

PDRAE 846

3/4/84

A.I.D. Project Number 538-0080

PROJECT

GRANT AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE CARIBBEAN AGRICULTURAL TRADING COMPANY LIMITED .

and the

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

for

THE CARIBBEAN AGRICULTURAL TRADING COMPANY PROJECT

Dated: September 28, 1982

RECORD COPY

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Project Grant Agreement

Dated: September 28, 1982

Between

The Caribbean Agricultural Trading Company Limited ("Grantee")

And

The United States of America, acting through the
Agency for International Development ("A.I.D.").

Article 1: The Agreement

The purpose of this Agreement is to set out the understandings of the parties named above ("Parties") with respect to the undertaking by the Grantee of the Project described below, and with respect to the financing of the Project by the Parties.

Article 2: The Project

SECTION 2.1. Definition of Project. The Project, which is further described in Annex 1, which Annex forms an integral part of this Agreement will consist of a program to provide funds for the evaluation of the Grantee's agricultural trading project partially funded by A.I.D. under a separate loan agreement. Within the limits of the above definition of the Project, elements of the amplified description stated in Annex 1 may be changed by written agreement of the authorized representatives of the Parties named in Section 8.2, without formal amendment of this Agreement.

Article 3: Financing

SECTION 3.1. The Grant. To assist the Grantee to meet the costs of carrying out the Project, A.I.D., pursuant to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, agrees to grant the Grantee under the terms of this initial Agreement not to exceed Two Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand United States ("U.S.") Dollars (\$225,000) ("Grant").

The Grant may be used to finance foreign exchange costs, as defined in Section 6.1, and local currency costs, as defined in Section 6.2, of goods and services required for the Project.

SECTION 3.2. Grantee Resources for the Project.

(a) The Grantee agrees to provide or cause to be provided for the Project all funds, in addition to the Grant, and all other resources required to carry out the Project effectively and in a timely manner.

SECTION 3.3. Project Assistance Completion Date.

(a) The "Project Assistance Completion Date" (PACD), which is

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September 30, 1987, or such other date as the Parties may agree to in writing, is the date by which the Parties estimate that all services financed under the Grant will have been performed and all goods financed under the Grant will have been furnished for the Project as contemplated in this Agreement.

(b) Except as A.I.D. may otherwise agree in writing, A.I.D. will not issue or approve documentation which would authorize disbursement of the Grant for services performed subsequent to the PACD or for goods furnished for the project, as contemplated in this Agreement, subsequent to the PACD.

(c) Requests for disbursement, accompanied by necessary supporting documentation prescribed in Project Implementation Letters are to be received by A.I.D. or any bank described in Section 7.1 no later than nine (9) months following the PACD, or such other period as A.I.D. agrees to in writing. After such period, A.I.D., giving notice in writing to the Grantee, may at any time or times reduce the amount of the Grant by all or any part thereof for which requests for disbursement, accompanied by necessary supporting documentation prescribed in Project Implementation Letters, were not received before the expiration of said period.

Article 4: Conditions Precedent to Disbursement.

SECTION 4.1. First Disbursement. Prior to the first disbursement under the Grant, or to the issuance by A.I.D. of documentation pursuant to which disbursement will be made, the Grantee will, except as the Parties may otherwise agree in writing, furnish to A.I.D. in form and substance satisfactory to A.I.D.:

(a) An opinion of counsel acceptable to A.I.D. that this Agreement has been duly authorized and/or ratified by, and executed on behalf of, the Grantee, and that it constitutes a valid and legally binding obligation of the Grantee in accordance with all of its terms;

(b) A statement of the name of the person holding or acting in the office of the Grantee specified in Section 8.2, and of any additional representatives, together with a specimen signature of each person specified in such statement;

SECTION 4.2. Notification. When A.I.D. has determined that the conditions precedent specified in Section 4.1 have been met, it will promptly notify the Grantee.

SECTION 4.3. Terminal Dates for Conditions Precedent.

(a) If all of the conditions specified in Section 4.1 have not been met within 60 days from the date of this Agreement, or such later date as A.I.D. may agree to in writing, A.I.D., at its option, may terminate this Agreement by written notice to Grantee.

Article 5: Special Covenants.

SECTION 5.1. Project Evaluation. The Parties agree to establish

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an evaluation program as part of the Agricultural Trading Project. Except as the Parties otherwise agree in writing, the program will include, during the implementation of the Project and at one or more points thereafter:

(a) evaluation of progress toward attainment of the objectives of the Project;

(b) identification and evaluation of problem areas of constraints which may inhibit such attainment;

(c) assessment of how such information may be used to help overcome such problems; and

(d) evaluation, to the degree feasible, of the overall development impact of the Project.

