

ATTACHMENT D

Senegal

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REPORT ON WOMEN'S ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

FOR THE

EN 50161

WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Women in Development
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PROJECT: Women's Economic Activities

Introduction

In recent years the GOS has given considerable attention to fully integrating the Senegalese female into the monetized economy. Extension workers of the Delegation de la Promotion Humaine (PH) have been working in both urban and rural sectors to sensitize women to the notion of an effective role within the national economy. In practical terms this has meant the encouragement of economic participation through an involvement of individual and community investments of time and money. The promotion of income earning opportunities has focussed on small scale agricultural activities, in particular market gardening, and handicrafts.

The provisional results of the 1976 census estimate the country's female population totals 2,583,886 of which nearly 50% are aged between 15 and 60. It is a potentially active population that has a long tradition of working in the productive sense of sharing and labouring within the family agricultural environment. It is also a population from whom the concepts of remunerative work and full-time employment are alien. For many women, work has also meant a preference for practising a diversity of occupations. While reasons for this lack of specialization are many and complex, it suffices to cite a few: the agricultural environment and its production calendar; the role of women within the traditional muslim household; the demands of family life, and the pounding of millet and the carrying of water, both essential but time consuming tasks.

When considering the economic role of women in Senegal the differentiation between urban and rural is only marginally significant. At present 35% of the country's female population reside in agglomerations with populations in excess of 10,000. However, outside of the populations of the larger centres of Dakar, St Louis and Kaolack, the urban woman practises a life style little different from her rural counterpart. The growing of foodstuffs, the processing of fish, the husbanding of small animals such as chickens, and the resale of all these and other products in the internal redistributive system provide the main income earning opportunities. Her urban counterpart is also active in a multiplicity of activities encompassed by the redistributive network. On the market-places of the larger agglomerations, women dominate the retail trade of fruits and vegetables as well as dried, smoked, and fresh fish. While numerically less significant, yet, an area in which women are very much in the majority, is the position of the urban domestic. Temporary rural migrants, fill these ranks for the duration of their urban stay. Most flock to the cities on a seasonal basis, over a number of years. Upon marriage, they return permanently to the village. The modern sector absorbs a limited number of professional and clerical positions. Irrespective of their place of residence large numbers of women engage in artisanal activities of which clothing, pottery and wicker-work are the most in evidence.

The project outlined below focusses on the subject of the economic role of the Senegalese woman. Attention is given to the solutions of some of the problems that confront her in undertaking these activities, more particularly, the sale of her agricultural output. The solutions sought have been proposed within the context of the existing resource base and the structural organization of the informal sector of the Senegalese economy in which she is an important participant.

The purpose of the project is to ameliorate the economic conditions for women in Senegal. The discussion that follows begins with a consideration of the principal income earning activities of many women, market-gardening and chicken farming. Attention is then given to the 3 specific problem areas addressed by the project, the internal marketing system, the role of extension agents and the existing credit infrastructure. The purpose and description of the project follow. The paper concludes with a detailing of the project implementation, timing and cost.

Economic Role of Small Town and Rural Women

Outside of trade at any of the various levels in the internal redistributive network, and the processing of fish, the growing and sale of fruit and vegetables, and the raising of small animals are among the few alternative income earning activities open to women. These activities take place within the constraints imposed by the traditional demands placed upon the female within the household. Allowing for ethnic differences and seasonality the daily routine of the Senegalese woman is well defined. Apart from the preparation of meals, and care of the household, she is responsible for the time consuming task of collecting wood for fuel and water, and the pounding of foodstuffs, of which millet is the most important. During the rainy season, she undertakes traditionally defined agricultural activities, e.g. rice in the Casamance, working in the peanut fields in the north. For most any market-gardening activities are assigned to the dry season which extends from November to March.

In the past the entry of women into the production of european, as opposed to indigenous fruits and vegetables has been undertaken principally by individuals resident within a 20 km radius of the 4 urban centres of Dakar, St Louis, Kaolack and Ziguinchor. This pattern is gradually changing. Owing to the activities of a widely dispersed number of animation programs, there has been a considerable increase in female participation in this activity as well as chicken raising. This has occurred both close to and at a distance from the traditional food deficit centers. Even though it is not possible to quantify this impact in terms of income or numbers directly affected, the figures on the following page offer some evidence of the resulting increase in the production of these foodstuffs, especially outside the Cap Vert-Dakar agglomerative zone, However, they must be viewed as undervalued since much female gardening usually escapes statistical accounting.

