

11 P_N-AAX-048
1975-4
REPORT TO CONGRESS ON INTEGRATING
WOMEN INTO NATIONAL ECONOMIES
LATIN AMERICA

Latin America
(1978)

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The passage of Sec. 113 FAA in 1974 focused our attention squarely on an issue of growing concern to the development community: the role women can, should and do play in development of their national economies. We have made a conscious effort to find out more about these roles and to use this knowledge to design our programs so as to make maximum use of a valuable human resource as well as to assure that women are helped and not hurt by our efforts.

In a recent amendment to Sec. 113, the Congress asks AID for a progress report on its efforts to:

- a) develop an adequate data base on the role of women;
- b) implement projects and activities which are responsive to Sec. 113;
- c) evaluate the impact of those projects and activities on women.

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LA missions were asked at the end of CY 77 to report on their activities in these three categories. A summary of their responses follows.

a) Progress toward developing an adequate data base

In seeking ways to increase the participation of women in our programs, we have grown to appreciate both the importance of and the difficulties found in collecting adequate and reliable data. Good socio-economic data are essential to sound social analysis which we use to form AID's overall development strategy in a given country; to help define target groups, including women; and to identify opportunities for or constraints to full integration of women into our projects in the key sectors. The degree to which LA missions use data on women's roles at every stage of the programming cycle, beginning with sector assessments and progressing through design, review, implementation and evaluation of individual projects, is steadily increasing.

Women in Development
Assessment of National Development
Handbook
World Bank, P.O. Box 20325
(200) 462-5000

Date of Acquisition _____
Source _____

Missions report a number of approaches to the collection, analysis and use of data about women:

Paraguay

Several local institutions such as the Ministry of Education's Planning and Statistics Department, the Paraguayan Center for Sociological Studies (CPES) and the Ministry of Agriculture's Extension Service (SEAG) have information on women, but the data are not readily available in statistically quantifiable terms. Because so little study has been done on Paraguayan women, and on rural women in particular, USAID/P decided to undertake primary research on the roles of women, with emphasis on how they relate to agriculture. The survey will: (1) develop a socio-demographic profile of rural Paraguayan women; (2) generate baseline data on the socioeconomic standing and demographic characteristics of rural women; and (3) provide relevant information on the rural woman: who she is, what she does, what she wants, and the constraints on her assuming a more important role in development. To accomplish these objectives, approximately 2500 rural women will be interviewed. It is expected that the survey will be completed within a twelve (12) month period and will provide information concerning women as project agents and beneficiaries. It will also help to redefine AID's target group, update the DAP and supplement the Small Farmer Sub-sector Assessment, which did not include data on the role of women in agriculture.

Bolivia

USAID/Bolivia has developed an overall strategy aimed at improving the impact of AID programs and projects on the women of Bolivia, particularly in the rural areas. This strategy will be implemented in two phases, with initiation of the first phase to take place in FY 1978. Phase I will concentrate on collection and analysis of existing data to determine its validity and usefulness and to identify gaps requiring additional study. This effort will be combined with a thorough in-house examination of all mission projects and programs to assess whether and how such projects impact on and address the needs of women. Close coordination of data collection and

project analysis is expected to result in better ways to use and apply the knowledge which already exists on Bolivian women, and in expansion and refinement of data in relation to AID's development projects. In-depth analysis of AID's own projects will indicate what is working and what is not working in gaining the participation of women, and along with the organized research study, will assist in developing better design management and evaluation procedures. Phase I will also include a needs survey to identify women's preferences for services. The findings will be used to determine compatibility with USAID program goals, to develop specific program changes or additions as indicated, and to serve as the basis for designing new programs.

Phase II of the mission's strategy will bring together all persons involved in development programs, by means of an appropriate coordinating mechanism, to gain their interest and participation in a joint effort to integrate women into all sectors of Bolivia's developing economy. The objective is to encourage the GOB, other donors and PVOs to focus attention on maximizing the roles of women, and to use their experience and recommendations to develop a unified strategy of action which takes into consideration the objectives of all groups.

Honduras

USAID/Honduras plays an active role in generating data on Honduran women that will be of value for both AID and GOH programming and project design. Because the data base was inadequate for planning, programming and evaluation purposes, the Mission contracted in FY 1976 a study on the participation of women in economic and social development, written by female and male sociologists and economists, which draws together available data from secondary sources and has been of considerable interest to women in GOH agencies, private sector organizations, and labor unions.

In connection with the Agriculture Sector Assessment, a short study of the role of women in agriculture and programs that currently reach women was recently prepared by a USAID woman professional. Target group studies carried out for the assessment gathered information on labor performed by women, but will be supplemented by further survey work because female respondents were not questioned in the first survey.

Additional training needs and opportunities for women in the sector will be explored for inclusion in the FY 1979 Agriculture Sector Program. In mid 1978, the Mission will be updating the DAP, and while it is not yet decided what the data requirements will be, an assessment of the role and opportunities for advancement of women will form a significant section. Another source of data just starting to be collected is the income, expenditure and consumption survey under the USAID/H-assisted Nutrition Project. This survey will yield information on women's nutritional status and the distribution of food within the family, among other data.

Activities the GOH has planned include the writing this year of a guide to the participation of women in development in connection with the preparation of the five-year national development plan for 1979-1983. The Mission anticipated assisting the GOH with this effort. In addition, Chilean sociologist Mayra Buvinic will help the GOH planning council identify project opportunities for women in the western part of the country beginning in late January. The Mission earlier this month funded the travel of a woman sociologist from the National Planning Council and a woman USAID Capital Development IDI to the Tucson Conference on Women and Food.

Nicaragua

A USAID-initiated and funded study on "Women in the Economy" was completed in 1975. This influenced the selection of Nicaragua as one of the countries to participate in a project entitled "A Preliminary Study of Three Countries," funded under an AID/W grant to the International Center for Research on Women. USAID/Nicaragua and the Women's Office in the GON Ministry of Labor cooperated in the study designed to develop a modified time-budget methodology for the systematic collection of data on the roles and responsibilities of rural women, and conducted in Region Five (5) where an estimated 54% of the rural population is located. Phase II of the study was completed and a seminar was held at INCAE in August to report on the findings.

An ongoing study, the role of women and fertility in Nicaragua: An investigation of the impact of population, education, health, nutrition, the agricultural sector, the labor force, growth and income distribution policies, originally begun in FY 1977 under the sponsorship of the Ford Foundation and the University of Pennsylvania, is now being funded by AID/W through the University of Wisconsin. The Central Bank of Nicaragua has been serving as the focal point in Nicaragua.

An INVIERNO (GON's Campesino Welfare Institute) questionnaire distributed in June 1976, has been sent to the Ministry of Agriculture Planning Office (DIPSA) for collating. When collated, special efforts will be made to separate women heads of households and any other pertinent data related to women in Region Five (5). DIPSA is preparing a questionnaire from which baseline data on women will be extracted. This activity is part of an AID/N ongoing project.

USAID has contracted a study of the legal rights and conditions of the poor in Nicaragua. The study will form the bases of two project proposals, Campesino Legal Aid Services and Mass Media Civic Rights and laws, both of which involve legal data on women.

The findings of these studies and investigations will be used in the preparation of project papers. USAID/N will also carry out in 1978 a special study on women's organizations and women's participation in mixed organizations throughout Nicaragua as a means of gathering further baseline data for the Rural Women's Leadership project and for use by the GON Women's Office.

