

**Cooperation Between  
The Peace Corps  
and  
The Agency for International  
Development**

**A Second Report to the Congress  
of the  
United States**

**August 1989**



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AND THE  
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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PEACE CORPS**

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This report was produced for  
The Agency for International Development  
and  
The United States Peace Corps  
by BENCHMARKS, INC.,  
under contract number PDC-0000-C-00-6201-00.

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## TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

On behalf of the Peace Corps and the Agency for International Development (A.I.D.), we are pleased to transmit this updated report on the special efforts our agencies have made to achieve greater cooperation. The previous edition of this report was submitted to the Congress in February 1986.

The Joint A.I.D./Peace Corps Coordinating Committee created in 1984 has caused a number of new ideas to come to fruition. Recent initiatives undertaken by our two agencies include a Participating Agency Service Agreement (PASA) for a joint program in microenterprise development, a joint effort with Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (VOCA) to send American agriculturalists abroad for short-term assignments, a new program of development education being carried out in cooperation with the National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, and new initiatives in women in development and basic education.

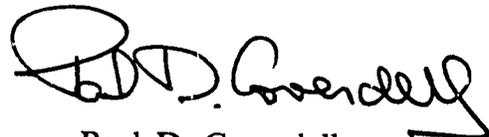
The Small Project Assistance (SPA) program has continued to be a valuable community development tool for both agencies. The sectoral PASAs in Forestry and Natural Resources and Child Survival are continuing to strengthen each agency's programs in these areas. We have stepped up efforts to encourage joint planning and the exchange of personnel between our agencies.

There are currently more than 1,700 Peace Corps Volunteers at work in development programs supported by A.I.D. These programs include approximately 500 small-scale community development projects of the SPA program and more than 135 bilateral programs carried out with host country agencies and private voluntary organizations.

We believe these joint efforts exemplify more integrated and effective use of United States resources in the developing world and that cooperation increases the contribution of both agencies to basic U.S. foreign assistance objectives.



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# Executive Summary

Over the past eight years the Peace Corps and the Agency for International Development (A.I.D.) have achieved a high level of cooperation in planning joint programs and strategies. The purpose of this endeavor, unique among government agencies, is to make more effective use of United States resources in the developing world.

This unique cooperation has resulted in improvements in each agency's programs. Management structures and policies have been established to institutionalize the improvements and foster new cooperative efforts. A Joint A.I.D./Peace Corps Coordinating Committee, composed of senior officials of both agencies, was created to ensure that interagency cooperation receives attention at the highest level and continues into the future.

Many new initiatives were undertaken at headquarters. Efforts to foster the exchange of personnel between the two agencies were stepped up. A systematic approach to coordination among A.I.D., the Peace Corps, and private voluntary organizations (PVOs) has helped to enhance donor effectiveness. The Peace Corps and A.I.D. joined with Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (VOCA) to send American agriculturalists abroad to provide short-term technical assistance to Volunteers and host country farmers worldwide. Two new initiatives in women in development and basic education were begun. The two agencies joined with the National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers to harness the efforts of 125,000 returned Volunteers to educate Americans about the developing world.

The Small Project Assistance (SPA) Program, which has provided over \$5 million of A.I.D. monies to small-scale community projects sponsored by Volunteers, continued to be an important community development tool for both agencies. A new Participating Agency Service Agreement (PASA) for a joint microenterprise development program was signed in 1988, bringing the total number of sectoral PASAs to seven. More than \$10 million of A.I.D. funds and a substantial amount of Peace Corps resources in the form of staff and Volunteer time, travel expenses, and supplies have been invested in these programs.

Increased cooperation has been reflected in joint programs in the field. There are more than 1,700 Peace Corps Volunteers at work in development projects that also receive support from A.I.D. More than 135 joint programs (exclusive of SPA projects) are being carried out in 53 countries. These joint programs are resulting in a more effective U.S. development assistance effort.

# I. Introduction

Informal communication and mutual support have always existed between the Peace Corps and A.I.D. This was true even in the days when the Peace Corps was new and very protective of its "differentness" and independence from other foreign assistance agencies. Cooperation over the past eight years, however, has several unique characteristics which are described in detail in this report.

Cooperation between the Peace Corps and A.I.D. has meant several things of special interest to those concerned about the most effective use of U.S. foreign assistance resources in the developing world. It has meant that Peace Corps Volunteers have had the technical and financial support which A.I.D. can provide. This support has taken many forms--small grants for community projects, necessary equipment and supplies, improved training programs for Volunteers, training opportunities for host country counterpart co-workers, and the advice and guidance which A.I.D. technicians can provide. For A.I.D., cooperation has meant direct access to the communities and people most in need of assistance, important feedback from Volunteers on how A.I.D.'s development projects are functioning in the field, and the possibility of skilled Volunteer assistance to critical A.I.D. programs in 62 countries around the globe.

## Why Cooperation?

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Cooperation is not being pursued as an end in itself, but as a means to increase the effectiveness of both A.I.D. and Peace Corps programs in bringing the benefits of development to people who are the ultimate concern of both agencies. In doing so, A.I.D. and the Peace Corps believe they are advancing the best long-term interests of the foreign assistance policy of the United States.

Consider:

- Both the Peace Corps and A.I.D. are part of the total foreign assistance effort of the U.S. government.
- Both agencies are supported entirely with funds by the U.S. Congress responding to the humanitarian and development concerns of the American people.
- Both agencies are committed to the same broad development goals and the improvement of basic human needs.

- Both agencies have programs in over sixty countries. In some countries (in the South Pacific and in certain smaller African and Caribbean states), the bulk of A.I.D. activities are conducted through the Peace Corps with A.I.D. providing the funds and the Peace Corps Volunteers providing the human resource.

The purpose of increasing cooperation between the Peace Corps and A.I.D. is to improve the development impact of both agencies in addressing the basic human needs of those in the poorer countries, within the framework of U.S. foreign policy interests. Each agency gains in the cooperative equation:

A.I.D. obtains:

- Vital grassroots workers who can help make A.I.D.- supported programs work at the level of poor communities.
- On-the-scene observers of the programs it is funding.
- Technically trained Volunteers who are bi-cultural, bilingual, and willing to live in circumstances of poverty and isolation. Many A.I.D. Mission Directors describe this resource as invaluable.
- Personnel to help plan and carry out important pilot projects which can lead to larger programs.
- A training ground for development officers. As one Mission Director commented, "the maturation of the Volunteers in the development process is of great interest to A.I.D."
- Peace Corps' assistance in identifying and evaluating projects and accounting for funds spent at the community level.

The Peace Corps obtains:

- A.I.D. resources to support community projects sponsored by Peace Corps Volunteers.
- A.I.D. funds to support technical improvements in Peace Corps programs and in the training of Volunteers and their host country counterparts.
- The benefit of comprehensive A.I.D. analysis of the host country's problems and development needs.
- A "partner" staffed with Peace Corps alumni who can augment the Peace Corps' resources and help provide technical continuity to Peace Corps programs.

- Greater access to other international development institutions.
- Strengthened host country institutions which enable Volunteers to have a more effective and satisfying term of service.

## **Two Equal and Independent Agencies**

The basic premise underlying A.I.D./Peace Corps cooperation is that the Peace Corps and A.I.D. are--and will remain--two independent agencies with total autonomy. Both agencies work together as equals. While A.I.D. and the Peace Corps attempt to deploy their resources in an integrated fashion wherever possible, in every case, this involves a *decision*, rather than a requirement, to cooperate.

The independence issue is an especially critical one for the Peace Corps. The Peace Corps was established as a volunteer agency different from A.I.D. or any other previous U.S. effort in the developing world. For the first ten years of its existence it guarded that "apartness" jealously. Moreover, it was created as a humanitarian, people-to-people program with two other missions beyond that of development: to improve the understanding of other countries on the part of the people of the United States and to improve their understanding of us.

Nonetheless, while retaining its people-to-people nature, the Peace Corps has a strong commitment to development as well as to technical and professional competence. It has demonstrated the unique role that trained Volunteers play in the development process, and the cost-effective way in which they do so. Closer cooperation between the two agencies creates an even greater development impact for the Peace Corps.

## **II. Mechanisms for Increased Cooperation**

### **A. The A.I.D./Peace Corps Coordinating Committee**

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The A.I.D./Peace Corps Coordinating Committee was established by charter in June 1984 to facilitate cooperation between the two agencies. In creating the Coordinating Committee, A.I.D. and the Peace Corps made a commitment to increase the effectiveness of their respective programs and the overall U.S. contribution to development.

A basic premise of the Coordinating Committee is that both the Peace Corps and A.I.D. have separate identities and will always have their own well-established roles to play in the U.S. foreign assistance program.

The charge of the Coordinating Committee is:

- To foster greater mutual understanding of each other's programs and of issues of mutual interest and concern.
- To review the effectiveness of ongoing collaborative efforts and propose improvements.
- To encourage better communications and increased cooperation between A.I.D. missions and Peace Corps offices overseas.

The Coordinating Committee is co-chaired by the Peace Corps Director and the A.I.D. Administrator. The Committee meets three times a year and consists of an equal number of persons from each agency who are appointed by the respective agency heads. A jointly-funded Secretariat provides logistical and support services under contract to the Coordinating Committee during the year.

### **B. Exchange of Personnel**

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Given similar development goals, personnel from each agency are encouraged to take advantage of job opportunities in the other. Each agency views an

experience.

Almost 500 returned Peace Corps Volunteers and staff are currently working as A.I.D. employees. Almost a dozen A.I.D. employees have recently joined the ranks of Peace Corps staff. Preliminary discussions between the agencies indicate that there are few real obstacles to a more extensive exchange of personnel. Expanded exchange of staff is being pursued by:

- Dissemination of information relating to job opportunities in each.
- Clear identification and articulation of the differences in conditions of service and in benefits and allowances so that potential employees understand and accept these differences.

### **C. Cooperation with Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOs)**

Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOs) have become an important third partner in development with the Peace Corps and A.I.D. PVOs generally provide both material and technical assistance to local activities assisted by the two agencies.

A.I.D. usually plays the role of funder, the Volunteer is the promoter at the local level, and the PVO is the intermediary between the other two. A key fourth partner is represented by host country organizations and local officials.

PVO/Peace Corps cooperation often precedes A.I.D. funding. Volunteers frequently identify projects and initiate activities which require outside resources to continue in any meaningful way. For example, Volunteer extension workers obtained goats and advice from Heifer Project International for a project in Ecuador. A Peace Corps Volunteer in the Philippines cooperated with the Asia Foundation in the development of a fish hatchery. A.I.D. financial support was ultimately provided in each case.

In other cases, A.I.D. takes the initiative. This presents additional opportunities for participation of the Peace Corps and PVOs in a country's development strategy. For example, in the South Pacific, A.I.D. worked closely with the Peace Corps and several PVOs to initiate a small grants "umbrella project." Save the Children Federation, the Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific and the International Human Assistance Program used A.I.D. funds and Volunteers in an interesting mix of community development and income-generating activities in that area of the world.

In 1984, A.I.D.'s Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation and the Peace Corps' Office of Training and Program Support cooperated in publishing *A Guide to A.I.D./Peace Corps/PVO Collaborative Programming*, which detailed many more

cases of this threefold partnership around the developing world.

An analysis of collaboration among the three in the *Guide* highlights several ingredients for success, including:

- The field genesis of most projects; few were initiated from Washington.
- Early agreement on Volunteer skills and timing.
- Written agreements that clarify roles and obligations of project participants.
- Participation by all parties in planning and evaluation.
- Free flow of information and documentation.
- Ongoing coordinating committee to guide cooperation, especially at crucial stages.
- Spirit of cooperation and good will among all parties.

### **A.I.D./Peace Corps/PVO Projects:**

In 1986, the Coordinating Committee created a task force to increase cooperation among A.I.D., the Peace Corps and PVOs. The task force decided on a four-pronged strategy: (1) involving the Peace Corps in A.I.D.'s programming of food resources through PVOs; (2) developing pilot forestry projects involving the Peace Corps and food resources; (3) incorporating Volunteers into A.I.D.-funded PVO Child Survival projects; and (4) targeting the African continent as the area of first priority. All four of these strategies have been carried out. Some examples:

- In Ghana, one of the most ambitious efforts at A.I.D./Peace Corps/PVO cooperation is taking place: seven Volunteers are assigned to a project carried out by the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Amasachina (a local PVO), the Government of Ghana, the World Bank, and A.I.D. The project is establishing 20 community forestry nurseries in Northern Ghana in an effort to check the spread of the Sahara desert into this area.
- In Cameroon, three Volunteers train village workers and birth attendants as part of an A.I.D.-supported child survival project of Save the Children. In the field of education, two Volunteers work with Opportunities Industrialization Centers International which receives A.I.D. funds for an intensive skills training and job placement program for high school

dropouts.

- In Lesotho, an agricultural extension Volunteer has been involved in a pilot watershed management project implemented by Catholic Relief Services with food aid resources.
- In Chad, four Peace Corps Volunteers work with the Organization for Rehabilitation through Training (ORT) on its Lake Chad Farmer Training and Development Project which is funded by A.I.D. Two of the Volunteers help to plant tree nurseries and train farmers in agroforestry techniques, while the other two help farmers use appropriate technology pumps for small-scale irrigation.
- In the Dominican Republic, 15 Volunteers work with Dominican organizations on maternal and child health programs funded with food aid resources. The Volunteers give nutrition and other health-related classes to mothers who receive food supplements from these programs.
- In Ecuador, four Volunteers work with CARE on an A.I.D.-funded reforestation program.
- In Jamaica, fourteen Volunteers are assigned to the United Way's Council of Voluntary Services, which has received \$500,000 in A.I.D. funding to provide educational services to disadvantaged high school students and handicapped persons in rural areas.

### **Farmer to Farmer/“ Volunteer-with-Volunteer ”:**

One of the most innovative examples of A.I.D./Peace Corps/PVO collaboration taking place worldwide is the Farmer-to-Farmer program, a new and unique cooperative program in volunteerism. The Peace Corps and A.I.D. have entered into this joint effort with Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (VOCA). The program is designed to send professionals from the American agricultural community on short-term assignments (2-16 weeks) to provide technical assistance to Volunteers and the host country farmers and officials with whom they work. VOCA recruits the Farmer-to-Farmer Volunteers based on a scope of work from the requesting Volunteer in the field.