MARKET GARDENING
REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF VEGETABLE PRODUCTION
1966-1974

R E G I O N	Y E A R							
	1966-67		1971-72		1972-73		1973-74	
	Area Cultivated (ha)	Production (tons)						
Cap Vert.....		23,000	2,500	36,500	2,600	31,600	2,589	38,804
Casamance.....		500	-	600	-	400	762	6,148
Dicurbel.....		1,800	300	3,600		3,800	307	3,305
Fleuve (1).....		2,400	600	13,700	900	17,100	586	5,719
Senegal Oriental..		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sine Saloum.....		1,000	100	500	100	1,300	219	819
Thies.....		6,300	1,300	15,300	1,200	15,300	1,340	4,155
ENSEMBLE DU SENEGAL.....	2,600	35,000	4,800	70,200	4,800	69,500	5,803	58,950

(1) Mainly tomatoes

The introduction of poultry farming is much newer. Consequently, the current levels of production remain small and simple. It would appear that the potential for this activity is good and already attention is being given to the need for improved species and guidance with respect to the raising of these animals.

Since the promotion of these activities is only recent, the development of commercial gardens is also still limited. However, where such projects are already underway their impact has already been significant. The new Jardin Collectif at Khor, Fleuve region, best illustrates this point. In 1975 the year of the jardin's establishment, 150 women cultivated 400 m². Over and above their individual subsistence requirements, the community netted 29,000 F, the first income ever for the majority of the participants. Plans exist to extend the lot to 2,500 m² in November 1976.

Discussions with village and urban women, and also confirmed by officials indicated that increasingly among the main impediments to the greater spread of such economic activities are the need for additional support with respect to technical assistance, inputs and training for monitrices on one hand, and improvement in the marketing system for these outputs on the other.

Internal Redistributive System

The market-place network through which foodstuffs flow from producer to consumer remains an essential part of the traditional african economic system. It is an exchange network in which a scarcity of capital is offset by a multiplicity of intermediaries and a preference by all participants for rapid turnover at the expense of profit maximization. Furthermore, it is a mechanism for the internal redistribution of goods and services which is well suited to moving goods rapidly with respect to time and space. In contrast it is less efficient with respect to organizing production so as to ensure a continual flow of output over the growing season which in much of Senegal extends from November to March. The result is that the pattern of supply of fruits and vegetables can be defined as a feast-famine cycle, periods of scarcity and high prices alternate with times of low prices and high levels of wastage.

For the small scale female producer the vagaries of the market are a major deterrant to further expansion of her production (under optimal conditions it is assumed she, plus 8 dependants, could cultivate one-quarter of a hectare). In addition since many towns lack any organized wholesale market, the process of selling is itself a costly business. The producer is either at the mercy of an intermediary, called bana-bana, whose bulking activities permit him/her to buy directly in the village at minimal prices. Alternatively she is forced to displace herself to a nearby town market, often for a whole day, in order to dispose of her output. The costs of this latter activity in time and money are high.

Women in Makhana, 16 km. from St Louis, indicated that the combined price of transport, market-place ticket and food for one day was around 500 F. On total gross earnings of no more than 3,000 F this is significant. The need for some intervention that assures a more rational production pattern and addresses the need to facilitate the process of sale for the producer is obvious. A variety of solutions are ideally possible and while the actual choices will await a more intensive study, discussions with officials as well as market women have suggested minor but effective innovations that could be introduced. In a large number of urban places no wholesale marketing arrangement exists, its organization together with the provision of storage facilities would be invaluable in bringing together large scale buyers (e.g. institutions, or bulkers) and the small scale producers. The forming of village level marketing cooperatives is another potential development; the establishment of a fruit and vegetable cooperative remains a long run aim on ONCAD. The processing of production would appear to offer unlimited opportunities. Several villages in the Casamance have begun experimenting most successfully with preserving fruits and vegetables, suggesting the potential for a coordinated set of activities in this area.

The Role of Rural Extension Agents

Since the early 1960's the Promotion Humaine has been active in providing extension services to urban and rural women in Senegal. Today this government department supports a network of 200 agents of which 106 work at the arrondissement level, i.e. directly with the village women. By 1982 it is hoped to have a total of 300 working in the field.

Through a diversity of programs such as Maison Familiale, l'Animation Urbaine et Rurale, Formation Rurale they have been effective in sensitizing women to the concept of economic participation in the National economy. This process of education is achieved through a number of sequential steps in an integrated program of sewing, household management, childcare, health, nutrition, food preparation and the introduction of market gardening and the raising of small livestock. While the role of the extension workers in the encouragement of small scale agricultural production has been significant, it should be recognized that the training of monitrices does not provide them with the necessary detailed knowledge to undertake these activities beyond an elementary stage. Since they technically operate within the CER (Centre d'Expansion Rurale) at the arrondissement level, ideally they should be able to draw on the expertise of these agricultural specialists in assisting women in their agricultural activities. In reality this arrangement is far from satisfactory. Few CERs are fully staffed and specialists in the areas of production are in scant supply. At the same time the effectiveness of the female extension agent is limited by the low ratio of agents to population. The table below, based on currently available data (1975) indicates this clearly.

