicaraguan mission; and
- o 5) examined the feasibility of duplicating the LAC Commodity/Price simulation within the Asia region.

Mr. Nassif spent part of his time as a LAC Bureau Liaison, performing the following activities:

- * Producing a health analysis with LAC/DR.
- * Providing U.S. Bilateral Trade data and tables for congressional response to "60 Minutes" allegation of misuse of U.S. tax dollars in investment development abroad.
- * Moving and developing PRISM country reports and strategic objective trees for LACIS access.
- * Providing Technical and information support to the Bureau.

ASIA

At the request of Henrietta Holsman Fore, AA/ASIA, Ms. Maureen Mericle researched the Economic Cooperative Organization (ECO). In researching the ECO, Ms. Mericle met with State Department personnel and reviewed numerous classified cables and documents. Ms. Mericle wrote a report summarizing the status of the organization and briefed the AA/ASIA on the comments provided in the classified documents.

Ms. Mericle also provided economic information for a briefing paper on Bangladesh used by AA/ASIA in her meeting with US Ambassador (to Bangladesh) Milam. Ms. Mericle arranged the briefing paper format, selected significant macroeconomic indicators, and provided commentary on the current trends in trade, foreign investment, and privatization. The AA/ASIA praised Ms. Mericle's commentary and distributed the briefing paper to her immediate staff as a standard reference on the status of the Bangladesh economy.

From October 6 to November 12, 1992, Ms. Mericle worked with USAID mission staff while on TDY in India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka. A copy of Ms. Mericle's trip report is attached in Appendix I. Upon her return from South Asia, Ms. Mericle provided a series of debriefing with members of the Financial Sector Reform Project, country desk officers in the South Asia Office, and Asia/FPM staff.

Utilizing data collected on her TDY to USAID missions in South Asia, Ms. Mericle generated a new Economic Policy Performance (EPP) score. Accuracy of the new score was verified by POL/PAR and then input into the Asia Bureau Budget allocation model. The new output suggests that Sri Lanka should have received over a million dollars more in the budget request.

In preparation for the new Clinton Administration, the Near East bureau asked ESDS analysts to produce a funding map of the Asia region. Analysts also assisted country desk officers in preparing country reports, and created live links between the country program profiles and budget spreadsheets.

ESDS analyst, Ms. Kimberly Van Wagner, prepared a memo for ASIA/AA Henrietta Holsman Fore on the debt situation and feasibility of debt swaps in Indonesia. With regards to this request, the ESDS analyst researched information on debt swap mechanisms and characteristics of debtor countries which have successfully negotiate swaps.

US-Asia Bilateral trade: Obtained trade data and exchange rates from C.K. prepared preliminary analysis and graphs showing average annual import-export trends. (Note: Joe Nassif took over this analysis while I was on TDY).

While on TDY in Indonesia and the Philippines from October 10-26, 1992, Ms. Van Wagner met with local economists and arranged data exchanges. Upon returning to AID/W, Ms. Van Wagner debriefed both ESDS and Asia/FPM on details of the trip.

Along with Asia Bureau environmental staff, Ms. Van Wagner attended two meetings with the World Resources Institute (WRI). The meetings were related to the ES/DS analysts search for the most appropriate Environmental Indicators to use in the Asia information system and performance based budgeting model. Land Use, Water Use, and Forest Use indicators for Asian countries was subsequently selected from the WRI database and incorporated into spreadsheets for the Asia-Information System (Asia-IS).

At the request of the Asia Bureau DR/TR office, Ms. Van Wagner created spreadsheets listing environmental programs by country, number, budget levels, and title.

CENTER FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT SERVICES

During the fourth quarter, Mr. C.K. Pang responded to 142 requests for information. Among the requestors, there were 56 private corporations, 4 government agencies, 5 private voluntary organizations, 1 consulting company, 2 foreign companies, 1 foreign government agency, 1 academic institution, and 12 individuals.

The majority of requestors were interested in obtaining information on procurement opportunities from USAID's overseas development projects and general background information on doing business in developing countries.

The following is a selection of specific requests and briefings completed by Mr. Pang.

- * Mr. Pang provided information on the political risk, economic stability, trade practices and AID's development strategy in the Philippines to a U.S. company preparing a marketing plan to manufacture latex examination gloves in that country.
- * Mr. Pang provided information to a U.S. consulting company on export and investment finance programs offered by AID which can be used to assist indigenous Uganda businessmen invest in their own country.
- * Mr. Pang provided a U.S. minority-owned firm with information on a contracting opportunity to assist the Pakistan Investment Promotion Bureau identify potential industry sectors which are attractive for joint venture activities. The selected contracting company will also help evaluate potential Pakistani companies and prospective U.S. partners for joint ventures.
- * Mr. Pang provided an investment banker of Goldman Sachs with information on co-financing sources for investments in developing countries.
- * Mr. C.K. Pang briefed the president and project manager of an engineering consulting firm from California on AID's engineering and infrastructure projects in

Asia and the South Pacific islands.

- * Mr. Pang provided a requestor from the Bell Atlantic Company with population estimates for large metropolitan areas in Latin American countries. The estimates will be used by the Bell Co. to derive demand for phone services.
- * Mr Pang provided food production data for an association which assists U.S. companies wishing to export food products to Nepal; and contacts for another U.S. company looking for distributors of U.S. products in Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
- * Mr. Pang provided the Director of the Office of Women In Development with information on US-Russian trade and economic issues. The information was used by the Office Director in a presentation on doing business in Russia.
- * Mr. Pang briefed visitors from the International Executive Service Corps (IESC) on the database resources at CTIS as well as other databases available through ESDS. The IESC also requested general economic data, and projections of trade and investment trends for developing countries over the next five to ten years. Mr. Pang provided the IESC with trade data for developing countries by geographical regions from 1983 to 1991, and projected values for 1992. For further projections, Mr. Pang consulted with the Department of Commerce, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank Foreign Investment Advisory Services. Finally, Mr. Pang provided the IESC with GNP Per Capita figures for developing countries in order to estimate their potential capability to import.
- * Mr. Pang furnished information on current policies promoting trade and investment in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Ghana, and Tanzania to the Volunteer In Technical Assistance (VITA). The information included an overview of economic policies, restrictions on direct foreign investments, taxation, and profit repatriation.
- * Mr. Pang provided information to an investment broker representing searching for U.S. pharmaceutical company to manufacture Vitamin A in India. The broker's client would provide land and assist with the initial capital to set up the manufacturing plant, and the end product would be distributed to Indian children to prevent night-blindness.
- * Mr. Pang provided counsel on the Gray Amendment and the SBA 8(a) Business Development Program to a small company who is interested in bidding for AID's procurement contracts.
- * An export consulting company requested information on the capital projects program, the AID/EXIM Bank Mixed Credits Programs, and other export financing programs provided by AID. After consulting with the Office of Capital Projects, the

Office of Investments and corresponding country desk officers, Mr. Pang provided the requester with the information collected.

NEAR EAST

At the request of the Near East Bureau, Ms. Leslie Dougherty was asked to assist in the Bureau's transition to SAR reporting using the Oracle system. In this capacity Ms. Dougherty has attended Oracle demonstrations, worked with the Systems Administrator concerning hardware and software prerequisites, and has accompanied a Project Development Officer in Development Resources to all SAR/Oracle meetings.

Ms. Dougherty attended the Near East Bureau retreat in the Westpark Hotel on Monday, October 19. The purpose of the retreat was to review the bureau's objective tree and discuss indicators for measuring progress. Also discussed were concerns of indicators in regards to limited resources, availability of viable indicators and budgeting based on indicator performance. Following the retreat, Ms. Dougherty was asked to interview desk officers and sectorial experts on their ideas for indicators and how missions may absorb these additional reporting guidelines if they become requirements.

Examples of research requests completed by Ms. Dougherty include: 1) collection of market surveys and market research studies for citrus fruits in European markets; 2) compilation of economic and social data set for USAID missions in Egypt, Morocco and Jordan; and 3) a summary of health and population indicators for Department of Health officials traveling to Morocco.

To assist the Near East Bureau in the timely synthesis and analysis of economic research, Ms. Dougherty has begun cataloging IMF economic data and reports. A list of these materials will be included in Near East Management Information System and can be searched by key words.

In preparation for the new Clinton Administration, Ms. Dougherty assisted the Near East Bureau in updating country profiles. Ms. Dougherty provided budget, economic and social data as needed, as well as background information and statistical trends.

Ms. Dougherty compiled an initial report for an agricultural trade project to export grapes and potatoes from the Near East to European nations. For the project, Ms. Dougherty researched "windows of opportunity" and seasonal trends for these exports. U.S. exports of these same goods were also observed in accordance with the Section 599 initiative. Information was provided by the Market News Service Project of the United Nations as well as the U.S. Department of Commerce and TRADENET database.

AFRICA

ESDS Liaison Gayle Schwartz responded to a request by AFR/DP to examine the correlation between mission USDH FTE and OYB levels as a basis for FY93 staff projections. A linear regression was developed in Lotus, based on the model previously developed by AFR and LAC economists. The regression examines the impact DFA (DA), Title II and Title III Food Assistance have on staffing levels. The Lotus application provides only the basic results of a regression. The regression will be reconstructed in SAS in order to get more detailed information about the correlations.

ESDS representative Gayle Schwartz worked with Africa Bureau staff to develop a list of economic and social indicators to be used as part of the country profiles for the transition briefing book. Indicators were submitted to the MIS Working Group to which Ms. Schwartz serves as the Africa Bureau's CDIE representative. The MIS Working Group was established to coordinate Agency-wide efforts in the development of individual Bureau Information Systems, as well as to standardize Bureau presentations of country information to the Agency transition team. Ms. Schwartz assisted in the selection of indicators appropriate for Africa and identified baseline data sources for the indicators.

In preparation for a TDY to the Africa Bureau Scheduling Conferences, CDIE/ESDS analyst Gayle Schwartz talked with key personnel in the REDSOs about data needs, access, ESDS services and the new Africa Bureau's Information System. Side sessions have been set up for demonstrations of the Information System as well as meetings to discuss how ESDS can provide more effective and efficient support in the field. Diskettes containing the African Development Indicators will be distributed at the conferences.

Gayle Schwartz, ESDS analyst in AFR/DP attended REDSO/ESA and REDSO/WCA scheduling conferences. The conferences provided an excellent opportunity for open discussion of important Africa Bureau and Agency-wide issues such as the concern for staffing and, particularly for newcomers, provided an overview of USAID activities in Africa. Mission representatives gave outstanding presentations of country portfolios which largely set the agenda for the upcoming year.

Gayle Schwartz, ESDS analyst in AFR/DP responded to a request from POL/PAR for data on Exports to Mozambique. Export data from approximately 15 countries including, U.S., Thailand, Japan, and France, were provided along with an analysis of market shares and trends from 1984 - 1990. The data were to be used in an analysis of the impact of the "Buy America" legislation and tied-aid on Mozambique.

AFR/DP ESDS analyst Gayle Schwartz assisted in preparation of briefing book for the October meeting of the Special Programs of Assistance for Africa at the World Bank. Specific responsibilities included researching and drafting briefing papers which outline USG's position on debt relief and the mobilization of non-project assistance and drought related resources to SPA recipient countries and selected IBRD countries.