Essentially, the program combines the technical, cross-cultural and linguistic skills of Volunteers with the expertise of seasoned American agriculturalists. An added advantage of the "Volunteer-with-Volunteer" approach is that Peace Corps workers remain in the community afterwards--providing maintenance and follow-up on innovations introduced by their American agriculturalist counterparts.

A.I.D. provides funds for both VOCA's and the Peace Corps' administrative

costs. A.I.D. does so with Food for Peace funds provided by the Congress (under Section 1107 of the Food Security Act of 1985). Congressman Doug Bereuter of Nebraska introduced and gained passage of this legislation which assures minimum funding levels for the program.

The Peace Corps sees the Farmer-to-Farmer program as an extension of its historic and substantial commitment to developing local agricultural production. Approximately 25 percent of all Peace Corps Volunteers are currently working in agriculture and food production projects in Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Pacific.

A.I.D. and VOCA started the Farmer-to-Farmer program with a pilot phase in Latin America and the Caribbean. Thirty pilot projects were implemented in 1986. In 1987, the Peace Corps joined A.I.D. and VOCA, and the program was implemented worldwide.

Some examples illustrate the potential of the program:

- James and Vivian George of Walnut Creek, California, and two Volunteers provided assistance to the Bamenda Dairy Cooperative in Cameroon, helping it to improve its marketing practices and plan a processing plant.
- William and Bess Clarke of Canton, Pennsylvania, taught farmers in Tunisia to improve beehive management practices. They also conducted training exercises for Peace Corps Volunteers and government agricultural extension agents. Peace Corps staff in Tunisia think that the Clarkes' efforts will increase tenfold the effectiveness of Volunteers working in beekeeping.
- Carl Lace of Cherry Valley, Arkansas, helped improve rice production methods of 200 women in two villages of Mali. Rice yields are expected to double as a result of his efforts. Carl also helped train 35 Peace Corps Volunteers so that they can introduce similar innovations throughout Mali.
- Dr. Roger Ellis of Okemos, Michigan, a veterinarian at Michigan State University, provided technical assistance to Peace Corps Volunteers and the members of the Milk Producers Cooperative of Comali, Honduras, to help improve reproductive management and herd health and nutrition practices.

### **Women in Development (WID) Initiative**

At the beginning of fiscal year 1988, A.I.D.'s Office of Women in Development and the Peace Corps' Office of Training and Program Support joined in an

initiative to increase the participation of women in mainstream development programs. The WID initiative was designed as a demonstration activity to be carried out by a PVO with the assistance of Peace Corps Volunteers in two countries. Agriculture, forestry and income-generating projects were targeted for the demonstration effort.

To carry out the initiative, A.I.D. provided approximately \$50,000 to each pilot project for field support for planning, implementation and documentation of lessons learned. This support enabled the identification and incorporation of gender-specific activities into the projects.

The first pilot project incorporated a Women's Nursery Enterprises component into CARE's Village Agroforestry Project in northern Cameroon. Formerly involving individual males or groups of men in planting forestry and fruit species, the project has been expanded to train women to establish fruit tree nurseries, since women are the primary consumers of tree products. The nurseries provide a source of income for the women through sales of seedlings and a source of good-quality seedlings for local villages.

A Peace Corps Volunteer who serves as the project coordinator has trained seven Cameroonian extension agents who, in turn, have trained more than 100 rural women to set up and maintain nurseries in ten villages. The Volunteer also assists with selection of sites and supervises overall nursery management. The participants provide all the labor and determine planting and marketing strategies themselves in group meetings. As a result of the pilot effort, participating women reaped extra personal income and laid the groundwork for other revenue-generating activities to be undertaken in subsequent years.

The second pilot project is an effort to incorporate women fully into CARE's Integrated Aquaculture and Agroforestry Programs in Guatemala. Together, these two programs involve 20,500 participants, of whom approximately 2,650 are women.

The objective of the programs is to increase agricultural diversification through the promotion of fish production, small livestock raising, vegetable gardens and ornamental plants. The specific objectives of the WID initiative are to increase women's participation, to enhance their skills and knowledge in fish culture and agroforestry, and to generate additional income.

A.I.D. has provided \$60,000 for project activities, CARE manages the projects, and Peace Corps Volunteers are implementing the initiative. Currently, eight Volunteers serve as extensionists at five pilot sites. They work with ten women's groups, each composed of 20-50 participants, offering training courses and assistance in marketing the products.

### **FVA Bureau Initiatives:**

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A.I.D.'s Bureau for Food for Peace and Voluntary Assistance (FVA), through its Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation (PVC) has taken several recent initiatives to carry A.I.D./Peace Corps/PVO cooperation even further.

- The FVA Bureau, the Peace Corps, and PVOs have held two workshops to involve Volunteers and PVO field staff in the introduction of biological nitrogen fixation technology to small farmers in tropical developing countries. This technology fixes nitrogen in plants and trees through an inoculation process, reducing the need for costly nitrogen fertilizers while often doubling plant growth.
- The FVA Bureau and the Peace Corps are working closely together to increase the development impact of food aid programs. The Bureau has launched a grants program for PVOs that encourages potential grantees to use Peace Corps Volunteers in the development aspects of their food aid programs. Included in the grants application materials was a carefully prepared guide for PVOs to use in seeking coordination with the Peace Corps in the field.
- The FVA/PVC Child Survival office has sent a similar guide to all PVOs with Child Survival and Health Matching Grants to foster cooperation with the Peace Corps in these projects.

### **D. Toward Greater Cooperation**

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The A.I.D./Peace Corps relationship is not free of all difficulties. Each agency has a differing set of program goals and criteria and, to a certain extent, differing philosophies. A.I.D. must focus principally on fostering effective national institutions and sound development strategies. The Peace Corps' focus is on communities and on people. Volunteers must strive for and achieve successful community development projects even in the absence of successful government programs.

Also, the Peace Corps and A.I.D. have differing priorities in the selection of the countries themselves. It has always been the case that the Peace Corps can work on a people-to-people basis in countries which have less than ideal relations with the United States and, consequently, greatly reduced A.I.D. programs.

There is little that can be done to improve cooperation in cases where A.I.D. and the Peace Corps are not committed to assist the same developing nation. In those countries where both A.I.D. and the Peace Corps have a fully developed program, however, steps can be taken to achieve an even greater level of cooperation. In almost every instance, these steps will consist of better planning and better communication.

Joint planning between the two agencies is both the most difficult and most important step. Planning cycles for field projects are different within A.I.D. and the Peace Corps. Sometimes Volunteers arrive before the A.I.D. project has full approval and the resources are on stream. At times, A.I.D. has to wait while Volunteers are recruited. Nonetheless, many field missions have matched Peace Corps and A.I.D. resources superbly. Such examples are increasing as a result of the commitment of both agencies to cooperate.

Communications between the Peace Corps and A.I.D. in the field have improved greatly. Meetings between A.I.D. and the Peace Corps technical officers responsible for the same sector occur regularly. Cables from the field frequently inform Washington that joint staff sessions and joint reviews of country strategies and plans are increasing. Steps have been taken at headquarters to encourage systematic methods for achieving interagency cooperation in the field. In the years ahead, the Peace Corps and A.I.D. will continue to regularize communication between their program staffs overseas.

More regularized communication will build on an informal base that has always been there. Both A.I.D. and the Peace Corps expect that they will be able to report to the Congress even more extensive and effective examples of interagency cooperation in the future.

# **III. The Small Projects Assistance (SPA) Program**

## **A. Background**

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The Small Project Assistance (SPA) program represents one of the most effective and innovative cooperative programs introduced by the Peace Corps and A.I.D. It is a unique partnership that matches A.I.D. funds and technical assistance to the Peace Corps' human resources to accelerate local development.

Initiated in January, 1983, the SPA program provides a quick funding mechanism to the Peace Corps for stimulating and sustaining small village projects identified by Peace Corps Volunteers and local community organizations. A SPA fund of \$40,000 annually was established in each of 34 countries in Asia/Near East, Africa and Inter-America for small projects in food production, income generation, energy and small enterprise development.

Recently, the program has been expanded to include up to 42 countries, and A.I.D. has agreed to provide the Peace Corps with an additional \$15,000 annually to each participating country to support small projects in health. A second component of the SPA program funds technical and program assistance to generate small project activity. On the average, 500 Volunteers obtain SPA grants for community projects each year.

Since its inception in 1983, the SPA program has made a total of \$5.1 million available to over 2,000 community projects in 42 countries. These communities have contributed an additional \$2.5 million in the form of cash, labor, materials and land. Over 500,000 persons have benefitted directly from these projects and an additional 1.4 million have benefitted indirectly.

The criteria for country participation in the SPA program are twofold: 1) both the Peace Corps and A.I.D. must have a program in the country and 2) the country must have at least ten Volunteers. There are five criteria for individual SPA project activities in-country:

- The project must be conceived and implemented in conjunction with a local community organization or group.
- The project must be in Food Production, Income Generation, Energy,

### Small Enterprise Development or Health.

- The SPA contribution must not exceed \$10,000.
- The project must not encourage reliance on U.S. assistance.
- The activity must be scheduled for completion within one year of approval.

In late 1985 and again in 1988, the Peace Corps and A.I.D. sponsored a worldwide evaluation of the SPA program. Both evaluations looked at the attitude of A.I.D. and Peace Corps staff toward the program and certain management issues. They also reviewed SPA projects throughout the world. The findings of both evaluations demonstrated that the large majority of SPA projects are successful and that an important and measurable relationship exists between project success and the degree of community involvement in projects.

An ongoing concern of both agencies about the SPA program (and consequently of the evaluations) is the question of whether Peace Corps Volunteers should be a source of money for the communities where they work. Does this negate or endanger the traditional values of the Peace Corps? Does it compromise the effectiveness of the Volunteers?

The SPA evaluation in 1985 yielded enlightening and important data to the effect that SPA grants, if handled properly, provide an essential tool for community development and contribute greatly to the Volunteers' work satisfaction and effectiveness. This was the view of an overwhelming majority of A.I.D. and Peace Corps staff, as well as of the Volunteers themselves.

## **B. SPA Project**

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These are five typical SPA projects:

### 1. *Herbal Medicine Clinics and Rural Pharmacies--Philippines*

A \$3,000 SPA grant made possible the creation of four herbal medicine farms and small rural pharmacies on the island of Negros in the Philippines. The project was developed by the 4-Farms Mothers' Group, an association of 315 women working on four separate, privately held sugar plantations. The project is an effort to deal with the unavailability of medicines to these women, which often results in treatment being postponed until medical conditions become so severe that they reach emergency proportions.

Four community-based herbal gardens and rural pharmacies were created on each of the four plantations. Owners of the land donated the land for the gardens, as well as locked facilities for the pharmacies. Members of the 4-Farms Mothers' Group provided all the labor.

The project has not only contributed to improved health care for participating mothers, but has also served as an educational and income-generating project. Over 100 women have received training as bookkeepers, pharmacy aides, gardeners and managers of the clinics. The First Farmers Human Development Foundation is now marketing the herbal products of the 4-Farms Mothers' Group to its 113 member farm communities.

## 2. *Beekeeping and Honey Enterprise--Honduras*

One SPA grant of just \$250 opened up a myriad of new opportunities to a boys school when the students used the money to buy five beehives, then pitched in with fencing, supplies and labor for an expanding honey business. About 60 boys learned the craft of beekeeping, and about business and accounting. The funds they raised were then used for other school projects, some of which in turn led to additional revenue for school use.

## 3. *Chicken Raising--Thailand*

A Peace Corps Volunteer used a \$302 SPA grant to set up a chicken farm that benefitted the entire village. Twenty-four students from a local school provided labor for the renovation of an existing building which they converted into a farm able to raise 150 broiler chickens at a time. The students assumed responsibility for the entire operation, from hatching to marketing. The students learned valuable farm management skills and the town, which had suffered from a diet poor in protein, gained easier access to affordable eggs and meat.

## 4. *Metals Fabrication Workshop--Morocco*

Volunteers assisted an orthopedic center to provide assistance to the handicapped. With a SPA grant of \$5,000, the center was able to get the tools, machines and materials necessary to create a special workshop where handicapped teenagers receive training in general welding and metals fabrication. Apprentices receive a solid background in these useful skills, while producing braces, crutches, wheelchairs and other items such as furniture and iron ornamental work.

## 5. *Arts and Crafts Center--Senegal*

Drought has hit hard in the village of N'dine, Senegal. Many crops have failed repeatedly, forcing most of the village men into the larger cities to look for work. A Peace Corps Volunteer was able to help with an SPA grant of just over \$1,000. The villagers contributed labor and materials to help build an

instructional center where they hold forums on health and receive training in arts and crafts. The center is a source of both knowledge and income. A Senegalese development agency teaches dressmaking and knitting, while Volunteers use the center for holding classes on good health practices.

### **C. SPA/Technical Assistance**

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A.I.D. also provides \$395,000 a year to the Peace Corps for technical assistance to support SPA activities in the 37 countries now participating in the program. The purpose of this assistance is to stimulate and support the development of small community projects.

This technical assistance has made possible program consultations in areas such as Agriculture, Fish Culture, Cooperatives and Bio-Energy. It has financed In-Service Training programs which include host country national workers and, in addition, has made possible regional conferences for the Peace Corps staff in all three Peace Corps regions.

These technical assistance activities are rated highly by the Peace Corps staff who feel that they greatly enhance the use of SPA monies as well as the overall impact of the Peace Corps programs in their countries.

## **IV. Technical Programs**

The Peace Corps and A.I.D. have cooperated in a number of technical programs designed to strengthen each agency's capacity in the areas chosen. The most common form of technical cooperation is the Participating Agency Service Agreement (PASA), essentially a contract between two government agencies. Other cooperative activities involve less formal arrangements.

Over the past ten years, nine PASAs have been signed between A.I.D. and the Peace Corps, combining A.I.D. and Peace Corps resources in an effort to enhance the technical programming and training capabilities of Peace Corps staff and Volunteers (as well as host country nationals) in various high-priority areas. Their ultimate goal is to increase the contributions which Volunteers and their host country counterparts make to common long-term development strategies of both agencies.

PASAs have been signed in the following seven technical areas: Renewable Energy Technologies; Forestry and Natural Resources; Oral Rehydration Therapy; Combatting Childhood Communicable Diseases; Nutrition; Child Survival; and Microenterprise Development. (The two additional PASAs provide the Peace Corps with technical assistance funds to support the SPA program described in the preceding section).