DISTRIBUTION OF EXTENSION AGENTS IN IVth PLAN
SITUATION IN 1976

LOCATION	TYPES OF AGENTS				TOTAL
	MAITRESSES DEPARTEMENT	MONITRICES NIVEAU ARRONDISSEMENT	DIRECTRICES DEPARTEMENT	DIRECTRICE ADJOINTE DEPARTEMENT	
NATIONAL (DPF)	0	0	2	1	3
CAP VERT	2	17	13	4	36
CASAMANCE	2	7	4	6	21
DIOURBEL	4	19	1	4	28
FLEUVE	1	2	2	6	11
THIES	3	30	2	2	37
SENEGAL ORIENTAL	0	2	1	4	7
SINE-SALOUM	3	29	4	9	45
TOTAL	15	106	29	38	188

SOURCE: DELEGATION DE LA PROMOTION HUMAINE

TABLE:

<u>Distribution of Extension Agents</u>			
<u>Region</u>	<u>Number of women</u>	<u>Number of P.H. Agents</u>	<u>Ration Agent/women</u>
Thies, Diourbel Sine-Saloum	1,026,115	110	1/9337
Casamance	306,966	21	1/14617
Senegal Oriental Fleuve	324,217	18	1/18012
Totals	1,658,298	149	1/11129

(Source: Delegation de la Promotion Humaine 1976).

Another impediment is provided by the large number of settlement nodes, each representing separate integral units with which an agent must work. The distribution of population by settlement size amply confirms this.

In light of these constraints the project aims to provide training courses as well as to offer direct assistance to monitrices in undertaking their activities. The issue of incorporating these field training activities into the course work of student monitrices will also be examined.

Distribution of Thies Population
by Settlement Size, 1972

<u>Settlement Size</u>	<u>Number of Settlement</u>	<u>Population Distribution (%)</u>
1-49	385	2.5
50-99	395	6.1
100-199	406	12.1
200-299	149	7.7
300-399	79	5.9
400-499	45	4.4
500-699	56	7.2
700-999	53	9.6
1,000-1999	33	8.9
2,000-4999	4	2.3
5,000-9999	1	1.3
Over 10,000	4	32.0
Total	1,610	100.0

(Source: Repertoire des Villages, Direction de la Statistique).

Rural Credit for Women

For the traditional Senegalese women the notion of credit seems an evasive concept. Their need for this commodity appears to have been very limited. Any consumption requirements not met by the household itself have tended and continue to be obtained in accordance with traditional systems of barter exchange. In the Casamance the direct exchange of rice for other needs is an ongoing practice. Any use of monetary currency appears on a cash basis. Husbands traditionally give their wives an established sum of money once a year following the harvest. Meant for her discretionary use, it is either spent directly on goods and services or put aside, within the context of the traditional savings system. These include communal savings funds for village projects or rotating credit systems to meet occasional family requirements. Where the demand for money exceeds supply the Senegalese woman has tended not to seek credit to bridge this gap, rather she undertaken some petty trade activity in order to obtain the necessary funds.

As the woman increasingly interacts with the monetary economy her demands for cash have accordingly increased. The means for obtaining it have multiplied, and undoubtedly the enthusiasm with which the commercialisation of agriculture is undertaken is a reflection of this phenomena. She continues to perceive her needs in terms of cash nor credit. This applies equally to individual and communal demands e.g. day care centres, which are met by the communities themselves. Capital is built up in accordance with the traditional saving practices.

As a first step in this project it is necessary to go beyond this skeletal description of the role of savings and credit in the context of the small town and rural female. The question that must be posed is to what extent these traditional structures can be utilized or should be modified when considering payment mechanisms with respect to the supply of equipments, seeds and other inputs within the proposed project.

1. Project Purpose.

The purpose of the project is to ameliorate the social and economic conditions of women in Senegal.

1. Attention will be given to increasing the production and market possibilities for women undertaking small scale agricultural activities, especially in the area of perishable foodstuffs such as fruit and vegetables, and small livestock

e.g. chickens. A technical assistant will be called upon to work in close collaboration with existing extension agents (monitrices) in order to coordinate the diverse range of individual market garden and other foodstuff related activities which occur within the regional space economies. This individual will study the spatial distribution of both production and marketing activities within a defined region and suggest actions that might be taken in order to define a more efficient and coordinated system of activities.

