1953-12 337
'900. EARIS
PN-ABJ-642
ISN 76075

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Based on

REPORTS OF SUB-COMMITTEES - EARIS PROGRAM

I. EARIS and the Fellah: Since the dawn of human history, Egypt has been predominantly an agricultural country. Therefore, agriculture is not only the major pillar supporting Egypt's national economy, but the fellaheen, representing about 75 percent of the present total population of 22 million people, constitute the backbone of this economy and through their communities developed by countless generations, they have set the pattern of a rural life which has had a marked influence on Egyptian culture and national organization. To be most effective, it is essential that all phases of the EARIS program be "geared" to the interests and needs of the Fellah if he is to be a willing partner in a cooperative program primarily intended for his benefit.

The cooperative EARIS program in behalf of the Egyptian fellaheen represents a major undertaking and, as now planned, proposes the expenditure of joint funds in excess of $25,000,000. One cannot review the individual components of the EARIS program without becoming impressed with the inadequacy of present finances to accomplish all that needs to be done. In spite of the staggering cost of correcting a situation which has been thousands of years in the making, the possible penalties of doing nothing should not be overlooked. There is much in the present environment to offer encouragement to those engaged in this cooperative effort that much progress can be made within the life of the EARIS program to provide the fellaheen with concrete evidence of a better life in the years ahead.

II. Phases Of EARIS Program Agreement: The general objective of the EARIS program agreement is - - - "to improve the social and economic conditions throughout all Egypt, by carrying out a broad demonstrational program which attacks, through self-help, community participation, and direct assistance, the basic problems of rural life for the people in the Provinces of Behaira and Fayoum".

The EARIS program agreement provides that community development and rural rehabilitation be accomplished by or through projects or phases emphasizing (a) land reclamation and development (b) improved agricultural production; (c) improved public health and sanitation; (d) better housing and village planning; (e) improved educational facilities, and (f) better community organizations.

III. Land Reclamation and Development Phase of EARIS:

A. Guiding Criteria of Land reclamation and Development: The Sub-Committee examined the features of land reclamation and

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

land development particularly as applying to the Beheira and Fayoum Provinces and selected "guiding criteria" for use in evaluating the specific areas proposed for irrigation and production.

1. Detailed soil survey and land classification recognised as basic.
2. Detailed study of the lay-out of the project area, including the results of the soil survey and land classification, is necessary.
3. For "pilot plant" operation under EARIS, only the lands that can be supplied with perennial irrigation should be included.
4. Any parts of the project which indicate too small a net return from farming operations as compared to the costs of reclamation and development should be eliminated.
5. Settlers should not be placed on the land as owner-operators until it has been developed to the stage where it can produce for the settlers a reasonable living.
6. Equipment used for cropping during land development should be purchased and made available to farmer cooperatives on the project at a fair used-equipment price.

B. Scope of Land Reclamation: The sub-committee explains that land reclamation, especially as applying to the Abis area in the Beheira Province, and similar areas, consists of:

1. Construction of adequate drainage systems, including pumps, to
   a. Remove water from areas now underwater.
   b. Remove water during the leaching or washing process.
   c. Remove waste and drainage water after irrigation starts.
2. Construction of irrigation systems, including canals, to
   a. Provide water for leaching or washing preparatory to cropping.
   b. Provide water for irrigation of crops.

C. Scope of Land Development: The sub-committee indicates that land development consists of:

1. Leveling land in preparation for irrigation.
2. Washing or leaching out of salts where needed.
3. Initial cropping of area before settlement.

D. Application of Criteria To Areas Proposed:

1. Beheira Province: The Abis area is divided into three tracts, totalling 20,000 feddans. The areas and estimated date ready for settlement are:
   a. 1120 feddans, ready November, 1954.
   b. 4430 feddans, ready November, 1957.
   c. 14,400 feddans, ready November, 1959.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

2. Fayoum Province: Originally, the area proposed for reclamation and development included about 62,000 feddans of desert on the west and northwest of the province. Application of criteria will limit reclamation to approximately 13,000 feddans under Alternate III, by enlargement and extending existing canals.

