

POLICY DETERMINATION: USAID Financing of Palm Oil,
Citrus and Sugar Projects and Related Products

1. Because of the potential injury to US producers of similar products, USAID/W will as a matter of general policy examine at the earliest possible stage proposed projects involving production, processing or marketing of sugar, palm oil, or citrus for export. Approval to proceed with project development in these cases must be made by the appropriate Regional Assistant Administrator with the concurrence of AA/PPC and AA/IIA following review by PPC/PDPR/EDD in cooperation with IIA/EA/IEA. These divisions will examine potential injury to US producers on the basis of data supplied by the Mission on the export potential of the project, likely export markets, magnitude of production resulting from the project, and the recipient country's relative share of the world market and/or US import market; and on information available in Washington about the condition of the US industry.
2. Commodities financed under non-project assistance and activities financed by subsequently generated local currencies would be given a similar review with participation by SER/COM when the Mission is aware that the commodities will contribute to establishing or expanding production, processing or marketing of these products for export. However, we do not envisage changing existing procedures governing non-project assistance to require Missions to trace all final uses of imported commodities.
3. Missions are not prohibited from developing project ideas in which these commodities are involved. Rather, they should be aware that their potential impact on US producers is a matter of concern which has resulted in restrictive legislation in the OPIC authorization bill and in the replenishment authorization for the International Financial Institutions. USAID should, therefore, only finance such projects when their development rationale is strong and their likely impact on US producers is low.

Robert H. Nooter
Acting Administrator

Date