2. Rapid, short-term specialized training is to be provided to the 149 women rural development extension agents (monitrices de la Promotion Humaine) in an attempt to improve their effectiveness in meeting the needs of the rural Senegalese women. Particular attention will be paid to their integrated role within the CER (Centre d'Expansion Rurale) as it operates at the level of either the Communauté Rurale, or the Arrondissement. The role of the monitrices in assisting village women in the marketing of perishables and other products will be considered with the objective of improving the efficiency of the first step in flow process of foodstuffs which originate in rural areas and are destined for urban consumption. Secondly, this issue will be analysed within the context of a potential training program that could be included in their regular course of studies. This would form part of both the coursework offered by the Centre National de Formation pour Monitrices d'Economie Familiale Rurale and other related Institutes.

3. Close attention will be given to the application of alternative technologies to the work currently undertaken by women. Tools and inputs utilized in the production process will be reviewed and the application of processing methods to agricultural output will be studied. If observed demands cannot be met by local institutions, outside specialists will be called upon to meet these needs e.g. food technologist.

4. Throughout the period of operation of the project an evaluation will be made of the range of services offered by the Promotion Humaine to women undertaking economic activities in rural areas and small towns. Consideration will be given to improving the coordination of these services at all administrative levels within a region.

1. Description

The project proposes the establishment of a mobile unit which would be staffed by experienced personnel and fitted with appropriate equipment. It would periodically visit rural communities where the Promotion Humaine is working. It will assist in a practical way in understanding the problems faced by monitrices, particularly with respect to women's

economic activities, and in tum find practical answers to these problems. The unit's personnel will be composed of:

- a. A rural community development specialist with a specialization in agricultural economics and the marketing of agricultural foodstuffs. The expert would work in Senegal for the duration of the project.
- b. Three Senegalese counterparts to the rural development expert would be hired. Each would work with the unit within a defined region for a year. They will remain in the region working with the Promotion Humaine to carry on the functions of the mobile unit following its departure. This will make for a total of three trained regional counterparts at the end of the project period.
- c. A specialist in the field of intermediate technology will be hired for a year, during the second phase of the project. It is suggested that the specialist's field of expertise be in the area of small scale agricultural activities.
- d. A specialist in the field of food technology would be hired by short periods in the course of the project. He/she will be concerned with investigating the potential for informal sector and small scale food processing activities in small town and/or rural areas.

2. Equipment

The mobile unit would be equipped with a vehicle containing audiovisual and instructional aids. It will also have access to inputs required for marketing gardening and poultry farming.

3. Function

The function of the mobile unit would be to support rural extension agents currently working at the rural base and in small towns. They currently total 150 (1976) with a planned increase of at least 50 by the end of 1982. The mobile unit will be concerned with a wide range of activities extending from the production of foodcrops and raising of small animals, to the commercialisation of these products.

- a. The unit would study the internal networks for the redistribution of foodstuffs.

b. The Senegalese monitrices would be trained by the mobile team in the field of marketing of farm produce within the existing internal trade channels. They will assist producers and buyers in this first link in the redistributive process between producer and consumer. This will be achieved by sensitizing women to the trading process, particularly in the area of wholesaling.

c. The mobile unit will give direct support and provide the monitrices with practical training and demonstrations designed to solve specific problems which cannot be achieved in existing training centers. Particular emphasis will be placed on agricultural food processing and the application of intermediate technology to ongoing and new activities in order to increase, the income of women.

d. The team would collect information and data on the conditions and activities of village women in order to identify their needs and maximize the inputs of various public and private agencies.

e. Geographically the activities of the unit during the project period will be divided among the regions. For the first phase of the project they will be headquartered in Kaolack and will work in the administrative regions of Sine-Saloum, Thiès, Diourbel. Next the mobile unit would be located in Casamance where it would be headquartered in Ziguinchor. Finally, it would be located in Podor and would cover the administrative regions of Fleuve Senegal, Senegal Oriental and Louga.

4. Physical Requirements

Furnished housing will be required for the project staff in the following locations and for the time periods specified.

Year 1: in Kaolack for 8 months
Year 2: in Ziguinchor for 7 months,
in Kaolack for 4 months,
Year 3: in Podor for 7 months
in Kaolack for 3 months.

5. Organization

The project will be sponsored by the Delegation de la Promotion Humaine of the Ministry of National Education. It will be executed over a period of 39 months. The project over this

period will be administered by the rural community development expert who will work at the regional level within the office of the Inspecteur Regional de la Promotion Humaine.

