

PROGRESS REPORT - NUTRITION PROJECT - USAID/BOLIVIA

Period: November 1-30, 78

1. This Month's Activities

- 1.1 The proposal for creation of a national feeding and nutrition system as part of the national planning system was written. The proposal is now being revised by the Ministry of Planning's Office of Administrative Planning and Public Affairs. Due to the recent change in government, the presentation of these documents to the Counsel for Economic and Social Planning (CONEPLAN) has been temporarily postponed.
- 1.2 The preliminary plans for conversion of the Technical Group for Feeding and Nutrition to a Minplan Office have been written. However, the new government may have another perspective in regards to this structural change.
- 1.3 A detailed analysis was completed with the GOB, through GTNAN, on the diverse activities included in the extension of the Project and those that will be financed through the Title III Agreement. Basically, AID will finance the technical assistance and Title III will finance the many local expenses incurred by Project activities. These activities or programs will be included by the GOB in the operative plan for feeding and nutrition in 1978.
- 1.4 The data collection has been completed for the food assistance studies at the national level as well as those in Santa Cruz, Tarija and Beni. The remaining six departments will be studied in December 78 and January 79.
- 1.5 The food gap study has reached the stage of the investigation of aspects of commercialization of critical products. The five Bolivian professionals contracted with project funds, are efficiently completing their activities.
- 1.6 The long term project advisors are preparing the project psper for extension of the project. Unity in the development of the operative plan has priority and they will continue to focus their attention on it during December. Documents to support this activity will be included in the next report.

1.7 The project advisors traveled to Chuquisaca and Santa Cruz with GTNAN staff members to advise the departmental coordinators who were recently appointed by Minplan. They identified the coordinators' priorities.

2. This Month's Problems and Solutions

With the effective intervention of Edward L. Kadunc, Chief of the Division of Human Assistance and Health, all of the administrative problems of the Project are being solved, such as: travel expenses and per diem for the consultants; letter of implementation; assignments of funds for the third phase of the Project at \$165,000 as approved by Washington; and logistical support for the consultants.

There is no doubt that the recent change of government in Bolivia has temporarily delayed some activities. It will be necessary to explain the project to the new authorities. The HHA Division Chief's instructions regarding the contacts with the GOB which were established by the Mission Director, are being followed.

3. Next Month's Activities

- 3.1 The project paper for extension of the Project will be completed.
- 3.2 The development of the operative plan for food and nutrition in 1978 will be completed.
- 3.3 The principal advisor to the project will travel to his home country in December 78, using one month's vacation time.