Africa Bureau's ESDS Liaison Gayle Schwartz served as a member of the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting team in Rwanda in early December. The purpose of her visit was to review selected indicators supporting the missions strategy and to identify appropriate sources for baseline data. Though she worked with mission personnel responsible for each of the mission's three strategic objectives and two targets of opportunities, Ms. Schwartz specifically assisted the population staff to clarify the population strategy and identify indicators. She also reviewed the data resulting from the recent national demographic health survey and interim services statistics. Ms. Schwartz also worked with personnel from the Department of Agriculture's statistical division reviewing data collection methodologies and analysis. These data provide regularized information about agricultural production, agricultural markets, and non-farm/farm income linkages nation-wide.

ESDS liaison to Africa Bureau's Development Planning office, Gayle Schwartz, assisted the Sr. Economic Advisor with the preparation and presentation of a briefing of the Bureau's Performance Based Budgeting System. The presentation was given to the Analysis, Research and Technical Support office of the Bureau. The two hour briefing outlined the historical development of the PBBS, the objectives of the system, the categorizing of countries, and the results from last year's exercise. Ms. Schwartz explained the very complex model used to calculate allocations, the variables comprising the formula, and the data sources used for previous iterations of the system. The briefing generated some lively discussion about the process and the model and how the bureau may wish to simplify the formula. In preparation for this year's allocation cycle, similar briefings will be given to other technical and geographic offices within the bureau.

BUREAU MIS SYSTEMS

During the fourth quarter of 1992, ESDS Regional Bureau Analysts in Africa, Asia, Near East and Latin America, with guidance from Joseph Nassif, have been working around the clock to develop bureau information systems using Magellan.

A Magellan Working Group was created by Pete McLain (LAC) and Joseph Nassif (CDIE/ESDS) to address formatting and standardization issues amongst the Bureau MISs. The Group, which includes ESDS analysts from the Regional Bureaus and Bureau Direct Hire Representatives and system administrators, intends to use the Transition, and the Agency's current focus on information and standardization, as a means of outlining formats for the Magellan system.

Draft outlines of the Regional Bureau MISs have been developed detailing system information coverage. ESDS analysts have been working closely with various offices throughout the Regional Bureaus to get feedback and input on the outline for the MISs. The continued development of these systems has enabled ESDS Analysts to better comprehend bureau information and data needs and develop stronger working relationships

with bureau staff.

Mr. Nassif continued development of Bureau MISs in Africa (AFRMIS), Near East (NEIS), Asia (ASIAIS), and Latin America (LACIS). Tasks performed include:

- * Producing the U.S. Bilateral Trade Table SAS program. The program was written to provide all bureau MIS's with 10 quarterly updated tables, examining exports and imports of total, manufactured goods, capital and consumer goods, primary products, and apparel classifications.
- * Organizing and running MIS meetings with members from NE, AFR, LAC, ASIA, and respective ESDS Bureau representatives present.
- * Producing a demo of AFRMIS and giving a presentation to Marge Bonner of AFR/DP.
- * Setting-up and performing LACIS demo for NE staff.
- * Holding ISTI Meetings to discuss world-wide health data access.

STAFF TRAINING

On December 3, Mr. C.K. Pang joined more than a hundred consultants and engineering contractors at the World Bank Monthly Business Briefing. The business briefing provides information on the World Bank's project cycle and related international business opportunities to contractors.

ESDS analyst, Ms. Margie Whipple, drafted a paper entitled, "Understanding and Interpreting Regression Outputs". The paper will be used as a statistical guide for ESDS analysts in explaining the results of regression analysis to AID/W staff. Paper topics included: assumptions of regression; interpreting parameter estimates; definitions of SSR, SSE, SSTO, root MSE, coefficient of multiple determination; confidence intervals and prediction intervals; multicollinearity; standardized coefficients; outliers; qualitative variables; and autocorrelation.

Ms. Whipple also prepared a memo outlining steps in residual analysis. The memorandum explained how to use residual analysis to determine the suitability of a given regression model. The memo also examined assumptions of linearity, the normal distribution of errors, statistical independence, and constant variance.

ESDS analysts Ms. Margie Whipple, Mr. C.K. Pang and Mr. David Schuler met with George Gerhold who manages the COMPRO (Threatened) system at the Department of Commerce. Obtained current documentation on system and learned ways to use the system more efficiently as well as to reduce the costs of using the system.

ESDS analysts MS. Margie Whipple and Mr. C. K. Pang attended a one week training seminar on the SICE Foreign Trade Information System designed and managed by the

Organization of American States (OAS). Lessons included methods of accessing SICE system, software requirements, searching databases using the STAIRS programming language, sources of the data contained in system, timing and frequency of the updates, print utilities and trouble shooting techniques. ESDS analysts were also instructed on the following databases within the SICE system: Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States; U.S. Imports for Consumption; U.S. Export Statistics; U.S. Directory of Importers; U.S. Directory of Exporters; U.S. Markets Primary Wholesale Selling Prices; The Federal Register System; U.S. Code of Federal Regulations; Business Opportunities of Supply and Demand; Mexico- Directory of Exporters/Importers; and U.S. Import/Export Maritime Bills of Lading.

As a follow-up to the ORACLE overview presented by IRM two months ago, Ms. Joan Curry arranged for an ORACLE demonstration tailored to the needs and inquiries of CDIE and ESDS. A representative from ORACLE explained the strengths and weaknesses of the ORACLE, including samples of documents and data generated by ORACLE that ESDS would reference or provide for the Agency. The presentation illustrated ORACLE's abilities to handle the data manipulation and principal report writing tasks of the Agency and to interface with other software and mainframe programs used by ESDS.

Leslie Dougherty attended a two-day DBase class arranged by the Near East Bureau.

Ms. Gayle Schwartz attended an Africa Bureau seminar on the overview of the Development Fund for Africa legislation and the Bureau's program cycle. The seminar covered the Country Program Strategy Plan, the action plan for Africa's major country programs; strategic objectives and logical design of objective trees; and the Assessment of Program Impact, AFR's program reporting document; and the use of indicators for this document. Discussion also focussed on how these reporting mechanisms relate to the Agency-wide PRISM system.

Ms. Joan Curry attended a three-day programming class and Ms. Cheryl Crow attended a three-day class on Structured Query Language and Relational Data Base Processing sponsored by the SAS Institute in Rockville, Md.

APPENDIX I

44

MEMORANDUM

TO: See Distribution

FROM: Maureen Mericle

DATE: December 2, 1992

SUBJECT: Trip Report - India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka
October 6 - November 12, 1992

My report, when I included everything, was even longer than this. If you have any questions about any of the meetings or information related here let me know and I can furnish a complete report of any given event.

I feel the trip was extremely useful not only from my point of view, in learning about the missions and gaining in-depth understanding of the economies of the countries I am responsible for, but also for the missions visited and the Asia Bureau. The missions were left with a better understanding of the budget process, as well as feeling less isolated from the process. The Bureau will benefit from the overview of the region I was able to gain. The perspective I achieved will be especially beneficial with respect to the Economic Policy Performance scoring system and understanding the way each mission scores itself.

INDIA

HIGHLIGHTS

* The mission was interested in whether the MIS being designed for Asia Bureau could be implemented at the mission level. They are going on a network system in December and thought that a MIS similar to the demo I showed them, would be useful. I mentioned that the system had recently been designed for a mission (Dominican Republic) and they were very happy with the results. We discussed the possibility of a technical trip early next year to begin the design process of a mission MIS.

* I made a detailed presentation in the mission staff meeting of the EPP scoring system and the MIS. After the meeting I met with M.C. Gupta, the mission economist, for several hours of discussion about his reactions to the EPP process, both the methodology of the scoring and to India's particular scores in certain areas. We also discussed further indicators which might be added to the Asia Bureau Allocation Model such as equity or democracy. His response to a democracy indicator was that the Freedom House scores would be fine. Equity, he said, is a harder issue because income distribution data is very old and unreliable.

* I met with Dr. Prem Vashist and Dr. Shashanka Bhide of NCAER (National

Council of Applied Economic Research). I explained the electronic data I had brought from Washington (primarily World Bank STARS) and indicated to them that they were welcome to use this information if the data would be useful. They noted that it would be directly useful on several projects NCAER is currently engaged in; Discussion then centered on the projects NCAER is currently working on. They solicited feedback on a grant request to they have submitted to USAID to do a long term macroeconomic survey of the effects of currency reform on all sectors of the economy.

* I met with Mr. Tapas Sen and Dr. Govinda Rao of NIPFP (National Institute for Public Finance and Policy) and explained that USAID hoped to facilitate information exchange between the local research institutions and the mission. We discussed the data USAID could provide and they then explained the type of work NIPFP does and what information they have access to on their databases. We then discussed the public expenditures of the government of India.

Overall assessment is that India is making significant inroads in the liberalization process. They have deregulated fertilizer distribution, reduced subsidies on petroleum and fertilizer products and are moving toward full convertibility of the rupee. They still have barriers in their trade regime; namely, a negative list containing a significant number of consumer goods.

Nepal

HIGHLIGHTS

* The mission was very interested in the possibility of implementing a mission MIS, much as India was. People seem to be excited about the possibilities of this system at the mission level. I think it would definitely be worth exploring possibly sending a technical team out here early next year once the MIS in the Bureau is up and running.

* In the afternoon I met with the Deputy Director Teddy Wood-Stervinou. She expressed concern over the static nature of the budget model, noting that it seems to favor the countries with long running good economic policies, even if they are on the decline, rather than encouraging those countries who are beginning the process of the structural reform and need additional encouragement.

* I had 2 meetings with WID organizations. The first, CWA, receives AID funding for a WID library, which is the most extensive WID library in Nepal. The organization provides training in vocational skills.

The second visit was to BPWA (Business and Professional Women's Association), an association of Nepali business women who collectively support a secretarial course for underprivileged women. We toured the facilities, met the staff and visited some classes.

* I met with Muh Gurong, the Deputy Director in the Department of Industry to talk

about progress in the registration and licensing of industries, both domestic and foreign. Mr. Gurung reported that although it was easier than before, they were still nowhere near the "one window" policy touted by the government. The foreign equity in industry is increasing, but as he added, few policy or tax incentives can be given to encourage foreign investment as long as one can't guarantee power or water supply.

* I met with S.D. Shresta, of the Nepal Rasta Bank, (the central government bank) for a discussion on liberalization of monetary policy. Mr. Shresta said it would be unlikely that Nepal would move to full convertibility until it was certain that India would as well. Last week, Nepal signed the ESAF agreement with the IMF and Mr. Shresta saw this as being a vote of confidence in the goals of reform.

* Field trip with Anjali Pradham, the WID officer. We met Indira Koirala the director of IIDS (Institute for Integrated Development Studies) and trekked several hours up to several rural villages in the Bhaktapur district. We then met with 6 women's groups who support each other in income generating schemes. The women reported a growth in self-esteem due to having an independent income source and that they had changed their behavior because of the information on nutrition, family planning and accounting that IIDS supplies through a locally based motivator.

* I had an early morning roundtable discussion on Nepal EPZ development with ADB representatives. The overall picture was not promising. ADB has encouraged the government to focus on a small (5 ha.) plot of land because ADB believes there will be problems in attracting companies to an EPZ. We then discussed the problems with EPZ development in Nepal. The primary difficulty is the lack of guaranteed power and water. Without this, many industries which usually flock to EPZ's will not come (such as electronic firms). In addition, the other 2 industries which had been touted as possibilities - the garment sector and the jewelry sector have their own problems. The garment sector is already given a tax holiday and with already established sites, there is no reason for them to move into an EPZ and the jewelry sector, is very much a caste based industry and it will probably not expand simply due to that; it is a skill passed on within one caste and it would be hard to learn that skill if one was from another caste and moreover, people would not want to (because the caste which makes jewelry is "lower" caste).

