

REPORT TO

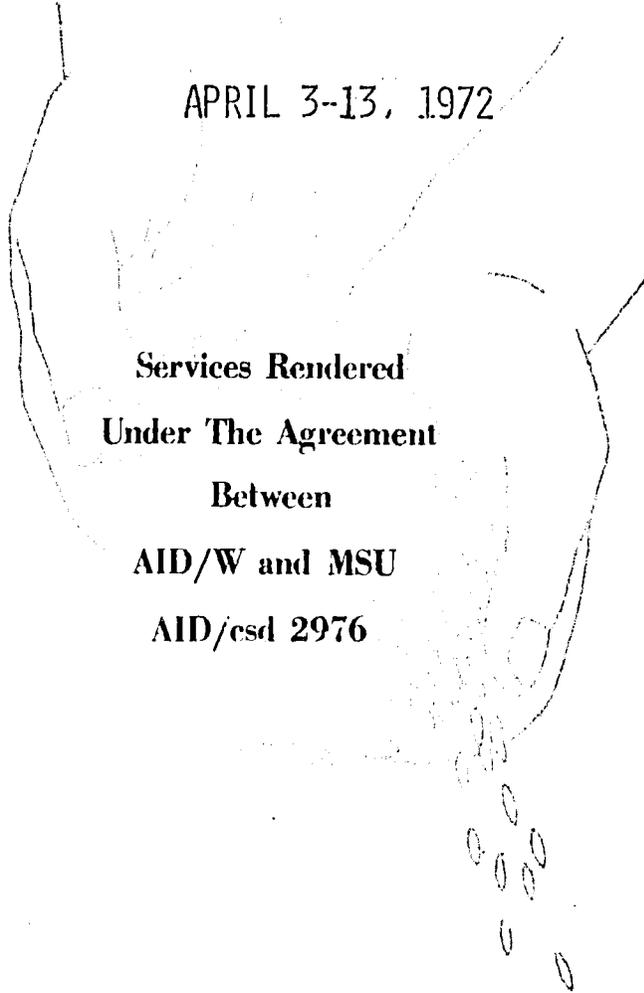
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USAID/PANAMA AND AID/W
ON
SEED PROJECT CONSULTATION
IN
REPUBLIC OF PANAMA

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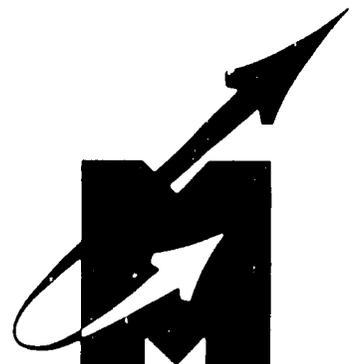
APRIL 3-13, 1972



Services Rendered
Under The Agreement
Between
AID/W and MSU
AID/csd 2976

APRIL, 1972

SEED TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY
MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
STATE COLLEGE, MISSISSIPPI



REPORT SUMMARY

TITLE: Report to USAID/Panama and AID/W on Seed Project
Consultation in Republic of Panama

AUTHOR: George M. Dougherty

PERIOD OF REPORT: April 3-13, 1972

PROJECT TITLE: MSU-AID/csd 2976 "Seed Program & Industry Development"

CONTRACTOR: Mississippi State University

SUMMARY

USAID/Panama requested services available under contract AID/csd 2976, (with MSU) to assist Ministry of Agriculture (MAG) of Panama in the installation of seed processing equipment at the Alanje seed center in Chiriqui Province, Panama.

Activities of all agencies to be involved in movement of equipment to, and installation of equipment at, the Alanje site were coordinated. Equipment installation was not initiated due to non-completion of the building structure. Equipment installation will require a return visit of a consultant for a period of three (3) weeks in late May or early June.