Because of some unrest in the late fall in the rural areas, it was not possible to conduct serious, broad-based research throughout Nicaragua. In some instances, indirect means must be employed to ascertain the situation and status of women in a given area. The Mission maintains a women in development committee responsible for screening all project proposals to ensure that, wherever possible, women are participating in project activities. Peace Corps Volunteers collect materials and discuss possible local projects with and for women at the Women's Office/USAID.

Panama

Mission has reviewed reports and information, especially data available from two excellent sources, The Department of Statistics and the Census (Contraloria General) and the Ministry of Health's Office of Population studies. The regular statistics maintained by these departments, and special studies they have conducted, have been used in both project preparation and evaluation. In general, vital statistics and economic statistics on women in the salaried labor force are excellent. Data on the role of women in the subsistence agricultural sector is poor, even misleading.

The Mission has included study of the role of women in the scopes of work for social soundness analyses. The preparation of several new projects during the next six months should considerably augment available information on women, especially data on rural women. In conjunction with the integrated rural development project, a social-psychologist will collect information on rural attitudes and values. The survey will include an attitudinal scale on women's work. Heads-of-household, primarily men, will be asked a series of questions about women's economic role in rural Panama. Results should provide data heretofore unavailable on perceptions of women's roles in an area that will be the prototype for future regional development projects. Possible follow-up activities include an expanding survey of female heads-of-household, or a sample of women, and small projects for women in the development region.

The Office of Social and Economic Planning in the Ministry of Planning has held preliminary discussions with Mission on a study to gather information needed to formulate policies supporting the economic integration of women in Panama. Nationwide, more than one-quarter of women are economically active (a total that probably excludes most female farm laborers), with 35 percent of all women in Panama City economically active. One-fifth of all households in Panama are headed by women. Although there is a higher proportion of female-headed households in urban areas. The Ministry of Planning's study would be designed to collect the information needed to design training and employment programs for women in both urban and rural settings.

Costa Rica

USAID/Costa Rica supported the Organizacion de Ciudadanas (OCC), a women's volunteer organization, in its efforts to research the status of women, with particular focus on labor conditions. In addition, AID/CR helped finance a survey by the National Apprenticeship Institute (INA) covering women in formal education, women in the labor force, factors influencing employment of women, and professional training.

The 1973 Costa Rican national censuses on population, agriculture, industry, housing, and education plus annual reports from health sector provide excellent country base line data on status of women. Using the above data as basis, the USAID has undertaken a number of in-depth analyses over the past three years: nutrition, assessment, agricultural sector assessment, rural profile survey, and urban sector assessment. These exercises have led to, and accompanied, the preparation of a new DAP in late 1976 plus a strategy revision in the Spring of 1977.

All of the above have taken into consideration the importance of women's contribution, or lack thereof, in the various sectors. Program and strategy decisions emanating from the DAP reflect this information. However, the USAID has deliberately stayed away from treating women as a separate group of individuals requiring special strategies. All of the programs deal with the problems of low-income families wherever they may be (urban or rural) and regardless of sex.

El Salvador

Considerable data are or will be available to identify constraints to women's participation and to assist in designing programs to maximize the roles of women. A social anthropologist studied the social cultural context of health delivery in rural areas resulting in a number of practical recommendations for enhancing the role of women. A broader study of the status of women in El Salvador was completed in April 1977, and the findings are being used by USAID in sector assessments as well as in planning of specific projects.

On February 1, 1978, the first survey of the AID-financed multipurpose household sample survey of 11,600 households throughout El Salvador will begin. When completed around May, the survey will provide the first reliable socio-economic data of the Salvadorean population, including women, on a national basis. The survey will be repeated beginning about

July and ultimately will be carried out on a quarterly basis. To the extent feasible, the mission will request data on the status of women in El Salvador be compiled to be used as benchmarks for measuring change. Each household head, many of whom are women, will be asked questions related to housing, labor, mortality/fertility, and migration. A special set of questions will be asked regarding cottage industries in the first sample. The idea behind this set of questions is to get some assessment of the magnitude of cottage industries which are currently not included in the measurement of GNP. It will also help in determining how much cottage industry is carried out by women, what products are made, and what income is derived.

The rural progress indicators is an AID/W pilot project for which El Salvador has been selected as the site. This project will not involve collection of new data, but rather will draw upon existing sources of data such as the census, education data, and sample surveys, to provide basic socio-economic data for planners in the form of selected indicators at a disaggregated level. The project will stress data management rather than data collection, and will use all 261 municipios in El Salvador as the basic unit for analysis. The status of women at the municipal level will be reflected in these indicators.

The mission is now in the process of writing a new DAP. The role of women will be included as an important element in the preparation of this DAP. Data on women have also been included in the agriculture sector assessment and the education sector analysis. Information on women is also an integral part in the health sector assessment, nutrition assessment, and population assessment, now in preparation.

Dominican Republic

Some information is produced through mission projects and sector assessments, and some data on women's economic participation and access to public services is routinely available from GODR sources. More sophisticated and systematic information is produced by a social research unit in the Sociology Department of the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo. The Research Unit is headed by a female sociologist, and has been in operation for the past two years. Also, the Secretariat of Agriculture has contracted a local research organization to perform a study on various socio-economic forces and their relationships to rural women that should provide useful data. Field work has been completed, computer analysis is underway, and a final report should be available within six months. USAID/DR uses, or expects to use, information from all of the above sources.

The Mission's health, agriculture, and education sector assessments have produced useful information on women, and project activities in health and education in particular provide data as a part of implementation. Mission plans to initiate a project with the National Planning Office which will, among other activities, collect data on female unemployment and underemployment.

Data collected on women is included in all mission programming documents. The greatest obstacle in collecting information is lack of GODR personnel with experience in research, and lack of counterpart funds to support data collection. But while data base is short of the ideal, it is generally adequate.

Jamaica

The existing data base on the role of women in Jamaica is generally quite good, though some refinement and analysis is required depending on purpose or ultimate use. Existing basic data on women are found in a variety of government of Jamaica (GOJ) publications such as "Annual Population Census", "Annual Report on the Labor Force", and the "Annual Report, Ministry of Education."

The annual population census and the annual report on the labor force, published by the GOJ's Department of Statistics, contain data by sex, on age, occupation, fertility, unemployment, number employed by government, wage levels, etc. The annual report of the Ministry of Education reflects enrollment of women at all levels (e.g., secondary, tertiary, and university levels).

There is a women's bureau in the Office of the Prime Minister, with a research staff of 10, which frequently extracts statistics on women from such primary sources as the Department of Statistics and the National Planning Agency. The GOJ five-year plan, to be issued early in 1978, will place high priority on the rural area and the agricultural sector, rural and farm women will be of central interest to the women's bureau, which is at present recruiting six regional officers to focus on women in rural areas. This should result in developing additional data.

Because of the generally good data base, USAID/J has not made any special effort to augment the available data except in instances when, because a project was restricted to a particular geographic area, surveys were conducted to determine such things as population, income, and labor force of the project locality. An example: During design of the integrated rural development project, a survey was conducted to determine, inter alia, how many small farm holdings were managed by women.

A proposed agricultural planning project--to provide an improved statistical and analytical base for agricultural policy and rural projects--will directly "generate statistical descriptions and socioeconomic data on the activities of women in rural Jamaica," and may thereby help fill the need noted above for analysis and for data specifically targeted on women's roles in particular contexts.

As a matter of course in preparation of sector assessments (e.g., agriculture, housing), data on the economic and social positions of women are gathered and analyzed along with other sector determinants. A revised USAID/Jamaica DAP, to be completed by 3/31/78, will contain data comments on women within individual sectors and within our overall DAP strategy statement.

