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PROJECT NO. 664-12-120-277

START DATE: July 1973 TO March 1975

COUNTRY: TUNISIA

8. PROJECT TITLE

INTEGRATED AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT

4. PROJECT DURATION

Began FY 1973 Ends FY 1978

7. DATE LATEST PROP 6/2/72

8. DATE LATEST RFP -

9. DATE RFP ON PAR -

10. U.S. FUNDING

a. Cumulative Obligation Thru Prior FY: \$ 451

b. Current FY Estimated Budget: \$ 239

c. Estimated Budget to completion After Current FY: \$ 1,067

11. KEY ACTION AGENTS (Contractor, Participating Agency or Voluntary Agency)

a. NAME

b. CONTRACT, PASA OR VOL. AG. NO.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (PASA)

AFR - (AJ) 02 - 74

1. NEW ACTIONS PROPOSED AND REQUESTED OR A RESULT OF THIS EVALUATION

A. ACTION (X)			B. LIST OF ACTIONS	C. PROPOSED ACTION COMPLETION DATE
USAID	AID/W	HOST		
X		X	Carry out an in-depth feasibility study of the Ghardimaou perimeter to determine the proper irrigation system and choice of project inputs.	June 1975
X			Upon completion of the study and agreement on irrigation system, USAID will then determine what kind of assistance needed for implementation of the project.	

Note: The project has not been implemented to date. The following narrative statement explains the delay and replaces the normal annual evaluation.

GENERAL NARRATIVE STATEMENT:

The PROP for this project received AID/W approval in November 1972 and anticipated a three-phased program of implementation. A basic premise of the project was that USAID would provide a team of irrigation agricultural experts to assist the GOT, with OMVVM as the action agency, in the development of an open-channel-gravity-flow irrigation network. The U.S. team was expected to be in place and working in the early part of FY 1973.

The decision was made to utilize the services of a USDA/PAEA team, however there was an inordinate delay in selection and arrival of the PASA team.

D. REPLANNING REQUIRES

REVISED OR NEW

OTHER RFP PRO AB RFP RFP

8. DATE OF REVISION REVIEW

PROJECT MANAGER: TYPED NAME, SIGNATURES AND DATE

Buford H. Grigsby, Acting *BHG* 3/6/75

PROJECT MANAGER: TYPED NAME, SIGNATURES AND DATE

William L. James March 11, 1975

Clearance: AGR: CEFerguson *CE*
PPS: JSHoltway *JSH*

D/DIR: HLTompson *HT*

PMS: ADHullung *ADH*

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The team finally selected had capability in the use of irrigation water, including land leveling, field lay-out, cropping patterns, etc. but not in the construction of a water distribution network.

The OMVVM, under considerable pressure to move forward with the project, was given the funding required to begin work in the Ghardimaou perimeter and certain staff assignments were made to the project.

During the long period required for recruitment of the PASA team, there were changes in the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture, including the director and other officers in OMVVM. These officers, in response to GOT pressure, elected to proceed with a plan of action involving the installation of a completely pressurized water distribution grid for the entire perimeter. This system, which had been considered and discarded during development of the PROP, was totally incompatible with the open channel gravity flow system proposed in the approved PROP.

When the PASA team arrived in May and June 1973, they were adamant in insisting that their parent organization (SCS) would only approve their working within the framework of the original PROP and that they could not accept the pressurized system which had been adopted, unilaterally, by the OMVVM.

This led to a confrontation situation between the team and OMVVM staff. The inflexibility on both sides, as well as personality problems between individuals, made it impossible to reach a working agreement. Efforts of the project manager and other USAID staff to resolve the problem were not successful. Due to inability to reach agreement with OMVVM on the type of irrigation system to be developed, it was necessary to terminate services of three members of the team in November 1974. In addition, the agricultural credit advisor became ill and was given medical evacuation in June 1974. The PASA team now consists of one man only.

The civil engineer (irrigation) was retained for land leveling activities and in following an effective plan for preparation of land for irrigation in the small portion of the perimeter where irrigation infrastructure has already been installed on some public land.

Commodity procurement, initiated early in 1974, was suspended, except for certain readily available items such as seeds and some vehicles which were ready for shipment prior to the decision to terminate the team members mentioned above.

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After lengthy discussions with Ministry of Agriculture officials, recommendations were made as follows:

1. Proceed with Land Leveling operations
2. Establish legume seed multiplication blocks on the land that could be irrigated. Seeding will be done in February-March 1975.
3. Make an in-depth study of the Ghardimacu irrigation perimeter and develop plans for a mutually acceptable and economically feasible irrigation system for the perimeter. This study will be carried out by a U.S. team of two qualified irrigation design engineers, one irrigation economist, one agricultural economist, and one agronomist working jointly with OMVVM counterparts in the period March - June 1975.
4. Upon completion of the study and agreement on an irrigation system, USAID will determine what kind of assistance, if any, it can provide for implementation of the project.
5. USAID will then recruit additional advisory staff to assist the GOF in carrying out the revised plan of work. The appropriate source for this staff, i.e. PASA, contracts, etc., will be determined when the plan has been accepted by USAID and GOF.