Since 1979, A.I.D. has provided \$10.6 million to PASA activities. Substantial amounts of the Peace Corps' own resources in the form of Volunteer and staff time, travel expenses and supplies have also been invested. A description of each of the PASAs and other technical activities follows.

### **A. Renewable Energy Technology**

The Peace Corps Energy Program formally began on March 1, 1979, with the assistance of a \$1.9 million grant from A.I.D.'s Office of Energy. The Peace Corps contributed \$4.3 million in Volunteer time and staff support over the life of the program. This interagency agreement in energy called for the Peace Corps: 1) to develop and implement a rural energy survey, 2) to develop a coherent energy program, and 3) to institutionalize that program within the Peace Corps through training and development of local Renewable Energy

Technology (RET) projects.

The Renewable Energy Technology agreement was the first formalized sharing of resources between A.I.D. and the Peace Corps at the headquarters level. It served as a model to demonstrate ways in which the skills and resources of the two agencies could be coordinated.

#### **Program Development:**

The content of the Energy Program was shaped by the information obtained through the rural village energy survey which was completed in four countries: Micronesia, Senegal, the Dominican Republic and the Philippines. The scarcity and rising costs of fuel, the need for water and the need for labor-saving devices were concerns expressed over and over again by the people in rural villages. To address these concerns, the Energy Sector organized its work to deliver assistance along five themes: conserving fuels, preserving and storing foods, moving water, saving labor, and producing electricity and fuels.

The energy program developed two general types of renewable energy technologies: 1) "Integrative RETs"--technologies which enhance the efforts of Volunteers working in other sectors such as agriculture, forestry, water, health or education; 2) "Energy-producing RETs"--technologies which themselves produce energy. The following is a list of the 17 renewable energy technologies developed by the energy agreement:

Integrative (13): Improved Stationary Stoves, Improved Stoves, Improved Charcoal Production, Preservation and Storage of Field Crops, Preservation and Storage of Fresh Produce, Hydraulic Rams, Windmills, Animal Traction, Solar Thermal Systems, General Appropriate Technologies, Mechanical Power/Dynapod, Construction Skills in Blacksmithing, Construction Skills in Ferrocement.

Energy-producing (4): Biogas digesters, Small Microhydro Systems, Small Wind Generators, Photovoltaic Systems.

#### **Training Development:**

The Energy Agreement enabled the Peace Corps to develop a technical skill transfer program for Volunteers, and, equally important, to underwrite for the first time the participation of host country nationals in the training programs. Up until that time most of the Peace Corps' training activities were in-country programs emphasizing language training and cross-cultural and community development issues.

The transfer of RET skills takes place in two types of training programs: stateside training (SST) and in-service training (IST). Twelve SST cycles have been conducted in the United States for 283 Volunteers going to serve in 31

countries; 33 ISTs for 768 Volunteers and their local counterparts were delivered in 27 countries during the course of the agreement. These programs included training in the 17 technical areas developed by the energy program.

In addition, eight training manuals and two technical manuals were developed:

Training manuals: General Appropriate Technology, Hydraulic Rams, Windmills, Improved Charcoal Production, Blacksmithing, Irrigation Design, Improved Food Drying and Storage, Solar and Energy Conserving Food Technologies.

Technical manuals: Animal Traction, Biogas/Biofilter.

A superb library for RETs has also been accumulated by the Information Collection and Exchange (ICE) Unit in the Peace Corps.

**Impact:**

The Energy Agreement supported the training and programming activities necessary for the Peace Corps to enter a new development sector. It trained several cadres of Volunteers in RET technologies and generated numerous community-based RET projects worldwide. It also permitted the Peace Corps for the first time to include host country nationals in the Peace Corps' training programs, greatly enhancing the transfer of skills and RET technologies to villagers in developing countries. The training of host country counterparts has become a key ingredient of subsequent cooperative programs.

The cooperative energy program enhanced A.I.D.'s efforts in village-level renewable energy. It provided impetus for cooperative field projects between A.I.D. and the Peace Corps in energy, laying the groundwork for the broad coordination of resources in all sectors which characterizes the Peace Corps/A.I.D. partnership today.

## **B. Forestry and Natural Resources**

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Since August, 1980, A.I.D. and the Peace Corps have cooperated on a remarkable joint program in the conservation of forests and natural resources.

The objectives of the program have changed and expanded during the eight years. They include the following:

1. to develop tropical reforestation and natural resource conservation techniques and promote their uses in rural communities.

2. to expand the number of qualified and well-trained Peace Corps Volunteers serving in forestry projects.
3. to provide material support for forestry projects--with maximum flexibility and minimum delay.
4. to expand the cooperation between the Peace Corps and private voluntary organizations working in community forestry projects supported by P.L. 480 food aid.
5. to expand the number of Volunteers assigned to "biological diversity" projects, i.e., wildlife protection and environmental education.

Since 1980, A.I.D. has invested \$3.9 million in this program. During that time the Peace Corps has trained and assigned 1,400 Volunteers to projects consistent with the common goals of reforestation and natural resource conservation.

#### **Program Workshops:**

A common and effective way of achieving the goals of this joint program is for the Peace Corps to conduct a series of field assessments and consultations leading to international workshops. These workshops are aimed at increasing the use of Volunteers in forestry, natural resource conservation and biological diversity.

In the earlier years of the agreement, country-specific assessments were held in 26 countries. These were followed by three regional workshops in Africa, Asia and Latin America, which were attended by more than 138 participants, representing host governments, A.I.D., PVOs, and Peace Corps staff.

Recently, the Peace Corps used a similar technique in promoting the development of pilot projects incorporating food aid into forestry projects. In May, 1987, a workshop was held for this purpose in Mombasa, Kenya. Sixty-five persons were present representing private voluntary organizations, A.I.D., the Peace Corps, and representatives from eight African countries. A similar workshop was held in Guatemala in February, 1988.

#### **Material Support:**

To date, the agreement has made \$290,000 available for material support to Peace Corps forestry projects in 24 countries. The material support fund provides small (even minuscule) resources necessary to get community forestry programs underway: seeds, fertilizers, scales, measuring tapes and other basic tools.

**Training Development:**

The agreement has enabled the Peace Corps to develop manuals and materials for pre-service training of natural resources Volunteers. One manual, specific to the Inter-America region, covers forestry and natural resource conservation training for those with some background in forestry or natural resources. The other is a curriculum for teaching those same subjects to Africa-bound generalist trainees with no previous knowledge of natural resources.

**In-Service Training:**

Perhaps most importantly the agreement enables the Peace Corps to provide supplementary training to Volunteers and to their host country counterparts during their tour of service. In-service training has been provided to 1,280 Volunteers and to at least that many counterparts. Such training is useful not only to the Peace Corps program but to the development of an indigenous ability in-country to deal with the problems of natural resource deterioration.

**Impact:**

After eight years of cooperation, the results of A.I.D./Peace Corps joint efforts in natural resource conservation are impressive.

- When A.I.D. and the Peace Corps work together in reforestation projects, they can reforest many times the acreage at a lower cost in comparison with other reforestation projects not involving Peace Corps Volunteers.
- The survival rate of trees planted in A.I.D./Peace Corps cooperative programs is many times higher than that in similar programs in which Volunteers are not involved.
- The number of Volunteers working in forestry/natural resources has almost tripled from 200 in 1980 to 550 at the present time. This number has been relatively consistent over the past four years.
- Volunteers are now involved in forestry, natural resource conservation and biological diversity projects in 45 countries worldwide, including 24 in Africa.
- During the last fiscal year, new projects were developed in Ghana, Burundi, Sierra Leone and Botswana.
- The Peace Corps has succeeded in launching two new projects involving Volunteers, PVOs and food aid. One of these projects, a community forestry program in northern Ghana, will be carried out with World Bank funding.

- Research and documentation of past experiences involving Volunteers, CARE, and food aid in Guatemala have demonstrated that Food-for-Work can be an effective incentive to convince subsistence farmers to attempt soil conservation and reforestation practices.
- Biological diversity funds were transferred to 12 countries to develop conservation practices; to establish endangered species sites; to develop techniques to preserve commercially important tree species; to formulate country wildlands management plans and to assist host countries to develop or expand environmental education programs. Approximately 315 Volunteers, 250 host country nationals, as well as 28 PVO representatives received technical training in the area of biological diversity.

### **C. Oral Rehydration Therapy**

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An estimated 500 million children in the developing world suffer from diarrhea several times a year. These frequent bouts of diarrhea aggravate malnourishment, undermine the intellectual and physical development of the children affected, place a greater burden on the parents and siblings who care for them and increase health care costs.

One out of every 20 children born in the developing world dies before reaching the age of five from dehydration resulting from diarrhea. The majority of these five million deaths could be prevented by the use of oral rehydration therapy (ORT), a relatively inexpensive solution that can be given in the home.

National governments and major international health organizations have committed themselves to a coordinated worldwide effort to increase public access to oral rehydration therapy. Likewise, the Peace Corps and A.I.D. have committed themselves to combine A.I.D. resources and Peace Corps Volunteers in this worldwide effort to save the lives of children.

The Peace Corps committed Volunteer time and staff support to the joint ORT initiative, and A.I.D. committed funding of \$643,300 through a PASA which was in effect from 1984 to 1987.

The objectives of the joint program were: 1) to promote the use of ORT on a widespread basis in villages throughout the developing world; 2) to include ORT in the primary health care services provided by rural clinics and local health workers; 3) to teach local health workers to treat acute diarrhea with ORT and to pass their training on by actively involving mothers in treating their children; 4) to promote prevention and control of diarrheal diseases through improved sanitation; and 5) to improve child nutrition by promoting breastfeeding and nutritious weaning foods.

**Program Development:**

The ORT agreement provided two types of assistance to the field for ORT program development: 1) direct program consultations with Peace Corps country staff to assist them in developing the Peace Corps' role in implementing national ORT strategies; and 2) staff conferences for national health program managers to formulate national ORT policy and programs.

Training courses were provided to the following Peace Corps countries: the Philippines, Nepal, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Jamaica, Haiti, Senegal, Gabon, and Papua New Guinea. The Ministry of Health managers from three countries--the Philippines, Gabon, and the Dominican Republic--participated in staff conferences.

**Training Development:**

An Oral Rehydration Training Manual was developed to update the knowledge and skills of Peace Corps Volunteers and their host country counterparts. An ORT resource packet was also developed which provided reference materials to the ORT trainers and ORT technical materials to Volunteers and their counterparts for use in their worksites.

**Impact:**

Prior to the inception of the joint A.I.D./Peace Corps Oral Rehydration Therapy initiative, this technique was not a significant component of the Peace Corps' primary health care projects. Only a small portion of the Peace Corps' health Volunteers had received training in ORT.

The joint ORT initiative immersed the Peace Corps in an international effort to reduce substantially the high rate of illness and death due to dehydration among infants and young children in the developing world. It permitted the Peace Corps to develop the training materials needed to support a systematic effort to incorporate ORT into national primary health care systems.

The cooperation between the Peace Corps and A.I.D. in promoting ORT strengthened each agency's ORT capability. The Peace Corps' program benefitted, and continues to benefit, from the technical expertise made available through A.I.D., other donors and international organizations cooperating on promoting ORT worldwide. ORT training programs upgraded health Volunteers' technical and teaching skills and resulted in better trained rural health workers.

A.I.D.'s ORT activities and the international ORT initiative have benefitted from the Peace Corps' participation in the program. ORT skills and knowledge are transferred directly by the Volunteers to rural health workers and to mothers in the rural communities. ORT program development by the Peace Corps facilitated community efforts to prevent dehydration resulting from diarrhea by

integrating ORT into the primary health care services provided by rural clinics and rural health workers, a primary goal of A.I.D. As the Peace Corps' ORT efforts continue (carried out presently as part of an even broader Child Survival Initiative--see F, below) national ORT programs will continue to benefit from direct contact with and feedback from Volunteers who have tested, adapted and extended CRT research results.

#### **D. Combatting Childhood Communicable Diseases (CCCD)**

In August 1983, A.I.D. and the Peace Corps launched a joint program aimed at reducing levels of infant mortality and morbidity, specifically in Africa. This effort was developed as part of a larger cooperative program involving the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the U.S. government agency principally responsible for control of communicable disease in the U.S. Technical input and oversight are provided by CDC. A.I.D. funding for Peace Corps efforts since 1983 has been \$720,780.

Originally conceived as a three-year effort, the Peace Corps' participation in the CCCD project has continued to the present. The Peace Corps' role is to assist host countries to integrate a health education component, aimed mostly at the community level, into the CCCD project activities.

The CCCD program builds on existing primary health care systems to reduce death and illness in children 0-5 years of age and pregnant women. It is directed towards reducing high infant mortality and morbidity rates found within this high-risk population. It focuses on three areas: vaccine preventable diseases, dehydration secondary to diarrheal diseases, and child and maternal illness due to malaria.

The Peace Corps has placed both generalist and specialist Volunteers (i.e. Volunteers with graduate degrees in Public Health, Health Education, Educational Media, Curriculum Development) with Ministries of Health at the national, regional or village level to strengthen the health education component of selective primary health care activities. The Peace Corps also has increased its training capability to prepare Volunteers and host country health personnel to work as health educators within national primary health care systems.

#### **Program:**

The Peace Corps' project activities in CCCD are operating in Zaire, Togo, Liberia, Malawi, and the Central African Republic. Program activities began in Guinea as well in December 1988.

The Peace Corps developed a technical health training manual which includes 200 hours of selective primary health care and health education topics and

specialized topics for training of trainers. These training materials are the primary resource to transfer the adult learning and health education methodology to the Volunteers and their counterparts so that they can incorporate health education as an integral part of primary health care activities in their country projects.

The Peace Corps has recruited and placed specialist Volunteers to work with Ministry officials in Liberia, Malawi and Togo. In addition, 41 generalist Volunteers working on CCCD activities were placed in Zaire. Another 115 Volunteers and 58 national health personnel working in Zaire, Togo and Liberia have received training made possible by the A.I.D./Peace Corps agreement.

**Impact:**

Prior to the CCCD program, several individual Peace Corps country initiatives targeted children under the age of five and pregnant women, but the Peace Corps as an agency had no formal program that was systematically addressing the growing primary health care needs of this high-risk population.

