

Quarterly Report
to the
Agency for International Development
November 16, 1982 - February 15, 1983

Contract # OTR-0092-C-00-2254-00

Project # 930-0092

Project Title: "Economic Research: Labor
Markets and Labor Market
Structures in Developing
Countries"

Submitted By: Boston University

This report covers the period from November 16, 1982 - February 15, 1983

Indonesia

In addition to carrying on with the analytical work outlined in the last report, Gillian Hart made a major field trip to Indonesia from December 14, 1982 to January 6, 1983. The purpose of the trip was to find out about the main economic changes that took place since she was last in Indonesia in 1979, to determine how they affect the labor market situation, and to familiarize herself with current labor market research. During this trip she accomplished the following:

1. Meetings and Gathering Material

She made contact with a wide range of individuals and institutions including AID, Ford Foundation, a number of research institutes and universities in Jakarta, Bogor, Yogyakarta, and Semarang, as well as several government departments. She also met with a number of individual researchers working on various labor-related issues. In the course of these meetings she gathered a substantial amount of information and research material. This was supplemented by library work (particularly the excellent library of the Lembaga Kependudukan in Yogyakarta) and purchases of material at the Central Bureau of Statistics.

2. Field Trips

With the help of her former research collaborators at Diponegoro University in Semarang, she was able to undertake a field trip to the village on the north coast of Central Java where she conducted research in 1975-76. In the course of this trip she discovered that there had been a considerable amount of industrialization in the area, and that many people from the village are now working in factories. With the help of Dr. James Boomgaard of the AID Central Java Development Program in

Semarang, she was able to visit two of these factories--one manufacturing plywood and the other textiles. A number of extremely interesting questions arose which she plans to pursue in greater detail.

3. Conference

While in Jakarta she was invited to attend a conference on "Women in the Industrial Workforce in Indonesia" at which the results of recent research were reported and discussed.

Jamaica

Bruce Vermeulen made a major field research visit to Jamaica from January 6 to January 16, 1983. During his visit he continued to develop bibliographic information on Jamaican labor markets, and most information on Jamaica available in local university libraries was read and summarized.

The trip accomplished several objectives: (1) identifying and obtaining copies of official labor market statistics collected by the various government and research agencies in Jamaica; (2) identifying key individuals in Jamaica who have worked on labor market issues within the mandate of the project; and (3) interviewing as many individuals as possible during the visit.

In cooperation with Sam Skogstad and Dave Evans in the Kingston U.S.A.I.D. mission, a number of interviews were arranged. Although the University was closed for winter vacation, limiting the availability of key academicians, good progress was made in identifying individuals in the university with whom to talk in a follow-up visit. He was able to meet with government officials in all of the key data-collecting and -analyzing agencies, and to meet with representatives of several employer and union organizations.

In addition, he was able to bring back sample copies of nearly all the official

published data sources on labor markets, and to see in Jamaica those which are not in published form. We therefore have a good basis currently for considering what additional types of information would be useful for policy purposes.