Article 6: Procurement Source.

SECTION 6.1. Foreign Exchange Costs. Disbursements pursuant to Section 7.1 will be used exclusively to finance the costs of goods and services required for the Project having their source and origin in the United States ("Foreign Exchange Costs"), except as A.I.D. may otherwise agree in writing, and except as provided in the Project Grant Standard Provisions Annex, Section C.1(b) with respect to marine insurance.

SECTION 6.2. Local Currency Costs. Disbursements pursuant to Section 7.2 will be used exclusively to finance the costs of goods and services required for the Project having their source and, except as A.I.D. may otherwise agree in writing, their origin in Member countries of the Caribbean Food Corporation.

Article 7: Disbursement

SECTION 7.1. Disbursement for Foreign Exchange Costs.

(a) After satisfaction of conditions precedent, the Grantee may obtain disbursements of funds under the Grant for the Foreign Exchange Costs of goods or services required for the Project in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, by such of the following methods as may be mutually agreed upon:

(1) by submitting to A.I.D., with necessary supporting documentation as prescribed in Project Implementation Letters, (A) requests for reimbursement for such goods or services, or, (B) requests for A.I.D. to procure commodities or services in Grantee's behalf for the Project; or,

(2) by requesting A.I.D. to issue Letters of Commitment for specified amounts (A) to one or more U.S. banks, satisfactory to A.I.D., committing A.I.D. to reimburse such bank or banks for payments made by them to contractors or suppliers, under Letters of Credit or otherwise, for such goods or services, or (B) directly to one or more contractors or suppliers, committing A.I.D. to pay such contractors or suppliers for such goods or services.

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(b) Banking charges incurred by Grantee in connection with Letters of Commitment and Letters of Credit will be financed under the Grant unless Grantee instructs A.I.D. to the contrary. Such other charges as the Parties may agree to may also be financed under the Grant.

SECTION 7.2. Disbursement for Local Currency Costs.

(a) After satisfaction of conditions precedent, the Grantee may obtain disbursements of funds under the Grant for Local Currency Costs required for the Project in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, by submitting to A.I.D., with necessary supporting documentation as prescribed in Project Implementation Letters, requests to finance such costs.

The U.S. Dollar equivalent of the local currency made available hereunder will be the amount of U.S. dollars required by A.I.D. to obtain the local currency.

SECTION 7.3 Other Forms of Disbursement. Disbursements of the Grant may also be made through such other means as the Parties may agree to in writing.

SECTION 7.4. Rate of Exchange. Except as may be more specifically provided under Section 7.2, if funds provided under the Grant are introduced into the country of Grantee by A.I.D. or any public or private agency for purposes of carrying out obligations of A.I.D. hereunder, the Grantee will make such arrangements as may be necessary so that such funds may be converted into local currency at the highest rate of exchange which, at the time the conversion is made, is not unlawful.

Article 8. Miscellaneous:

SECTION 8.1. Communications. Any notice, request, document, or other communication submitted by either Party to the other under this Agreement will be in writing or by telegram or cable, and will be deemed duly given or sent when delivered to such party at the following addresses:

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Grantee and the United States of America, each acting through its duly authorized representative, have caused this Agreement to be signed in their names and delivered as of the day and year first above written.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE CARIBBEAN AGRICULTURAL
TRADING COMPANY

By: Milan Bish
Milan Bish

By: R.A. Fuller
R.A. Fuller

Title: Ambassador

Title: Managing Director
Caribbean Food Corporation

By: William B. Wheeler
William B. Wheeler

By: John S. Goddard
John S. Goddard

Title: Mission Director

Title: Director
Caribbean Agricultural Trading
Company

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this Grant is to fund the evaluations of the Grantee's agricultural trading Project which is partially funded by an AID Loan. Basically two types of evaluations will be conducted, progress evaluations and an in-depth evaluation near the end of the project of the Caribbean Agricultural Trading Company Ltd. (CATCO).

The progress evaluations conducted at least annually, will look at CATCO's overall performance including: financial viability, impact on regional trading patterns, impact on production, and role as an investor to encourage others to move into regional agricultural trading. Investment projects will be evaluated and include: (a) verification of the eligibility criteria employed in the investments, (b) examination of the impact on the capital investments on CATCO's profit/loss and balance sheets, and (c) estimation as to the degree to which the investments have contributed to CATCO's purposes and operational objectives. The evaluation will also review the utilization of technical assistance.