A possible detrimental reaction from the EPZ experience is that sub-contracting tends to stop once a firm moves into the EPZ; the work is all done within the zone. Nepal has a significant sub-contracting sector and this must be taken into consideration.

Mr. Yamashita said that ADB would probably de-emphasize the real estate aspect of EPZ and concentrate on air cargo improvement and sectoral liberalization and policy.

The question I was left with was why is ADB even pursuing a EPZ, even a small one, if it is as inviable as this meeting indicated. I got the feeling they were doing it simply because it is a popular concept with the government rather than a viable, useful option.

* I spent a working lunch with S.D. Supkota, Deputy Director of the Ministry of Finance. We discussed the trend that has appeared in the past several years; that of the

government seemingly falling short of its budget. Mr. Supkota explained that this was not a revenue shortfall, but the large deficit was a result of a repeated overestimation of grant assistance. He said that there were some significant problems with the releasing of foreign assistance. This year the Nepal government has taken steps to ensure better grant disbursement; especially important in the face of declining assistance.

There have been 3 privatization agreements signed in the last couple months, with another 4 planned for next year. One of the large privatization initiatives that the government is exploring is finding foreign investors to become involved in the hydropower sector, which has so much potential in Nepal.

Overall Assessment - Nepal is making strides, rapidly toward a free market economy. The rupee and the economy as a whole is extremely stable, there is little overvaluation of the rupee (less than 3% according to my observation) and the government seems committed to privatization. The significant problem in Nepal seems to be the lack of guaranteed infrastructure; addressing this problem would go far in exciting foreign investment in Nepal. The hydropower issue will address this and must become a priority.

Bangladesh

HIGHLIGHTS

* A big issue for USAID/Bangladesh is how to attract foreign investment. I attended a meeting Jim Mudge, mission economist, set up with Mr. Osman Yousuf of the Bangladesh-US Business Council. The main topic was how the Board of Investment (BOI) was unable to adequately excite foreign investment due to a lack of technical ability and an inward looking policy, despite the proclaimed commitment of the government to advancing investment in Bangladesh. Examples of letters from potential US investors going totally unanswered were given. In addition, it was noted that since the creation of BOI, a significant amount foreign investment has been pulled out of Bangladesh, rather than being invested. Squibb and 2 other pharmaceutical companies have pulled out or are currently pulling out due to the preferential treatment given to domestic industries. Mr. Yousef was attempting to elicit support from the mission, both monetary and otherwise to start a technical assistance project to BOI and other investment agencies as well as to explore foreign investment opportunities in the following areas: Energy, Telecommunications, Data Processing, Oil and Gas

* I made a presentation of the MIS system and the EPP/Asia Bureau Allocation Model to the program officers. They had a lot of questions and comments about the Asia Bureau Model. There was a significant amount of discussion on the validity or lack thereof about various other indicators which might be added to the model - for example, environment. (Bangladesh has no environmental programs and they were curious, because the allocation model sends mixed messages, whether they would be hurt because they are not doing well on that area (like the EPP) or whether they would be helped because there is an obvious Need factor (like the Need indicators) - where would these additional indicators fall? If it was not part of the EPP score, it would be part of the need indicators

rather than performance and they decided they would score very high on need.

There was also the same comments I have encountered at each mission so far - that this system rewards those countries who have been doing ok and might even be declining rather than encouraging those countries who are just beginning the liberalization process and need the most encouragement.

* I spent several hours with two State Department economists - Jeff Beller and Chris Walker. Jim Mudge had recommended that I talk to them about the business/commercial sector climate. They provided a wealth of information about the investment climate in Bangladesh; most of it discouraging. In general, although the government has no restrictions on foreign investment there are many factors discouraging investment. The patronizing authority is BOI, which is supposed to have a "one stop shop" policy similar to Nepal. Like Nepal, however, they are very far from actually having this policy implemented in practice. Anyone inquiring about investment is usually shoved over to the appropriate ministry; completely deflating the purpose of BOI.

As I stated earlier, there are several large foreign investors who are pulling out of Bangladesh due to preferential treatment being given to domestic industries. Squibb, which I cited before, was allowed only to manufacture "essential" drugs (a very limited list) while the domestic companies had no such restrictions. In addition, patent law is virtually ignored; a cause for concern among potential investors.

Some successes have been noted, however. Like India, the fertilizer distribution has been privatized. The power and telecommunications sectors have just been privatized as well. The EPZ in Chittagong is going very well and there are plans to open another one near Dhaka. The ready made garment (RMG) sector is growing at a rate of 30-40% per year. But it remains a fact that the government industries, steel, sugar, textiles, are woefully inefficient and are not improving. Extremely strong workers unions prevent many changes and reductions from taking place.

Tariffs on imports are still very high and there is still a passbook system in place. The banned list still contains over 100 items - mostly luxury/consumer goods. The import/export system is riddled with corruption and is extremely time consuming. This time consuming element is a big detriment to the electronics firms which are always looking for countries with cheaper labor; Bangladesh would be ideal, but they are put off by the inefficiencies they would experience dealing with the customs procedures.

There is an overvaluation of the taka, but the overvaluation is not reflected in the black market rate because aid money generates plenty of foreign exchange. There is a six month reserve of foreign exchange. Both Jeff and Chris agreed that currently there is too much aid coming into Bangladesh; foreign aid forms over 50% of the governments revenues and both men were pessimistic about change coming anytime soon - especially when foreign donors are conveying the message that sloppy policies are acceptable. Both men also said

they foresaw no change in these trends as long as the current PM, Khaleda Zia, is in power. She has surrounded herself with people who are inadequate as far as economic know how and she herself is not strong in economic understanding.

* Attended a presentation by Jim Fay and Forrest Coxan of the Financial Sector Reform Project. They presented the macroeconomic environment indicators which basically showed that the economy is slowing down. They began by saying that Bangladesh's economy must be looked at in economic terms rather than in terms of external factors - such as poverty, natural disasters or cultural issues. External factors simply induce the point of view of the government to accept internal laziness.

They started out by making the following comments:

1. Economic activity has dropped significantly in the last few years with no signs of getting better. Except in the agricultural sector, there has been no signs of change on the governments part.
2. Agriculture is the one bright spot.
3. Export Sector - particularly the garment sector, is not as healthy as everyone would like to think. The garment sector is characterized by huge imports of inputs and when one factors in the increase in input imports, the increase is much less than it appears. It is growing at about 30%. In the non-garment sector all exports are down.
3. Import totals are declining if you remove the inputs necessary for the garment sector.
4. The inflation rate (CPI) has dropped from 10% to 5%.

The FSRP team assessed factors which might provide explanations for the trends seen above. The first is the exchange rate. It is not conducive to export expansion because it is overvalued. It is appreciating against the rupee so they have placed themselves in competition with India. The huge cross border trade, which has provided a great deal of income for Bangladesh, has been dependent on the lower exchange rate of the taka. With the overvaluation a great deal of Indian goods are coming into Bangladesh, rather than vice versa, because the Indian goods are now cheaper.

Private investment has dropped in the face of higher real lending rates. Real interest rates have been raised for depositors and lenders so there is more savings going on than starting or expanding projects. The FSRP team believes Bangladesh fiscal policy has encouraged too much savings at the expense of investment. Because the private sector is not investing, not drawing credit, this may be exacerbating the slowdown in the economy.

Moreover, Bangladesh faces a GATT agreement which will likely remove the garment quota, which has forced manufactures to look to countries like Bangladesh, an increasing competitive bid in Asian countries to receive private investment (Nepal, India, Sri Lanka for example) and a foreign aid environment that will see no expansions.

The FSRP representatives said that with such a low inflation rate, positive real interest rates and a high foreign exchange reserve situation Bangladesh has the ability and flexibility to change the overall economic climate. But, they were pessimistic about the chances of this happening; they feel that the government is taking far too much of a laissez-faire attitude of "just let things happen" without setting up the necessary conditions for things to actually happen on their own.

Overall Assessment - Bangladesh seems to be much further behind than India or Nepal in terms of actually implementing reforms and in being committed to attracting foreign investment. Everyone except Jim Mudge, the mission economist, seems to be extremely negative in their forecast for the immediate future, in terms of change. There still exists blatant preferences given to domestically and/or publicly owned firms over private foreign companies.

Sri Lanka

HIGHLIGHTS: Mahaweli Region Field Trip

* The first visit today was with a farmers organization which has over 100 members in this organization. We met with the president, vice-president and treasurer and several other members.

The farmers have worked with MARD and participated in many of the test crops that MARD has experimented with. Last year the farmers group began a contracting arrangement with CIC, a British pharmaceutical company which was expanding into food products. CIC contracted the farmers to produce cantaloupes which was a successful test product. This year they have also picked up a contract with a domestically based exporting company to produce chilies.

The members of the organization said they realized the benefits of the cooperative - as individuals they could not contract to large companies, nor could they receive loans from commercial banks, which the organization can.

* The next stop was to a commercial farm which was operated by Swedes. They had diversified crops, but they were just beginning to concentrate on silkworms. They had planted 30 acres (out of a total of 50 acres) of mulberry trees and they were getting the worms in January. They will grow the worms to the cocoon stage and ship them to someplace capable of harvesting the silk.

* We then moved to a farm which was the sight of a training course in grape cultivation for second generation Mahaweli residents. The students spent 3-4 months learning about grape cultivation and then they were eligible to receive several acres on which to grow grapes. They had to grow grapes, but they could grow other crops to supplement their income.

* The next visit was to a commercial nursery. The nursery had implemented a few reforestation projects, but said that there was no acceptance by the people that there was a problem so it is instead, concentrating on crop trees, such as mangos. The nursery is growing the mangos to the age they can be transplanted and then selling them to farmers. They had an initial problem, because of importation laws, getting the mango varieties they wanted. Now, because of the same laws, everyone is turning to the nursery to supply the trees.

* Across the street was the last stop - the new cold chain pack house. This pack house was supported by a grant from USAID. It was between seasons during my visit so there was nothing going on, but it was a very good chance to see the facilities and get a good look at the cooling machine. They pack many different crops, including the baby corn and the cantaloupes and prepare them for the trip to the export market.

Kandy Region

* Spent 2 hours at the Kandy District Thrift and Credit Cooperative Society. It was started in 1979 with 6 member societies. It has now grown (1992) to 504 member societies with 80,000 members. It is so well known and respected that many local governments deposit their budget funds with the TCCS. It possesses full banking capabilities. The loans go toward virtually any activity - housing, agribusiness, education, etc. The repayment rate is about 95%. The organization is about 50% self-sufficient and it holds self-sufficiency as its goal in approximately 3 years.

* We then drove to Kurunegala to meet with Ms. Seela Egbert, founder of the Agra Mart Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to improving the lives of the rural poor, especially, but not limited to women. It gives entrepreneurial training to the underprivileged in the rural areas. The training reaches about 60 people/month and about 69% of these start their own business. I was not as impressed with this organization as with the ones I saw in Nepal. Ms. Egbert was not concerned at all with the self-sufficiency of the organization and when I pressed her, explaining that with the declining aid fund, she might need to become self-sufficient she was defensive over the good the organization is doing. She was not even willing to consider charging fees for her courses, despite the preponderance of evidence which shows that charging, even if a nominal amount, will increase the value of the technical assistance.