6. Following completion of the mobile unit's work within a given area region, it is anticipated that the Senegalese counterparts will remain to work within the Regional Office of the Promotion Humaine carrying on the functions of the unit as well as training other individuals to fill parallel positions in each of the country's administrative regions.

7. Prospects for Institutionalization

The proposed project will train a total of three Senegalese counterparts. Each of these will carry on the work of the project at the regional level after the departure of the expert. The regional counterparts will remain in rural areas and train others. One will begin activities as early as 10 months after project inception and thus will benefit from interaction with the project during the remaining two years of its operation in the country.

It is anticipated that the job of the regional counterparts will become an integral position at the level of the regional offices of the Promotion Humaine.

The training of extension agents in the area of marketing foodstuffs will provide a basis for developing a course in this field for student extension agents at institutions such as the Centre National de Formation pour Monitrices d'Economie Familiale Rurale. This is a logical next step in the training they already received which includes courses in sewing, household management, baby care nutrition, and foodstuffs production.

The project's use of local resources, both human and physical, will ensure its integration into the rural community.

PROJECT DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MOBILE UNIT PROJECT

The Mobile unit project will be carried out over 39 months. Three months will be allowed at the outset for orientation and two months at the end for evaluation of the project. Given the fact that two thirds of the population and three quarters of the extension agents are located in the regions of Thies, Diourbel and Sine-Saloum, it is proposed that the mobile unit spend the maximum amount of time there. The time allocated to the other two regions will be less, but proportional. To this end, the allocation of the unit's time will be as follows:

- fourteen and half months in Kaolack
- seven months in Ziguinchor
- seven months in Podor.

In each region, the teams work will be carried out through a preparatory phase, an operational phase, and a phase out.

I. Preparatory Phase

The first phase of the project requires the undertaking of the following activities:

- a. Hiring of a rural community development expert who will be responsible for the project during the 39 months in the field.
- b. Based on consultations and drawing on the recommendations of the earlier research study, equipment will be obtained. This will include vehicles, audio-visual equipment and project materials, e.g. scales, seed reserves, fertilizer, chicken etc.
- c. The first Senegalese counterpart will be hired.
- d. Contacts with government agencies will be established.
- e. Housing in Kaolack will be arranged.
- f. Plans for the first year of operation will be drawn up.
- g. Arrangements will be made for the short term contracting of a food technologist.

II. Operational Phase

- a. Thies, Diourbel, Sine-Saloum region.

In this area, the unit will spend the first 9 months travelling from Kaolack to cover the regions of Thies, Diourbel and Sine-Saloum. Contact will be made with the extension agents in the area.

The unit will familiarize with local problems, and assess and define specific training and equipment needs. Any agricultural inputs or other materials required by village will be made available through a rotating credit system. Since there is a long tradition of savings for individual and community requirements, the maintenance of this institution

will be viewed as an integral part of the project. The unit will examine the region's marketing structure and take steps to coordinate the activities of producers and wholesalers. Temporal and spatial patterns of production will be analysed and consideration will be given to necessary changes e.g. staggering of production, where possibilities for processing goods are perceived. A food technologist will be called in to appraise the situation and propose projects in this area. When necessary the team will conduct training sessions in the different departments. Depending on the issue being addressed they will train either the monitrices or work directly with the village populations.

In the course of its work, the unit will accumulate base line data. Particular attention will be given to collecting information on:

- (a) Knowledge, techniques and skills of extension workers and their constituents.
- (b) Rural incomes, subsistence and monetary components.
- (c) Production and marketing patterns in the region.

This information will be collected at the commencement and completion of work in a region and will be used as an on-going frame of reference for evaluating the program. It will also provide a basis for ascertaining the specialized needs of the project e.g. the hiring of a food technologist.

Towards the end of this phase, the Senegalese counterpart will take over full responsibility for the project. The community development expert will evaluate the work of the unit. This will be discussed with Promoteur Humaine officials and will also provide a more concrete basis for planning future activities in the region of the Casamance.

b. Casamance Region

Activities will begin about the beginning of year 2. A second Senegalese counterpart will be hired. The expert will be headquartered in Ziguinchor for seven months and then will return to Kaolack for a further 4 months.