The in-depth evaluation will be conducted during project year 4 and before the commencement of CATCO's 5th year of operations. This evaluation will be undertaken by individuals who were not directly involved in CATCO operations or provided technical assistance to the project. The evaluation will explore four fundamental aspects of the project:

1. To what extent has the project contributed directly and indirectly to the goal of improving regional food self-sufficiency? Particular issues/questions to be examined include: (a) have regional, especially regional LDCs, land use patterns altered significantly toward greater production in commodities for intra-regional trade and consumption? (b) has intra-regional trade in CATCO promoted commodities increased and achieved planned objectives? (c) have extra-regional imports in the same commodities decreased or at least fallen relative to increased demand? and (d) have income levels of small producers trading with CATCO risen?

2. Have the project purposes been achieved? The financial viability of CATCO will be analyzed on the basis of the original business plan and subsequent financial reports.

3. Has the project increased private sector investment in agriculture and intra-regional food trade? Although it will not be possible for an evaluation to produce precise information concerning the spread of multiplier effects, an examination of investments, levels of trade, changes in trading margins and shifts in the patterns of trade over time should yield some indicators of increased private sector involvement.

4. Has the CATCO Project produced lessons which can be used in other marketing projects?

It is estimated that approximately 23 person-months of consultant services will be required over the life of the project to perform evaluations. This would require skills such as financial analysis, economics, marketing policy and strategy, agronomics, food technology and produce handling.

Project Grant StandardProvisions Annex

Definitions: As used in this Annex, the "Agreement" refers to the Project Grant Agreement to which this Annex is attached and of which this Annex forms a part. Terms used in this Annex have the same meaning or reference as in the Agreement.

Article A: Project Implementation Letters.

To assist Grantee in the implementation of the Project, A.I.D., from time to time, will issue Project Implementation Letters that will furnish additional information about matters stated in this Agreement. The parties may also use jointly agreed-upon Project Implementation Letters to confirm and record their mutual understanding on aspects of the implementation of this Agreement. Project Implementation Letters will not be used to amend the text of the Agreement, but can be used to record revisions or exceptions which are permitted by the Agreement, including the revision of elements of the amplified description of the Project in Annex 1.

Article B: General Covenants.

SECTION B.1. Consultation. The Parties will cooperate to assure that the purpose of this Agreement will be accomplished. To this end, the Parties, at the request of either, will exchange views on the progress of the Project, the performance of obligations under this Agreement, the performance of any consultants, contractors, or suppliers engaged on the Project, and other matters relating to the Project.

SECTION B.2. Execution of Project. The Grantee will:

(a) carry out the Project or cause it to be carried out with due diligence and efficiency, in conformity with sound technical, financial, and management practices, and in conformity with those documents, plans, specifications, contracts, schedules or other arrangements, and with any modifications therein, approved by A.I.D. pursuant to this Agreement; and

(b) provide qualified and experienced management for, and train such staff as may be appropriate for the maintenance and operation of the Project, and, as applicable for continuing activities, cause the Project to be operated and maintained in such manner as to assure the continuing and successful achievement of the purposes of the Project.

SECTION B.3. Utilization of Goods and Services.

(a) Any resources financed under the Grant will, unless otherwise agreed in writing by A.I.D., be devoted to the Project until the completion of the Project, and thereafter will be used so as to further the objectives sought in carrying out the Project.

(b) Goods or services financed under the Grant, except as A.I.D. may otherwise agree in writing, will not be used to promote or assist a foreign

aid project or activity associated with or financed by a country not included in Code 935 of the A.I.D. Geographic Code Book as in effect at the time of such use.

SECTION B.4. Reports, Records, Inspections, Audit.

The Grantee will:

(a) furnish A.I.D. such information and reports relating to the Project and to this Agreement as A.I.D. may reasonably request;

(b) maintain or cause to be maintained, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and practices consistently applied, books and records relating to the Project and to this Agreement, adequate to show, without limitation, the receipt and use of goods and services acquired under the Grant. Such books and records will be audited regularly, in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and maintained for three years after the date of last disbursement by A.I.D.; such books and records will also be adequate to show the nature and extent of solicitations of prospective suppliers of goods and services acquired, the basis of award of contracts and orders, and the overall progress of the Project toward completion; and

(c) afford authorized representatives of a Party the opportunity at all reasonable times to inspect the Project, the utilization of goods and services financed by such Party, and books, records, and other documents relating to the Project and the Grant.

SECTION B.5. Completeness of Information. The Grantee confirms:

(a) that the facts and circumstances of which it has informed A.I.D., or cause A.I.D. to be informed, in the course of reaching agreement with A.I.D. on the Grant, are accurate and complete, and include all facts and circumstances that might materially affect the Project and the discharge of responsibilities under this Agreement;

(b) that it will inform A.I.D. in timely fashion of any subsequent facts and circumstances that might materially affect, or that it is reasonable to believe might so affect, the Project or the discharge of responsibilities under this Agreement.