IV. Agricultural Production:

A. Basic Assumption: Agricultural activities in Egypt constitute the base on which the national economy must stand. In addition to the value of the agricultural commodities produced by the Egyptian fellaheen, it is significant that 70 percent of Egypt's factories process local agricultural commodities.

B. Proposals to be emphasized: The agricultural phase of the EARIS program proposes to emphasize:

1. Improved methods and procedures by which maximum yields may be obtained within the shortest possible time from lands reclaimed and developed on the Abis area in the Beheira Province and on Alternate III, Desert Project in the Fayoum Province. The methods and procedures to be emphasized include among others (a) improved crop and soil management; (b) efficient use of both irrigation and drainage waters; (c) improved livestock production; (d) marketing surveys and economic investigations; and (e) more effective control of insects and diseases.
2. Demonstration of methods and procedures for increasing the production of agricultural commodities on land already under cultivation in the remainder of the Beheira and Fayoum Provinces.

C. Requirements for Implementation: Successful implementation of the Agricultural phase of the EARIS program will require, or is dependent upon the following:

1. Well coordinated National Agricultural Extension Service, entirely free of any inspection, regulatory, and law enforcement services, to conduct a program of agricultural education among the fellaheen which will insure maximum adoption of improved agricultural practices and procedures.
2. An equally well coordinated program of Agricultural Research, to supply the Agricultural Extension staff with dependable factual information to insure a continuous program of sound agricultural extension activities among the Egyptian fellaheen.
3. Coordination of all G.O.E. agricultural and closely related activities now being conducted by the various ministries into a well-integrated effort designed to accomplish the maximum over all benefits to the Egyptian fellaheen through increased production from Egypt's agricultural lands with a minimum of duplication of services and expense.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

D. Inter-relationships: The Agricultural Sub-Committee recognizes that the agricultural phase of the RARIS program will require close coordination and integration of its activities with those of other phases, Land Reclamation and Development; Public Health and Sanitation; Housing and Village Planning; Education, and Community Organization.

V. Improved Public Health and Sanitation Phase Of RARIS.

A. Objectives: RARIS provides for a broad demonstrational program which attacks, through self-help, community participation, and direct assistance the basic problems of rural life for the people in the Provinces of Beheira and Fayoum, including - - - "improvement of levels of public health, through environmental sanitation, clinical services, training and health education" and "such other related activities as the Co-Directors may agree upon as being essential to this demonstration".

B. Analyzing Major Health Problems: A constructive program of public health and sanitation must be able to break the vicious cycle of poverty, ignorance and disease. Correct analysis of the major health problems of any area requires a detailed inventory relating to:

1. Characteristics of the population, including
   a. Racial composition
   b. Literacy
   c. Geographic distribution
   d. Age groups
   e. Occupations
2. Vital Statistics, including
   a. Census
   b. Population density
   c. Number of births, deaths, marriages, divorces, etc. by political subdivisions.
3. Causes of death, esp. from infections & preventable diseases.
4. Family Income and Costs of living.
5. Health institutions: number, location, and capacity.
6. Professional Personnel: number, location, training.
7. Governmental Structure: local and Federal.
8. Voluntary health and sanitation agencies.
9. Social Institutions, customs, cultures, religions.
10. Economics - level of production, labor, etc.
11. Geography and Climatology.

C. Method of Approach: From an analysis of trends, Egypt appears to favor "evolutionary processes set in motion at the grass-roots, geared to the real desires, capacities, and local needs of the people themselves," in preference to "revolutionary moves initiated and carried out from the top down".