While the Peace Corps is only one of the institutional actors in the CCCD program, its contribution to this international effort is an important element of the program and helps meet A.I.D.'s goals and those of the other institutions involved. Neither A.I.D. nor CDC have the ability to place personnel at those critical local levels of the health care delivery system where the Peace Corps Volunteers are serving.

The CCCD program is an excellent example of the efficient use of complementary technical skills from many donors to help address the severe problems of high-risk populations of the developing countries.

## **E. Nutrition**

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Malnutrition and nutritional deficiencies prevail throughout the developing world. Improving diet and health practices contributes significantly to decreasing death and illness among high-risk populations, such as women of childbearing age and children under five years of age. It also increases the productivity of local workers. These populations represent the human resource base upon which the future development of Third World countries depends.

Cooperation in nutrition between the Peace Corps and A.I.D. is especially important at a time when food availability in developing countries is decreasing and nutritional needs are increasing, particularly on the African continent.

Since August 1983 when the nutrition PASA began, \$265,668 has been provided by A.I.D. to the joint effort. Under the agreement, program and training assistance was made available to Peace Corps field staff, Volunteers and host country personnel for three purposes: 1) to improve the Peace Corps' existing nutrition programming capability; 2) to focus nutrition program development and training on activities which promote community self-reliance and build local capabilities (e.g., in home gardens for family consumption and household food preservation); 3) to increase the expertise of health and nutrition Volunteers; and 4) to increase the expertise of national health and nutrition workers by including them in the workshops and training programs with Volunteers.

### **Program Development:**

The nutrition agreement enabled the Peace Corps to enhance its technical assistance capability in three program areas: vegetable gardening for family consumption, household food preservation, and nutrition education strategies.

### **Training Development:**

- **Training Manual**

Home Gardens Training Program: The nutrition agreement funded the design of a home gardens training manual to teach basic mixed gardening techniques to health and nutrition Volunteers and their national counterparts. Entitled *Nutrition Improvement Through Mixed Gardening*, the training manual was completed in 1984 and published by the League for International Food Education (LIFE).

- **In-Service Training**

Home garden training workshops were held in Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Western Samoa, Ecuador, Thailand, The Gambia, Jamaica, Papua New Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Sierra Leone and Swaziland. Over 200 host country rural development workers received training in these programs, as well as 157 Peace Corps Volunteers.

- **Training-of-Trainers**

To conduct these workshops, the Peace Corps developed a home gardens training program for health and nutrition trainers. This training-of-trainers program developed a cadre of Peace Corps staff, host government personnel, and PVO staff capable of serving as trainers for home gardens workshops. The multiplier effect of the training-of-trainers approach will continue to be felt in future years of cooperation in nutrition between the Peace Corps, A.I.D., and PVOs.

**Impact:**

Cooperation between the Peace Corps and A.I.D. in nutrition has enabled the Peace Corps to strengthen its nutrition program capability by incorporating activities aimed at ensuring a continuous, nutritious food supply so that families may meet their basic consumption needs.

The cooperative program has upgraded nutrition programming and training by:

- enabling health program managers from the Peace Corps, local PVOs and Ministries to develop home garden programs and to train Volunteers and rural development workers to carry out garden projects in the communities in which they work;
- building cadres of community field workers who teach villagers household gardening, food preservation and improved nutrition practices that will help to ensure a continuous supply of food to improve family nutrition and prevent malnutrition; and
- improving the technical nutrition skills of community field workers to prevent and treat malnutrition and improving their nutrition teaching techniques.

The program has also resulted in closer cooperation in nutrition program development among A.I.D., the Peace Corps, PVOs and host government Ministry staff, thereby contributing to their nutritional goals as well.

**F. Child Survival**

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Throughout the developing world, every other death is the death of an infant or a child. This is due to many factors including malnutrition, disease, unsanitary living conditions, births spaced too closely together, and low levels of education among mothers. The death of 15 million children and infants every year presents a unique challenge to national governments and international relief and development institutions--a challenge as hopeful as it is sad because it is a well-recognized fact that, through oral rehydration therapy and massive inoculation programs, at least half of these deaths can be prevented.

In fiscal year 1985, the Congress urged A.I.D. to accelerate its efforts to improve the health of children in the developing world. It has repeated this emphasis every year since. The Peace Corps has responded to this concern of the Congress as well and has committed itself to expand by 200 the number of Peace Corps Volunteers assigned to national child survival projects. A.I.D. and the Peace Corps are attempting to carry out their Child Survival activities in a

coordinated and cooperative fashion.

In August 1986 the Peace Corps entered into an agreement with A.I.D. which called for a broadened role for the Peace Corps in Child Survival activities and for the use of \$700,000 in A.I.D. resources to accomplish that objective. Since then, A.I.D. has committed an additional \$269,000 to the joint effort. The PASA has been extended through fiscal year 1989.

The goal of the Peace Corps/A.I.D. cooperative project in Child Survival is to strengthen and expand Peace Corps Volunteer participation in national child survival projects. Through the use of highly skilled health professionals, Peace Corps programming and training in the health sector is being strengthened. Increased numbers of Volunteers--both health specialists and generalists--are being trained to become successful contributors to Child Survival projects in their country of service.

As a result, Volunteers are working as members of teams with national Ministries, other donors, international development programs, and private voluntary organizations in a worldwide effort to improve the health and survival of children and mothers.

**Activities:**

The joint program in Child Survival has been marked by concentration on a group of countries throughout Latin America, Africa and Asia. These countries were selected on the basis of their child survival capabilities, experience, and political commitment to improve the health of children. Program assessments, staff training, technical training for Volunteers and counterparts, and workshops for Peace Corps host country experts have been sponsored by the Peace Corps with A.I.D. funds. Targeted countries to date include the Central African Republic, Cameroon, Malawi, Senegal, Togo, Zaire, Niger, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Paraguay and Nepal.

**Impact:**

Under the A.I.D./Peace Corps agreement, the following has been accomplished:

- Design and delivery of in-service training on Child Survival techniques and practices to 266 Volunteers and host country counterparts, 353 Peace Corps staff, Ministry personnel, and donor representatives.
- Provision of comprehensive technical assistance to 12 targeted countries.
- Development of new Peace Corps programming opportunities in national projects and the refocusing of several ongoing projects after careful project assessment.

- Support of pre-service technical training for Volunteers to supplement their basic training. Eighty-three Volunteers have participated in pre-service Child Survival training courses.
- Provision of skill training to Peace Corps staff responsible for Child Survival projects.
- Provision of improved technical materials and manuals for use in the field. Some of these are developed as general or "generic" materials. Others are country specific.
- Co-hosting of Child Survival Conferences in conjunction with host country Ministries and A.I.D.

## **G. Microenterprise Development**

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### **Background:**

In September 1988 A.I.D. and the Peace Corps signed a new PASA for a program of collaboration in microenterprise development. Pursuant to Section 632(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, the two agencies have agreed to use the services of Peace Corps Volunteers and their host country counterparts to provide technical assistance for microenterprise development in ten targeted countries over a two-year period.

Up to \$400,000 of A.I.D. funds are being made available for programming and training activities to support the program in five countries during the first year. The Peace Corps is supplementing A.I.D.'s funds with its own appropriated resources in the form of staff time, travel expenses, and supplies.

Approximately \$300,000 of A.I.D.'s contribution is available directly to the Peace Corps, while the rest is being used for technical assistance and coordination with A.I.D.'s flagship microenterprise project, the ARIES program (Assistance to Resource Institutions for Enterprise Support). The goal of the joint program is to support local microenterprise development activities that will result in additional jobs and increased incomes in the targeted countries.

The Peace Corps has a long history of productive involvement in the small enterprise sector at the local level. In 1983 a formal Small Enterprise Development sector was established in the Office of Training and Program Support at Peace Corps headquarters to consolidate the agency's accomplishments and future program direction in this sector.

Currently there are approximately 500 microenterprise development Volunteers assigned to small business projects around the world. An additional 2,300

Volunteers are carrying out small-scale income-generating projects in other sectors such as agriculture, forestry, and health. Often these Volunteers are working with the same low-income communities and grassroots organizations that A.I.D. is assisting. By enhancing the skills of the Volunteers and their counterparts, the two agencies will be able to provide more effective assistance to local communities and organizations involved in microenterprise development.

**Program Activities:**

Key components of the joint program include:

1. a five-day microenterprise training session for all Peace Corps trainees in each of the targeted countries at a given time;
2. tailored in-service training sessions for Peace Corps Volunteers and their counterparts to increase the business skills they already possess and their ability to transfer those skills to community members;
3. technical and program assistance for the Peace Corps in the targeted countries to enhance microenterprise programming and improve services to microentrepreneurs;
4. development of training materials and other resources to assist microenterprise development in institutions and communities in which Volunteers are working.

Planning for implementation of these activities in the field began in October 1988. Targeted countries for the first year are Botswana, Mali, Costa Rica, Honduras, and Nepal. Criteria for individual country selection in the program include:

- an established microenterprise development program;
- sufficient numbers of Volunteers or trainees assigned to formal or informal microenterprise development projects;
- demonstrated in-country staff commitment and capacity for microenterprise programming;
- host government support of microenterprise development;
- an A.I.D. presence in-country;
- a good working relationship between A.I.D. and the Peace Corps at the field level; and
- continuity of staff in the country.

The activities that have been completed thus far are:

1. A pre-service training model has been developed in draft for review by Peace Corps staff in the targeted countries.
2. Thirty trainers and providers of technical assistance in microenterprise development have been selected for a roster of experts.
3. Joint briefing sessions have been held with Peace Corps and A.I.D. regional staff in preparation for field visits to the targeted countries.
4. Teams composed of Peace Corps and A.I.D. staff and consultants have visited Costa Rica, Mali, and Botswana to begin delivery of services. Visits to Honduras and Nepal will be completed by the end of February 1989.

**Impact:**

The specific objectives to be accomplished through the A.I.D./Peace Corps microenterprise development program are:

- an increase in economic opportunities among low-income individuals in the targeted countries through the use of Volunteers and their counterparts to help organizations and community members to identify and pursue business opportunities;
- a strengthened small business sector in the targeted countries through the provision of technical assistance and training to the Peace Corps to enhance its capability to contribute to the development of this sector;
- an increase in community incomes through the development of the income-generating and profit-making potential of community projects in agriculture, forestry, and health; and
- an improved body of microenterprise training and resource materials that can be used at the community level.

## **H. Basic Education Initiative**

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**Background:**

Developing countries spend approximately \$80 billion annually on education, yet the benefits of this sizable investment are not always fully realized. In spite of large advances in education that have been made throughout the Third World,

there are massive numbers of children who do not have access to primary education in many countries. This is largely due to outpacing population growth. Financial limitations and the problems of inefficient organizational systems further constrain the ability of developing country educational systems to address this problem. Consequently, more than 600 million adults today cannot read or perform simple mathematical calculations.

A.I.D. and the Peace Corps are joining together in an initiative to improve the quantity and quality of basic education in targeted developing countries. The objective is to assist education leaders and decision makers in the participating countries to improve the planning and management of their educational systems.

Two ongoing A.I.D. projects--Basic Research and Implementation in Developing Educational Systems and Improving Efficiency of Educational Systems--as well as other educational activities supported by individual A.I.D. Missions, are providing host country ministries with the tools and training to engage in improved, empirically-based planning that will lead to better delivery of basic education. A key element of these projects is the training of ministry officials in use of microcomputers for simple analysis and presentation of data.

**Activities:**

The role of the Peace Corps Volunteers is to train Ministry of Education officials at the district or provincial level where qualified personnel are scarce. The Volunteers transfer computer skills in data base creation and maintenance, and help design and provide training sessions.

Five countries have been targeted initially: Belize, Botswana, Honduras, Swaziland and Yemen. A Peace Corps consultant is in Belize at present to assist Peace Corps and A.I.D. field staff and the host ministry to design the pilot project. The Peace Corps and A.I.D. are already cooperating in the education sector in Botswana and Swaziland and will incorporate the pilot efforts into their ongoing collaboration. In Yemen, Peace Corps and A.I.D. staff have discussed the initiative in connection with the start-up of A.I.D.'s new basic education project, the contract for which has just been awarded.

The possibility of beginning activities in Pakistan has been explored (and will be decided on in early 1989) in conjunction with A.I.D.'s basic education project which is currently being designed. This project will focus on improving access to and the quality of education in the two provinces with the highest illiteracy rates, and will include a special focus on increasing female participation. Additionally, integration of the initiative into new A.I.D. project start-ups in Africa and South Asia is being explored in response to the Congressional earmark for basic education.

## **I. Development Education**

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### **Background:**

The third goal established by Congress for the Peace Corps is to promote a better understanding of developing countries on the part of the American people. Likewise, the Congress--through the Biden-Pell amendment to the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1980--has mandated that A.I.D. carry out a program of "development education."

The A.I.D. program has three purposes: (1) to educate the American people about the root causes of world hunger and poverty; (2) to create public support for addressing issues of underdevelopment; and (3) to expand and strengthen organizations capable of providing (1) and (2).

In 1988, the Peace Corps and A.I.D. launched a joint pilot effort to mobilize the activities of the 125,000 Americans who have served in the Peace Corps into a structured program of development education.

### **Activities:**

Called "Development Education from the Bottom Up," the three-year effort involves a total of \$487,000 in funds from both A.I.D. and the Peace Corps to the National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers. The Council, a membership organization representing individuals and organizations of returned Volunteers, will educate a wide range of American audiences about the people, lives, cultures, and development problems in the countries where Peace Corps Volunteers have served. The National Council is contributing \$245,000 to the program.

The goal is to train 24 regional groups of returned Volunteers in various approaches to development education. Courses and materials developed in this pilot effort will then be made available to all groups of returned Volunteers, as well as to other PVOs and community groups.

Seven local groups are receiving mini-grants of \$5,000 each to design model development education curricula and methodology. Each recipient of a grant will be responsible for training at least one other group to use the materials. The staff of the National Council will provide assistance to each local entity and will replicate models at the national level. Similar grants will be made in the second and third years of the program.

### **Impact:**

It is expected that the three-year program will result in a strengthened capability of the Council to foster and improve the activities of all returned Peace Corps Volunteers in development education. The A.I.D. and Peace Corps grants will

enable the Council to create a permanent resource center for development education at the Council, to hold annual workshops, and to assist former Volunteers throughout the country to forge links among themselves and with other individuals and institutions committed to educating the American people about the developing world.

Former Volunteers can help the American people--and the development education community--to translate abstract themes and cold numbers into the realities of the personal lives of the people with whom they have lived. This is the ultimate basis and advantage of A.I.D./Peace Corps collaboration with the National Council of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers.

## V. Country Programs

The most extensive cooperation between the Peace Corps and A.I.D. occurs at the field level, where joint planning and strategizing for coordinated programs takes place. It is at the country and village level, also, that the benefits of cooperative programs can readily be seen in hundreds of large and small improvements in the daily lives of people with whom Peace Corps Volunteers live and work.

At the present time, approximately 1,300 Volunteers are working in more than 130 projects supported by A.I.D. (exclusive of SPA projects) in 53 countries. The projects cover all development sectors--food production, natural resource/energy conservation, income generation, health and education. They range in size from large investments at the national level to small-scale projects involving one or two communities.

The Volunteers' roles also vary--some serve as providers of technical assistance, others as teachers, on-the-job trainers, community development workers. Their functions may vary as well, from very specialized technical assistance to general community outreach. In almost all cases, however, the Volunteers live and work directly with project beneficiaries, ensuring their participation in the effort.

The following are country-by-country descriptions of A.I.D./Peace Corps programs in the field during 1988.

### A. Africa

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#### Benin

The main focus of collaborative efforts between A.I.D. and the Peace Corps in Benin is the improvement of general health conditions in the country. Lack of clean drinking water and inadequate medical facilities are major contributing factors to the poor health of the population. Sanitation education is one of the most critical needs. A.I.D. has contributed \$6,250,000 to the government's Sanitation and Pump Maintenance Project to which three Peace Corps Volunteers are assigned as health educators. The Volunteers train host country teams on a district level who, in turn, train villagers in the importance of

standard hygiene practices. Two other Volunteers are working as water pump mechanics in the installation and maintenance part of the program.

## **Botswana**

Agriculture: Unexpected rains, sandy soils, and poor planting and harvesting methods have placed unmanageable constraints on subsistence farmers. A \$1.5 million A.I.D.-supported project seeks to eliminate these constraints through large-scale research and the creation of linkages among government offices, agricultural institutions, and small farmers. Two Volunteers are involved in activities such as screening crops for insect infestation, promoting farmers' interest in experimenting with new methods, advising farmers on how to obtain help, and teaching fertilizer application.

Education: Because of a disproportionately high youth population and a lack of teacher training institutions, Botswana has faced a severe shortage of secondary school teachers. Some 135 Volunteers serve as teachers in the schools while host country teachers are being trained. The same Volunteers reach out to communities through secondary projects in horticulture, nutrition, and career counseling. A.I.D. is contributing \$5 million to building construction, books, curriculum materials development, training, and technical support for Botswana's schools.

Four additional Volunteers are participating in a separate project involving more than \$2 million of A.I.D. funding for books, supplies, and building construction. The Volunteers serve as student teaching advisors, trainers of librarians, and resource persons for in-service workshops. The project also provides for the purchase of computer equipment and development of a database to manage teacher placement and utilization.

In order to address Botswana's high rate of unemployment, five Peace Corps Volunteers are working on a vocational education project to provide training to approximately 850 persons annually. A.I.D. has supplied \$16,250 for the purchase of machines and tools to assist in the training.

Natural Resources: A.I.D. has provided a scholarship allowing a host country counterpart of a Volunteer to study natural resources, park planning and management. A Peace Corps Volunteer will replace the individual while he or she pursues the academic program made possible by the scholarship. During Fiscal Year 1989, the Peace Corps and A.I.D. will expand their efforts to cooperate on forestry extension and national parks management programs with the assignment of additional Volunteers to these activities.

Drought Relief: Many of the Peace Corps Volunteers in Botswana have also been involved in a \$13 million disaster relief program funded by A.I.D. The project provides for temporary employment opportunities for rural villagers who have been severely affected by the recent drought.

## **Burundi**

Rapid deforestation and declining food production in Burundi have spurred joint A.I.D./Peace Corps efforts in aquaculture and natural resources.

Aquaculture: Fifteen Volunteers are working with rural farmers to construct and manage fish ponds in order to increase farmers' cash income and to improve the protein intake of the general population. They provide technical assistance in the management, maintenance, and replication of quality ponds. A.I.D. is partially covering the operational costs of the project.

Natural Resources: This year a new biological diversity project has begun that will extend for four years and involve six Volunteers. A.I.D. is providing \$180,000 for the project developed by the Peace Corps and the Burundi National Institute for the Conservation of Nature. The project is an effort to protect Burundi's remaining forests that not only serve as natural habitats but also provide critical watersheds for the country's agricultural base. The project focuses on the training of park managers, conservation education, and the development of a nationwide management plan for all parks and reserves.

## **Cameroon**

Health: Three Volunteers are participating in data gathering and record keeping as well as training of village health workers and traditional birth attendants in an A.I.D.-supported Child Survival Project carried out by Save the Children. Eight other Volunteers are working with A.I.D.'s maternal and child health project. They help to train health workers, organize surveys, and establish sound record-keeping and statistical methods.

Education: Primary and secondary schools in Cameroon suffer from a severe shortage of trained teachers, rapidly increasing enrollment, high drop-out rates, and an overemphasis on theory and academic work rather than practical training for those who are better able to work with their hands. Two Volunteers (and four more who are to arrive during 1989) work as teachers and trainers with Opportunities Industrialization Centers International (OICI), an A.I.D.-funded organization that has recently initiated a vocational training center in Cameroon. OICI's goal is to provide intensive training and job placement for secondary school drop-outs.

Four Volunteers (and four trainees arriving in 1989) are involved in an A.I.D.-supported project to upgrade the skills of teachers. Volunteers are conducting needs assessment surveys, designing and conducting seminars, observing and critiquing practice teaching, and implementing a training program for rural primary school teachers.

Natural Resources: Two World Wildlife Fund projects in Cameroon are in place, supported by the A.I.D.-funded Wildlands and Human Needs Program.

One of these, the Kilum project, has a Volunteer beekeeper assigned to it. The other joint effort is the Korup project. The Korup National Park is located in a tropical rain forest area in the southeast region of Cameroon. The purpose of the project is to develop an integrated rural development plan for the areas surrounding the park. A Peace Corps Volunteer biologist is assigned to the project to conduct elephant and other wildlife surveys and to investigate reports of crop damage by elephants.

### **Central African Republic**

Aquaculture: A.I.D. has provided \$200,000 in direct support to a project designed to train rural, subsistence-level community members in fish farming. Ten Volunteers assist in providing the training, which involves learning-by-doing activities as new fish tanks are constructed. The beneficiaries of the project, in turn, serve as sources of technical assistance to farmers in their areas.

Health: A.I.D. has allotted \$1,041,000 for four years to a national campaign to reduce infant mortality due to diarrhea, malaria, and communicable diseases. The primary activities of the campaign include oral rehydration therapy, distribution of chloroquine, and vaccinations. Five Volunteers contribute to the program by teaching mothers to recognize and treat dehydration, developing health education materials, and disseminating information to mid-level health personnel about the national campaign and its benefits.

Small Enterprise Development: Fourteen Volunteers are participating in a \$3.5 million project funded by A.I.D. to assist in promoting small agricultural enterprises. The Volunteers train farmers in beekeeping, animal traction, agroforestry, and marketing.

Agriculture: Two Volunteers are working as part of a \$3.7 million A.I.D. project to assist rural communities to reduce post-harvest food losses as well as the time spent in food processing. Volunteers train extension agents and family groups. They also conduct market, household, and farm-level surveys on storage and processing methods to determine project impact.

Natural Resources: The World Wildlife Fund is supporting a project in the Dzangira-Sangha Reserve, a richly diverse tropical forest area. The project, part of the A.I.D.-funded Wildlands and Human Needs Program, is geared toward working with community leaders, timber developers and government officials to manage the forest on a sustainable basis. Two Peace Corps Volunteers are working on this integrated project; one is a parks/fisheries/natural resource specialist and the other is an environmental education/parks specialist.

### **Chad**

The Peace Corps and A.I.D. collaborate in Chad on the Lake Chad Training and Development Project carried out by the Organization for Rehabilitation through

Training (ORT). Two Forestry Volunteers assist ORT in training farmers to develop tree nurseries and to establish and maintain windbreaks and fruit tree stands. Also involved in the project are two well-technology Volunteers who assist communities to use pumps for small scale irrigation. The Volunteers also train the farmers in the manufacturing, care and use of the pumps.

### **Equatorial Guinea**

The Peace Corps recently began operating in Equatorial Guinea under the sponsorship of the National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA). Eleven Volunteers are working in NCBA's A.I.D.-supported cooperative development program started in 1984. The program aims to organize a transport and marketing system for internal consumption and for export of products. Many of the local organizations with which NCBA and the Volunteers are working are women-owned pre-cooperatives. With A.I.D.-support NCBA has established Cooperative Service Centers for the organizations. The Volunteers train members and other farmers in management, bookkeeping, marketing, and other basic business practices.

### **The Gambia**

Low agricultural productivity, drought and lack of access to new technology have been major problems for The Gambia in the 1980s. The Peace Corps and A.I.D. are responding with two joint projects, the Gambia Agricultural Research and Diversification Project (GARD) and the Soil and Water Management Unit project (SWMU).

Eight Volunteers work in various capacities within the GARD project. The Volunteers provide the critical link between research and the villager. A.I.D. funding is designed to institutionalize research in all areas of agricultural production throughout The Gambia.

Two Volunteers (plus three additional in 1989), are assisting the SWMU project to increase agricultural production through promoting better soil and water conservation practices. The Volunteers assist the farmers in planning and carrying out soil and water conservation activities and in improving planting and cultivation techniques. They also produce educational visual aids and help form farmers' organizations to undertake project activities.

### **Ghana**

Cooperation between the Peace Corps and A.I.D. in Ghana currently focuses on a community forestry project. Organized in cooperation with four other organizations--ADRA International, the World Bank, the Ghanaian Forestry Department, and Amasachina (a Ghanaian non-governmental organization)--the

project is establishing 20 community forest nurseries and woodlots in drought-stricken northern Ghana. All of the participating agencies have made a six-year commitment to assistance.

The project seeks to promote village participation in raising the level of soil fertility and increasing the availability of fuel resources to combat severe drought conditions and deforestation. Seven Volunteers are supervising the building and protection of nurseries, while A.I.D. is offering Food-for-Work commodities for the labor needed to plant the trees and construct the nurseries.

In addition to the forestry initiative, the Peace Corps and A.I.D. are also planning to cooperate with the Government of Ghana in its Program of Actions to Mitigate the Social Costs of Adjustment (PAMSCAD) which involves 24 projects and \$83.9 million in funding. Some of these projects will involve A.I.D. and the Peace Corps. Other plans for future collaboration call for Volunteers to be involved in joint efforts in small enterprise development, water supply, and rehabilitation of health and educational facilities in rural areas.

## **Guinea**

A.I.D./Peace Corps cooperation in Guinea has been resumed recently with the arrival of 23 Peace Corps Volunteers assigned to the Africa Food Systems Initiative. The Volunteers are teaching agroforestry and soil conservation techniques and developing gardening and other community projects primarily for women. In addition, the two agencies are cooperating on a Combatting Childhood Communicable Diseases project that is about to begin.

## **Kenya**

Five Volunteers contribute to an A.I.D.-funded small town development program to assist Kenya in its transition from an agrarian society to an urban one. More than 28 communities of 10,000-50,000 people are involved. The Volunteers contribute to government efforts to provide basic municipal services for town residents. They develop urban/regional master plans, help to improve infrastructure and housing, and make cost assessments of construction projects. Their efforts are aimed at improved sanitation systems, increased economic growth, and a greater desire among residents to remain near secondary cities rather than migrating to already crowded urban centers.

The Peace Corps and A.I.D. also collaborate indirectly at Egerton University. A.I.D. is funding improvements at the University while the Peace Corps supplies four Volunteer professors of agriculture. Qualified college-level agriculture instructors are scarce in Kenya at present, and Volunteers will be used until Kenyans return from studies abroad. The Volunteers at the University also participate in outreach programs with small farmers and help to train the school's administrators in computer programming.

## **Lesotho**

The Peace Corps and A.I.D. are working together in Lesotho in agriculture, education, and health. These three sectors match the government's long-term development priorities.

Agriculture: Recognizing the importance of agriculture to Lesotho's economy and the need to address production constraints resulting from a declining land base, inadequate technology, and other factors, the two agencies have joined with the Ministry of Agriculture in a number of interrelated efforts. Approximately eleven Volunteers are associated with the A.I.D.-supported Agricultural Production and Institutional Support project, a five-year effort to increase the agricultural base and productivity. The Volunteers serve as horticulturists and trainers of small farmers and help develop small-scale irrigation systems. Material support funds from A.I.D. of approximately \$110,000 enable these Volunteers to work more effectively.

Three other Volunteers work with the Institute of Extra-Mural Studies of the National University of Lesotho. A.I.D. support of \$30,000 assists the Volunteers in their community development and agricultural extension work there.

In a coordinated effort to improve the country's agricultural land base over the long term, 35 Volunteers are working on the Peace Corps Africa Food Systems Initiative which also receives A.I.D. support. They serve as agricultural extension agents and water supply technicians. One of the Volunteers coordinates soil conservation in a major watershed area.

Two pilot projects to preserve the natural resource base are being carried out by A.I.D.-supported PVOs. One of these, sponsored by CARE, is an agroforestry project in which seven Volunteers are helping to promote tree nurseries. Two other Volunteers are working with Catholic Relief Services in watershed management activities.

Primary Education: In an effort to improve the quality of education in the nation's primary schools, A.I.D. and the Ministry of Education are carrying out a Basic and Non-formal Education Systems Project. Two Peace Corps Volunteers are training teachers and helping to develop educational materials in two areas of the country.

Health: Two Volunteers are helping to reduce infant and child mortality in Lesotho through the Combatting Childhood Communicable Diseases program carried out jointly with A.I.D. The Volunteers help to expand immunization coverage and promote the use of oral rehydration therapy by developing educational materials, growth charts, and flyers for health units, clinics, and hospitals.

## **Liberia**

Health: Basic health care is presently accessible to only about 35 percent of all Liberians. In order to help the government reach 90 percent by the year 2000, six Volunteers train supervisors of village health workers, organize workshops for county health departments, and teach local leaders how to operate revolving drug fund programs. A.I.D. provides funds for transportation and for drugs.

Eight other Volunteers in Liberia are working to reduce child mortality from measles, tetanus, malaria, and diarrheal diseases. Their activities include organizing large-scale vaccination campaigns, designing training materials to be used by paraprofessionals involved in treating childhood diseases, and conducting surveys to assess the effectiveness of health programs. Direct support from A.I.D. for the project is approximately \$32,000 per year.

Rural Communication: The Peace Corps and A.I.D. are helping the Liberian government to establish rural radio stations and other communication facilities which are expected to encourage greater awareness and participation of communities in national development projects. Four Volunteers train prospective broadcasters; provide station management assistance; collect, design, and edit materials for broadcasting; and conduct research into what constitutes popular programming. A.I.D. provides \$10,000 each year for technical assistance, equipment, and specialized training.

Education: The elementary education system of Liberia lacks adequately trained and effective teachers. With the assistance of A.I.D., the Ministry of Education is improving the quality of instruction at the primary level. Twenty-one Volunteers train teachers to use programmed instruction methodology to reduce reliance on expensive textbooks.

## **Malawi**

Small Enterprise Development: The Peace Corps and A.I.D. are cooperating on a project being carried out by Malawian organizations and the World Council of Credit Unions. Nine Volunteers serve as small business advisors and credit cooperative advisors. They provide technical advisory services to small businesses to improve product development, marketing and accounting. Volunteers also establish rural credit unions. A.I.D. provides operating funds and technical support to the Malawian organizations implementing the projects. Part of A.I.D.'s support is channeled through the World Council of Credit Unions.

Natural Resources: Lake Malawi National Park contains significant fisheries resources which support a growing local population. A World Wildlife Fund project (through the A.I.D.-sponsored Wildlands and Human Needs Program) to develop the park for tourism was launched three years ago. Two Peace Corps parks/environmental education Volunteers are assigned to the project. In addition to managing a local park visitor center, the Volunteers also work with

local communities in managing their fisheries resources and are developing a local environmental education program to promote conservation practices.

## **Mali**

Hard-hit by serious droughts in the 1980s, the Government of Mali has designated food self-sufficiency and economic stabilization as two of its top development priorities. Peace Corps/A.I.D. efforts are designed to help Mali achieve these objectives, with emphasis on increasing food production over the long term. The following are current cooperative activities:

Agriculture: As part of an A.I.D.-funded effort to improve farming in the Second Region, 24 Peace Corps Volunteers are working as community extension agents with Operation Haute Vallee, a Malian organization. The Volunteers' specialties include gardening, water resources development, forestry and woodstove construction.

A.I.D. and the Peace Corps also cooperate in the Peace Corps' Africa Food Systems Initiative, a ten-year program to help Mali and other drought-stricken African nations meet their food needs by addressing problems in the countries' food systems. About 90 additional Volunteers working in teams provide technical assistance at the village level in Mali. They are involved in water resources management, agricultural extension, forestry and soil conservation.

Water Resources: Two Volunteers are working with an A.I.D.-funded water station to develop alternative human-powered water pumps. The Volunteers help in fabricating, testing, and installing the pumps.

Small Enterprise Development: A.I.D. and the Peace Corps are working with local Chambers of Commerce to train small entrepreneurs in business management techniques. Three Volunteers arrange for guest teachers, design curricula, and develop materials for the courses. Over the next year the program will expand to 11 Volunteers and several new training sessions will be offered to small business owners in different locations.

## **Mauritania**

A.I.D./Peace Corps cooperation in Mauritania focuses on improving agriculture through farming systems research and the protection of farmland from locust infestation. Two agricultural extension Volunteers are working with an A.I.D.-funded agricultural research center operated by the University of Arizona Farming Systems Research Project. The Volunteers are serving as technicians for the research center in Kaldi, a major city near the country's southern border. They conduct farming systems research and extension workshops.

Nine other Volunteers are working on a temporary locust control program to protect 190,000 hectares of cropland from damage due to Mauritania's locust

infestation. Thirty percent of the country's crops have already been lost. The Volunteers, whose technical and language skills are very beneficial to the effort, help to determine the extent of crop losses and the need for treatment.

## **Niger**

Agriculture: Although some 70 percent of the work force is engaged in agriculture, Niger still has a serious food shortage problem as a result of droughts, poor soil, and lack of infrastructure. A.I.D. and the Peace Corps are addressing these problems on a variety of fronts. Eleven Volunteers are working with A.I.D.'s National Cereals Project to help small farmers throughout Niger to improve seed production techniques. Twenty more Volunteers are helping to develop long-term solutions to food security in Niger's villages as part of the Peace Corps' Africa Food Systems Initiative. These Volunteers work closely with village development associations to plan and carry out small-scale community self-help projects. Many of the projects focus on agroforestry and soil conservation, small-scale irrigation, and dry-season gardening techniques.

Natural Resources: Twelve Volunteers are working in various capacities to help reverse natural resource degradation throughout the country. They do inventories and maps of Niger's forests; train counterparts in planning and statistics; conduct agroforestry demonstrations with local farmers and help them to develop cooperatives. They also work on wildlife preservation at a national park.

Education: A.I.D. is funding an in-country training and in-service program for secondary school teachers of English. Two Volunteers are working as co-trainers with three Nigerian teachers. They are developing workshop curricula, preparing and presenting training sessions, and evaluating students. A.I.D. supplies \$30,000 for the program.

## **Rwanda**

Thirty-five percent of Rwanda's inhabitants live and work in the rural countryside. Thus far the Rwandans have been able to increase food production faster than population growth. In order to help the Rwandans maintain the land as they strive for self-sufficiency in food production, A.I.D. and the Peace Corps have joined together in forestry and fisheries programs.

Forestry: Two Volunteers work on two separate forestry projects. One serves as an agroforestry extension agent in the Ruhengeri Resource Analysis Project organizing agroforestry training for rural farmers. The other Volunteer is assigned to Africare's Lake Nasho Project and works in a similar role as an agroforestry extension agent in addition to being responsible for nursery development and communal reforestation. A.I.D. provides material support funds for each project amounting to \$7,000 and \$9,000 respectively, which is used for housing, work-related transportation, tree seedlings, and nursery supplies.

Fisheries: In addition to cooperating in forestry, the Peace Corps and A.I.D. work together indirectly in fisheries, through the provision of technical assistance by Peace Corps Volunteers to the National Fisheries Center which has received A.I.D. funding in the past. The Volunteers assist the Ministry to extend fish culture to rural populations.

## **Senegal**

A.I.D./Peace Corps cooperation in Senegal focuses on the Africa Food Systems Initiative. Thirteen Volunteers provide technical assistance to small farmers in improved grain storage and seed selection and storage. Two new joint projects are expected to begin in 1989 in small enterprise development and water management.

## **Sierra Leone**

Agriculture: Although Sierra Leone was once a net exporter of rice, the country must now actually import a large supply to meet the food needs of the population. A.I.D., Catholic Relief Services, and the Peace Corps are teaming up to help farm families produce more rice. Forty Volunteers are serving as rural agricultural extension agents, providing expertise in small-scale irrigation, swamp rice production, and intensive vegetable gardening. They also assist in agriculture instruction in secondary and primary schools.

Inland Fisheries: A.I.D. has begun to supplement the support provided by the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources to inland fisheries projects involving Volunteers. The eight Volunteers currently working on these projects help farmers construct and maintain the ponds and harvest the fish. They also conduct field days and workshops to emphasize management skills and self-sufficiency in aquaculture technology.

Natural Resources: The World Wildlife Fund-US is supporting two parks projects through its A.I.D.-sponsored Wildlands and Human Needs Program. Two Peace Corps Volunteers are assigned to the Outamba-Kilimi National Park site. They work with the local community to enhance local revenues through tourism. Two other Volunteers are working on environmental education and park planning projects at Tiwai Island, a community-supported private reserve.

## **Swaziland**

A.I.D./Peace Corps collaboration in Swaziland is supportive of the government's top development priority--education. Primary schools in Swaziland are sparsely equipped with meager budgets for instructional supplies. New curriculum materials are being developed, but many teachers have not been educated in the philosophy behind these materials or trained in their use. Four Volunteers are assigned to an A.I.D.-funded project designed to supply that education and training. The project is managed by a team from Ohio State University and is

directed through Teacher Innovation Development Centers (TIDC). In fiscal year 1989 A.I.D. will end its funding but the project will continue with the TIDC/Peace Corps cooperation until host country counterparts are available to maintain the program.

### **Tanzania**

Following the recent reactivation of the A.I.D. Mission in Tanzania A.I.D./Peace Corps cooperation has been resumed. Current joint programming focuses on health. Three Peace Corps Volunteers are directly involved in the Zanzibar Malaria Control Project, expected to start in fiscal year 1989. A.I.D. funding of the project is \$938,000. The Volunteers will perform laboratory analyses of mosquito populations and promote malaria control training for primary health workers and local communities.

### **Togo**

Health: Eight Volunteers are working on the Peace Corps' A.I.D.-supported Combatting Childhood Communicable Diseases (CCCD) project which promotes good preventive health practices, vaccination campaigns, and seminars on health issues relevant to Togo. A.I.D. support for the project is approximately \$30,000. Another three Volunteers participate in A.I.D.'s Health Sector Planning and Support Project.

Agriculture: The majority of Togolese farmers adhere to very traditional methods of crop production. A.I.D. has supported an Animal Traction Project for over five years in an attempt to bring more land into production by introducing the use of oxen. Eleven Volunteers are training farmers and field agents in the use of draft animals and basic animal health care. A.I.D. provides \$30,000 for Volunteer material support. A.I.D. funding of this project is expected to end this year. The Peace Corps will continue with the project in cooperation with the government of Togo.

Other agricultural projects include an Agricultural Extension and Training Project which provides assistance and extension services for farmers of the Maritime region of Togo. One Volunteer is assisting with the construction of market access roads for the rural population. A.I.D. funding is used for construction costs. Another Volunteer works with CARE on a project involving cooperative formation and extension in rural areas.

### **Zaire**

Health: Many health problems in Zaire stem from insufficient and contaminated water supplies and poor hygienic practices. The problems are reflected in the high child mortality rate of 102 deaths per 1000 children. In an attempt to provide uncontaminated water and improve personal hygiene, the Peace Corps and A.I.D. are cooperating on a seven-year \$21.7 million basic rural health

project. Fifteen health Volunteers and 17 water/sanitation Volunteers assist with training and supervising personnel in addition to devising new methods of instruction and new techniques for project management and implementation.

Inland Fisheries: To introduce improved methods of intensive fish culture to village farmers, the Peace Corps and A.I.D. are working with the Zaire government on inland fisheries extension. Peace Corps Volunteers are working in various capacities as rural extension agents. They are responsible for training farmers in appropriate site selection, pond construction, pond management, harvesting and marketing techniques, and fish preservation. The project, which began in 1978, has been extended for six years with an additional \$2.5 million provided from A.I.D.'s Small Project Support funds. One hundred forty Volunteers will be involved over the same period. Twenty-five Volunteers are involved at present.

Agriculture: Volunteers are working in three separate projects: Area Food and Market Development, the Crops Research and Extension Program, and Central Shaba Agricultural Development. Two Volunteers (increasing to ten during 1989) are promoting the use of new varieties of plants and modern cultivation techniques. Four Volunteers are introducing new plant species and doing general agricultural extension. Three Volunteers in the Central Shaba Region work with small farmers to improve cultivation practices. This project will receive A.I.D. support for six years and will involve 15 Volunteers. Approximately \$800,000 has been set aside for material support for the Volunteer assignments.

## **B. Inter-America**

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### **Belize**

Collaboration between the Peace Corps and A.I.D. in Belize involves joint efforts to improve natural resources management and agricultural production.

Natural Resources: A.I.D. has committed \$60,000 for partial support of a conservation activity in cooperation with the Belize Department of Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture. One Peace Corps Volunteer is affiliated with the project and works with the staff of the Holchan Marine Park to develop community support and assist with studies to increase marine life within the protected areas.

Agriculture: A.I.D. and the Peace Corps cooperate with the Belize Agribusiness Company, a public/private effort, to develop new export crops in the northern areas to decrease dependence on exports of sugar. A.I.D. is funding the project for \$6.8 million over three years. A small portion of this amount has been used for project support for Volunteers, including a plant pathologist, who provided assistance in disease control.

Three Volunteers are assigned to the Ministry of Agriculture to work on the Toledo Cacao project to which A.I.D. is providing \$1.7 million over three years. Two of the Volunteers will serve as extensionists stimulating the increased planting of cacao by small farmers in the area. A third is a community development specialist who will help address the community organization aspects of the project.

Another Volunteer is assigned to the Macal Dairy project, a \$3.5 million A.I.D. effort to increase milk production. The Volunteer will work directly with the members of the dairy as an agricultural extensionist, helping them with new techniques for herd management and milk production.

### **Costa Rica**

A.I.D. and the Peace Corps collaborate in three areas of high priority for the people of Costa Rica: rural housing, school refurbishment, and community development.

Rural Self-Help Housing: Costa Rica has made housing its first development priority. A.I.D. and the Peace Corps are working with the Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF), a U.S. private voluntary organization, and FEDECREDITO, a Costa Rican private sector organization, to construct some 325 units initially and 100 per year thereafter. A.I.D. has provided \$640,000 to FEDECREDITO to establish a revolving home loan fund and also has financed technical assistance from CHF. Fourteen Volunteers are assigned to the project. They help supervise construction and organize the community residents. They also monitor the costs of construction materials; assist individual families with loan applications; and arrange for necessary government services.

School Construction/Refurbishment: Rural communities are constructing and renovating schools and facilities in rural areas with A.I.D./Peace Corps support. A.I.D. is financing construction materials and the travel costs of Volunteers, approximately 20 of whom are assigned to 16 Ministry of Education regional offices. The Volunteers assist Ministry counterparts in project identification, evaluation, and follow-up.

Special Development Fund: The Special Development Fund (SDF) is an A.I.D. program which consists of small matching-grants to communities for social and economic development activities. Volunteers assist communities in designing and managing projects. This \$300,000 A.I.D. program depends heavily on Volunteer involvement at all levels.

## **Dominican Republic**

A.I.D./Peace Corps projects in the Dominican Republic are in health, natural resources, agriculture, fisheries and small enterprise development. A total of 43 Volunteers are currently associated with A.I.D.-supported efforts--17 providing direct support to A.I.D. projects, and 26 working with A.I.D.-funded projects of PVOs. In 1989, additional Volunteers will collaborate closely with A.I.D. in Child Survival activities and in a PL-480 Food-for-Work Agroforestry Project.