During year 2 an intermediate technology specialist will join the team. He/she will work in both the Casamance region and area encompassed by Sine-Saloum, Thies, Diourbel. This will permit him/her to observe two environmentally different agrarian regions. He will suggest potential innovations with respect to tools and other equipment which might be used in the production and processing of agricultural output and, if necessary offer training in their utilization and production.

c. Louga, Fleuve and Senegal Oriental Region

The team will establish itself in Podor from which it will cover these three regions. The activities of the team will be similar to those in the prior two regions, although population dispersion may cause the team to spend more time away from its headquarters. It will remain in the region through the calendar year and then return to Kaolack for the phasing out period of the mission.

III. Phase out Period

Since it is expected that the Senegalese counterparts will be well established in their work, the major focus of activities during the period will be the evaluation of the project. During this phase, the expert will hand over the operational responsibility of the project to a Senegalese counterpart retaining only an advisory role. The position of project coordinator will be taken over by a Regional Inspector working in Dakar at the Promotion Humaine. He/she will be responsible for all future planning in this field. During this period, the community development expert will work closely with members of the educational community concerned with training extension workers. They will consider the formulation of courses for possible inclusion in the educational programs of monitrices.

Evaluation

Evaluation will be an integral part of the project. It will take place as a specific exercise at the end of each of the first two regional activity segments and will culminate in a parallel measurement of project performance during phase out.

The evaluation of the project as whole will include consideration of:

- (a) Changes in production and marketing,
- (b) Changes in rural women's incomes throughout the country.
- (c) Evaluation of extension agents' and rural women's needs, both met and unmet,
- (d) Establishment of outstanding requirements, and
- (e) A planning document for future activities in the regions based on coordination of both Government and private institutions.

Prior to the writing of the project paper, it is suggested that two preliminary studies be undertaken.

1. Study of a Regional Marketing System

While it is possible to discuss in broad terms the system of operation of the internal redistribution system for foodstuffs, there remains a scarcity of data with which to define its organization in a given area. It is generally accepted that once goods enter the system they are handled by a multiplicity of individuals, traders as well as transporters whose role it is to ensure a rapid movement of the goods in time and space. Return on investments is measured in terms of speed of turnover and payments for services rendered. As increasing numbers of women enter the system through the sale of their agricultural output, there is evidence to suggest that the capacity of the system at the first

link in the chain is ill-suited to the needs of the producers. There is a lack of temporal and spatial organization of the production process which results in the phenomena of oversupply and the lowering of prices to uneconomic levels. More importantly there is evidence that some re-organization of the system at its origin, to facilitate sales by producers, is required.

While a number of alternatives can be suggested in the abstract, e.g. establishment of urban wholesale markets, forming of marketing co-operatives, the consideration of these issues requires a detailed study of the market-place system.

It is proposed that a study be financed in order to investigate the nature of the market-place system as it operates within a given region. Attention should be given to the mechanisms of the internal redistributive systems such as the specific role of all producers and resellers, their credit operations, the degree of product specialization and the type of market-places, e.g. rural, daily or periodic. In addition the research should address the spatial dimensions of the system. The question of where exchanges occur is an important as their volume and value. Careful attention should be given to tracing the flows of goods in space from their point of origin to their destination.

On the basis of accumulated data the study should:

1. Map out existing trade networks within the region.
2. Consider in detail existing impediments to the ready movement of goods.
3. Suggest possible innovation that might be introduced to solve these problems.

It is suggested that the research be undertaken in the Casamance. Although it is a major food producing region of Senegal, physical location has until recently kept it outside the sphere of influence of Dakar, the country's major food deficit zone. Several market garden projects are being promoted in the area and the issue of disposal of output by these villagers is of central importance.

A social scientist should be hired for a period of two months. Preference should be given to someone trained in economics and geography who has undertaken previous work on West Africa market-place systems.

2. A Study of Credit Institutions Utilized by Rural and Small Town Women.

The proposed projects call for the provision of inputs necessary for the diverse economic activities undertaken by women. It is suggested that these should not be direct grants. Rather the terms for their supply should be in keeping with the traditional credit structures already in use by the women. Since the parameters of these mechanisms

and how they might be utilized within the project remain undefined at this stage, it is proposed to undertake a brief investigation of the existing system before inception of the project itself:

The study of the credit networks should:

- (a) consider the different roles of cash, credit and savings within the traditional system;
- (b) investigate the financial mechanisms currently utilized by women;
- (c) design a credit system that can be used for the supply of the production inputs made available by the project.

The study should be undertaken in two areas of the country, possibly the Casamance and the region of the Fleuve. A specialist with extensive experience in rural credit should be hired for two months to undertake this piece of research.