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

D. Program For Beheira Province.

1. For Abis Reclamation and Resettlement Project
   a. Essential Community Environmental Services, based on basic studies and recommendation.
   b. Settler selection and Presettlement Health and Medical Control, Planning and Activities.
   c. Development of Demonstration Health and Medical Service Center as part of an over-all community development program for the Abis area.
2. For Other Parts of Beheira Province
   a. General and specific Fact Finding Studies and Analyses
   b. Promotion and strengthening nearby Rural Health and Social Welfare Centers and stimulation of Province-wide coordination of Health and Sanitation Programs.
   c. Tuberculosis and Case finding and follow-up program
   d. Analysis, appraisal, and adaptation of findings and experience for possible use in developing Long Range Health Program for Egypt.
3. Ultimate goal of Total Health Program in the Province is Health, with optimum physical, mental, and social efficiency and adjustments to the tasks of daily living. The comprehensive Health Services required to achieve this goal group in four categories:
   a. Promotion of Health, include "all those social measures directed toward the environment and toward the people as a whole which contribute to the attainment of health". (food, housing, environment, safety, education, recreation and security).
   b. Prevention of Disease includes personal health services to prevent disease or prevent disability and premature death once the disease has occurred.
   c. Diagnosis and Treatment directed toward cure or alleviation of disease.
   d. Rehabilitation or restoration of handicapped individuals to maximum physical, mental, social and economic usefulness of which they are capable.

VI. Housing and Village Planning Phase of PAHIC:

A. Situation: The housing and Village Planning Sub-committee is concerned with the formulation of recommendations for
1. regional plans of the areas to be reclaimed in the Beheira and Fayoum Provinces;
2. planning and construction of villages for resettled landless farmers, and
3. for planning and construction of the housing and other buildings required.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

B. Regional plans for reclaimed areas must be based on the following considerations:
1. Relationship of planned area to adjacent outside areas.
2. Possible future developments within the area because of those occurring outside.
3. Relationship of communities within the planned area.
4. Physical conditions of area affecting planning.
5. Funds available to execute the plans.

C. Planning and Construction of Villages conditioned by its geographic location and its expected size. The Sub-Committee recommends that the following recommendations be considered in final planning of the village:-
1. Existing concept of Egyptian village consisting of row or block housing grouped about community facilities or services should be preserved, although improved.
2. Through highways should by-pass the village.
3. Social and government activities should be grouped.
4. Certain cooperative or community facilities, such as warehouses, slaughter-houses, tractor stations, etc. should be placed on perimeter of village.
5. Streets should be sufficiently wide to permit unrestricted movement of motor vehicles and afford adequate sunlight and ventilation of buildings.
6. House blocks should be kept to reasonable size to reduce fire hazards.
7. Reserve land for future village expansion.

D. Principles of Housing Construction recommended by the Sub-Committee include,
1. Adequate outside light and ventilation.
2. Reasonable privacy for individual members of the family and from the outside
3. Sanitary facilities placed and constructed so as to encourage their use rather than neglect.
4. Separation of family and animal quarters within the confines of the individual property.
5. Reasonably fireproof construction.

E. Inter-relationships on Space Requirements: The sub-committee indicates that 10 or 12 villages must be planned for the area, of which at least two will be larger than the others to provide certain area-wide facilities which are of concern to one or more Ministries of G.O.E.
1. Secondary schools.
2. Social centers.
3. Health clinics
4. Agricultural Extension and other Government Services.

Note: The Sub-Committee recommends the use of multi-purpose rooms and buildings, in the interest of economy and efficiency.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

VII. Educational Phase of [illegible] Program: On June 18, 1953, Egypt became a Republic. The privileges of self-government always impose on the government the obligation to develop among its citizenry the capacity for intelligent and responsible participation in civil affairs. This can be done only to the extent to which Egypt can integrate sound plans for education of her citizens into the country's total forward movement.

A. Basic Elements: Egypt has adopted the policy of universal educational opportunities for her boys and girls, but is being delayed in achieving this objective by (a) shortage of physical facilities, and (b) an inadequate supply of trained teachers.

The Ministry of Education is improving physical facilities as well as teachers. Most important of all, the Ministry is creating with head-masters and teachers alike a realization that schools are an integral and vital part of the community, and an awareness of the responsibility of the schools to prepare citizens who are interested in improving the communities in which they reside.

The greatest educational problem confronting Egypt in the Abis area, and elsewhere in the country, is how to educate so as to make the maximum use of all that is best in Egyptian tradition, and at the same time overcome the inertia which illiteracy, domination, and poverty have imposed on Egyptian farmers through the centuries.