* Visited TIPS, the Technology Initiative for the Private Sector which was created at the initiative of the PRE office in USAID/Sri Lanka. The purpose is to "increase international competitiveness of and employment in Sri Lankan private industry by improving its performance in choosing, acquiring and mastering technologies, with support from U.S. business and technology."

One major success story that I was told about concerned the Ceylon Pencil Company. The company was having problems because it didn't have a large enough

domestic market to clear any significant profit; TIPS connect the company with representatives from the Faber-Castrell company who requested samples of Sri Lankan graphite. This graphite proved to be of such high quality, the two companies have formed a solid relationship and it literally saved the Ceylon Pencil company while providing a US firm with the import connection it needed.

* The next visit was to the Colombo Stock Exchange and this was by far one of the most interesting visits I made during my TDY. It was exciting to see the ground floor of what promises to be a very exciting share market. There are currently 15 brokers (4 of which listed in the last month) and 190 companies listed. There are no foreign companies being traded yet, but that promises to change soon. They have recently set up an MIS which connects the real time activities on the floor to the brokerage houses.

* Meeting with the policy group in the mission, which was made up of Dick Brown, George Jones, all the office heads and various other representatives. This was where the question and answer session about the EPP and the Allocation Model took place. I initially described the overall budget model and the factors which went into the model. The EPP system itself was discussed briefly, but the real questions the mission had was why certain criteria were selected and others weren't. In general, the mission felt left out of the process and did believe they had a handle on all the factors going into the process.

In response to the issues addressed in this meeting, the Bureau is in the process of drafting a cable explaining in detail the budgeting process and specific scoring questions raised by Sri Lanka.

Overall Assessment - Sri Lanka is the only country I visited where the government is actually implementing all of its liberalization policies. The system is transparent and an ideal situation for foreign investment. On the downside, there are still a number of government run industries, but overall the situation is remarkably positive and everyone sees it improving at an accelerated pace.

Distribution:

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APPENDIX II

SAFIRE TEAM REPORT

December, 1992

Team #1

Jeff Marzilli, Pragma Corp.
Abdul Bassit, Pragma Corp.
Keith Burberry, WFP

Team #2

George Simon, WFP
Barbara Keating, Africa
Bureau, USAID, *Pragma Corp.*
Laith Grandgaard, USGS

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Southern Africa Food Information and Resource Exchange (SAFIRE) telecommunications project was jointly conceived and implemented by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and The United Nations World Food Program (WFP). SAFIRE's objective is to assist drought stricken countries in southern Africa coordinate donor and host country humanitarian assistance efforts and deliver it to those most affected by the worst drought in nearly a century. USAID has provided most of the financial support for the project.

The project was envisioned after USAID sponsored a Food Aid Needs Assessment of the Southern Africa Drought Emergency (SADE) in April 1992 through the Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (FHA) and its Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA). The OFDA report on the SADE identified telecommunications as an area that could possibly facilitate a wide variety of drought relief activities by providing an enhanced capacity in the region for the flow of information and data. The USAID Southern Africa Drought Task Force subsequently identified telecommunications as a priority area of concern and the Senior Steering Committee for the SADE, co-chaired by the Deputy Assistant Administrators (DAAs) of the Bureau for Africa and FHA authorized a Telecommunications Needs Assessment Team to visit the Southern Africa region in late July. Their report confirmed that improved electronic communications within the southern African region would greatly enhance SADE overall coordination capacity -particularly food aid activities- and that such an undertaking was technically possible and could be implemented quickly at low-cost.

From these reports, the SAFIRE project was born as an uncomplicated telecommunication system supported by personal computers, modems, and initially, ordinary phone lines. SAFIRE links donors, such as WFP and USAID to each other, and host country and regional institutions to port and railway operations and others concerned with the coordination and delivery of humanitarian assistance.

Over a four week period, between November 1 and November 28, 1992, two teams of three persons each, a combination of USAID and WFP personnel, were dispatched to the southern Africa region and successfully installed SAFIRE stations and trained operators at 20 sites that had been identified as having operational roles in drought relief activities. Team One consisted of Jeff Marzilli, (team leader), Abdul Basit and Burberry. Basit and Marzilli were hired on short-term contracts through the Pragma Corporation and Keith Burberry is assigned permanently to the World Food Program in Rome. Team Two was led by overall SAFIRE team leader Barb Keating and included Layth Grangaard (USGS) and George Simon from the World Food Program in Rome. Team composition was arranged to assure optimal division of technical and regional expertise across teams.

The teams found that highly sophisticated coordination mechanisms

established in response to the drought in the southern Africa region generate an impressive flow of information in the form of data, reports and spreadsheets. Prior to the installation of Safire, this information had been disseminated by FAX, mail and telex requiring a significant amount of staff time by numerous entities concerned with the SADE due to both the enormous workload and attendant difficulties and delays of using these modes of communication in the region. None offered the possibility of delivering and accessing data and information in electronic format or on a timely basis as does the SAFIRE system. This information is urgently needed during the present "crunch" period of high rates of delivery of assistance to coordinate, rationalize and optimize the transport and delivery of that assistance.

The SAFIRE installation team was impressed by the enthusiasm of the most users in the region, who immediately recognized the possibilities of SAFIRE for enhancing the flow of data and information, and their ability to use the telecommunications equipment and system after initial training and follow-up support. As evidenced from the first two months of activities of SAFIRE and the using the volume of traffic (see Appendix A), it is indeed meeting a regional communication need at the most critical period of the SADE in terms of the peak amounts of food-aid arrivals and the on-set of the hungry season prior to the next harvest.

The installation of SAFIRE, within a short amount of time, is not without a number of teething problems that need to be addressed quickly as well as the long-term operational issues of turning the system over to WFP as set out in the joint MOU. These technical and operational issues are dealt with in the following section.

As was indicated in the USAID Africa Bureau Action Memorandum authorizing this activity, the SAFIRE system has potential uses that carry it well beyond the end of the drought. This enhanced African telecommunications capacity under the SADE needs to be translated into longer term developmental purposes. There is already widespread African interest of using SAFIRE for longer-term developmental needs evidenced during the preparation and installation phases. Due to operational exigencies of the SADE however, we were not in a position to address these longer-term developmental issues during installation, but we are beginning to outline practical and realistic "next steps" for the Africa Bureau to consider. The SAFIRE system is based on a technology called FidoNet which has networks all over the world; most significantly in the developing world because of its unique ability to adapt to poor local telephone line conditions. Because of high data transmission rates that can be achieved with this type of system, the information lag between the developed and developing world is economically collapsed, and conceivably offers ready access to information to a wide range of participants in developing countries. Further, the SAFIRE project could launch an international development network, whereby organizations involved

in development could enhance their effectiveness by participating in an information exchange network.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The SAFIRE Project opens a new frontier of communications for development work in Africa, as well as for developing countries worldwide. To reap the most benefit from the SAFIRE project the teams recommend the following:

1. Training to continue both through informative messages on technical issues being sent from the Washington communication hub to the field stations and through an on-site field TDY.
2. A survey of the users should be conducted immediately to determine what users like/dislike about the system, how much they use the system and what changes could be made to improve the system.
3. The communication hub in Washington is a critical element in the working of the SAFIRE project. WFP Rome has requested that records are kept on the following items, and that these be shared with WFP on a bi-monthly basis:
 - a. the volume of calls, and from which stations
 - b. the types of information being carried
 - c. the calls and messages received from users for technical assistance
 - d. requests for further SAFIRE site establishment
4. "Sweep-Up" Mission. The teams feels that in 6 to 8 weeks from the end of this mission (i.e. Feb. 1993) another team of 1 or 2 people from USAID should go back to all the countries in the SAFIRE project to ensure that the systems are running correctly, see that the printers which have not yet been sent to the field arrive at the sites and are properly connected, and answer questions that have arisen since the first installation and training.
4. An evaluation of the system should be conducted during the 6th month of operation (May 1993) before it is turned over to WFP control in regard to its effectiveness in transmitting information to the organizations active in drought relief activities, to the future for this type of system for other development activities in AID.
5. After 6 months of operation (June 1993), a conference or series of symposia be held in the region to demonstrate the development potential and undertake additional training for SAFIRE engaging both existing users and the PVO/NGO community and private sector. This type of capacity building undertaking would allow the users to share ideas about what they have been doing with the system, demonstrate what avenues could be pursued in the future and expand the capacities of this or other networks in Africa and with the outside world.

II. INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF WORK

Two teams of three persons each, a combination of USAID and WFP personnel met in Washington between November 2, and November 6 for five days at the beginning of the mission to prepare equipment, configure software and undergo training on the technical construction and operation of the particular microcomputer networking software. The teams then flew together to South Africa before splitting into two groups and heading for their respective countries.

Over a three week period, between November 1 and November 28, 1992, the two teams were in the southern Africa region installing equipment and training operators at 20 sites that had been identified as having operational roles in drought relief activities. The teams were identified as Team One and Team Two, and their members and countries visited were as follows:

Team One

Jeff Marzilli - USAID Team Leader
Abdul Basit - USAID
Keith Burberry - WFP

Team 1 visited Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. After the official mission was completed, Jeff Marzilli went onto Malawi to complete the installation of the Emergency Management Unit, which was moving offices at the time Team 2 was in Malawi. Mr. Marzilli was visiting Malawi in any case for FEWS related work, and offer to install the machine at that time.

Team Two

Barbara Keating - USAID Team Leader
Layth Graangard - USAID/USGS
George Simon - WFP

Team 2 visited Zambia, Malawi, and Tanzania. Barbara Keating went onto visit WFP headquarters in Rome to debrief on the trip and set-up WFP Rome as a station on the SAFIRE system.

The specific purpose for the teams visits was:

1. to install equipment in each identified site as stipulated by the Memorandum of Understanding between the United States Agency for International Development and The World Food Program that would allow these organizations, operational in drought relief activities, to transfer messages and data files between locations

in the region, WFP headquarters in Rome and USAID in Washington D.C. on drought related matters.

2. to train at least 2 persons at every installed SAFIRE station to fully operate and maintain the system for the next six months.

III. METHODOLOGY

Each team spent approximately one work week in each of the countries visited. The following itinerary was observed in each country:

DAY 1

To understand the technical and training requirements for each site to be established, the teams visited all locations to be installed with equipment on the first working day in the country. The teams also spent the first day in each country establishing a common training site for the following day activities.

DAY 2

A common training session for all system operators, and other interested parties in the country was offered on day 2 in each country. A general overview of the SAFIRE system was given in the morning describing how the system works, where each country fits into the scheme of the entire project, and what local resources are available to provide assistance. Local FidoNet network operators, (FidoNet is the technology that the SAFIRE system is based on) already functioning in the countries were invited to attend this general meeting and become acquainted with the SAFIRE system operators. The afternoon was spent in training all operators on system basics: reading, writing, and sending messages.

