

Girls' and Women's Education Project
Quarterly & Final Report
January 1, 2003 to March 31, 2003

Prepared for:

Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture, and Trade's/Office of
Women in Development
United States Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C.

Prepared by:

DevTech Systems, Inc.
Contract # LAG-C-00-97-00017-00

NARRATIVE

TITLE

Technical and Administrative Services to the Bureau of Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade's (EGAT/WID's) Office of Women in Development to Support the Girls' and Women's Education Activity Objectives. (WID-GWE) LAG- C-00-97-00017

1. Background

A five-year contract to carry out this assistance was awarded to DevTech Systems, Inc. on September 30, 1997. The objectives of the contract are to support EGAT/WID in: 1) monitoring the Girls' and Women's Education Initiative; 2) developing effective communications among all stakeholders in the Girls' and Women's Education Initiative; and 3) documenting programs and products concerning the Girls' and Women's Education Initiative. This contract calls for the execution of core activities and not buy-in or subcontractor activities.

2. Expected Results

The restructuring within what used to be the Global Bureau of USAID placed the implementation of the Girls' and Women' Education (GWE) Initiative in the Office of Women in Development. One result of this restructuring is the requirement for technical and administrative assistance from a contractor to support EGAT/WID's attainment of the goals and objectives of this Initiative. Implementation of the Girls' and Women's Education Initiative is conducted in both emphasis and cooperating countries by contractors under separate procurements. The purpose of this contract is to provide assistance to EGAT/WID to ensure that the goals of the GWE Initiative, as reflected by SSO2 (Broad-based, informed constituents mobilized to improve girls' education in emphasis countries) and its IRs and indicators, are attained.

3. Project Core Activities

The Project Core Activities for the second quarter (January-March) FY03 are divided into the following three parts:

A. Activity Narrative and Task Report

The Activity Narrative and the Task Report contain both a discussion and a recounting of all the events covered during the reporting period (including events already detailed in the monthly reports for the same period). The Task Report is divided into eight general contract tasks: 1) monitor GWE Initiative; 2) develop effective communications with GWE constituencies; 3) plan and coordinate a range of GWE focused meetings and events; 4) provide technical and administrative assistance to Missions; 5) develop, or assist in, writing reports, studies, and concept papers, and develop innovative ideas; 6) coordinate development, review, revision, and dissemination as appropriate of GWE focused documents, publications, and deliverables; 7) coordinate monitoring and evaluation activities for GWE; and 8) develop and maintain reference materials on the Girls' and Women's Education Initiative.

B. Project Management - A report on what activities were accomplished to fulfill contractual responsibilities.

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C. Implementation Constraints – A report of constraints that prevented the fulfillment of specific contractual responsibilities.

A.1. Quarterly and Final Narrative

This is the final report of the DevTech contract that ended on March 31, 2003. During the past quarter, DevTech has been engaged in normal communication and monitoring activities; however, the pace of activity has slowed somewhat because the remaining GWE contract, Girls' Education and Monitoring implemented by Juarez & Associates closed at the end of January 2003. Nevertheless, DevTech reviewed reports, shared data with GWE colleagues, responded to requests from EGAT/WID as well as attended panel discussions on research that focused on Women in Development Issues. Specifically, DevTech provided gender analysis and feedback on the GEMS final chapter of the "Ethnographic Study of the Effects of Active Learning Programs on Girls' Persistence and Completion of Primary School in Developing Countries" which provided a qualitative study in selected areas in the Philippines. DevTech has also researched GWE products and deliverables and ensured that the documents could be found on USAID Development Experience Clearinghouse (DEC) for public review. DevTech completed the filing, labeling and categorization of GWE files for the GWE library.

Meghan Donahue, Senior Policy and Program Specialist took a one-month leave of absence to work on another USAID funded project in Uganda on Basic Education and teacher training. She also attended the Comparative and International Education Society Conference that was held in New Orleans, Louisiana in March 2002 where she presented a paper on "Alternative Approaches to Assessments in Education".

DevTech has completed the activities that are associated with project closeout during this quarter.

A.2. WID-GWE Provided Technical and Administrative Assistance to EGAT/WID in:

General Contract Tasks	Specific Tasks Completed
1. Monitor GWE Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewed new chapter of the GEMS report, "Ethnographic Study of the Effects of Active Learning Programs on Girls' Persistence and Completion of Primary School in Developing Countries" and provided feedback. The new data was based on fieldwork in the Philippines conducted by the GEMS team in October 2002. The new chapter will be integrated into the final version of the report.• Met with EIC Project Director, Wendy Rimer, on January 3 to preview a short video produced by the EIC Project in El Salvador on equity in the classroom.• Responded to request from WID office to follow-up with World Education regarding Honduras report. The Honduras report is the last report in a series of 4 reports submitted to EGAT/WID under World Education's GWE-PRA contract. Reports from Peru, Nepal and Bolivia were submitted before contract end in 2002.• Requested last quarterly report from Creative Associates International (CAII) for the October-December 2002 period. The Oct-Dec 02 report covers the final period of CAII's Equity in the Classroom