SECTION B.6. Other Payments. Grantee affirms that no payments have been or will be received by any official of the Grantee in connection with the procurement of goods or services financed under the Grant, except fees, taxes, or similar payments legally established in the country of the Grantee.

SECTION B.7. Information and Marking. The Grantee will give appropriate publicity to the Grant and the Project as a program to which the United States has contributed.

Article C: Procurement Provisions

SECTION C.1. Special Rules

(a) The source and origin of ocean and air shipping will be deemed to be

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the ocean vessel's or aircraft's country of registry at the time of shipment.

(b) Premiums for marine insurance placed in the territory of the Grantee will be deemed an eligible Foreign Exchange Cost, if otherwise eligible under Section C.7(a).

(c) Any motor vehicles financed under the Grant will be of United States manufacture, except as A.I.D. may otherwise agree in writing.

(d) Transportation by air, financed under the Grant, of property or persons, will be on carriers holding United States certification, to the extent service by such carriers is available. Details on this requirement will be described in a Project Implementation Letter.

(e) The Grantee for purposes of travel and per diem shall utilize the rates and policies relating to the currently prescribed grantee policy which is applied to all of the grantees employees. This per diem shall in no extent exceed per country U.S. standardized government travel regulation rates. The grantees policy and applicable rates shall be supplied to USAID at the beginning of the grant and as periodically adjusted thereafter.

SECTION C.2. Eligibility Date. No goods or services may be financed under the Grant which are procured pursuant to orders or contracts firmly placed or entered into prior to the date of this Agreement, except as the Parties may otherwise agree in writing.

SECTION C. 3. Plans, Specifications, and Contracts. In order for there to be mutual agreement on the following matters, and except as the Parties may otherwise agree in writing:

(a) The Grantee will furnish to A.I.D. upon preparation,

(1) any plans, specifications, procurement or construction schedules, contracts, or other documentation relating to goods or services to be financed under the Grant, including documentation relating to the prequalification and selection of contractors and to the solicitation of bids and proposals. Material modifications in such documentation will likewise be furnished A.I.D. on preparation;

(a) Documents related to the prequalification of contractors, and to the solicitation of bids or proposals for goods and services financed under the Grant will be approved by A.I.D. in writing prior to their issuance, and their terms will include United States standards and measurements;

(b) Contracts and contractors financed under the Grant for engineering and other professional services, for construction services, and for such other services, equipment or materials as may be specified in Project Implementation Letters, will be approved by A.I.D. in writing prior to execution of the contract. Material modifications in such contracts will also be approved in writing by A.I.D. prior to execution; and

SECTION C.4. Reasonable Price. No more than reasonable prices will be paid for any goods or services financed, in whole or in part, under the Grant. Such items will be procured on a fair and, to the maximum extent

practicable, on a competitive basis.

SECTION C.5. Notification to Potential Suppliers. To permit all United States firms to have the opportunity to participate in furnishing goods and services to be financed under the Grant, the Grantee will furnish A.I.D. such information with regard thereto, and at such times, as A.I.D. may request in Project Implementation Letters.

SECTION C.6. Shipping.

(a) Goods which are to be transported may not be financed under the Grant if transported either: (1) on an ocean vessel or aircraft under the flag of a country which is not included in A.I.D. Geographic Code 935 as in effect at the time of shipment, or (2) on an ocean vessel which A.I.D., by written notice to the Grantee has designated as ineligible; or (3) under an ocean or air charter which has not received prior A.I.D. approval.

(b) Costs of ocean or air transportation (of goods or persons) and related delivery services may not be financed under the Grant, if such goods or persons are carried: (1) on an ocean vessel under the flag of a country not, at the time of shipment, identified under the paragraph of the Agreement entitled "Procurement Source: Foreign Exchange Costs," without prior written A.I.D. approval; or (2) on an ocean vessel which A.I.D., by written notice to the Grantee, has designated as ineligible; or (3) under an ocean vessel or air charter which has not received prior A.I.D. approval.

(c) Unless A.I.D. determines that privately owned United States-flag commercial ocean vessels are not available at fair and reasonable rates for such vessels, (1) at least fifty percent (50%) of the gross tonnage of all goods (computed separately for dry bulk carriers, dry cargo liners and tankers) financed by A.I.D. which may be transported on ocean vessels will be transported on privately owned United States-flag commercial vessels, and (2) at least fifty percent (50%) of the gross freight revenue generated by all shipments financed by A.I.D. and transported to the territory of the Grantee on dry cargo liners shall be paid to or for the benefit of privately owned United States-flag commercial vessels. Compliance with the requirements of (1) and (2) of this subsection must be achieved with respect to both any cargo transported from U.S. ports and any cargo transported from non-U.S. ports, computed separately.