VILLAGE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A.I.D./INPUTS

<u>Personnel</u>	<u>FY 1978</u>	<u>FY 1979</u>	<u>FY 1980</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Rural Development Expert	50,000	50,000	50,000	150,000
Intermediate Technology		55,000		55,000
Short-team consultants	25,000	25,000	25,000	75,000
Local Staff counterpart(3)	27,000	27,000	26,000	80,000
<u>Participant Training</u>				
Short term local training	2,000	2,000	1,000	5,000
<u>Commodities</u>				
Small tool & equipment (scales, fertilizer, seeds, chickens)	40,000	40,000	40,000	120,000
Vehicles-3 at dol.6,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	24,000
Three sets of audio-visual equipment	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000
<u>Other costs</u>				
Fuel & vehicle maintenance costs	5,000	7,000	8,000	20,000
TOTAL dol.	167,000	224,000	168,000	559,000
Contingency 15%	25,050	33,600	25,200	83,850
TOTAL	<u>192,050</u>	<u>257,600</u>	<u>193,200</u>	<u>642,850</u>

GOS INPUTS

<u>Personnel</u>	<u>FY 1978</u>	<u>FY 1979</u>	<u>FY 1980</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Two supervisors	20,000	20,000	20,000	60,000
Three drivers	9,000	9,000	9,000	27,000
Furnished Housing	12,000	24,000	12,000	48,000
Construction (Market places, stalls, storage facilities, village centers)				
10 large structures	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000
TOTAL	<u>51,000</u> =====	<u>63,000</u> =====	<u>51,000</u> =====	<u>165,000</u> =====

Development of Small Scale Activities

The women of Senegal have for a long time played an important role in the production of certain handicrafts, in particular cloth-dyeing pattern and wickerwork. Customarily, these products have been produced within the context of the household economy for its own purpose or have been used in barter exchanges. With entry into the monetized economy, increasing these artisanal products are being produced for sale on the market-place to meet tourist and local demand.

Extension agents working with both urban and rural women have been active in promoting these activities, particularly cloth-dyeing. They have emphasized the utility of the acquired skill with respect to the women's personal needs and as a form of economic activity. The encouragement of cloth-dyeing would appear to have reached the stage where the problem of market saturation is starting to arise. Explanations for this are not difficult to find and it can be argued that cloth-dyeing activities have become caught up in a self sustained vicious circle.

Women in this area have always used traditionally dyed cloth for their personal use. Acquisition of this skill is seen by many as both a potential income earning activity and a means of meeting one's own needs. Many villages and urban women are requesting that their extension agents teach them this skill. As their demand are being met increasing number of women are flooding the markets with these products, varying extensively in quality and style. At the same time the increased availability of the cloth has stimulated others to wish to acquire these skills. Thus the circle moves on with the market gradually reaching saturation.

The need to break out of this self defeating situation is obvious. Several alternatives appear possible:

1. The upgrading of existing skills, plus formation of production cooperatives. This would permit the production of items of a consistent good quality and offer a means of going beyond the process of cloth-dyeing into the assembly of goods utilizing the dyed fabric e.g. clothes, table napkins.
2. Different handicrafts can be introduced thus broadening the range of activities undertaken by women.

3. In an environment where the possibilities of work are limited to labour intensive activities in the informal sector, the possibilities of developing these traditional handicrafts utilizing alternative technologies would seem a potential area of opportunity.

A study project is proposed that addresses in particular these three issues.

1. The field of small scale industry should be studied for innovations that could be introduced in an urban or rural environment. Attention should focus on activities which utilize the basic skills inherent in the traditional handicrafts practiced by women.

2. Certain activities, which are technically feasible, should then be evaluated in terms of their economic potential.

3. A step by step program should be set out which defines how the existing artisanal base can be developed for the production of these goods. Attention should be given to training personnel who can direct the introduction of these activities as well as organize their production and marketing.

ATTACHMENT E

MILLET MILLS: FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Demand

Millet and rice mills for village use have been provided by governors of regions, departmental prefects, Rural Councils drawing on local taxes, and occasionally by the women themselves through co-op dues.

Such variety of source indicates the interest and demand the mills have aroused and the confidence rural officials have in them. The subject came up wherever the design team went. It was predicted to have "revolutionary" implications; it was capable of changing life in the countryside as nothing else could, etc.

Management and Cooperation

Exaggeration or not, the fact itself of the mills being widely known and valued bears on the question of proper utilization. Efficient use, maintenance and amortization of the equipment depends altogether on a management ability that must develop in the village or chief town of a Rural Community; the responsibility cannot be assumed by outsiders. The mills are planned to become common property, managed by cooperatives, or "regroupements". The spirit and practice of cooperation at the village level varies with ethnic group, dominant culture, region and local circumstance. But the common desire for this equipment may prompt the organization of cooperatives. And where they exist or are created, the responsibility of handling the equipment -- an important, clearcut, commonly agreed and stimulating function -- can reinforce the cooperating tendency. It can also increase the co-op's ability to do other things, such as supervise common garden plots and finance supplies for the village maternity.