REPORT TO USAID/PANAMA and AID/W

ON

CONSULTATION VISIT WITH
PANAMANIAN SEED PROJECT

April 3-13, 1972

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SEED TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY
Mississippi State University
State College, Mississippi

April, 1972

REPORT TO USAID/PANAMA and AID/W

ON

CONSULTATION VISIT WITH
PANAMANIAN SEED PROJECT

April 3-13, 1972

George M. Dougherty

Introduction

Under MSU-AID/csd 2976 Contract USAID/Panama requested assistance for a period of 2-3 weeks to help in final stages of construction and installation of seed processing equipment in GOP, Ministry of Agriculture (MAG) seed facility in Alanje, Chiriqui Province. Arrival and departure dates were 3 and 13 April, respectively.

Discussion

Contact was established with USAID/Panama and MAG personnel on arrival. Accompanied by Ing. Cayo Julio Rodriguez, Director, Programa De Semillas, a visit was made to Alanje to observe progress of construction and, if possible, to proceed with equipment installation.

Unavailability of critical construction materials has resulted in unavoidable delays in completion of the seed facility structure. On day visit was made: building walls were completed; floors partially completed; installation of electric circuit conduits partially completed. Estimated date for completion, to the extent required for equipment installation, is May 28 at earliest.

All major items of equipment to be installed in the processing plant appear to be located presently either at the Alanje site or in David. Shipping crates containing

new equipment were opened and the contents examined. With minor exceptions all equipment appeared to be in good condition. Equipment to be moved to Alanje (now in use at David) was also examined; it too was in good working condition.

On return to Panama City discussions were held with: Sr. Rogelio De Icaza, Ing. Cayo Rodriguez and Sr. Cedric Facey (MAG) and Dr. E. Bullard, (USAID/Panama) to coordinate activities related to equipment installation in Alanje. In these meetings it was resolved that:

1. Sr. Facey, or an associate, would continue to make weekly inspection visits to Alanje to check on progress of construction.
2. Sr. Facey will oversee the fabrication of equipment frames, bins, cyclones, etc. Actual fabrication is to be done by the contractor.
3. Schedule for dismantling and movement of equipment (now in operation) from David to Alanje will be coordinated by Sr. Facey. It is understood that MAG Chiriqui Province will provide vehicles and additional labor.
4. Sr. Facey will advise Sr. R. Icaza and Dr. E. Bullard when return of consultant is required for installation of equipment.
5. During the equipment installation period, estimated at 3 weeks, processing activities in David are to be temporarily transferred to the Divisa seed facility. Operations at David are presently on an accelerated schedule in anticipation of shut-down.

Observations - Conclusions - Recommendations

Enroute from David to Panama City, and while in Panama City, visits were made to the Divisa and Panama City seed centers. An inspection of operations at the

Divisa facility revealed two problems requiring immediate attention. These problems and their solutions were discussed in detail with Sr. Rodriguez and St. Ortega (equipment operator); corrective action was promised. No problems were encountered at the Panama City facility. At both facilities equipment operators were effectively removing IRRI 8 rice from Nilo 1 rice with disc-cylinder machines. Discussions with Ing. Rodriguez failed to uncover reasons for the mixture of the two varieties other than that some IRRI 8 seed is present in the Nilo 1 seed being imported.

Installation of equipment at Alanje was not initiated during this assignment. However, timeliness of the assignment was judged to be of significant benefit to MAG and USAID/Panama. Key MAG personnel new to the seed project were instructed in operational features of the Alanje seed center thus, providing them with a greater understanding of its future role in the seed program. The assignment also provided the opportunity to coordinate activities of all agencies to be involved in the actual movement and installation of equipment. This should contribute substantially toward minimizing disruption of MAG seed cleaning activities in Chiriqui Province.

It is recommended that USAID/Panama and Ing. C. Facey (MAG) maintain close contact to assure most opportune arrival date for next consultant assignment be for a period of three (3) weeks.

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Sincere appreciation is expressed to Dr. E. Bullard and Mr. G. Hoover, USAID/Panama and Sr. R. Icaza, Sr. C. Facey and Ing. C. Rodriguez, MAG for their cooperation and assistance during the period of this assignment.

Respectfully submitted,
George M. Dougherty
MSU-AID/esd 2976 Contract Consultant