An example of how data are used in project planning is found in the Integrated Rural Development (IRD) project: Survey data gathered during project design in the two watersheds where the IRD project is targeted, including a 10 percent sample of farm women, showed that 22 percent of the holdings were managed principally by women; that 40 percent of the operator males felt they were in a co-equal partnership with their wives; that 47 percent of the women said they participated regularly in production--plowing, weeding, harvesting--and 46 percent said they were the principal sellers; and that a majority either made major farm decisions themselves or made them equally with their husbands. USAID/J would like to underline the point that the information from the sample survey is quite relevant to the IRD project, and that the information turned up only because the survey was sex-specific and topic-specific, and was then analyzed. These criteria will be built into forthcoming Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) data-gathering efforts.

Peru

AID financed report on the status of the campesina in four areas of Peru is in final draft stage. It contains data on four rural settings in Peru based on a representative sample of peasant families, detailing the economically active population by sex, age and sector (education, agriculture), number of members per family, marital status (including number and types of unions), number of children, literacy, schooling, and occupations (including the percentage of time spent in on-farm and off-farm activities). Among the findings of the report is that the position of female vis-a-vis males in parts of rural Peru worsens as development proceeds. In other words, the role of women is more conducive to economic participation in a

traditional (ethnically-Indian) cultural setting than in a setting in which technological and cultural change is taking place more rapidly.

USAID is presently financing the updating and reprinting of CEPD's original AID-financed study "Diagnostico De La Situacion Social y Economica De La Mujer Peruana" to respond to increased demand for the document.

Colombia

Colombia is developing its own data base on women through research done primarily by CCRP regional population center. CCRP, in collaboration with the University of Texas Population Research Center, will this year begin studying the relationship between female educational and employment status and fertility. CCRP has done valuable research in many areas of family welfare emphasizing the role of women in education, the bio-medical field and socio-economic factors. The organizations's primary concern is in demographic research, the results of which are used in developing programs to inform women about contraception and responsible parenthood, and to upgrade their status within the family structure. Research projects and surveys provide the data base for medical and social indicators of women's status. CCRP has undertaken studies on female participation in marriage roles within Colombian society as related to job opportunities. A research program on day care services provides information on the problems which working mothers encounter, as well as on the employment status of mothers. CCRP also provides statistical information for evaluation of family planning programs as well as research on abortion and sterilization, which is often the basis for political decisions in this area. In addition, it collects information on hospital and home deliveries, lactation, maternal nourishments, and child mortality.

The Colombian Association for the Study of Population (ACEP) has undertaken a series of studies on the legal and social conditions of Colombian women, and in 1977 published a comprehensive volume of information entitled "Women and Development in Colombia".

USAID/C population and family planning project has completed several research projects which assisted the Colombian statistics bureau in establishing a demographic analysis unit. Such assistance has proven effective in expanding Colombian FP programs. A thorough analysis of the adequacy of these data would have to be undertaken if USAID/C were contemplating projects designed specifically for the benefit of women. The phase-out situation of the mission leads us to believe such an analysis would be more appropriate at some future date, if the situation changed and activities were contemplated.

RDO/Caribbean

Since RDO/C management of U.S. assistance efforts to Caribbean is fairly new (since June '76) little has been done to gather data on women's activities up to present time. Recently AID funded three survey teams in areas of health, agriculture and education which travelled throughout Eastern Caribbean to identify those development areas where intervention can be made to assist island governments in development efforts. The health report has been finalized and other two reports are awaited. We are also undertaking a DAP exercise which will reflect policy and strategy for U.S. assistance for the foreseeable future. All these activities past, future and ongoing present opportunities to gather data about women. In addition, RDO/C has attempted to identify those individuals and organizations which might assist in gathering baseline data on women's activities. To date Barbados Women in Action Organization has presented some possibility for Barbados, and tentative contact with Dominican Republic based Mujeres en Desarrollo, Inc. may also assist in data gathering for Eastern Caribbean.

b) Projects and activities which are responsive to Sec. 113

Projects and activities undertaken in Latin America are numerous and varied in nature and scope. The bureau's strategy has been to stress the participation of women as both agents and beneficiaries in "mainstream" sectoral programs, rather than to emphasize women-specific projects. Activities which have been directed primarily or exclusively at women include training, institution-building, consciousness-raising and assistance to local groups through the Special Development Activities Fund.

Training

Region-wide the ratio of female participants in U.S. or third country AID-funded training programs has increased from 8.6% in FY 74; to 19% in FY 75; to 21% in FY 76; to approximately 23% in FY 77. Some participant training programs in individual countries show even sharper increases. In Peru, for example, 36.3% of all participants in FY 77 were female, representing a 30% increase over the previous year. In Bolivia 38.9% were women, an increase over FY 76 of 14.8%. Ecuador's ratio rose from 19% in CY 76 to 24% in CY 77. Women comprised 29% of last year's participants from the Dominican Republic. USAID/Colombia's Specialized Participant Training project has sent 48 participants to the U.S. of whom 17 (or 35.4%) were women. (This project is also managed by a woman.) These women received training in such fields as agriculture, health, family planning and nutrition, education, and for narcotics labor-related programs.

During FY 1977 and the first quarter of FY 1978, 40 Nicaraguan women participants received third country and U.S. training in the areas of agriculture, nutrition, health, family planning and labor. That number represents 50% of the total number of participants. Several other women were participants on invitational travel through USIS funds but recommended by USAID as potential leaders in nursing and social service. In Panama, 8 of 44 AID-funded participants in the transition quarter and FY 1977 were women, who received training in such fields as regional development planning, pharmacology, business administration, and public administration. They will join growing numbers of Panamanian women filling middle-management - and, in some cases, top management posts in government and private industry.

The single greatest constraint to significant increases in the number of Latin American women trained in the U.S. is the requirement for their competency in the English language. Missions repeatedly urge that more training be offered in Spanish or indigenous languages in order to reach women of varying income and educational levels who are prevented from studying in the U.S. by the language barrier.

Women are also afforded training in-country under AID-funded sectoral projects or OPGs.

Jamaica's Rural Education Loan will for the first time allow women broad access to agricultural education. Of 600 students expected to enroll in two new agriculture schools to study marketing, food technology, agribusiness and crop research, 50% will be women. It is evident that rural women are active and important in farm operations; nevertheless, only 5.9 percent have received any off-farm training, and most GOJ extension activities are directed toward men.

The training needs survey/employment development project, which focuses on attacking unemployment problems by aligning training with the country's needs for skills, should impact favorably by opening increased employment opportunities for young women. At present 40 percent of young Jamaicans are unemployed; 55 percent of this total are young women.

The Integrated Rural Development project paper calls for a "concerted effort to involve women more directly in the change process": recruitment and training of at least four women agricultural extension agents out of the twenty planned, and a minimum of two women trained (to M.S. level) in rural sociology to work in extension planning. Project advisors will explicitly include agricultural credit, production and marketing. One woman,

an employee of the MOA Data Bank and Evaluation Division, is now in Washington being trained to design a major MOA crop production survey scheduled for Spring 1978, a benchmark survey for the IRD project. She is this project's first trainee and is expected to continue in a key role in the data processing that will monitor the project during its four-year life. She will be the MOA's sole trained computer programmer.

USAID/Honduras' Rural Reconstruction II Primary Education project will provide inservice training for 1400 teachers, most of whom are women.

Through the Integrated Rural Health Services Grant, ten Honduran nurses attended a training course at Harbor General Hospital in California. Training in-country is being provided for hundreds of empirical midwives and unremunerated community Health workers and health representatives, most of whom are women.

In Bolivia, women comprised approximately 50% of people trained under two rural education projects and nearly 75% of those trained under the National Nutrition Improvement project.

USAID/Dominican Republic's Health Program has trained 2,000 village level health workers and 400 auxiliary nurses.

An OPG to the Dominican Development Foundation has been approved and the project will soon be extending training in organization and management to small groups, many of which are led by women or have several female members.

In Guatemala, women comprise about 10% of those receiving training under an AID loan as Rural Health Technicians, a non-traditional role for women in Guatemala.

In 1976, the latest year for which statistics are available on personnel trained in various fields by Panama's Ministry of Planning (training for development courses are among these training programs), 46 percent were women, Unfortunately, 23 percent of the men were trained to be high-level supervisors and government officials; only 17 percent of the women were trained at this level. However, almost equal proportions of men and women were trained at the middle-management level.

An OPG to the Overseas Education Fund and a Costa Rican federation of volunteer organizations is financing a training and motivation program for low-income women in the San Jose metropolitan area.

Accion Cultural Popular (ACPO), a private volunteer organization in Colombia realized the need for an equal stress on professional development for men and women long before its present involvement with AID. Its rural programs are directed to women in the specialized roles of wives and mothers, but greater emphasis is being given to the importance of the rural women in agriculture production and economic development. The key leadership training of ACPO is shared almost equally between men and women and gives equal stress to the roles of both sexes. The project evaluation summary submitted to Washington this month bears this out statistically.

SENA (Colombia's National Apprentice Service) presents its courses to both men and women. In addition to the general courses, there are special studies designed to enhance the role of women in family hygiene, home making, family planning and economic skills. The rural mobile training programs are attempting to increase the role of women in rural development.

In the Education Technology project most of the teachers trained have been women; it is interesting to note that the national project coordinator is a woman.

In Paraguay, women comprise 30 to 60% of enrollees in training courses offered under the AIFLD-sponsored free labor development project.

Formally initiated in September 1976, the Rural Non-Formal Education project is aimed at developing the capability of the Paraguayan Ministry of Labor's National Apprenticeship Service (SNPP) to conduct basic skills training programs oriented to rural illiterate and semi-illiterate adults of both sexes. It is a pilot project carried out in rural Ita District. The SNPP training staff is composed of four instructors, one of whom is a woman. Courses are conducted in four major areas: (a) home management; (b) small scale livestock/poultry production; (c) basic agriculture; and (d) small farm improvement and management.

Women exclusively enrolled in the home management course which taught basic carpentry skills, and 90% of those enrolled in the small scale livestock/poultry production course were women. The total number of female participants thus far is 349, a figure which greatly exceeds expectations. Although not designed as a women-only project, the greatest surprise has been the extraordinary participation of women in the training courses. The NFE project reflects the GOP's policy directions of incorporating rural women as beneficiaries of training.

USAID/Paraguay's grant to CONEB, a local PVO, provides leadership and management training to members of CONEB's technical department and affiliated groups, as well as vocational training for low-income urban and rural women and disadvantaged people located in Asuncion and small towns throughout Paraguay.

USAID/Nicaragua's proposed FY 78 Rural Women's Leadership project is designed to train low-income rural women (e.g., farm wives, rural town vendors, market women and artisans) for increasingly responsible leadership roles in the social and economic development of their communities. Women and women's groups will be encouraged to carry out projects such as day care centers, community gardens, cooperatives, clinics, schools to benefit the community, and they can borrow from a revolving loan fund to finance these projects. Over a two-year period, the project should reach approximately 3450 women.

USAID/Peru will fund several OPGs in FY 1978 which will provide training to women. A grant to Fe y Alegria, a voluntary agency involved in providing basic education and useful skills training to underprivileged youth of both sexes, will offer skills training to women in areas which are considered non-traditional for females.

A grant to the social assistance program of the Seventh Day Adventists (OFASA) will help continue their work with women living in squatter settlements around the Lima metropolitan area. About 3,000 women are receiving training in sewing, sweater-making and embroidery as well as in nutrition, sanitation and maternal child health care. OFASA intends to strengthen newly developed urban crafts cooperatives and to provide training to additional women in the area.

The Campesino Training project, through a grant to the Peruvian Institute for Educational Development, will provide training aimed at improving agricultural production. The program is designed to train and motivate both monolingual and bilingual campesinos, and it will train women together with men, thus affording campesino women training opportunities traditionally available to men only.

USAID/Peru's Rural Women's Leadership Training project will provide funds to the Association for Cooperation with Campesino Women (ACOMUC) to train approximately 750 voluntary leaders and other staff in promotion centers in the field. ACOMUC's role is to promote economic, social, cultural and political development of rural women. Among other services, it teaches income-producing "artesanía" and cottage industry skills.

Consciousness-Raising; Institution-Building

LA missions have financed and/or provided technical assistance to host country organizations to sponsor conferences or other activities designed to raise public awareness of women's role and potential in national development.

-- The USIS Binational Center and USAID/Guatemala's Ad Hoc Committee on Women's Affairs jointly sponsored a Women's Leaders Conference in June 1977 to examine problems women face in developing their potential and participating more fully in economic and social development.

-- The AIFLD project provided funds for the first International Meeting of Women Workers (female union leaders) in Paraguay in 1976; and for the first Central American female labor leaders seminar, with representatives from the five Central American countries and Panama, held in Honduras in 1977.

In Peru, the Association Multidisciplinaria de Investigacion y Docencia En-Poblacion (AMIDEP), a newly created organization with AID assistance, sponsored at CEPD a three-day seminar on various aspects of the role of women in development.

Movimiento Derechos de la Mujer (MD) with grant from Pathfinder hosted in Lima a three-day seminar on women's rights in 1977. Follow-up seminars in provincial cities with AID assistance are under consideration.

Through another AID-funded grant to Pathfinder, the Union Nacional de Mujeres De Ecuador conducted a seminar in October 1977, bringing together women leaders to review means to improve the economic and social status of women. The seminar was also attended by Colombian women members of the Union De Ciudadanas de Colombia.

USAID/Paraguay funded two projects in FY 77 aimed at informing women, particularly in the rural areas, of laws covering their civil, political and labor rights and how to exercise them. In one of these, two local women's volunteer organizations and a division of the GOP Ministry of Labor formed a team to prepare simply written materials which were distributed among the 596 participants attending the two-day seminars held in six different rural locations. In the other project, one of these PVOs, the Paraguayan League for Women's Rights (LPDM), provided financial support to continue establishing branches and offering follow-up leadership training courses in rural areas.

These two projects were well received and have been so successful in terms of numbers of female participants, applicability of the training, and usefulness of the information supplied to solve legal grievances that the LPDM may make an official request for an OPG to institutionalize and expand the civic education courses.

USAID/Nicaragua plans to continue to fund technical assistance to strengthen the capability of the GON National Women's Development Office. This office has established a legal aid center which provides free legal services to disadvantaged women in Managua.

USAID/El Salvador financed a technical advisor to design, implement and evaluate a workshop on "Techniques and Strategy for Coordinated Action" for delegates from local women's groups. The workshop resulted in the establishment of FEDESAF, the Federation of Salvadoran Women's Associations. The USAID has also supported the initiative of these women's organizations to establish a national women's office in the GOES Ministry of Planning, a proposal which has not yet been accepted by the GOES.

USAID/El Salvador also provided assistance for an "Information and Referral Stand for Women" at the fourth industrial fair in San Miguel, El Salvador's third largest city. The activity, at a cost of less than \$1,000 to the USAID, provided an opportunity to coordinate and centralize a wide range of information and services about women. The Federation of Salvadoran Women's Associations (FEDESAF) and Council for Volunteer Development (CODECAVOL) collaborated with a Peace Corps volunteer in obtaining a prominent site for the stand and for its presentation. Among the agencies and their resources were the following: Salvadoran Demographic Association with family planning information; Ministry of Agriculture regarding agricultural extension; the Episcopal Church of El Salvador regarding women's constitutional rights; Kimberly Clark Co. with sex education material and feminine products; the Ministry of Education with audio-visual equipment; the Ministry of Planning with nutrition information. Over 20,000 separate materials were given out, and enthusiastic response has led to numerous requests for permanent information service. The city of San Miguel is now utilizing the stand both as a permanent facility in the municipal building and with some of the materials being used in a mobile unit of the municipality in conjunction with the services of a doctor, nurse, and rural promoters. The success of the activity has led to the possibility of two future USAID-supported projects: a mobile information/referral unit for use throughout El Salvador and a large stand in the Salvadoran demographic association pavilion in the November 1978 international fair in San Salvador.

Special Development Activities (SDA) Fund

The availability of SDA funds enables missions to make small grants to support local organizations whose activities are women-oriented.

In Panama, SDA activities have been aimed at the poorest and most remotely located groups in the country. Recent or planned activities which directly involve women include:

-- Day care centers: a proposal is being developed which will establish a program to assist women from culturally deprived environments through support to day-care centers run by the women. Children will receive food supplement in an environment conducive to their proper mental and physical development. Women will receive nutrition, health, literacy, child care and vocational training at the centers.

-- Pilot project-wind power: SDA which will use a combination of wind and water power to supply safe drinking water to rural homes through aqueduct systems, provide power for milling rice, water for irrigation, and possibly the generation of electric power, thus relieving rural women from making the daily trek for water, a time-consuming burden and physical drain.

-- Rice production project: SDA with an isolated group of Indian communities in Bocas Del Toro. One component of the project is aimed at improving traditional methods of rice milling, drying and storage. This will reduce loss in quality and quantity of the harvest, and because of the intermediate technology used, will result in considerable savings of time and energy for the Indian women who traditionally are responsible for milling, drying and storage.

-- Rural youth agricultural clubs: This OPG proposal will assist various rural youth groups to become more self-reliant through the development of economic activities, training in organization and management, interchange with U.S. youth groups, etc. Rural girls will be encouraged to participate in the organization.

An anecdote that illustrates the spread effect of the Mission's special development activities is related by the project manager: at a meeting last year with the Guaymi Indian Congress, traditionally all male, the project officer asked the chief what AID could do to assist the Guaymi women. His question eventually led to a Guaymi Women's Congress, with over 100 women in attendance. The Congress led to a series of seminars for Guaymi women, and the women are preparing a project proposal to submit for mission funding.

In Guyana, the Special Development Activities project, which is funded at the level of \$100,000 annually, encompasses a variety of small self-help projects, a great number of which involve women as agents or beneficiaries. For example, the construction of small village markets under that program provide shelter for the rural vegetables, and fruit vendors, most of whom are women. Women are also the principal buyers at such markets. The shelter protects food from damage and spoilage, thereby preserving its value from a nutrition standpoint, and on the other hand, protects the income of the vendors in that losses from exposure to the sun or rain are reduced.

The last special development activity authority agreement (SDAA) signed with the Government of Ecuador for US \$50,000, was instrumental in involving a substantial number of women, especially in the secondary cities (outside Quito and Guayaquil) and rural areas. In fact, 27.4 percent of the total was spent on projects directly benefitting women, such as the teaching of crafts and manual arts to rural mothers and girl students to increase their participation in and contribution to the family economy.

USAID/Costa Rica provided a grant to a local women's organization to prepare a public services directory for the San Jose metropolitan area. The directory, when completed, will contain data on health, sanitation, employment and housing services provided by public and private entities. The local group did the complete design work for the directory and is currently in the information gathering stage.

USAID/El Salvador's special development activities fund is used to support worthy self-help projects of cooperatives and communities throughout the country. The mission has placed emphasis on assisting women's activities but these activities have tended to be in traditional areas such as sewing and baking. However, during 1978 the mission intends to use this fund for gradual expansion into non-traditional projects for women.

The mission has a complete set of portable video-tape equipment, including camera and monitors, for use in project development and support. This equipment will be used almost exclusively in support of women in development activities in 1978 such as in the preparation of standard tapes on health, family planning, women's rights, literacy, etc. The tapes will be utilized in future promotion of women in development activities throughout El Salvador.

Sectoral Projects

Reports from LA missions provide evidence that women are increasingly involved, both as agents and beneficiaries, in AID-funded programs in the key sectors, especially in education and health/nutrition/family planning programs.

Education

Three USAID/Bolivia projects, Education Management and Rural Development, Rural Education I and Rural Education II, by their very nature continue to have a high impact on the women of Bolivia. The Rural Education Coordination Office, of the Ministry of Education, currently estimates the percentage of women in various levels of Bolivian Rural Education to be: primary teacher, 50%; school principals, 15%; district supervisors, 30%; and normal school teachers, 40 %. Under the Educational Management project, employment of women at the district educational development centers will be encouraged. Project related training consisting of two groups sent to the University of New Mexico in 1976-1977 involved 23 women, or at least 40 percent of the trainees sent. In Rural Education I, at least half of the over 400 rural teachers attending two-week in-service sessions during November and December 1977, were women. Plans for building workshops at 21 central primary schools include facilities for home economics. Each of these schools now has a Home Economics teacher whose duties include community work to promote the role of the rural women and form mother's clubs. In the Rural Education II project, which is just beginning, an effort will be made to include women in teacher training projects in proportion to their numbers in the nation. That is about 50%. In addition to the above training programs, one woman was a delegate to an AID-sponsored bilingual education conference in Peru during January 1978.

In Nicaragua, two OPGs and one centrally funded grant project involve women as active participants in the education fields of radio and vocational training. The successful Masaya radio math project employs sixteen professionals, eleven of whom are women. The Nicaraguan co-director is a woman. All are involved in curriculum writing research, and testing.

USAID/Panama's Education Loan seeks to make basic education more accessible to rural Panamanian children. The GOP is in the midst of an "educational reform" to provide appropriate secondary education to all students in rural areas, and this generally means a greater emphasis on an agriculturally-oriented curriculum. In Panama, as in other developing countries, rural women have traditionally had an important role in agriculture, especially in the planning, processing, and harvesting phases of agricultural production. The techniques and practices they learn in rural

production schools, coupled with education in home economics, will provide girls with equal access to a better quality of life in rural areas, and will better prepare them to perform their societal and economic roles.

Women participate actively in this education project; 79% of all primary school teachers in Panama are women, while 55% of secondary school teachers are female. In-service training for teachers is a major activity in the education project, and women figure prominently among the management personnel in the project.

At the present time, there are equal members of male and female students enrolled in educational institutions in Panama at all levels. In 1968, girls comprised 33% of all secondary school students; by 1974, 51% of students enrolled in secondary schools were girls. The AID-funded school construction, curriculum reform, and teacher training program have made secondary education more relevant to the needs of rural girls, providing them with the opportunity to play a more productive role in society.

A component of the Rural Education Loan in Jamaica will initiate a community education program at 21 centers throughout the country to provide extension education in agricultural subjects. Approximately 508 persons from communities around the center are expected to attend classes. USAID agreed to add a community education component to the project, on condition that women be included; the Ministry of Education readily agreed.