B. Essential Characteristics of [illegible] Educational Program: This program must support the Egyptian ideal of an educated citizenry, mentally, physically, and spiritually prepared to discharge the responsibilities of self-government. Some important elements are,

1. Must satisfy the actual and felt needs of the people in the area to be served.
2. Must be practical, to the point of providing some skills and the motivation for their use.
3. Must be universally available to every boy and girl of school age.
4. Must be sufficiently flexible to meet the special needs of the communities, including fundamental education where necessary and special training programs and activities to meet current problems.
5. Must recognize fully the problems of community life and skills required in solving these problems by group effort.

C. Organizational Responsibilities: The major burden of planning and executing the educational program through Egypt rests with the Ministry of Education. The various educational services and activities contemplated by the Educational Phase of the [illegible] program will require support by the Ministry of Education in providing,

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

1. Officials and teachers who are to comprise the education staff. Pre-training will assist in formulating educational philosophies, techniques of approach for both child and adult education programs, scope of common services, and methods of continuous evaluation of progress.
2. Finances sufficient for effective educational effort. Funds available must be judiciously divided between staff, physical plant and teaching aids. Well-trained teaching personnel can be rendered ineffective if no funds have been allocated for teaching aids.

D. Space Requirements: At best, land and building space requirements for Education will be substantial even to satisfy current needs at minimum standards. To the fullest extent practicable, these needs should be coordinated with requirements of other phases of the EARIS program, including agriculture, public health and sanitation, community organizations, home industries and housing and community planning.

E. Audiovisual Education Services: EARIS is in a large measure a demonstration of "aided self-help" as a means of enabling the fellaheen to deal effectively with social and economic problems which have affected their lives since time immemorial. Audio-visual techniques (a) improve and enrich school instruction; (b) increase the impact of adult education; (c) simplify the demonstration of new methods and how to use them; (d) overcome the barrier of illiteracy; and (e) enable technicians to reach more people with more interesting and convincing messages. By pooling of funds, it is proposed to establish an Egyptian-American Audiovisual Center to serve various phases of EARIS.

VIII. Community Organization Phase of EARIS Program:

A. The Situation: The fellah with his hoe constitutes the mainstay of Egypt's national economy, and through his community, the village, makes up Egypt's predominantly rural way of life, with its impacts upon Egyptian culture and national organization.

B. Objective: The central objective of the Community Organization phase of the EARIS project is to develop new communities with effective citizens who will help themselves and their communities by shouldering responsibilities and by participating in the solution of their problems through cooperation.

C. Problems Involved: The Community Organization project will involve the following major problems:
1. Selection of landless farm families, benefitting from experience in other reclamation projects.
2. Preparation of selected settlers for resettlement in new communities.
3. Development of organized communities, emphasizing (a) community leadership; (b) village council; (c) community center; (d) religious activities; (e) recreation and (f) improved home life and community activities.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

D. Interrelationships: The Community Organization project, like certain other phases of RAMIS, can function most efficiently only if there is provision for cooperation of all Ministries and agencies of G.O.E. which are directly concerned. While the Fellah Department, Ministry of Social Affairs must carry the major responsibility of the Community Organization project through stimulation of self-help in operating the program, it is apparent that other Ministries, including especially Agriculture, Education, Health, and Public works, have a direct interest and should be given an opportunity to cooperate in the development of new communities and the improvement of those already established.

IX. Problems Connected With RAMIS Requiring Cooperation: A study of reports of Sub-Committees reveals several problems in which two or more phases of RAMIS have interests, either direct or indirect, which will require coordination and cooperation to avoid duplication of effort and to insure maximum progress toward the objectives.

A. Size of farm unit: data lacking for sound recommendations: present estimates desirable size variable.

B. Type of farming: basic data from which to determine most remunerative type of farming lacking.

C. Size of families: survey needed to determine size of families in areas from which landless farm families will be moved to reclamation projects.

D. Methods of approach: Do they adequately meet the actual problems and needs of the fellah and his family.

E. Use of Existing and Future "Centers": Already, there are agriculture, education, health, and social "centers" and other under construction. There is need to coordinate the use of the land, space and facilities at these centers to obtain maximum service to the various communities.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY