

PD-ABY-491

Quarterly Progress Report  
for the Period April 5 to July 15, 2003

Marc Kodack

Bridges and Road Rehabilitation  
687-0126; SO3

PASA No. 687-P-00-03-00054-00

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Transatlantic Programs Center

USAID, Antananarivo, Madagascar  
USAID Cognizant Technical Office

July 15, 2003

## Activities Undertaken During the Reporting Period

After the PASA was signed on April 5, 2003, we worked on the design-build and quality assurance solicitations. During preparation of these solicitations, coordination and information exchange was frequent between USACE and the USAID offices in Madagascar and Botswana. Dan Cross (Contracting Officer), Tara Paxton (Structural Engineer), and Marc Kodack (Project Manager) visited Madagascar June 24 to July 4, 2003 to review proposals submitted for the design-build and quality assurance solicitations. There was only one contractually and technically acceptable proposal for the design-build contract. After reviewing the proposal, we found it met or exceeded all the evaluation factors. The contract was awarded to ICC-Madagascar. We met with ICC-Madagascar's project manager and lead designer on July 1, 2003 to review each paragraph of the contract. There were no contractually compliant proposals for the quality assurance contract. We did meet with five prospective bidders on July 2, 2003. Prior to the meeting, Dan Cross rewrote the solicitation to clarify several sections. We then went over the reworded solicitation with the prospective bidders. Dan Cross and Tara Paxton left on July 4, 2003, to return to the U.S. Marc Kodack went on to Gaborone, Botswana, where he met with Patrick Kollars and Pushkar Brahmhatt to discuss the award of the design-build contract to ICC-Madagascar and that the quality assurance contract solicitation would be readvertised.

## Projected Activities During the Next Quarter

During the next quarter we anticipate awarding the quality assurance contract if we receive at least two acceptable proposals by the closing date of the announcement, July 18, 2003. We will receive and review the preliminary project schedule and safety plan of the design-build contractor. We will also begin preparations for a second visit to Madagascar that will occur sometime in the Fall. We plan on visiting the three bridge construction sites. We will be coordinating the trip with USAID in Madagascar and Botswana.

## Summary of Expenditures

Expenditures from April 5 to July 15, 2003

Line Items	Contract Budget	Current Expenses	Cumulative Expenses	Contract Funds Remaining
Labor	\$101,908.00	\$21,667.54	\$21,667.54	\$80,240.46
Travel	\$40,316.00	\$12,689.85	\$12,689.85	\$27,626.15
Per Diem	\$13,776.00	\$7,911.50	\$7,911.50	\$ 5,864.50
USACE Support and Assistance (S&A)	\$61,915.00	\$12,736.67	\$12,736.67	\$49,178.33
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$217,915.00</b>	<b>\$55,005.56</b>	<b>\$55,005.56</b>	<b>\$162,909.44</b>

## Summary of Issues that Need to be Resolved

In reviewing the quarterly expenditures, we will need to officially request approval from the USAID Agreement Officer for shifting funds into the Per Diem line item. The approval is necessary because the Per Diem line item will increase by more than 10%. We will recommend moving \$45,000 from Labor to Per Diem.

## Trip Report

Date: July 15, 2003

To: Ceasar Santucci

From: Marc Kodack

Subject: Visit to Madagascar and Botswana for Award of Contracts Related to Construction of Three Bridges in Madagascar, June 24-July 10, 2003

Persons Attending: Dan Cross and Tara Paxton, EC-T (Madagascar, leave July 4, 2003 to return to U.S.), and Marc Kodack (Madagascar and Botswana)

### Summary of Activities:

We arrived in Antananarivo, Madagascar, on June 27, 2003 and were met at the airport by Claude Tomberley. Claude is the expeditor for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and made our entry through Immigration easier. Later we stopped by USAID's office and met Lisa Gaylord, Natural Resources Coordinator, Steve Haykin, Mission Director, Jocelyn Randriamampionona, Natural Resources Office, and Frederique Rakotoarivelo, Acquisition Specialist. We were given three proposals for the design-build contract and two proposals for the quality assurance contract. Dan Cross reviewed all the proposals later that day if the proposals were contractually compliant.

On Saturday, Dan went over the proposals with Tara and myself. For the design-build work, only one proposal was both contractually and technically compliant. The two proposals for the quality assurance contract actually consisted of one proposal where one copy was faxed and the other copy mailed. It was not contractually compliant and was rejected. Tara and I then reviewed the one viable design-build proposal Saturday and Sunday.

Tara and I met with Dan on Sunday night to conduct our consensus review. We found the proposal was acceptable on all the evaluation factors and was well put together. We were confident that the bidder, ICC-Madagascar, understood the project and the risks associated with the work. ICC-Madagascar included in their proposal preliminary schedule and a detailed cost break-down. The preliminary schedule showed that all the planned streambed work would be completed prior to the rainy season which starts in late November. Following this schedule, all the bridges would be completed by the required end date of March 31, 2004. ICC-Madagascar is part of a large Italian holding company. Individual companies have worked in Nigeria and Botswana.

On Wednesday (July 2, 2003), Tara, Dan, myself, Frederique, and Joceyln met with ICC-Madagascar's Project Manager, Paolo Balegno, and the chief designer, at

USAID's offices. The designer is from Espace Ingenieur, a partner with ICC-Madagascar in the project. While this would be their first project working together, both IC-Madagascar and Espace Ingenieur, have previously worked in Madagascar. We discussed each paragraph of the solicitation and answered any questions they had. Dan completed the contact documents and awarded the contract after receiving the bank letter of guarantee on Thursday (July 3, 2003). The award amount was just over \$1.2 million. All three bridges can be built with the funds available.