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	<p>(EIC) cooperative agreement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Followed up with each GWE contractor to ensure that missing deliverables were submitted to the DEC before DevTech's contract end on March 31, 2003.
2. Develop Effective Communications with GWE Constituencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forwarded text of a news brief issued by Population Action International (PAI) on the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference. Country delegates attending the conference reaffirmed their support of the landmark Program of Action adopted at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), which made clear the actions and commitments required to advance women's rights and health. The United States did not agree to join the consensus reaffirming the Program at the conference.• Forwarded text of a news brief issued by Human Rights Watch (HRW) on the status of women in Afghanistan. A 52-page report, "We Want to Live as Humans: Repression of Women and Girls in Western Afghanistan," was released by HRW in December 2002. The report focuses on the increasingly harsh restrictions on women and girls in regions outside of Kabul. The report notes that in Herat, a Western region of Afghanistan controlled by the governor Ismail Khan, schoolboys have been recruited to spy on girls and women and report on so-called un-Islamic behavior.• Updated and circulated GWE Core contractor list final copy before DevTech's contract ended March 31, 2003.
3. Plan and Coordinate a Range of GWE Focused Meetings and Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Met with GEMS Project Director, Ray Chesterfield, and Project Associate, Heather Simpson, on January 9 to discuss the timetable and production of the GEMS report before the end of the project (January 29).• Attended a presentation on Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) and Gender held at the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) on January 15. The World Bank and International Monetary Fund introduced PRSPs for highly indebted poor countries receiving debt relief, but require them of all countries receiving congressional lending. The presenters discussed the results of a comprehensive review of all PRSP documents for their treatment of gender• Attended a seminar organized by the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) on January 8. Drs. Gupta and Grown presented their research on the third goal of the UN sponsored Millennium Challenge, Gender Equality, targeted to be achieved by 2015. Gender equality, one of eight goals, will provide a framework for the development of country specific and global strategies. The presenters provided a

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	<p>critical analysis with recommendations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Policy and Program Specialist, Meghan Donahue, attended a symposium, “Globalization: the Human Dimension” organized by World Learning and with Congressional sponsorship from Sen. Leahy, Sen. Jeffords, and Rep. Lowey. The symposium was held on Capitol Hill on January 30 and was a discussion of the impact of globalization on individuals and developing nations. • Attended a brownbag meeting organized by the EGAT/ED Development Information Services (DIS) project reporting on the educational data presented to EGAT/ED for the USAID Annual Report. UNESCO data on Gross Enrollment Rates and Survival to Grade 5 (Retention) was gathered on all countries where EGAT/ED operates an education project.
<p>4. Provide Technical and Administrative Assistance to Missions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forwarded an electronic copy of the Peruvian Girls’ Education stamp to EGAT/WID for use in an upcoming Frontlines article. A draft of the story accompanying the stamp was submitted by Devtech in December 2002.
<p>5. Develop, or Assist in, Writing Reports, Studies, and Concept Papers, and Develop Innovative Ideas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responded to request from EGAT/WID program analyst, Shirley Toth, for a paragraph highlighting the completed Girls’ Education Activity in Morocco. • Responded to request from EGAT/WID for information on FY2002 money spent on capacity building of education administrators in GWE projects. This included activities to build leadership, management, and administrative skills of education administrators - anything for the running of schools except teacher training. Requested information from SAGE and EIC projects, which were involved in training education officials at the local and national level.
<p>6. Coordinate Monitoring and Evaluation Activities for GWE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None this period
<p>7. Develop and Maintain Reference Materials on Girls’ and Women’s Education Initiative</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contacted DEC for information and guidelines on submitting GWE contract deliverables. Searched the online DEC database and identified all of the GWE contract deliverables currently in the DEC. Followed up with each GWE contractor to ensure that missing items are submitted to the DEC as soon as possible. • Updated GWE library list to highlight contractually required deliverables. • Based on email responses from GWE contractors,

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	<p>created a list of GWE products to be submitted to DEC and the status of their submission. Followed up with each GWE contractor to ensure that missing products are submitted to the DEC as soon as possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted World Education reports to DEC. As of the end of February 2003, the Peru, Nepal and Bolivia reports are in the online DEC catalogue. • Forwarded request from Canada’s international development agency, CIDA, to Juarez & Associates to post GEMS report “Girls’ Education and Crises” on the CIDA intranet. This means roughly 70 people in the CIDA education group will have access to the report funded by EGAT/WID.
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B. Project Management

General Contract Tasks	Specific Tasks Completed
<p>8. Contract Maintenance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted DevTech’s monthly report for December 2002. • Submitted DevTech’s quarterly report for October-December 2002. • Submitted DevTech’s monthly report for January 2003. • Submitted DevTech’s quarterly report for October-December 2002 to DEC. • Consolidated Devtech’s GWE electronic files on server and organized files for archiving purposes.

4. Financial Report (NB: to be handed in within the allotted time period)

Contract Data: EGAT/WID-GWE 1025