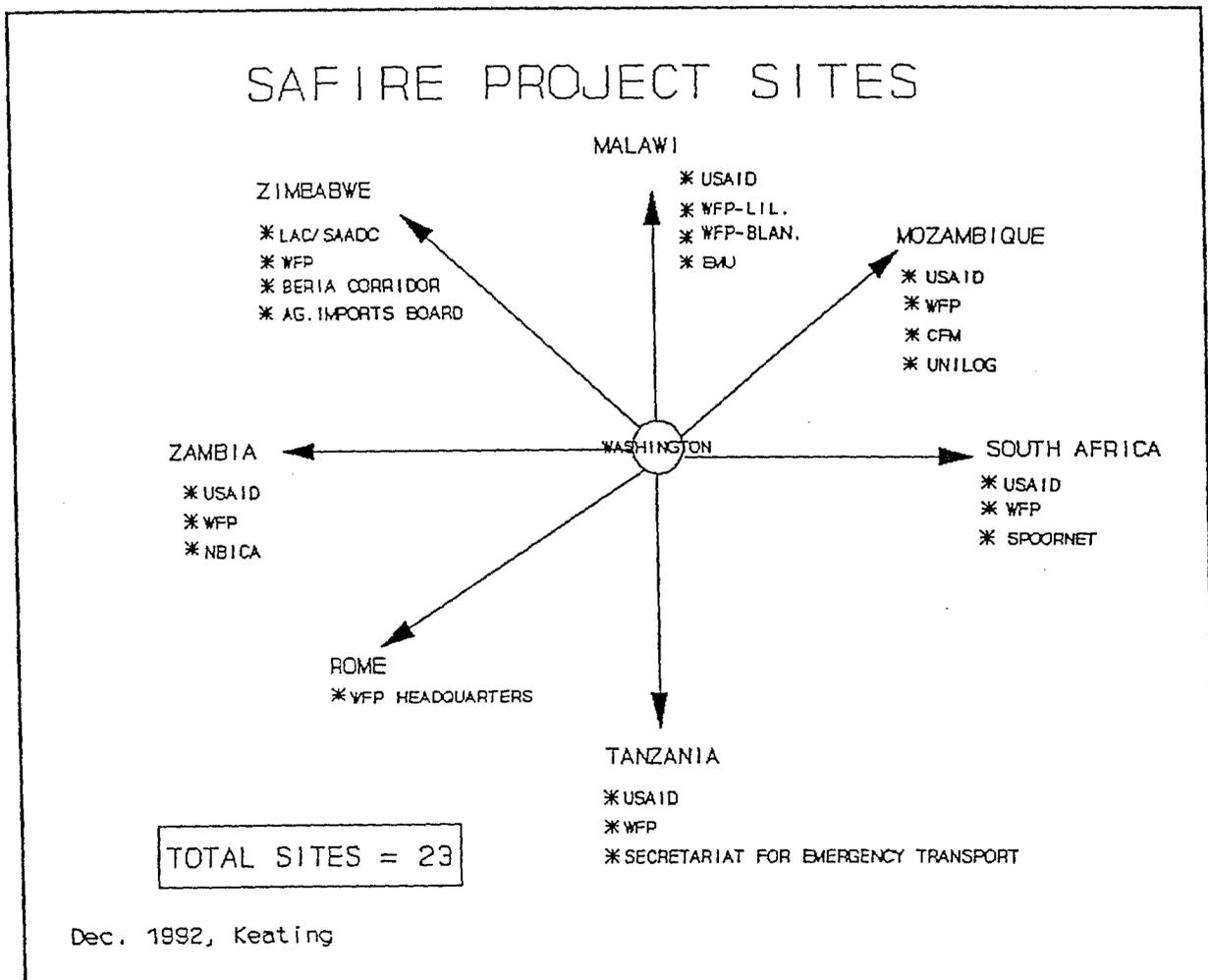
DAY 3 - 5

The teams spent the final days in each country, either as a group or individually, as determined by the team and relative to the country situation, installing equipment in each SAFIRE site and training individual operators in greater depth.

IV. DESCRIPTION of the SYSTEM

The Southern Africa Food Resource Information Exchange (SAFIRE) system is based on FIDONET technology, which is widely used in developing countries, because it adapts well to poor local telephone line conditions, and is inexpensive to maintain and operate. FidoNet is basically electronic mail or "e-mail" which allows messages and files such as Lotus 1-2-3, Dbase and Wordperfect to pass from one personal computer via modem and over ordinary phone lines, to another personal computer running a compatible software. The SAFIRE project uses a FIDONET technology software called Front Door which is compatible with other FidoNet software such as SEADOG and IMail.

In computer terminology, The SAFIRE system is a star topology. Conceivably, all communications flow through one central location to reach another location. In keeping with the star topology, the systems in the field are on the points on the star, and the hub sits in the center. (See Drawing below)



The communication hub for the SAFIRE system is located in Washington for the initial phase of the SAFIRE project. The hub is the center of communications activities and provides the vehicle for information flows. Each day the hub in Washington calls each of the 22 sites in the six southern African countries at pre-determined times. When the hub calls each site it picks up messages and files that are waiting to be transmitted to other stations on the network, and drops any messages that it has for that station. Transmitted through the SAFIRE system are messages and documents that contain information on drought related activities.

It should also be noted that it is technically possible for the SAFIRE stations in the southern Africa region to call Washington on a daily basis, or to call other stations on the system directly. In terms of cost however, it is much cheaper for Washington to call any of the countries in the region than it is for those countries to call Washington or other locations outside of their own country.

V. PARTICIPANTS IN THE SAFIRE PROJECT

The following is a list of all the participating stations in the region:

Malawi

USAID - Lilongwe
WFP - Lilongwe
WFP - Blantyre
Emergency Management Unit (EMU)

South Africa

USAID - Pretoria
WFP
SPOORNET

Tanzania

USAID - Dar Es Saalm
WFP
WFP Secretariat for Emergency Logistics

Zambia

USAID - Lusaka
WFP - Lusaka
National Bulk Import Commodity Association (NBICA)

Zimbabwe

WFP
SAADC/LAC
Agricultural Marketing Board

VI. SITES NOT ESTABLISHED AS STIPULATED IN THE MOU

In the field the teams found, for a variety of reasons, that several of the organizations identified to be recipients of SAFIRE equipment were not capable, or were not adequately prepared to become members of the SAFIRE network. The following is a list of those sites that were stipulated in the MOU between USAID and WFP which were not set-up by mutual agreement of both WFP and AID personnel in the field.

MALAWI - ADMARC (Association D.. Malawi Agricultural R Commodities)

After discussions with both WFP and USAID Malawi it was decided that ADMARC would not be set up as a station on the SAFIRE system. The team was advised that information available from ADMARC is detained in a very detailed format, which would not be useful to others on the network. The gross numbers which are of interest to the SAFIRE users are provide by the EMU in a more useable format, which is aggregated from ADMARC. Further, it appeared that ADMARC would not be in a position to operate the equipment before at least several weeks, and there was some question as to their ability to manage the information. In lieu of this information the team concluded, in full agreement with WFP Lilongwe and WFP Blantyre, that it was premature to install the equipment in ADMARC. The team, however, met with the top management of ADMARC to inform them of the implementation of the SAFIRE project.

TANZANIA - TAZARA

In Tanzania it was decided, in concurrence with both the WFP Office and the USAID mission that the Tanzania-Zambia railways (TAZARA) did not need to be set-up with this system as most of the information related to food aid flows to and through Tanzania were available from the WFP Logistics Secretariat. Further, as the food aid is actually transported by both road and rail the railways did not have a complete picture of food aid movements to or through Tanzania. The team was also informed that the traditional donors to Tanzania and to TAZARA (the Railways) in particular had recently expressed concerns over the way the railway company was managed and therefore did not feel that it would be in position to properly collect, analyze and make available for dissemination information or figures on food aid flows.

ZIMBABWE - USAID Zimbabwe

USAID Zimbabwe decided not to participate in SAFIRE.

National Railways of Zimbabwe (NRZ)

NRZ (Bulawayo) sent three representatives to Harare on one day notice for the communal training. The senior person among them, Mr. Elson Murevesi has repeatedly been in touch with USAID and FEWS to inquire into developments to bring them on board the SAFIRE network. Gary Eilerts (FEWS/Harare) mentioned as recently as December 13 that many players in Harare recognize the importance of bringing NRZ on-board. The only reason NRZ was not permitted to take delivery of the equipment in the end was because of last minute uncertainties in the overall distribution of sites in Zimbabwe. The NRZ machine was reassigned to the Grain Marketing Board, with whom we were not able to establish suitable official

contact in the end. All that remains to installing an NRZ site is three to four days of technical assistance to travel to install, configure and test the system and complete training.

Grain Marketing Board (GMB)

There was some confusion concerning the need for establishing the Grain Marketing Board's participation in the SAFIRE Project. Mission Director Morse made reference to the GMB in a fax dated 4 November. WFP Mike Jones was noncommittal in saying whether WFP believed the role of the GMB was sufficient enough to include, or exclude it from the SAFIRE Project. Whatever the case, neither WFP nor the team found anyone at the GMB willing to return numerous phone calls over the course of the week. The team finally got through to Mr. Military Hlahla in the Computer Section of GMB, who agreed to attend the training at Agricultural Marketing Association. Mr. Hlahla was quite impressed with the SAFIRE system and said he would work immediately to see that the appropriate contact is made between The GMB and WFP (Mike Jones) regarding participation in SAFIRE. No equipment was installed, and it recommended that the SAFIRE Project wait until a request from The GMB is forthcoming before any further action is taken.

VII. ADDITIONAL SITE REQUESTS

MALAWI - MANICA

The Emergency Management Unit (EMU), of Lilongwe requested that MANICA, a freight forwarding agent working for food aid donors and WFP, be provided with similar facilities. In line with the directives provided in Washington before its departure, the team informed the EMU that USAID would be willing to provide technical directives, if MANICA acquires the hardware at its own costs. It is felt that USAID Lilongwe will soon be contacted by EMU and MANICA in this respect. It should be mentioned that all those involved in drought relief operations in Malawi confirmed that the request for MANICA to be a part of the network was justified.

Zimbabwe

Mozambique: Beira

VIII. SUMMARY of COUNTRY REPORTS

A. ZAMBIA

SITES	OFFICIAL CONTACT	SYSTEM OPERATORS:
WFP	David Barker	David Barker
USAID	Bruno Kosheleff	Jean Sherring
NBICA	Neal Walker	Adam Ng'uni

Overview

Zambia, as a whole, was relatively problem free to set-up as part of the SAFIRE network. This is due in great part to the existing network at the University of Zambia, (UNZA) run by Mark Bennett. The team was invited, and attended a conference session held by ESANET at UNZA. ESANET is the "Eastern and Southern Africa Network;" sponsored by CIDA, the Canadian International Development Agency, to link African Universities. It was a fruitful meeting in that we were able to establish contact with others operating similar systems in the region. The team was also able to make supportive contacts for its Tanzanian and Zimbabwean SAFIRE installations. The team was able to install the equipment at the three agreed sites and to train or complete the training of the staff that will operate it. The team has also informed other staff at these sites of the facilities offered by the SAFIRE project.

NBICA expressed specific interest in developing its communications and exchange of data with SPOORNET and with the port of Dar-es-Salaam in Tanzania. WFP foresees utilizing this system to exchange data with Rome and the Regional Logistics Advisory Center in Harare and for increased communications with its Logistics Advisory Unit in Johannesburg and with the corridor groups as well as with the other WFP offices in the region.

USAID

System Operator: Jean Sherring

The installation of the USAID site went smoothly as there had already been an existing FidoNet system in place. Jean Sherring, the system operator, already well in command of the system basics of sending and receiving messages, needed instruction only in the finer points of the SAFIRE system. She found the SAFIRE users manuals very helpful. The system in the USAID will be left running all night, and so can be contacted between 10am - 5pm of the US day.