In Paraguay, the role women have had and continue to have in planning and implementing the Mission's education programs is an exceptionally strong one. This is evidenced in the Rural Radio Education project being carried out in the MOE by the Department of Tele-Education. This project is directed by a woman whose staff includes 30 women and two men. The U.S. contract team funded by AID for this demonstration radio project has included three women: a specialist in education technology presently on board, a script writer, and a materials development specialist. It is anticipated that the project will benefit equally male and female students in rural areas of the country.

The proposed Bilingual Education Pilot Project (Guarani/Spanish) is designed to focus on providing broader educational opportunities for rural Paraguayan children to pursue education at the primary level, and provide them with the necessary language skills, to continue their education. The project will consist of curriculum reform and teacher training to: (a) improve the qua

of educational services; (b) extend participation to a greater percentage of the rural population; and (c) improve the retention of students in school beyond the present three-year average for the rural sector. Since some 90% of all primary school teachers are women, and women hold a majority of higher level jobs within the MOE, Paraguayan women will be instrumental in managing and implementing the Bilingual Education program on both local and national levels.

The proposed FY 79 Primary Education Improvement loan will construct, equip and staff a regional education center capable of handling an estimated 104 teachers and 2,000 students. The project also provides for training a minimum of 50 MOE staff members and re-training of all national teachers, supervisors, and school directors.

Women will directly benefit from this project since they will receive the majority of staff positions at the center and because women make up the greater majority of teachers, supervisors, and school directors throughout the country. It is anticipated that the regional center to be built under the proposed loan will become a community training center where several training courses for rural women will be offered.

Agriculture and Rural Development

Paraguay

Under the Small Farmer Livestock Development project, 50 women home extension agents and female PCVs have been included in a series of week-long AID/Extension Service-sponsored courses on poultry, swine and dual purpose dairy/beef cattle. Rural women have been assisted to improve their livestock raising practices and other related activities -- production of cheese and butter, marketing of livestock products -- as well as to improve the nutrition of the small farm family.

Female extension agents have exercised a beneficial influence on rural women because they know the environment in which they are working, local needs and resources, and because they motivate Mother's Club and 4-C Club members to participate in the project. The greatest impact the project has had on women has been the involvement of women extension agents in its activities.

The recently completed Small Farmer Survey, compiled information on small farmers in Eastern Paraguay. The total number of small farms interviewed is 1,400; thirty percent of these heads of

families who manage small holdings under 5 hectares are women. Only 7% of the larger farms (21 - 50.9 hectares) are managed by women. Women farmers who are heads of families tend to be older than men; the average age for women is 50 while the average age for men is 43. The survey includes 995 pieces of information on each farm and basic data on rural women such as: age, civic status, education level, number of women in the household, annual income, hours of work on-farm. The release of data gathered in the survey is tentatively scheduled for March 1978.

Two of CREDICOOP's (the USAID-assisted Credit Union Central) five directors are women, and both alternate directors are also women. The President of CREDICOOP is a woman. Six of CREDICOOP's staff of 24 people are women, including a top professional who is a field worker responsible for nine credit unions and the insurance program for all member coops.

Presently nine coops, one of which is a rural cooperative, are managed by women. Women are or have been presidents of eight coops. At present, over 100 women are involved in various positions on boards, credit committees, education and supervisory committees.

Bolivia

The Small Farmer Organization project (FSO) presently funds the cost of a full-time advisor to the Ministry of Agriculture's National Community Development Service (NCDS), Division of Promotion, to assist specifically with the integration of women into NCDS's activities. NCDS's Division for the Promotion of Rural Women has in the past concentrated on assisting Mothers' Clubs with nutrition and home economics activities. The original design of the FSO project contemplated provision of an advisor to this division to assure the integration of women in the cooperatives to be promoted under this project. Women in many areas of rural Bolivia reputedly control the economic activities of the family, and their involvement in the FSO project was considered necessary both to assist with achieving the project purpose and to assure that the role of women was not overlooked as a result of the project (by drifting to less active economic roles). The initial activity was therefore to convince NCDS central and field personnel of the importance of active participation of women in cooperatives. Traditionally, admission of women into Bolivian cooperatives has often been prohibited, either directly or through requirement for schooling of land ownership. The women's promotion division of NCDS had to be refocused from traditional home economics activities to an emphasis on income-producing projects. This involved intensive in-service training of the 76 NCDS women specialists and promotor

With the redesign of the Small Farmer Organization project and the adoption of an integral cooperatives' strategy (large, multi-service, multi-community cooperatives) in FY 1977, women have become directly involved on an equal basis with men in the Valle Alto Integral Cooperative and to a lesser extent in the Pampas de Lequesana Cooperative. The involvement of women and the female promoters was particularly critical to the Valle Alto Cooperative. Efforts at convincing NCDS employees of the importance of the integration of women have been successful in the field. At the central office level, top management has adopted the appropriate policies but has yet to demonstrate full commitment to these policies. This effort will require time to achieve the required change deep-seated attitudes, but progress to date is very encouraging. For instance, the Women's Promotion Division has been renamed the Promotion Division based on the belief that women should be integrated into all aspects of the project rather than set apart. To date this change has proved positive and has not resulted in the feared de-emphasis of this aspect of the project.

Based on an overall evaluation of the FSO project and its personnel in October 1977, the Promotion Division has developed an action plan for 1978 which specifies the types of activities to be carried out for women by level of organization of the community. The program projects assistance to 2,100 women in 110 communities, through 140 short courses and 1,800 orientation discussions. A total of 69 income-generating projects will be undertaken by the women. In addition, NCDS personnel will partake in the gathering of data on the economic activities of the family, which will specifically analyze the relative productive and consumptive roles of the males and females. USAID will continue to finance the advisor to the Promotion Division during 1978 and will finance training courses for both male and female promoters.

A new mission proposed project for FY 1978, farm policy analysis, will form the basis for an updated agricultural sector assessment. Under this project the planned rural household survey will have as one of its major FOCI the role of women in rural decision making, marketing and other agricultural activities. In Bolivia it is widely acknowledged that in addition to providing labor inputs to agriculture, especially during planting and harvesting, Bolivian women exercise an equal, if not predominant, role in family decisions concerning all significant marketing decisions, are responsible for management of the bulk of the family's small scale domestic enterprises (milk, cheese, egg, ducks, pigs, woven goods, etc) and have substantial influence over the control of family savings which are generally in the form of livestock. Given the impc

of the rural woman in daily production and decision-making activities of the farm, it is considered of paramount importance that the woman's role be better documented than has been done today. As more adequate information is gathered on the woman's role in the rural household, better knowledge can be attained as to the possible trade-offs between traditional income earning activities and "modern" forms of income earning activities. With more complete information on this subject, planners will be able to design better policies and programs to impact directly on women or rural households in a manner beneficial both to them and to their families. The majority of interviewers and supervisors in the rural household survey will be women working in or related to NCDS's promotion program.

Colombia

Efforts to implement Sec. 113 (A) through existing projects are well illustrated in PVO activity. SCF (Save the Children Federation), for example, has clearly delineated the development of women as a component of its integrated rural development model. Under an OPG, it carries out rural education projects for women, bringing information in traditionally female-oriented areas such as family health, nutrition, home improvement and child care. However, classes are also given in agricultural and handicraft production and marketing, cooperative enterprises, and community leadership. Women are being encouraged, and encouraging others, to seek vocational training in income-producing fields outside the home. SCF, under its OPG community development activities, incorporated women in the planning, design and management of these projects.

A Small Farmer Access loan, which provides for the construction of market access roads utilizing labor-intensive methods, has a direct impact upon women. These roads provide easier access to markets, schools, health and other services, for the entire farm family. In addition, some female contractors (laborers) have been used in implementing this project.