Health: There has been a rise in the country's infant mortality rate during the last three years. Diarrheal diseases, malnutrition, and respiratory infections are major problems. Fifteen Volunteers are currently teaching mothers about nutrition and breastfeeding, working with disabled children, monitoring child growth, and organizing women's educational and income-generating activities. They also give classes to mothers who receive food supplements from A.I.D.'s PL-480 Title II food aid program. Two other Volunteers are assigned to a potable water project.

Natural Resources: A.I.D.'s Natural Resources Management project aims at the reclamation of thousands of acres of eroded land through soil conservation and agroforestry techniques. Two Volunteers promote the practice of intercropping trees with regular cash crops. They also introduce soil conservation practices and organize farmers' associations to increase awareness of the need for conservation. A.I.D. provides agroforestry supplies and other project materials needed by these Volunteers and the communities. Two other Volunteers are helping a Dominican agency to develop forestry nurseries.

Agriculture: There is a need to assist small farm families to increase incomes and improve diets. Protein consumption in rural areas is only 73 percent of the minimum requirement. A.I.D. and the Peace Corps are promoting small animal production in rural communities. Currently, four Volunteers are working with A.I.D.-supported local private voluntary organizations to teach community members how to raise broiler chickens, pigs, goats, and other small animals for local consumption and profit.

Fisheries: Another A.I.D./Peace Corps effort to increase protein consumption in rural areas involves an attempt to increase inland fish production. Two Volunteers are working with an A.I.D.-supported Dominican organization that is promoting new fish pond construction. The Volunteers help build the ponds, provide technical assistance, give courses to local fishermen, and help organize fishermen's associations.

Small Enterprise Development: Small businesses in the Dominican Republic are often hampered by personnel who lack formal business training and technical skills. Obtaining credit is also extremely difficult. With the financial support of A.I.D. and the assistance of Peace Corps Volunteers, several private voluntary organizations have initiated action to address these problems. Sixteen Volunteers

are teaching accounting, budgeting, inventory control, management skills, quality control, and marketing to the staff of six A.I.D.-supported Dominican microenterprise assistance agencies and to the small entrepreneurs themselves.

### **Eastern Caribbean**

A.I.D. and the Peace Corps are jointly assisting the nine tropical island countries of the Eastern Caribbean: Anguilla, Antigua/Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts/Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent/Grenadines. The development problems confronting these small islands --low agricultural productivity, natural resource depletion, and widespread unemployment--have resulted in a high dependence on imports for consumer products, including food, petroleum products, and most manufactured goods. A.I.D./Peace Corps efforts are focused on reducing such dependence and improving general conditions in the region through programs in agriculture, natural resources, fisheries, small enterprise development, education, and health. In addition, Volunteers on all the islands help communities to develop small-scale projects funded through A.I.D.'s Special Development Activities Fund.

Agriculture: A.I.D./Peace Corps cooperation in this sector focuses on agricultural production and marketing in St. Vincent and agricultural education in Dominica.

Three Volunteers work with the Organization for Rural Development in St. Vincent. One serves as a cooperative extension officer helping the organization reach 380 farmers in the Vermont Valley with technical assistance in land utilization, crop rotation, cultivation of new crops, and soil conservation. The other two Volunteers, both small enterprise specialists, help to develop export markets for farmers and to train staff of the organization's marketing division.

In Dominica, an A.I.D. Special Development Activities grant of \$15,000 helped purchase supplies and materials for a school garden project designed to promote the teaching of basic agricultural skills in the schools. Eight Volunteers advise five-to-eight schools each with emphasis on experiential learning of agricultural skills. The ultimate goal of this project is to diminish rural-to-urban migration.

Natural Resources: In St. Kitts/Nevis two Volunteers are assisting in A.I.D.'s reforestation and environmental efforts. One is helping to draft environmental regulations for the islands, as well as working directly with farmers on reforestation. The other is developing an environmental education program to be used in the schools.

Fisheries: Cooperation between the Peace Corps and A.I.D. has helped to develop inland fisheries on Barbados. An aquaculture project carried out with a \$25,000 grant from A.I.D. reached more than 16 farmers who now breed three species of tilapia. Distribution of fingerlings has already begun, and the farmers continue to be trained in pond maintenance and management. The Volunteer

involved in the project has successfully trained a local counterpart to continue the work.

Small Enterprise Development: A.I.D. has contributed to the Council of Eastern Caribbean Manufacturers (CECM) which was founded to address many of the problems that plague the business community in the Eastern Caribbean. One Volunteer who lends technical expertise to the Council has designed a market research training program for St. Vincent, made a profile of business opportunities for Antigua, and provided training for CECM staff and members.

In Grenada, three Volunteers are working with local organizations that receive support under A.I.D.'s Small Enterprise Assistance Project.

Education: A.I.D. and the Peace Corps cooperate in vocational training in Barbados and pre-school education in Barbuda.

A.I.D. has provided \$115,000 to Women in Development Limited, a United States private voluntary organization, to support a project on Barbados to provide greater employment possibilities for low-income women. A Peace Corps Volunteer interviews and provides training to the women. The effort also focuses on maintaining and increasing the women's skills once they are employed to enhance job retention and mobility.

On Barbuda, both agencies have provided much needed help to the Barbuda Pre-School. A.I.D. supplied \$5,000 for fencing while a Peace Corps Volunteer works as a teacher trainer for the small staff. Five teachers and 50 students are being assisted.

Health: In Grenada, A.I.D. helped repair health facilities where five Peace Corps Volunteer nurses are working. These nurses also cooperate with A.I.D.-supported activities of Project Hope.

In St. Vincent, a Volunteer home economics extensionist works with the A.I.D.-supported Organization for Rural Development training mothers in nutrition, preparation of local foods, and sewing.

## **Ecuador**

In Ecuador almost 100 Volunteers work in community development, health, small enterprise development, forestry, fisheries and youth development programs supported by A.I.D. Approximately one-third of these Volunteers are also working with private voluntary organizations.

Rural Infrastructure: Most rural communities with populations of less than 2,000 in Ecuador lack potable water, waste disposal facilities, health centers, and renewable energy resources. Twenty skilled Volunteers (civil engineers and water

and sanitation promoters) are currently engaged in the construction of new water systems, solar water heaters, and ferrocement housing.

Health: Volunteers working in A.I.D.-supported rural health projects respond to serious problems of malnutrition, diarrheal disease, and high mortality rates among infants and small children. Some 28 Volunteers participate in vaccination programs, teach health education, train local health promoters, and establish health care referral systems. The Peace Corps and A.I.D. are also collaborating with CARE, Catholic Relief Services and Foster Parents Plan on other health activities.

Small Enterprise Development: Small enterprises have generally been unsuccessful in rural areas of Ecuador. Lack of knowledge of basic business practices has constrained the development of viable enterprises. To address this problem, three Volunteers are working as business advisors with rural small-scale enterprises. They teach business skills to community groups and promote income-generating activities.

Forestry: Deforestation in Ecuador means scarce firewood, the loss of jobs, and threatened soil productivity, water sources, and wildlife habitats. A.I.D. and the Peace Corps are helping to reverse this trend. A.I.D. experts helped train 30 Volunteers, who are helping farmers and government extension workers to develop small forestry projects and establish new tree nurseries. The Volunteers promote reforestation and natural resource conservation through speeches, slide shows, and informal contacts in rural communities. Four of the Volunteers work with CARE on an A.I.D.-funded reforestation project.

Fisheries: As a result of an A.I.D. study of tourism potential in 1986, the Government of Ecuador began to develop trout fishing. A Peace Corps Volunteer assists in trout restocking in a national park and helps ensure that the park's natural resources are managed wisely.

Youth Development: Fourteen Volunteers are cooperating with A.I.D., the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Ecuadorean National 4-F Foundation in a program aimed at providing services and skill training for rural youths to enable them to remain in rural communities rather than migrate to overcrowded cities. The Volunteers carry out various community service projects and give classes in home economics and entrepreneurship.

## **Guatemala**

Much of the A.I.D./Peace Corps collaboration in Guatemala takes place through private voluntary organizations, both U.S. and Guatemalan. Current areas of cooperation include fish farming promotion, rural health care, and natural resources/forestry.

Aquaculture: Some 25 Volunteers are involved in CARE's A.I.D.-supported Fish Farming Project to increase the availability of animal protein to rural Guatemalans. The rural diet is estimated to be 65 percent deficient in animal protein. The fish farms are also small business enterprises to increase incomes. The Volunteers help select sites for ponds, analyze soil and water, teach mini-courses, supervise and train local promoters, and help market the product. The effort has been so successful over the past eight years that the potential value of fish farming has become widely recognized in rural communities.

Health and Nutrition: A.I.D. has contributed the services of a technical assistance team and material support funds for a Peace Corps public health/nutrition project. Volunteers perform nutritional assessment surveys with counterparts from the Ministry of Health, provide individual counseling to mothers of malnourished children, and train Ministry of Health staff and community health promoters in health/nutrition education. Approximately 25 Volunteers are involved.

The Peace Corps also cooperates with CARE's A.I.D.-supported health and nutrition activities. As part of one project, CARE provided funding for publication of a training manual in Spanish--*Entre Madre y Nino (Between Mother and Child)*--which was written by two Volunteers and is now used extensively in Guatemala.

Natural Resources/Forestry: Approximately 32 Volunteers are working on a collaborative reforestation and soil conservation effort involving the Peace Corps, A.I.D., CARE, the National Forestry Institute, and a private U.S. company, Applied Energy Services (AES). The Volunteers motivate farmers in rural communities to plant trees, primarily fuelwood species. They also give courses on resource conservation, including terracing, contour plowing, and forest fire prevention. The private company, AES, has recently augmented the project's resources with a grant of \$2,000,000 to fund the planting of an estimated 52,000,000 seedlings over 385 square miles. It is hoped that the trees will absorb enough carbon dioxide to combat the "greenhouse effect." Some 40,000 local small farmers are expected to participate in this effort.

## **Haiti**

Cooperation between the Peace Corps and A.I.D. has been extensive in Haiti since the Peace Corps program began there in 1983. More than half of all Volunteers who have served in the country have worked with projects involving A.I.D. support. As a result of political turmoil, the Peace Corps program has been temporarily suspended and is expected to resume in the fall of 1989.

## **Honduras**

A.I.D./Peace Corps collaboration is extensive in Honduras with over 100 Volunteers working directly on A.I.D. projects and with A.I.D.-supported private

voluntary organizations. Cooperation occurs in natural resources, rural development, education, community services, agriculture, and health.

Natural Resources: A.I.D. and the Peace Corps work together directly on a natural resources watershed management project. This \$15 million, five-year endeavor is an integrated approach to soil conservation, forestry, and animal production. Forty-one Volunteers assigned to the project serve as extensionists in coordination with other technicians.

Rural Development: Three major A.I.D.-supported projects are being carried out to improve self-sufficiency in rural Honduras.

Fifteen Volunteers are working in A.I.D.'s Rural Technology Program. They teach skills in home repair, food drying, grain storage, solar energy applications, and animal production. They also help communities to develop cottage industries for profit. A.I.D. funding for this program is \$5.5 million over a three-year period.

Eight other Volunteers serve in a rural water and sanitation project. They help rural communities to plan, design, and build low-cost water systems. A.I.D. funding for this project is \$3.1 million.

Seven Volunteers are assisting the Overseas Education Fund in a hog production project. They provide technical assistance and training to women's groups involved in income-generating swine production. Another Volunteer develops income-generating projects in cooperation with the Vermont Partners of the Americas.

Education: With 50 percent of the population of Honduras under the age of 15, A.I.D. and the Peace Corps are involved in a \$40 million project over ten years to upgrade the quality of primary education. Six Volunteers participate in teacher-training workshops in rural primary schools and do follow-up activities as well. The goal of the program is to reduce a 40 percent illiteracy rate in the rural areas.

Two other cooperative efforts in education involve assistance to the handicapped and radio education. One Volunteer works with an A.I.D.-supported Honduran private organization in rehabilitation of the handicapped. Three other Volunteers help the Association for the Promotion of Socioeconomic Development to promote the teaching of English in the Bay Islands through radio. The Volunteers write, produce, and field test scripts and lessons.

Community Services: Eight Volunteers work with A.I.D.-supported Honduran organizations that provide assistance to microenterprises. The Volunteers train the staffs in computer skills and train the microentrepreneurs themselves, many of whom are women, in basic business management skills. Other Volunteers work with savings and loan cooperatives. Five additional Volunteers (two

engineers, two accountants and an architect) are working with the Cooperative Housing Foundation to make low-cost housing available in Honduras.

Agriculture: Food production in Honduras is not keeping pace with population growth. To help increase food production, Volunteers work with A.I.D.-supported organizations in the following ways: One Volunteer is developing a training center in hillside farming techniques, small-scale irrigation, and crop diversification. Another works as an agricultural extensionist in A.I.D.'s natural resources project. Five other Volunteers offer technical expertise in animal production and help to develop income-generating activities.

Health: Four volunteers serve with PROALMA, a Honduran organization dedicated to maternal/child health care. The Volunteers teach proper breastfeeding techniques, establish milk banks, and design teaching materials.

## **Jamaica**

Forty-four Volunteers (35 percent of all those in Jamaica) are currently working on A.I.D.-supported projects involving over \$7 million. The two agencies also cooperate with several private voluntary organizations that receive A.I.D. funding. Areas of cooperation include agriculture, small enterprise development, education and community development.

Agriculture: Nine Volunteers provide technical assistance in conservation techniques, mapping, dairy and livestock production, and demonstration farms. Over \$3.5 million of A.I.D. funding is devoted to agriculture.

Small Enterprise Development: Nineteen Volunteers are working in wide-ranging small enterprise projects that receive direct or indirect A.I.D. support. Four of the Volunteers are working with the National Development Foundation on a project designed to provide loans and business training to microentrepreneurs. They advise loan applicants, prepare financing packages, and give ongoing support to borrowers. Another four assist craft vendor associations in improving marketing and organizational skills. The other Volunteers work with cooperatives throughout the island. A.I.D. provides approximately \$1.5 million in funding for small business development.

Education: Collaborative efforts in education are coordinated through the United Way's Council of Voluntary Services in Jamaica. Fourteen Volunteers are tutoring handicapped children in rural areas and are training high school students in vocational skills such as woodworking, and in business and computer science. A.I.D. provides \$500,000.