WFP

System operators: David Barker
Freda Luhila
Nob Kida

The WFP office was a bit difficult due to faulty wiring in the UN building. It is expected that the problems related to wiring will be solved with the provision of the new line. Pending the provision of the new line it was agreed that the WFP would have its mail sent to UNZA at anytime, 24 hours a day. The WFP office will then call by modem, the UNZA system to pick-up/deliver their mail at 8:00am Zambian time each day. This will allow better access to their system from the outside.

National Bulk Imports Commodities Association (NBICA)

System operator: Adam Ng'Uni
Neal Walker

The NBICA was a simple operation to set-up as Adam N'gui, the system operator is a computer operator, and a FIDONET veteran. The system is set-up to ring 6 times before connecting, as they have both a phone and modem connected to the same line which are both active during the day.

B. MALAWI

SITES	OFFICIAL CONTACT	SYSTEM OPERATORS
WFP, Lilongwe	Philip Ostenso	David Barker
USAID, Lilongwe	Monty Crisp	Monty Crisp
E.M.U., Lilongwe	Jim Lawrence	Andy Marsden
WFP, Blantyre	ET Tagoe	ET Tagoe/Vince Owen

Overview

It was felt that because of the lack of any prior existing FIDO network in Malawi, the installation of the SAFIRE sites in Malawi would be problematic. This was not the case and Malawi ultimately resulted in a very vibrant network of users. The team was able to install the equipment at four sites and to train all the staff that will operate it. The staff of the Emergency Management Unit in Lilongwe was trained. In view of the fact that no telephone line was presently available and because EMU is moving to its new premises by early December it was decided that the equipment would be left in custody with USAID, Lilongwe until early December. In

view of the above, the team requested that Mr. Jeff Marzilli who will visit Lilongwe in early December, on contract with FEWS, be authorized to spend one additional day in Lilongwe to install the equipment in the new EMU premises. The installation of the EMU was then completed in early December.

The project was enthusiastically welcomed by its users and several specific requests were put forward to the team. WFP Lilongwe, that had just installed a Novell local area network requested the team to advise on how the system could be operated on such a network so that each individual operator could directly access the system from his/her own terminal and keep his/her own log files of outgoing and incoming material (10 users were identified in WFP Blantyre). In view of the fact that a similar request was put forward during the short stopover in Harare and because of the rapid growth of the number of LAN's, the team requests advise on this topic from the supporting group in Washington.

Both WFP offices have requested that the facility to send data files and spreadsheets to WFP Rome be implemented as soon as possible.

SITES

USAID

System Operator: Monty Crisp

The installation of the USAID site went smoothly. The machine is located in the office of Kurt Rockeman, the Agricultural and Natural Resource Officer. The polling of this office will be done only in the evenings as the line is shared with Rockeman's direct line during the day. The system in the USAID will be left running all night, and so can be contacted between 10am - 5pm of the US day. We were able to send files and receive files immediately, which greatly pleased the country director, Carol Peasely.

WFP - Lilongwe

System operators:

The installation of the WFP office in Lilongwe went well as they had installed a dedicated phone line. We only had one strange occurrence with the laptop which caused us to pause in Lilongwe. We were running the laptop the whole day on AC with the battery in the machine. At the end of the day we took the battery out and turned the machine off. We then turned it back on and were given

"hard-disk controller errors, and it would not access the hard-drive. We unhooked the machine, reconfigured another machine for WFP Lilongwe and took the bad machine to the hotel. At the hotel we turned on the laptop, and it worked! The next day we put the laptop back into the WFP office, to leave it running for several days to see if anything would occur. Nothing further happened, and we left the machine in WFP Lilongwe. We also experienced the same unusual wiring as was seen in Zambia, but had no problems compensating for this. The training of staff in WFP and AID Lilongwe went well, as they are a staff of very computer literate persons.

System Operators: E Tagoe
Vince

The installation for Blantyre went flawlessly, and we were able to basically plug in the system and go. They have a very computer literate staff as well, so training went smoothly. They immediately began using the system to send files between Blantyre and Lilongwe directly. Previously, Vince would climb in his truck once a week with diskette in hand, and drive 3 hours to Lilongwe to deliver the weekly report. Now they can do it immediately by the SAFIRE system.

EMU

C. TANZANIA

USAID	Tej Mathur	Tej Mathur
WFP		
Sect. For Emerg.		
Transpt.		

Tanzania was not as problematic to set-up in terms of equipment and phone line capabilities as the team was led to believe. In fact, it was possible to reach, during daytime hours in Tanzania, the highest data transmission rates achieved on the entire trip.

The WFP Logistics secretariat, also known as the Secretariat for Emergency Food Aid Coordination was the object of long discussions with both the AID and WFP officials as the project presently financed mainly by the Swedish government and WFP comes up for renewal in January 1992. The continuance of Swedish input has not

yet been confirmed, and so the continuance of the project is in some question. However, the WFP monitoring of food aid flows will continue until July 1993. In view of the fact that the Secretariat produces an outstanding weekly report required and utilized by several actors within and outside the region, it was decided, in agreement with the USAID mission and the WFP office to install the equipment in this office under the auspices of WFP. The implication being that the equipment is essentially under the control of WFP. By the time the mission left the country, the WFP Logistics secretariat had already send its first weekly report, with attached spreadsheets, to the other actors in the region. Although a programmer attached to the Swedish embassy and who serves the Secretariat was trained, the team was concerned about setting the system up under the primary responsibility of two people with limited computer skills.

USAID

At the outset there seemed to be some misunderstanding about what the system had to offer, and what it's uses were. After a conversation with Mr. Dale Pfeiffer, the Mission Director, the system was installed in the mission. The machine is located on the fax line and is situated in the computer room. The local staff took to the idea immediately, as they have had great difficulty sending faxes, and found the SAFIRE to be a reasonable alternative.

WFP

The WFP office found the SAFIRE system to be of great use. Phone calls are prohibitively expensive, and they keep tight control over telephone and fax calls. The great benefit of the SAFIRE system is that outside entities can call into them at a less expensive rate than for them to call out. So, the SAFIRE system was found to be an extremely useful tool.

SECT. For EMERGENCY TRANSPORT LOGISTICS

Management was very enthusiastic about the SAFIRE system, and immediately distributed their latest report using it. However, the staff is somewhat weak in computer skills, and will possibly need continuing assistance in the short term.

D. MOZAMBIQUE

Overview

The team arrived in Mozambique on Sunday evening, November 8, and was met by Mr. Pablo Recalde of the World Food Program as well as someone from the USAID/Maputo motorpool. Customs formalities were handled with no problem by Mr. Recalde. Initial meetings were held with Mr. Darell McIntyre of USAID/Maputo and Mr. Pablo Recalde of WFP/Maputo early Monday morning before the team proceeded to visit each of the sites. All sites were tested successfully by the end of Monday and permanent installation continued throughout the week.

An initial half-day introduction and training was held for interested USAID staffers on Tuesday, November 10. An open training for all other participants was held from 9:00 to 5:00 on Wednesday, November 11. Training was held in the USAID conference room and involved extensive use of the mission's PBX to conduct live fido demonstrations and practice communications from office to office within the mission. Additional one-on-one training was provided to Mssrs. Recalde, Mendes, Dodson, MacIntyre and Findlay (see below) over the remainder of the week and on the weekend. It should be noted that USAID staffers Buddy Dodson and Darell MacIntyre forfeited two holidays (one Mozambique and one American) and most of a weekend to work right along with us on Safire.

General telephone conditions in Mozambique are mediocre to good. International out-dial lines appear to be quickly and easily available to anyone who is willing to pay the bill in hard currency. The quality of international circuits to the US and Europe can be somewhat problematic but it is by no means unsuitable to fido development. It was not unusual to have several failed connections during the busiest hours of the day, but it was the rare case when persistence didn't eventually pay off. It was also not unusual to experience a perfectly clear line that would permit maximum data throughput. Regional calls within southern Africa did not require payment in hard currency and appeared to be at least as reliable as calls to the U.S. when calling Zimbabwe and South Africa. Connections to other countries in the region were not attempted. Local telephone connections on the other hand were quite good and the team experienced few problems in communicating from site to site in Maputo.

These characteristics of the telephone system in Mozambique (good local connectivity, problematic but possible long-distance and regional connectivity) provide a strong argument in favor of a modified local hub-routing arrangement whereby mail into and out of Maputo can be pooled at one site for collection and pick-up. This would significantly reduce the time and money necessary to service SAFIRE sites by assuring that unpreventable, costly re-try episodes are not repeated for each and every site. The first successful

connection into the country (even if it takes five tries) will carry all mail destined for all sites in Mozambique. The mail can then be automatically distributed from site to site within the country via much less-problematic local connections.

Mozambique does not currently have a local Fidonet amateur network and therefore there are no immediate opportunities for cooperation on that front. However, both SatelLife and CARE have local representatives, Don Findlay and Phil Gray, respectively, who are very interested in expanding Fidonet possibilities in Mozambique in the future.

WFP/Maputo

The WFP/Maputo office installation went smoothly. WFP had undertaken the installation of a dedicated, direct-dial international telephone line shortly before we arrived. Mr. Pablo Recalde, the designated sysop, is very enthusiastic and quite capable in spite of the fact that he is terribly over subscribed in his duties. Although he was unable to attend more than one day of training, he took avid notes and delved voluntarily into the most technical aspects of the software. While such a short, intense approach could not be expected to yield technical acumen, it did give him a strong understanding of the substantial power behind the software. Of import was his realization and admission at the end that this software had many more uses for them than they had originally imagined, and that they indeed wanted to use it to its fullest capacity. Given enough time, I think they will do so. WFP/Maputo took full delivery of all equipment and is expecting future delivery of the printer and manuals. They require DOS, Dell and FD Administrator's manuals.

USAID/Maputo

The USAID office in Maputo was also quite easy to install. They too are operating on a dedicated, direct-dial international line. Co-Sysops Buddy Dodson and Darell MacIntyre attended approximately two full days of on-site training, which was comprised of both group and individual sessions. The in-house PBX capabilities of USAID were such that we were able to install several of the SAFIRE computers on branch extensions and conduct live fido sessions from office to office within the building. This gave the USAID players additional opportunities for hands-on practice even while we were away, something of which they appeared to take serious advantage. Additional USAID personnel were involved in the half-day communal training and even more attended a two-hour seminar/demonstration for the NGO/PVO, university, consultant community. At least one other USAID staff member (Robin Mason) is already using the SAFIRE system for Internet messaging. I have no doubt that Darell MacIntyre, when he returns from home leave in January, will keep this mission active on SAFIRE and excited about a range of other possibilities. USAID/Maputo took full delivery of all equipment

and promised to provide their own UPS system. They are expecting delivery of the printer and ONLY Dell and DOS manuals. Both FrontDoor User and Administrator manuals were provided to them.

UNILOG

The Systems Specialist at UNILOG, Albert Mendes, is the individual in Maputo most likely to lead all others on Fidonet technology. He has both the technical training and interest necessary to do this and do it well. I would focus as much encouragement and as many resources as possible right here. The UNILOG office resources and mandate are also quite compatible with strong leadership on Fido. While they do not have a direct-dial, international line, they have good local-dial connections and therefore can support most fido efforts in Mozambique indirectly. Mr. Mendes and Mr. Recalde work often and quite well together. I expect this to relationship to boost Fido efforts in Mozambique as well. The UNILOG Fido station shares the Director's voice line and can therefore be accessed from outside only after hours or on prearrangement. Much time was spent attempting to configure Fido to share an already-shared fax/voice line but the efforts came to nought. The UNILOG director appeared quite open to sharing the voice line as required. UNILOG took full delivery of the equipment and is expecting delivery of the printer, DOS, DELL and FrontDoor Administrator manuals.