A Small Industry loan is designed to stimulate development of small and medium industry by increasing the availability of credit (to professionals or technicians to start or expand process manufacturing, to marginal rural industrialists or artisans, and to cooperative or other community groups to initiate or expand small enterprise); and by establishing a technical assistance program to serve the recipients of this credit. Female borrowers number approximately 280, and represent about 10 percent of the total available credits. Although this figure may seem small, the mission sees it as a significant step in encouraging the development of female entrepreneurs. \$25 million (Col pesos 37.5-US) Colombian pesos were lent to women who might otherwise not have had the opportunity to develop their enterprises and provide income-generating employment for others.

Jamaica

An Island Fisheries Development (IFD) project, like the IRD project, identifies small-farm families as beneficiaries. By fostering fish production in small-farm ponds, the project expects to raise family income, increase rural employment opportunities for both men and women, improve nutrition, and raise functional skills. Both projects also expect to improve MOA capabilities by training personnel. While the IFD does not specifically state numbers of women to be trained, one of twelve present students in a Jamaica school of Agriculture course on fish culture is a woman, who, like the other students, will probably become a fisheries extension officer, important to the project's success.

Four projects in the design stage identify their ultimate beneficiaries as small-farm families or rural poor families. The project for fish production system development will have the same benefits as its predecessor project on a wider scale. An agricultural sector project highlights the function of higglers (market women) as a point of concern: at least 30,000 higglers currently handle 70 percent to 80 percent of produce locally distributed. The interconnections between higglers and the project's proposed activities to improve the marketing arrangements "must be studied". The PID noted: will some, or many higglers be made obsolete? Could the two arrangements dovetail to bring even greater results? Might the project's operations create job opportunities peculiarly suited to higglers' skills?

Nicaragua

Under a Rural Development Sector loan (INVIERNO) (Rural Municipal Development), in Regions II, V, there is direct participation of women through locally organized housewives clubs, home garden programs, small business credit, etc. women mayors, city officials and a lawyer are active in community affairs and will train along with men.

Panama

Through a Rural Health Delivery system, almost 40 communities have constructed water systems during 1977, freeing women to concentrate on other domestic responsibilities and outside activities. The first training course for "health assistants" is underway in the San Blas Islands. In a culture where men and women have separate, though parallel organizations, these young women will rise to positions of respect and authority in the community, providing the only health care available on the island. Similar courses will begin in other regional locations, starting with Darien in early January.

Haiti

A fourteen year USAID/Haiti Rural Community Development effort, in cooperation with the GOH and the West German Government and with a staff of 10 community development officers, 14 nutrition personnel, 67 nutrition educators, 9 general staff, and 12 secretaries, is and will be continued. Women are, of course, prime participants and beneficiaries in the program.

In addition, two crafts artisans in the general staff are helping to institutionalize community self-help efforts in the impoverished northwest area of Haiti through the development of community councils. The activity integrates women in community development through their direct involvement in handicraft and nutrition projects. Women participate fully as artisans in the handicrafts centers and as staff members in the nutrition centers (auxiliaries) and community councils.

Honduras

A number of USAID projects are benefiting women and increasing their employment opportunities. The Agro-Industrial Export Development project is supporting the creation of employment in the processed and fresh vegetable industry for about 400 women. If successful, this project will be replicated by a permanent national capacity which will continue to generate employment opportunities for women. A USAID funded OPG to the Community Development Foundation financed a loan to a rural cooperative of 21 women providing the seed capital to begin production of bottled mango puree. Using community-built appropriate canning technology, the income earned by the women sustained their families when last year's corn crop failed. The women now are attempting to buy land on which to raise other fruits for production diversification.

Health, Nutrition, Family Planning

Panama

A Rural Health Delivery service will improve the quality of life for rural women, and will directly involve hundreds of Panamanian women as providers of health care services throughout the countryside. The activities funded under the loan include the construction of basic rural health facilities (health posts), providing maternal and child care to families in small communities. Nutrition activities will include small animal projects, which are usually managed by women. The construction of simple water systems and latrines under this project will not only improve

health conditions, lowering infant mortality, but will relieve women of the tedious and time-consuming burden of securing water for the household.

In the Rural Health program, the Ministry of Health is training over 200 "health assistants", health para-professionals, most of whom will be young women. They are being trained in regional centers, in courses lasting approximately one year. The women will return to their communities with skills in primary medical care, public health, communication, and community organization. Judging from past experience, the health assistants will emerge as prominent leaders in their communities.

One major responsibility of the health assistants is the organization of a "community health committee", a group of local residents who participate in identification of health problems, and the planning and implementation of projects to solve their problems. A parallel organization, usually a parents association, similarly addresses education problems. These groups solicit aid from the appropriate Panamanian Ministry, and provide money, materials and labor during the construction phase of the project, their counterpart of the USAID and Panamanian government contribution. The community group, with a vested interest in the project, works hard to maintain the facility. Women play an active role in these grass roots community organizations. Not only do they assume leadership roles in groups with both male and female members, but, through their participation in the management of these small projects, they learn new skills and serve as role models for women in neighboring communities.

An AID-funded Family Planning program is designed to increase the coverage of the population with family planning services, to encourage more women to adopt an effective method of planning their families and, on the national scale, to contribute to the diminution of the population growth rate. To date, the family planning program has been closely coordinated with the Ministry of Health's maternal and child health program. Family planning services are provided at all Ministry of Health facilities (over 200 throughout the country). The AID-funded project has been supporting the purchase of contraceptive supplies, medical equipment, mass media and educational campaigns, and family planning studies. There is a special concern for the high risk mother: the mother who is too young or too old, the mother whose health is jeopardized by too frequent births. The family planning program gives women an opportunity to choose their family size, to space pregnancies in order that they may best care for their children (perhaps while remaining in the labor force), to pursue

their personal goals without the risk of of an unwanted pregnancy. In the past year, under an AID-funded agreement, the Ministry of Health has continued to train "women's health care specialists", nurses who receive additional training in family planning, reproductive health and special health problems (especially cervical and breast cancers).

A CARITAS MCH program (PL-480 supplemental food for women of child bearing age and their children from 0-6 years) is being implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Health. Nutrition promoters initiate handicraft and production activities to increase the ability of organized women's groups to contribute to and support their own activities. Includes breast-feeding encouragement and age-weight record keeping.

The impact of AID's activities in family planning is reflected in a very clear trend of declining birth rate and very low, and still declining, infant mortality and maternal mortality rates. Unfortunately, health and vital statistics are always several years behind, but service statistics indicate a steadily increasing demand for all of the more effective means of regulating fertility.

Haiti

A three-year USAID/Haiti Maternal Child Family Planning project begun in January 1978 will involve 98 rural health workers, 100 auxiliary nurses, 1,400 traditional midwives, 7 educators and researchers, 13 central administrative staff. Project purpose is to make voluntary planning services available to over 90 percent of Haiti's population by the end of 1980 and to increase the number of contraceptive users to 20 percent of Haitian couples of child-bearing age during the same time frame. Women participated in planning as both staff and recipients and they will direct activities at the centers. Likewise, they will participate in extension of services and feedback of information.

A five-year USAID/Haiti, to start later in FY 1978 and entitled Strengthening Health Services III, will involve nurses and sanitary agents (number not yet determined). Purpose of the project is to implement an integrated and affordable regionalized health system to make available basic preventive and curative health services to 70 percent of the rural population of Haiti. Women participate both as staff members and beneficiaries in family planning, immunization and nutrition programs and are directly involved in all phases of the project.

In summary, USAID/Haiti programs involve women in the following types of overall categories:

(A) Mothercraft centers, health clinics, and dispensaries, where combined health, nutrition and family planning services are delivered to the population. Health personnel in the clinics, largely women, provide the children in the mothercraft centers the medical treatment and supervision. Centers are visited regularly by travelling physicians. Supervision of the overall program will be conducted by district health personnel. Again women, in collaboration with district auxiliary nutritionists.

(B) Under-five nutrition clinics, which represent a relatively inexpensive means of providing a fairly large number of women with educational sessions on nutrition, personal hygiene, family planning, providing children with basic health care, providing "take-home" food (PL-480 Title II) for children and lactating women, and "demonstration education" to mothers by having them monitor the progress of their children's health on growth charts. Such clinics meet on a weekly basis and are generally run by a trained nutrition auxiliary who is assisted by women from the community. Such a network of clinics is desirable especially in communities which have no other rural health and nutrition delivery services. Women in Haiti play an important role in the economic and social life of the country. In addition to head of the household under the existing system which permits men to have more than one common-law wife. Women are also active as small entrepreneurs since they effectively control the traditional marketing system for food, clothing and other essential household commodities. Our approach to integrating women more effectively into the development process has two key aspects: first, incorporating women's activities into our regular projects (i.e., rural community development), second, designing special projects for women (women in development).

Honduras

Under the nutrition project as well as the ongoing SDA, funding is being provided for water systems for disadvantaged and isolated rural communities. Water systems are a labor-saving device that benefit women in particular since it is they who may spend several hours per day carrying water for food preparation.

Bolivia

AID health and nutrition programs focus almost completely on women and children since they are the most vulnerable groups in the population. Also, women serve as the primary agents in both health and nutrition programs particularly at the community level, but also as professionals. Although the mission does not have any concrete data on how many women participate either as employees or as beneficiaries of health, nutrition and supplemental feeding programs sponsored by the GOB sector-wide, we do have fairly good data on our specific projects.

Since December 1976, the Rural Health Delivery system project has trained some 365 persons at all levels of the health system-- 192 were women trained in-country, except for three who received long-term _____ training out of country. Of these women: one has an AID-sponsored masters degree and coordinates national health planning; one is a professional in charge of national auxiliary nurse training; 14 are professional teaching nurses and auxiliary school directors; 10 are physicians and social workers; 18 are rural teachers; 36 are nursing auxiliaries; 15 are community health promoters; and 82 are members of community health committees (3 are presidents and all hold positions on the committees) virtually, all of these women work in the project area or in project-related activities at the central level. Other women also work with the project: two accountant-administrators; one sectoral planner; one health educator; and one public health supervisor. Also the Bolivia project manager is a woman. In terms of services, the programs are focused on the family. Women have been critical in making programs work-- mothers, grandmothers, older daughters in identifying health problems and supporting their treatment as well as in managing the financial arrangements at the community and other levels. In terms of information, the research and information components of the system have baseline data on families women, children and men and several critical evaluation measures focus on women.

The National Nutrition Improvement project has been in full implementation for three months and it is still too early to determine women's participation. In the three training programs completed to date, nearly 75 percent of the participants and trainers have been women trained in-country, all professionals including regional and national planners, received third country training in nutrition planning. Once baseline information gathering begins, it will focus largely on women as public servants and program beneficiaries.

In the Food for Peace Volag/MOH maternal child feeding programs (CRS and CARE with Bolivian counterparts) 41,146 women participate as beneficiaries, as members and sometimes as officials of mothers clubs with the latter having responsibility for collecting and managing club funds. There are two full time women nutritionists and nine women on the administrative staff of the Ministry of Health and Junta Nacional de Accion Social which provide technical support to these clubs.

Nicaragua

Women are actively involved in all five of USAID's health, nutrition and family planning projects. They serve as planners, implementers, evaluators, and recipients. Nurse practitioners are now taking on some activities previously done only by physicians. Health educators, promoters, nutritionists, and members of community health committees include 30 women participants, or 50% of the total group involved. Family planning services already has over 600 midwives trained to deliver minimum MCH/FP services for rural areas. Women also serve as nurse supervisors, social workers educators, administrators and policy makers. One OPG, East Coast Health Services, recently begun, will depend upon 95 participants to run the program, 57% of whom are women health and nutrition educators/instructors, health committee members, medical workers, midwives, and maternal and child health care trainers.

Colombia

USAID/C's mostly completed health sector loan included, as one of its principle elements, support for preventive approaches to priority health problems such as maternal and child health care. In delivering health services to rural areas, the project trained female health "promotoras" and health auxiliary technicians. A national inventory of health workers, health education facilities and position tasks is underway which should provide information on the utilization of those trained thus far and the need for further and increased training in this area.

In the entire HNFP area, AID projects have been largely targeted at women, especially mothers, who generally direct the size and the health/nutrition habits of the family. The nutrition loan evaluation, scheduled for March, will provide detailed information on the impact of that loan on women.

The Small City Environmental Sanitation Loan improved the health status of lower income groups through construction of selected water and sewer systems in small and intermediate Colombian cities. Improvements in health status in these communities will increase opportunities for women, who might otherwise be at home with sick children, to seek gainful outside employment.

Paraguay

The proposed Population II project for FY 79 will benefit rural families, especially fertile women and their children. Activities should have important health benefits such as reducing the infant mortality rate of 84.2 through improved child spacing, and economic benefits for families who avoid unwanted mouths to feed. It is anticipated that 55,000 women will receive contraceptive services from the MOH in 1978 and 65,000 in 1979.

Women continue to be both administrators and beneficiaries of the USAID-assisted family planning program operated by the Department of Family Protection (DEPROFA) of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MOH). Ten clinics have female physicians, and 110 female para-medical personnel participate in the program. Many of these women have received AID-financed U.S. and third country training.

There are reportedly 47,000 active female users of family planning services in the USAID-funded DEPROFA program (an increase of 12,000 over CY 76) and 35,000 female acceptors under the family planning program sponsored by the local IPPF affiliate (IPPF receives approximately 40% of the budget from AID).

Jamaica

The primary aim of the AID-supported Family Planning program is to give information and education on planning aspects of family life. In Jamaica, family life education includes the dissemination of contraceptive education and information on all matters relating to fertility. Based on participation in the FP program, women are by far the main beneficiaries. Women account for 78 percent of the individuals involved as acceptors of services.

The purpose of the Health Improvement for Young Children project is to improve the primary health care system (health and nutrition) in a rural county, with the expectation that this improvement will be replicated in other countries. For this project, women are both beneficiaries and change agents; para-medical community health aides, predominantly women, will provide basic health services and nutritional information. Additionally, mid-wifery and assistant nurse training will be provided under the project, thus preparing some women to assume an important role in the country's system of delivering health care.

c) Evaluations

It is somewhat premature to evaluate, as a specific exercise, many of the activities dealing directly with, or as part of regular programs and projects, in the Latin American Region. Baseline data, against which to compare future progress is just now being generated.

In the interim, emphasis is being placed on subjective analysis and on-going reviews, which, in any case, will continue as an integral part of A.I.D.'s programs, projects and activities and which it is intended will become ever more objective as data becomes available.

Only one special evaluation, Proyecto de Desarrollo Humano/OEF/FOV - USAID/Costa Rica, has been completed (received AID/W February 27, 1978 and has yet to be reviewed). Other grants with primary impact on women such as the Nicaragua Rural Women's Credit Union project, have been evaluated using the regular AID evaluation format, (the PAR).