Community Development: Two Volunteers are working with A.I.D. support to help local community organizations with special outreach activities. One is training a counterpart to run a branch office of an organization serving the

handicapped. Another is providing technical assistance to the School of Management Studies at the University of the West Indies.

## **Paraguay**

In Paraguay, A.I.D. and the Peace Corps currently are cooperating in health, small enterprise development, agriculture, and appropriate technology projects.

Health: Many rural communities in Paraguay lack even basic health care services. As a result, much of the rural population suffers from infectious diseases which can be prevented. Almost half of all children under five are affected by illnesses associated with diarrhea and other communicable diseases. In order to combat these problems, the Peace Corps and A.I.D. are cooperating on child survival programs, including growth monitoring, immunizations, and oral rehydration therapy. Approximately 24 nurse and nutrition Volunteers work on these activities. Another 15 water and sanitation Volunteers complement their efforts by helping to improve sanitary conditions in the home.

In another form of cooperation, the Peace Corps helped A.I.D. to recruit rural nurses and nurse's aides for a training program in the U.S. Volunteer counterparts were selected and a Peace Corps Volunteer assisted in the training program. This proved to be a successful method of motivating the Volunteers' host country counterparts and training them to continue the work initiated by Volunteers.

Small Enterprise Development: Two Volunteers are working with the Paraguayan Foundation for Cooperation and Development on an A.I.D.-supported project to assist microentrepreneurs. The Volunteers are helping to train the staff of the Foundation and are installing microcomputers and designing training programs in business management and other basic skills. A.I.D. provided a \$200,000 start-up grant to the Foundation.

Agriculture: Although agriculture plays an important role in Paraguay's economy, small farmers suffer from low incomes and do not participate fully in national agricultural programs. To help enhance the quality of agricultural education for the nation's future farmers, A.I.D. and the Peace Corps are providing assistance to a rural agricultural high school. Two Volunteers, whose primary jobs involve forestry and small enterprise development, are helping to improve soil conservation and agricultural marketing, while A.I.D. supplies financial assistance to the school.

Appropriate Technology: At present only 40 percent of Paraguay's rural population has access to electricity. Firewood continues to be a primary source of fuel, and forestlands are becoming depleted. Until rural electrification becomes widespread, appropriate technologies need to be disseminated to provide energy and reduce fuelwood consumption. The Peace Corps and A.I.D. are working with the Ministry of Agriculture to introduce small-scale farm equipment

to small farmers. Approximately nine Volunteers, whose primary task is agricultural extension, assist in giving demonstrations of technologies such as the fuel-efficient Lorena stove.

## **C. North Africa, Near East, Asia and the Pacific**

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### **Fiji**

A.I.D./Peace Corps cooperation has been suspended temporarily as a result of A.I.D. funding restrictions imposed after the May 1987 coup.

### **Kiribati**

Peace Corps/A.I.D. cooperation in Kiribati consists of Peace Corps Volunteer involvement in A.I.D.'s Accelerated Impact Program. During fiscal year 1988, an A.I.D.-supported community effort to improve the Marakai Community Development Center was completed. Books, tools and materials were provided by the a grant of \$3,125. Community members supplied approximately \$2,700 in cash and labor. A school improvement project to be funded with an AIP grant of \$7,521 is under consideration for this year.

### **Morocco**

In Morocco, the Peace Corps and A.I.D. are cooperating in two areas: renewable energy and wildlife preservation.

Renewable Energy: Three Volunteers are cooperating closely with A.I.D. in their work at the Center for the Development of Renewable Energy. The Center has received project funding from A.I.D. for ten new-design windmills for rural areas. Another Volunteer assigned to the Ministry of Interior's Rural Water Supply Project is helping to find appropriate locations for the windmills and to arrange for their installation and operation.

Wildlife Preservation: A.I.D. funding enabled a Volunteer and a Moroccan counterpart to attend the annual conference of the International Council for Bird Preservation. This enabled them to upgrade their skills in endangered species management and in wetlands monitoring and protection.

### **Nepal**

Nepal has one of the highest ratios of population to arable land in the world. In an attempt to increase the area under cultivation and to provide fuel for their needs, Nepali farmers have been clearing forest land.

Two large A.I.D. projects in which Peace Corps Volunteers are involved, the Rapti Rural Development Project and the Agriculture Research and Production Project, are aimed at reversing the trend toward deforestation while, at the same time, increasing agricultural production.

Forestry: At the current rate of deforestation in Nepal, the country will be denuded of its forests in the current generation. Soil erosion, decreasing water retention, and desertification increase along with the population. Twelve Peace Corps Volunteers are helping to establish nurseries for the production and distribution of seedlings. They are also starting a forestry committee to develop and implement future plans. The committee membership will be composed of at least 25 percent women, since women are primarily responsible for searching for fodder and fuel.

Agriculture: Seventeen Peace Corps Volunteers work in agricultural activities as part of the two projects. They are promoting a systematic approach to farming including the management of crops, animals and forests. The Volunteers are also developing appropriate technologies and new methods of disseminating these technologies.

### **Papua New Guinea**

A.I.D./Peace Corps cooperation in Papua New Guinea consists of assigning Volunteers to projects carried out by private voluntary organizations with A.I.D. support. Cooperation emphasizes health and rural community development.

Health: The problem of inaccessibility to safe, reliable water plagues 90 percent of the rural population of Papua New Guinea. A Peace Corps Volunteer initiated a program to build a community water tank, and an A.I.D.-supported private voluntary organization, International Human Assistance Program (IHAP), provided \$6,818 for branding supplies. The project also includes technical assistance in maintenance.

Ten Volunteers are involved in health education projects in the least developed provinces of the country. The Volunteers increase awareness of health care problems individually and on a communal level. These projects also receive support from the International Human Assistance Program.

Another project supported by IHAP involves the construction and outfitting of a health center laboratory. A Volunteer is helping to organize the laboratory which will conduct basic testing and procedures on-site.

Rural Community Development: Six Volunteers work in three community development projects also funded by International Human Assistance Program. The projects vary but all share the goal of improving self-sufficiency and economic income through village-based projects.

## **Philippines**

Cooperation between A.I.D. and the Peace Corps in the Philippines is designed to support the development of agriculture and forestry.

Agriculture: Low farm family income is a problem with multiple causes, some of which are being addressed through A.I.D./Peace Corps collaborative efforts. Five Volunteers are assigned to A.I.D.'s Regional Integrated Agriculture Research Systems Initiative in the Bicol Region. The project is promoting an integrated farming system as a strategy to increase seed production. The Volunteers identify alternative cash crops and income-generating projects appropriate to the area, conduct or participate in farmers' classes and training, and establish demonstration farms and nurseries. They also teach farmers to raise small livestock and to use animal and crop waste for compost fertilizer. A.I.D. has committed a total of \$3.5 million to this project over five years.

Agroforestry: A.I.D.'s Rainfed Resources Development Project provides funds to farmer associations in selected sites to do reforestation and species trials. A.I.D. has provided \$6.9 million to the project being carried out by the Philippine Department of Natural Resources. Four Volunteers are training members of cooperatives; developing nurseries; distributing seedlings; and teaching agroforestry techniques, such as contour plowing, composting, and erosion control.

Disaster Relief: When the typhoon "Sisang" devastated communities in the Sorsogon and Bicol Provinces, Peace Corps Volunteers joined in the relief effort. They helped private voluntary organizations distribute approximately \$500,000 of relief commodities supplied by A.I.D.

## **Seychelles**

A.I.D. and the Peace Corps have been working together in Seychelles since 1982 on a variety of A.I.D.-financed capital projects. Collaboration currently focuses on rural infrastructure and nutrition.

Rural Infrastructure: A.I.D. has provided \$3 million to improve secondary roads. One Peace Corps Volunteer is helping to fill the need for experienced engineers. He works with host country engineers who have recently returned from training abroad until they have sufficient experience to work independently. The Volunteer also helps to install water and sewage disposal facilities.

Nutrition: A trained Peace Corps nutritionist is working with a \$75,000 A.I.D. project to improve the general health of the country through better understanding of nutrition. The Volunteer is gathering information for a research project, in addition to lecturing at the Department of Health Studies and a polytechnic school. This Volunteer also assists with radio broadcasts and with the preparation of the National Health Plan.

## **Solomon Islands**

As is the case in many of the South Pacific countries, Peace Corps/A.I.D. collaboration in the Solomon Islands takes place through A.I.D.-supported private voluntary organizations and through A.I.D.'s Accelerated Impact Program (AIP).

Rural Development Planning: In cooperation with the International Human Assistance Program (IHAP), one Volunteer trains the staff of local organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, in small project identification, design, and management so that these organizations will be better able to carry out self-help projects at the village level.

Low-Cost Housing: Another Volunteer, experienced in appropriate technologies, advises the IHAP staff and the villagers themselves on the use of local building materials and disaster-resistant housing design.

Renewable Energy: Two Volunteers carry out energy and appropriate technology projects in cooperation with the Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific and the Ministry of Natural Resources. Their tasks include dissemination of fuel-efficient cookstoves, charcoal-producing equipment, and solar technologies.

Accelerated Impact Program: Three small projects were funded with AIP resources during the past year:

- *Rokera PSS Wood Cookstove Project:* With an AIP grant of \$9,910, two Volunteers helped construct a permanent kitchen facility with an energy efficient wood stove at the 200-student Rokera Provincial Secondary School. Formerly, the students' food was prepared over open fires, which contributed to firewood depletion and sanitation problems.
- *Women's Sewing Cooperative:* One Volunteer has organized a women's group into a sewing cooperative which received an AIP grant of \$4,500 to purchase treadle sewing machines and to acquire the services of an instructor to train the women to produce low-cost, high-quality clothing for their families.
- *Waimapuru Photovoltaic Project:* Another Volunteer helped the National Secondary School to obtain \$3,500 in AIP funds to install a photovoltaic lighting system, replacing the old diesel system which could not be properly maintained. The Volunteer helped train the responsible community members in repair and maintenance of the new system.

## **Sri Lanka**

In Sri Lanka, A.I.D. and the Peace Corps are cooperating on a single facet of a large-scale development effort in the Mahaweli Region. Four major dams have been constructed on the Mahaweli River to help Sri Lanka increase

self-sufficiency in food as well as hydroelectric power. The construction required the resettlement of hundreds of thousands of individuals previously supported only by subsistence agriculture. The goal of the A.I.D./Peace Corps collaboration near Mahaweli is the promotion of income-generating activities that help to provide a livelihood for the resettled farmers.

Small Enterprise Development: Approximately seven Peace Corps Volunteers are working at the field level of the new Rural Enterprise Development Project in the Mahaweli Region. A.I.D. will provide \$4,900 for training seven Volunteer counterparts. In addition, A.I.D. will provide material support needs such as motorbikes for greater access to rural areas.

Agriculture: Working through the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Research of Sri Lanka, A.I.D. provides project support funds to assist the work of eight Peace Corps Volunteer agricultural extensionists. The Volunteers teach plant protection, agromarketing, seed processing and storage.

### **Thailand**

Joint programming in Thailand is focusing on developing projects with private voluntary organizations in the areas of community forestry extension, natural resources management (including national parks), and small enterprise development.

### **Tonga**

A.I.D./Peace Corps cooperation in Tonga consists of projects implemented by two private voluntary organizations and small projects funded through A.I.D.'s Accelerated Impact Program (AIP).

The Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific received both A.I.D. support and part-time assistance from two Peace Corps Volunteers on a water supply development project in Vava'u.

Two other Volunteers are assisting the Friendly Islands Marketing Cooperative in an agricultural marketing project sponsored by the Agricultural Cooperative Development International, another A.I.D.-funded PVO.

Three AIP projects to be assisted by Peace Corps Volunteers are under consideration by A.I.D. One will furnish three science laboratories for the Tailulu College School System. Another will provide improvements at the Basilica Multi-Purpose Community Centre. The last is a water supply project for the Island of Tafahi.

## **Tunisia**

In Tunisia, the Peace Corps and A.I.D. are working together in several agriculture-related activities. One of these is a \$6.5 million five-year effort to support agricultural development in Central Tunisia. A.I.D. provides funding and technical expertise, while the Peace Corps supplies the services of nine Volunteers to work in water and sanitation and agricultural extension.

Water and Sanitation: One Volunteer completed work in July 1988 on the development of Water User Association Groups to create and maintain reliable sources of potable water in rural communities. Another Volunteer has just begun to work with the same communities to teach health and sanitation to the project beneficiaries.

Agricultural Extension: To help Tunisian small farmers improve crop production through better farming methods, the Peace Corps and A.I.D. are engaged in several extension activities. Working at an A.I.D.-supported experimental farm, a Volunteer couple is demonstrating new farming techniques and experimenting with new crops. Two other Volunteers recently completed a project to train farmers in greenhouse vegetable production and fruit tree culture. Another two Volunteers are providing technical assistance in irrigation.

## **Western Samoa/Cook Islands**

Peace Corps/A.I.D. cooperation in Western Samoa and the Cook Islands consists of small-scale development projects sponsored by Peace Corps Volunteers and funded through A.I.D.'s Accelerated Impact Program. The types of activities address basic community needs such as school improvement, alternative energy sources, increased agricultural production, and income generation.

## **Yemen**

Although the Peace Corps and A.I.D. have collaborated on several successful projects in Yemen, the two agencies currently are redesigning their efforts.

## VI. Conclusion

The cooperative programs described in this report illustrate the extent and diversity of A.I.D./Peace Corps cooperation. The combination of A.I.D.'s financial and technical support with the Peace Corps' human resources has proven to be a highly effective tool for development. In the words of one Peace Corps Country Director, *"The combination of the A.I.D. technician and the Peace Corps Volunteer is ideal for our country."*

As a consequence of collaboration, A.I.D. and the Peace Corps have been able to deliver more effective and coordinated assistance to the developing world. In the future, the two agencies will focus on the need to institutionalize the successes of the past years and to develop systems to enable field staff to work together even more easily.

In the current debate over the future of U.S. foreign assistance, the role of people-to-people, grassroots community development continues to be emphasized. A.I.D./Peace Corps programs have a real impact at this level and promise to play an increasingly critical role. It will be incumbent upon the two agencies to join resources even more effectively and to continue to share the benefits of this interagency collaboration.







**The Peace Corps  
and  
The Agency for International  
Development**