Caminhos de Ferro Mozambique (CFM)

Mr. XX of the national railways is very interested in setting up a SAFIRE station at CFM. He had identified the office space, telephone line, UPS and the staff to run it. The latter attended our one-day training at USAID. However, things began to fall apart at CFM shortly before we left Mozambique apparently due to some resistance from Mr. XX's superior as he was apparently not fully consulted on the placement of the machine, use of the direct telephone line, and threatened not to approve it's placement. After making us wait overnight for his decision, he had the laptop placed in his office, a move a local consultant told us would assure it is never used by those intended. It appears that is the case.

There should be no doubt in anyone's mind at CFM what are the conditions for the use of this equipment. All parties were clearly told that if the equipment is not used for Safire purposes it will be removed and returned to AID. We briefed USAID staffers Darell MacIntyre and Buddy Dodson on possible problems with CFM before we left. It is recommended that USAID request Pablo Recalde of WFP to explore the issue with his contacts at CFM as a first step. He seems to exercise some influence over CFM on relief matters. If that is not successful, USAID should remove the equipment immediately. CFM took delivery of all equipment and is awaiting the additional delivery of Dell, DOS and FD Administrator manuals.

E. SOUTH AFRICA

Overview

The team arrived in Johannesburg late Sunday, November 15, and was met by Arnt Breivik of WFP as well as the USAID driver. Marzilli and Basit were taken to Pretoria while Burberry stayed behind with Breivik in Johannesburg. Customs arrangements were handled easily by customs officials who sought the team out based on paperwork provided in advance by USAID. Initial meetings were held at USAID Monday morning with Janice Weber, Steve Brent and the two sysops, Geoff Carter and Raquel Foba. Steve Jackson, the intended primary user of the system was travelling with the Ambassador all week and therefore was not available.

All team members convened in Johannesburg at noon on Monday to conduct testing of phone lines and electrical set-ups at the WFP sites. Testing was completed successfully at all three sites by the end of Monday. USAID staffers Brent, Foba and Carter accompanied the team to Johannesburg on Tuesday morning for a full day of training in the Grain Operations Room at Spornet. The Grain Ops Consortium sent three staff members for training, and the WFP/Logistic Advisory Unit sent one. A full day of group training was conducted with extensive use of both in-house (PBX), local and international connections for demonstration and practice purposes. Small group and one-on-one training followed quite smoothly on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, making the South Africa installations some of the best trained of the entire SAFIRE network.

General telephone conditions in South Africa are fair to good. The quality of the lines is generally quite good, however the availability of quality lines poses a problem. International and regional (long-distance) connections appeared somewhat easier to come by than local and in-country connections. For instance, dialing from Pretoria to Johannesburg was quite problematic in the late morning and late afternoon. When an available line could be found the quality was generally quite good. Availability of out-dial international phone lines was much less limited than in any of the other countries we visited.

South Africa also stands apart with respect to the availability and sophistication of local fidonet, BBS and international data line connectivity. There is very little that is lacking here. Every site we installed has redundant fido and internet connectivity options through the amateur Fidonet, Worknet and the University of

South Africa. The very strong hobby interest shown by USAID staff Brent, Johnson, Foba, Carter and others will have no trouble finding adequate local support through any one of these institutions. Initial assistance from SAFIRE in forming these associations, making introductions, etc. would be much appreciated by USAID staff and tremendously helpful in improving the skills of those who will be expected to contribute to SAFIRE efforts.

USAID/Pretoria

The USAID mission to Pretoria is fortunate to have two of the best systems people we met on our entire journey. Rachel Foba and Geoff Carter will have no problem making FrontDoor work to its fullest capacity. It is my guess that they will have the support of influential mission administrative personnel in the process. USAID/Pretoria appears behind fido all the way, and not necessarily just as it applies to SAFIRE. There appears to be wide recognition of the usefulness of this type of information system for the other projects as well. The mission is waiting for the embassy to install a dedicated international out-dial line (originally expected to be completed before we left) and they have already installed the software on additional computers, including one of their LAN servers. If Geoff and Rachel were asked, they could produce and operate a very sophisticated mission fido system in no time at all.

WFP/LAC Johannesburg

Susan Kimberley and Arnt Breivik were sleeping technological giants waiting to be unleashed. While appearing somewhat non-plussed or unmoved by the technology, they turned around and started using the system to its fullest almost as soon as we departed. With access to technical support when they need it, they should have no problems. They are running on a dedicated line and have the Grain Ops people upstairs for mutual support. Compared to most sites, their office, electrical and telephone situation is enviable.

Grain Ops Room

This is the Spornet group that is not really Spornet. Or, the World Food Program office that cannot be a World Food Program office. As I understand it, they are housed at Spornet, but represent seven or eight organizations, of which Spornet is only one. One of the Spornet representatives in this office was the quickest study in our training group and recognized immediately the usefulness (and uniqueness) of the technology. He has already probably installed it other places within Spornet. The rest of the group we trained were able to comprehend the basics of fido and should perform solidly with occasional help from others, including SAFIRE and the WFP/LAC downstairs. It is not anticipated that any

problems will occur.

ZIMBABWE

Overview

SADC-WFP/LAC staff member Mike Jones met us at the airport in Harare on Saturday and took us to the Bronte Hotel. We had hoped to begin the configuration and testing of the replacement computers over the weekend but Mike knew nothing of them and USAID had sent no one nor any information to the airport or hotel. The rest of Saturday was spent instead discussing outstanding technical issues like routing and control tables, and the use of fax-modem switches.

On Monday morning the team was picked up and taken to WFP/LAC by Mike Jones. At LAC we learned that arrangements for site setup in Zimbabwe were very informal. While most of the organizations had been contacted and informed of our upcoming visit, no solid appointments or training schedules had been worked out. It was quickly determined that WFP had precious little office space to spare and limited vehicles/drivers to provide to the SAFIRE efforts. In addition, a new director had arrived the same day and was absorbing much staff time.

We reported to USAID later in the morning and established that USAID had no plans for participating in SAFIRE. Our contact person, Charles Scheibel, was on leave for the entire week, and no one had been assigned to fill in for him. We were also told that our replacement computers were not yet cleared from customs as we had expected. Mr. Sam Mintz informed us that it was the mission's understanding that we would be working under the guidance of WFP while in Zimbabwe. Based on this understanding, it was agreed on Monday to move the base of operations immediately to the hotel and begin operations quickly. Given the amount of work to accomplish in the space of the four and one half days remaining, the team could afford to lose even so much as another half day. Operations commenced immediately at the Sheraton Hotel and a training facility established and equipment assembled for Thursday. By 14:00, the team was back on-track again and contacting/visiting designated fido sites.

A communal training was held on Thursday, November 26, from 08:30 until 17:00 in a conference room the Sheraton Harare. The hotel provided a very professional setting with all the flip charts, power boxes, telephone connections and ice water anyone could ever want. FEWS provided a color monitor. After blowing one isobar for no apparent reason, the training proceeded without a hitch. The National Railways of Zimbabwe, Beira Corridor Group and the Logistics Advisory Unit supplied three trainees each, for a total of nine. Neither the Agricultural Marketing Authority or the Grain

Marketing Board could attend. Each group in attendance worked on one laptop computer. Telephone lines were shared among the various stations to permit each group regular "live" connections with other groups around the room and with the NGO-based MANGO telecommunications Project across town.

While the communal training in Harare was the best of all sites, testing and installation were hampered continuously by the terrible local telephone situation. Simply calling across town in Harare was as difficult as anything faced to date on the entire trip. Equally disappointing was the very informal nature of contacts with the prospective sites that had occurred prior to our arrival. This led to several problems, not the least of which was the confusing of the Agricultural Marketing Authority for Grain Marketing Board. In addition, USAID non-participation in SAFIRE and other technical factors, including the late arrival of the replacement computers (after C.O.B. Wednesday) made site installation difficult at best. As a back-up measure, the Team decided to leave one notebook computer unassigned and in storage at FEWS/Harare awaiting decisions about further site installation to be determined at a subsequent date.

General telephone connections in Zimbabwe are very poor but still not impossible. Local and international calls during regular business hours certainly try one's patience. After hours, both line availability and quality seems to improve considerably. Out-dial international lines are nearly impossible to acquire: USAID informed us that the U.S. Embassy has been waiting six months for an additional line to be installed. For this reason, nearly every site we installed is severely limited on outside lines and has a fax machine already sharing a voice line. For numerous reasons, the team was not able to successfully install voice-modem switches on lines that were already sharing fax and voice. Continuous frustrating attempts to do so wasted days of valuable time.

On the brighter side, Harare has a local fidonet resource in the Mango (Micro Computer Assistance to NGOs) Project. This project, currently under the direction of Dr. Rob Borland, Chairman of the Department of Computer Sciences at the University of Zimbabwe, could provide valuable assistance and alternate mail routing for SAFIRE and other related sites in the future. Borland has NGO/PVO sites already installed in Zimbabwe, most of which operate a suite of fido software similar to that provided in the Permanent kit. MANGO welcomes all who are interested and provides a very reasonable service at a cost of \$ZIM 10.00 per month subscription fee and 10 cents a message. MANGO connects to Worknet (Johannesburg) three times daily. The SAFIRE team arranged for Borland to address the communal training on Thursday, November 26 and his presentation was very well received.

Logistical Advisory Center (LAC)

The WFP/SADC LAC is the designated coordination center for all drought related activities in the region. Our initial contact there, Mike Jones, is probably not the primary SAFIRE user in the office. Rick Corsino is more familiar with computers and more immediately motivated by the fido possibilities. The LAC Chief, Anthony Mornement, who arrived in Harare the same day we did, took an immediate liking to the concept and reportedly called Rome to push for full implementation of a fido site there. The LAC Director has seen that FTSC can do x and y, and now he will push his staff vigorously to see they use it to its fullest. This could prove very useful to SAFIRE, but the LAC staff must receive immediate support required as they are probably being pushed the hardest to get up to the fullest speed in the shortest time possible.

The LAC SAFIRE station shares a voice line and is configured to answer the telephone only after 18:00 when everyone should have departed. The only other direct line is taken by the fax and Abdul and Keith were unable to get the fax and modem to share the line successfully. WFP/Harare has a secondary installation for the main WFP office but, when we left it was still resident on a spare WFP/Harare computer in the LAC office. This station is running the shareware version of the Permanent kit, with no FrontDoor Commercial update.

Beira Corridor Group

David Zausmer, BCG Chief, appeared skeptical of the FTSC technology at first but left a believer. In fact, he is lobbying strongly for a second SAFIRE site to be installed in Beira, Mozambique itself as soon as possible. The BCG offices in Harare were tested, wired and just waiting for a telephone line to be moved by the time we left. Zausmer took delivery of second set of official FrontDoor software (originally intended for AMA) that he requested for immediate transfer to their Beira office. He said he would make sure the Beira office received a modem if they didn't already have one. Beira supposedly has fine connections to Europe and the States, and was instructed to have staff in Beira contact John Glaser in Washington for voice installation assistance as soon as they had secured a machine and modem. BCG/Beira is expecting full SAFIRE support, if not a second complete set-up (notebook computer w/modem) in the very near future.

