

Background Summary

Southern University received a 5 year grant under Section 211(d) of the Foreign Assistance Act in May 1972. The grant period was extended an additional 10 months with no new funds provided.

In March 1976 the project was evaluated in-depth by a team of experts which recommended that DS/AGR review Southern's performance in February 1977 and then consider the possibility of alternative follow-on mechanisms, conceivably including an extension of the grant. It also recommended a detailed scope of work be developed by the grantee to facilitate management of the grant. This recommendation as well as other recommendations made by the team, Regional Bureaus and DSB have been incorporated in the GPS approved March, 1978, which extended the grant for an additional 18 months--(to September 1979) committing \$167,000 of AID funds. The grantee during the life of the grant has developed its capacity to deal with rural unemployment and underemployment problems in LDCs.

During the period covered by this evaluation the grantee has adhered to the approved workplan and in meeting the outputs as specified in the grant design. However, although plans for conducting field work (a case study of cooperative have been finalized there is delay in receiving final approval from the Government of Kenya. USAID/Kenya and DS/AGR/ESP are currently seeking final approval from the GOK. Linkages have been made with Agricultural Cooperative Development International for possible collaborative coop activity in Liberia. This may be an alternative activity if GOK approval is not forthcoming.

The GPS stated that Dr. Davis USDA/Econ would be formally involved in the project. Only an informal involvement has occurred. The project manager will continue his efforts to get greater involvement from the University's Agricultural Economics department.

Methodology for the Evaluation - This evaluation was conducted by the project manager and the Chief of the Division DS/AGR/ESP by analyzing the GPS, Grantee's progress reports, on site visits, and related correspondence.

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