SECTION C.7. Insurance.

(a) Marine insurance on goods financed by A.I.D. may be financed as a Foreign Exchange Cost under this Agreement provided (1) such insurance is placed at the lowest available competitive rate, and (2) claims thereunder are payable in the currency in which such goods were financed or in any freely convertible currency. If the Grantee by statute, decree, rule, regulation, or practice discriminates with respect to A.I.D.-financed procurement against any marine insurance company authorized to do business in any State of the United States, then all goods shipped financed by A.I.D. hereunder will be insured against marine risks and such insurance will be placed in the United States with a company or companies authorized to do a marine insurance business in a State of the United States.

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(b) Except as A.I.D. may otherwise agree in writing, the Grantee will insure, or cause to be insured, goods financed under the Grant imported for the Project against risks incident to their transit to the point of their use in the Project; such insurance will be issued on terms and conditions consistent with sound commercial practice and will insure the full value of the goods. Any indemnification received by the Grantee under such insurance will be used to replace or repair any material damage or any loss of the goods insured or will be used to reimburse the Grantee for the replacement or repair of such goods. Any such replacements will be of source and origin of countries listed in A.I.D. Geographic Code 935 as in effect at the time of replacement, and, except as the Parties may agree in writing, will be otherwise subject to the provisions of the Agreement.

SECTION C.8. U.S. Government-Owned Excess Property. The Grantee agrees that wherever practicable, United States Government-owned excess personal property, in lieu of new items financed under the Grant, should be utilized. Funds under the Grant may be used to finance the costs of obtaining such property for the Project.

Article D: Termination; Remedies.

SECTION D.1. Termination. Either Party may terminate this Agreement by giving the other Party 30 days written notice. Termination of this Agreement will terminate any obligations of the Parties to provide financial or other resources to the Project pursuant to this Agreement, except for payment which they are committed to make pursuant to noncancellable commitments entered into with third parties prior to the termination of this Agreement. In addition, upon such termination A.I.D. may, at A.I.D.'s expense, direct that title to goods financed under the Grant be transferred to A.I.D. if the goods are from a source outside the country, are in a deliverable state and have not been offloaded in ports of entry.

SECTION D.2. Refunds.

(a) In the case of any disbursement which is not supported by valid documentation in accordance with this Agreement, or which is not made or used in accordance with this Agreement, or which was for goods or services not used in accordance with this Agreement, A.I.D., notwithstanding the availability or exercise of any other remedies under this Agreement, may require the Grantee to refund the amount of such disbursement in U.S. Dollars to A.I.D. within sixty (60) days after receipt of a request therefor.

(b) If the failure of Grantee to comply with any of its obligations under this Agreement has the result that goods or services financed under the Grant are not used effectively in accordance with this Agreement, A.I.D. may require the Grantee to refund all or any part of the amount of the disbursements under this Agreement for such goods or services in U.S. Dollars to A.I.D. within sixty days after receipt of a request therefor.

(c) The right under subsection (a) or (b) to require a refund of a disbursement will continue, notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, for three years from the date of the last disbursement under this Agreement.

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(d) (1) Any refund under subsection (a) or (b), or (2) any refund to A.I.D. from a contractor, supplier, bank or other third party with respect to goods or services financed under the Grant, which refund relates to an unreasonable price for or erroneous invoicing of goods or services, or to goods that did not conform to specifications, or to services, that were inadequate, will (A) be made available first for the cost of goods and services required for the Project, to the extent justified, and (B) the remainder, if any, will be applied to reduce the amount of the Grant.

(e) Any interest or other earnings on Grant funds disbursed by A.I.D. to the Grantee under this Agreement prior to the authorized use of such funds for the Project will be returned to A.I.D. in U.S. Dollars by the Grantee.

SECTION D.3. Nonwaiver of Remedies No delay in exercising any right or remedy accruing to a Party in connection with its financing under this Agreement will be construed as a waiver of such right or remedy.

SECTION D.4. Assignment. The Grantee agrees, upon request, to execute an assignment to A.I.D. of any cause of action which may accrue to the Grantee in connection with or arising out of the contractual performance or breach of performance by a party to a direct U.S. Dollar contract with A.I.D. financed in whole or in part out of funds granted by A.I.D. under this Agreement.