National Railways of Zimbabwe (NRZ)

NRZ (Bulawayo) sent three representatives to Harare on one day notice for the communal training. The senior person among them, Mr. Elson Murevesi has repeatedly been in touch with USAID and FEWS to inquire into developments to bring them on board the SAFIRE network. Gary Eilerts (FEWS/Harare) mentioned as recently as December 13 that many players in Harare recognize the importance of

bringing NRZ on-board. The only reason NRZ was not permitted to take delivery of the equipment in the end was because of last minute uncertainties in the overall distribution of sites in Zimbabwe. The NRZ machine was reassigned to the Grain Marketing Board, with whom we were not able to establish suitable official contact. All that remains to installing an NRZ site is three to four days of technical assistance to travel to install, configure and test the system and complete training.

Agricultural Marketing Authority (AMA)

Mr. Felix Masanzu, Chief Economist at AMA, is very supportive of the technology and assigned two staff members, Agnes Chaonwa and Busi Sibanda, to configure, test and train on the system. AMA were not able to attend the communal training due to a report deadline that fell on the same day as the training. Mr. Masanzu recognizes the technology not just for its capabilities for drought response, but also for its power as a link into world information sources--particularly world commodity prices, movements, markets, etc. AMA is the parent organization of the Zimbabwe Grain Marketing Board. Brian d'Silva, a colleague of Mr. Masanzu for some time, strongly supports the placement of SAFIRE in AMA. He feels they will use FTSC technology very effectively to gather regional price and market information.

Grain Marketing Board (GMB)

There was some confusion concerning the site installation of the Grain Marketing Board. Mission Director Morse mentioned the GMB in a fax dated 4 November. WFP was somewhat ambivalent concerning their importance for coordination of drought relief activities. Whatever the case, neither WFP nor the team found anyone willing to return our numerous phone calls over the course of the week. Mr. Military Hlahla in the Computer Section finally agreed to attend the training at AMA. Mr. Hlahla was quite impressed with FTSC and said he would work immediately to see that the appropriate contact is made between The GMB and WFP regarding participation in SAFIRE.

APPENDIX

TECHNICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The install kit contains too many utilities. A new user would not have any use for and an experienced user can always get them from a bulletin board (only the ones they need). On a virgin machine with 120 M of disk it is fine but for some one who has been using the machine for other things 15 M. is a lot of disk space especially in Africa to be dedicated for this luxury.

2. Time allocated for training was not enough. A better strategy might have been to send one person to each country for 3 weeks total in each country.

3. Some standardization should be set in terms of spreadsheets or word processors. If the two sites have the same spread sheet program they can easily send their work-sheets back and forth, but if they don't, reports have to be exported to ascii files where they loose all formatting and some of the wide reports wrap and create an unpleasant mess. We also found that not all users of Word perfect or lotus 123 knew how to export to ASCII files. It would do well if training was provided in Wordperfect and Lotus to the field sites.

4. Since there is some form of communication mechanism already in place at all sites, it is probable that the staff at these installations could fall back into using methods they are more comfortable and will not use the new technology even when it is convenient. The washington office should come up with some kind of training program to encourage them to use the SAFIRE system. They should not be told that it is an exercise they should merely be asked for certain information or files, forward the reply to someone else etc.

Some specific examples of possible training tasks could be:

Asking the field sites to updated point list, compiling it by following the instructions in the message. They should also be asked to print this message for future reference.

NOTE: If SAFIRE.PTS exists in INBOUND Directory the next incoming SAFIRE.PTS is automatically renamed to SAFIRE.PT1, .PT2 etc. This should be kept in mind and resolved. (DEL c:\fd\inbound*. * will do it).

Next time they should be asked to request the file and compile it.

POLLING SCHEDULE

ZAMBIA

Hours of Operation	Specific US Poll Times
USAID - 5pm - 8am (US 10am - 5pm) all weekend	6pm(US 11am)
NBCIA - 8am - 5pm(US 1am - 8am)	2:30pm(US 7:30am)
WFP - 24 hours(UNZA feed)	6pm(US 11am)
UNZA - 24 hours	6pm(US 11am)

MALAWI

USAID - Lilongwe 5pm - 7am(US 10am -4pm)

WFP - Lilongwe 24 hours
WFP - Blantyre 24 hours

EMU

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FrontDoor Log Statistics for the period
From Mon 2 Nov 92 7:30:00 to Tue 29 Dec 92 15:11:20

Part I - Message Transfers & Calls					
Transaction Period	Telephone Calls			Message Bytes	
	Out	Connect	In	Outgoing	Incoming
NOV/DEC MONTHLY	568	915	347	2,334,604	1,363,835
TOTALS	1136	1830	694	4,669,209	2,727,671
DOCUMENT PAGES PER MONTH				Outgoing	Incoming
				1167	681

PART II - Network File Transfers				
TRANSACTION PERIOD	File Names	File Bytes		Tran Min
		Outgoing	Incoming	
NOV/DEC MONTHLY		6,393,268	7,642,156	
TOTALS	533	12,786,537	15,284,313	1063.0
DOCUMENT PAGES PER MONTH		3,196	3,821	

PART V - SUMMARY	
Message Bytes Transferred	= 7,396,880
File Bytes Transferred	= 28,070,850
TOTAL Bytes Transferred	= 35,467,730
Message Connect Time	= 7.7
File Transfer Connect Time	= 17.7
TOTAL Connect Time (Hours)	= 25.4
TOTAL Network Session Costs	= \$1483.0

PART VI Monthly 2 Months Nov/Dec Statistics Per Month	
Message Bytes Transferred	= 3,698,440
File Bytes Transferred	= 14,035,425
TOTAL Bytes Transferred	= 17,733,865
Message Connect Time	= 3.85
File Transfer Connect Time	= 8.85
Monthly Connect Time (Hours)	= 12.7
Monthly Network Session Costs	= \$741.00

292.WK1

THE FRAGMA CORPORATION
PDC-0000-7-00-8034-00

Quarterly Report/ Part Level Of Effort:		!! Quarter Ending 12/31/92 !! Report 04/01/92 to 12/31/92 !			Report 04/18/88 to 12/31/92				
		!! Days/ Current Quarter !! Ending 12/31/92			!! Days/Cummulative Todate !! Ending 12/31/92				
Employee:		!!---days---	---days---	!!%age-	!!---Budgeted---	---%age---			Balance-
Position	Name	!! Budgeted	Actual	+Overused	!! Days	Days	Spent	+Overused	Per Total
		!! This Qtr.	This Qtr.	-Underused	!! (Total)	thru 09/92	CTD	-Underused	Contract
...	Social Scientist/R.Baker/Moore	!! 86.0	86.0	0.00%	!! 1300.0	1308.0	1235.4	-5.55%	64.6
...	Micro Economist/Moore/Nassif	!! 68.0	68.0	0.00%	!! 1300.0	1290.0	816.9	-36.67%	483.1
...	Op. Finan. Analyst/Burn/Horsh/Curry!!	67.3	67.3	0.00%	!! 1300.0	1289.3	955.8	-25.87%	344.3
...	Scientist-HRD/Foster/Karlyn/Keating!!	76.8	76.8	0.00%	!! 1300.0	1396.4	995.3	-28.72%	304.8
...	Statistician/Prgm Analyst/Horsch/Corry!!	76.0	76.0	0.00%	!! 1300.0	1298.0	926.1	-28.65%	373.9
...	Statistician/Prgm Analyst/Brown/Crow !!	67.0	67.0	0.00%	!! 1300.0	1289.0	1089.9	-15.45%	210.1
...	./Research Assis./Wo/Ednds/Schuler!!	68.7	68.7	0.00%	!! 1300.0	1193.2	862.3	-27.73%	437.8
...	Data Processing Oper./Watson/Shirley !!	0.0	0.0	0.00%	!! 650.0	562.8	579.4	2.95%	70.6
...	Trade Investment Analyst/Edmonds/Whipp!!	69.4	69.4	0.00%	!! 440.0	306.9	260.5	-15.12%	179.5
...	Op. Analyst/African Bureau/Schwartz!!	70.2	70.2	0.00%	!! 440.0	223.2	241.7	8.29%	198.3
...	Trade & Inv't Info Analyst/VanWagner !!	65.8	65.8	0.00%	!! 440.0	184.8	140.8	-23.81%	299.2
...	Con. Research Analyst/Mericle	!! 72.1	72.1	0.00%	!! 440.0	138.1	72.1	-47.80%	367.9
...	Research Analyst/Pang	!! 80.4	80.4	0.00%	!! 440.0	148.4	82.4	-44.47%	357.6
...	Analyst for Near East Bureau/Dougherty!!	59.4	59.4	0.00%	!! 440.0	71.9	59.4	-17.39%	380.6
...	Short Term Consultant/Marzilli	!! 26.5	26.5	0.00%	!! 440.0	26.5	26.5	0.00%	413.5
...	Short Term Consultant/Basit	!! 23.0	23.0	0.00%	!! 440.0	23.0	23.0	0.00%	417.0
		!! 976.4	976.4	0.00%	!! 13270.0	10749.3	8367.3	-22.16%	4902.8

YACCO ALP... ..

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STATUS OF FUNDS REPORT

Report Period: From 04/18/88 Through 12/31/92

Ref: Contract# PDC-0000-7-00-8034-00
PPC/CDIE/DI

Voucher # 57
Home Office # 8809-000
Period Ending Dec 31, 92

Line Items	Cumulative Funding Level					Dec. 92		
	(1) Budgeted Amount	(2) Obligated/Amend. # 18	3=(6+7+8+9) Spent To-date Actual	4=(2-3) "Balance Obligated" Amount	(5) %	(6) Spent This Period	(7) Prev. Cum. Jan.-Nov.92	(8) Prev. Cum. thru Dec.91
1. Salaries/S.T. Wages	1,145,000.00	1,130,400.00	1,072,366.75	58,033.26	5.13%	54,857.67	322,211.88	695,297.20
2. Fringe Benefits	256,656.00	263,410.00	254,848.34	8,561.66	3.25%	11,326.45	99,989.09	143,532.80
3. Overhead	845,419.00	828,950.00	827,415.82	1,534.18	0.19%	41,695.99	299,198.42	486,521.41
4. T & T/Allowances	186,800.00	113,000.00	111,424.87	1,575.13	1.39%	18,432.11	58,341.64	34,651.12
5. Equipment	105,000.00	86,792.00	84,841.44	1,950.56	2.25%	1,125.48	32,615.33	51,100.63
6. Other D/Costs	178,102.00	188,501.00	186,678.96	1,822.04	0.97%	2,715.74	99,302.23	84,660.99
7. Sub-total	2,716,977.00	2,611,053.00	2,537,576.17	73,476.83	2.81%	130,153.43	911,658.59	1,495,764.91
8. Fixed Fee @ 7.50%	200,513.00	178,685.44	161,765.90	16,919.54	9.47%	9,761.51	68,336.62	83,667.77
9. Award Fee	24,697.56	24,697.56	24,697.56	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	24,697.56
Total Costs + Fee	2,942,187.56	2,814,436.00	2,724,039.63	90,396.37	3.21%	139,914.94	979,995.21	1,604,129.47

The undersigned hereby certifies:

(1) That payment of the sum claimed under the cited contract is proper and due and that appropriate refunds to AIB will be made promptly upon request from AID in the event of nonperformance, in whole or in part under the contract, or any breach of the contract

(2) That information on the fiscal report is correct and such detailed supporting information as AID may require will be furnished at the contractor's office or base office, as appropriate, promptly to AID on request, and

(3) That all requirements called for by the contract to the date of this certification have been made

by: _____
Name: Prem C. Gupta
Title: Financial Manager
Date: _____

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