Labor Saving

Why are these simple machines so highly regarded, by administrators and village women alike? The reason appears simple. A woman spends as much as eight hours in the preparation of millet for cooking - peeling, cleaning and pounding. The equipment does the same operations in, say, one half hour. Located in a central village of the Rural Community, the mill would be at an average 2.5 kilometers from its clientele. Netting out the time for walking to and fro, say 1.5 hours, the time saved would be six hours. Since the energy of pounding would also be saved, this bloc of time could be highly productive in other work or community service. And some of it could go to the rare luxury of leisure, relieving the oppressive monotony of rural life and making possible a broader, more "potential" attitude toward the social environment.

Economic Benefit

The other work women might undertake during time saved from pounding millet includes vegetable gardening and poultry raising. These activities are targets of help in the Economic Activity in Villages segment of this project. A raw calculation has been made of potential revenue from these new opportunities, with "ballpark" results similar close to estimates in Mali : \$85-100 per year per woman. The assumptions are :

- a - One hour (of six) devoted to poultry raising. A 25 bird flock, each bird laying 150 eggs per year (3750 eggs total), and each bird sold for meat when it lays no more.
- b - Two hours devoted to vegetable gardening (on a ten meter square plot) during a six-month growing season.

With revenue from selling the bird averaged in, a net per egg of 5 to 10 cfa is possible in current markets. Using the low end of the range, annual income would be 18,750 cfa per year, or about 50 cfa per day. Net from vegetables is taken at a low 60 cfa per day, during the six-month growing season, in the present production-marketing system wherein the woman producer who is not also the market seller gets a relatively small share of the price paid by the consumer. (The project hopes to ameliorate that situation). The result over twelve months is 30 cfa per day.

The last factor is an assumed fee of 10 cfa per kilogram for grinding millet at the new village mill, a fee being used in some places. If a family consumes 2 kg of millet it spends 20 cfa per day.

Conclusion:

50 cfa	daily net from poultry
<u>30 cfa</u>	" " " gardening
80 cfa	total
<u>20 cfa</u>	netted out for grinding
60 cfa	profit x 365 ÷ 245 cfa/dollar = \$89.

Social Policy

Doubtless these considerations influenced the Government's national Economic and Social Council in its session of November-December 1975 on the place of women in development. It recommended three "indispensable interventions" on behalf of women in agriculture, of the primary sector. Toward easing the tiring and painful burdens of non-agricultural labor: (1) Accelerate the drilling of village wells; (2) expand the use of millet mills; and, (3) open additional childcare-maternity centers.

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The second increases the possibility of achieving the third objective, where co-ops concerned also with health matters are strengthened by responsibility for operating the mills. (The first, it should be remembered, relates to another element of this activity, the provision of pumps.) There are other major draw-downs on the time and energy of rural women, of course, such as children, the household and field work itself. UNICEF studies indicate that women in the Thiès region work an average of 16 hours a day. The attraction of a six-hour saving from millet mills -- to women, to social workers and to economic planners¹ is therefore understandably great.

Technical Concerns

The mill now in distribution is locally manufactured and well adapted to local conditions and its imported motor.

It is not of course perfect, and it requires care in operation, spare parts, and some comprehension of what a machine is, as opposed to a tool. Some Peace Corpsmen in village life worry that it is not "intermediate" but advanced technology, in the extremely simple conditions of some villages. This view was found in Casamance, where the distances, actual, psychological and informational, from the centers of modern action are great. On this matter the Mission and UNICEF, and certainly the regional authorities, are nevertheless confident. The equipment is after all simple, it is local, apart from the motor, and it has few moving or invisible parts⁽¹⁾.

From another standpoint, cost of operation, there are questions to be answered. As established in one Rural Community, the village mill does not hold the patronage of those local women who are able to reach a commercial mill in the area, where the fee is less. This is not a problem, of course, where commercial competition is not close. Nevertheless, UNICEF is bringing out an expert -- a woman -- to look into all costs and fees of operation, in November 1976; and it already has here in Dakar an expert who will examine the question of whether diesel-powered motors would be more economic and as easily operated as the present gasoline-powered prototypes.

(1) Note in this connection that the technology-level and reliability of the foot-pump is beyond question. A UNICEF team recently spotted in the field pumps it had delivered some ten years ago still working well, with the improvising ministrations of the village blacksmith!