ICC-Madagascar is using three other subcontractors besides Espace Ingenieur for the project. These subcontractors will be removing a Bailey bridge, performing demolition of an existing bridge, and road paving once the bridges are complete.

On Thursday (July 3, 2003), Tara, Dan, myself, Joceyln, and Frederique met with representatives of five companies that originally expressed an interest in the quality assurance solicitation, but did not submit bids. Dan rewrote the solicitation prior to the meeting and each of participants was given a copy. We answered questions for about an hour. We clarified what the role of the quality assurance person was and that they were restricted to being the Corps observer's in the field. If there are any problems, they should report those problems promptly to the Corps. Bids must be submitted by July 18, 2003. We would then review them July 22-23. If we get at least two viable bids, Dan could then award the contract by July 25, 2003.

Dan and Tara left Madagascar July 4, 2003, to return to the U.S. I left Madagascar July 6, 2003, for Gaborone, Botswana. On Monday (July 7, 2003) I met with Patrick Kollars, Contracting Specialist and Pushkar Brahmhatt, Civil Engineering Specialist. Both Patrick and Pushkar work for USAID's Regional Center for Southern Africa (RCSA). The RCSA is responsible for the bridge work in Madagascar. I said that we had awarded a contract to ICC-Madagascar for the construction for the bridges. We then discussed the proposal. I gave them my review copy of the proposal so they could make a copy of it. I also said that we would readvertise the quality assurance work. Pushkar mentioned that he might visit the project sites sometime in September.

#### Comment:

On Monday (July 1, 2003) we returned to USAID's office and met with Steve Haykin. We mentioned that we had reviewed the one proposal for the construction of the bridges and found it acceptable. He was quite pleased. We also mentioned that we did not received any quality assurance proposals. He was less concerned about this and agreed that readvertising the work was a good idea. He mentioned that the funds for the bridges and quality assurance contracts was from an emergency appropriation that was provided to address widespread flooding that occurred in Madagascar in 2001. He mentioned that he had already asked for an extension to spend the funds and wanted to award contracts as soon as possible so that he would not have to request another extension.

After meeting with Steve Haykin, Tara, Dan, and I later went over to the embassy and met with Ambassador Nesbitt. We were accompanied by Joceyln

Randriamampionona from USAID and Dan Lafferty, the embassy's Defense Attaché. We spoke with the ambassador for about 20 minutes. We mentioned that we would be awarding the design-build contract. She was pleased. She mentioned that she would be interested in attending any ceremonies that might happen once the bridges were complete.

I asked her if she wanted more information on the Corps capabilities after her conversation with Roger Brown while she was at a meeting in Washington, D.C. She was more interested in finding about creative ways to obtain funding for the Malagasy government than of the Corps capabilities. So, I did not press her about what we do. I did mention that the Corps had constructed houses for the Malagasy government using their military in the early 1990s. I said that while we have a military mission in Africa, we could do non-military work if it was through a U.S. government agency such as USAID. I did give her an article on a MOU that the Corps signed with UNESCO. The MOU created a training program for individuals from third world countries for water development related work. I said I did not know what the MOU said, but that there might be a possibility that UNESCO might have funds available for Malagasy individuals to participate in such training programs.

Pushkar Brahmhatt mentioned a road project in southern Sudan that the Corps might be asked for technical assistance. He was also going to find out about a hydrology project in Malawi that Doug Hopper has been waiting for information on from USAID.

Consultant Trip Report for Review and Award of Contracts  
June 24 to July 10, 2003

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## Accomplishments During TDY Visit

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On Monday (July 1, 2003) we returned to USAID's office and met with Steve Haykin. We mentioned that we had reviewed the one proposal for the construction of the bridges and found it acceptable. He was quite pleased. We also mentioned that we did not receive any quality assurance proposals. He was less concerned about this and agreed that readvertising the work was a good idea. He mentioned that the funds for the bridges and quality assurance contracts were from Economic Support Funds (ESF) funds to respond to the devastation resulting from the political instability. He mentioned that he had already asked for an extension to spend the funds and wanted to award contracts as soon as possible so that he would not have to request another extension.

After meeting with Steve Haykin, Tara, Dan, and I later went over to the embassy and met with Ambassador Nesbitt. We were accompanied by Joceyln Randriamampionona from USAID and Dan Lafferty, the embassy's Defense Attaché. We spoke with the ambassador for about 20 minutes. We mentioned that we would be awarding the design-build contract. She was pleased. She mentioned that she would be interested in attending any ceremonies that might happen once the bridges were complete.

#### Problems that May Affect Timeliness of Outputs

None have been identified.

#### Workplan Prior to the Next Visit to Madagascar

July 18	Receipt of proposals for quality assurance solicitation
July 23-24	Review of quality assurance solicitations
July 25	Award of Quality Assurance contract
July to October	Monitoring of both the design-build and quality assurance contracts, including review of schedules, and reports

## Modifications in TDY Schedule

No modifications in the TDY schedule are necessary at this time. The next scheduled visits to Madagascar will occur in the Fall when a USACE/USAID team will visit each of the three bridge construction sites.

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