PD-ABA-448

INTERNATIONAL EYE FOUNDATION
kenya rural blindness prevention project

GRANT NO. AID/615-0203

QUARTERLY REPORT - JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, 1980

This is the second in a series of Quarterly Reports submitted to U.S.A.I.D., covering the period 1 July through 30 September, 1980, outlining the activities and progress of the International Eye Foundation's Kenya Rural Blindness Prevention Project (Phase II).

I. General

Project activities carried over from Phase I continued, and the activities called for under the Phase II contract accelerated, as new staff members became acquainted with their various responsibilities. Project operations during the quarter went smoothly, though there have been some delays in implementation, as explained below.

II. Activities

Blindness Prevalence Surveys: Analysis of the data collected during Phase I was completed, and the report on this will be submitted before mid-November. The continued delay is largely due to the fact that the staff member dealing with this area was out of the country for most of the month of September. The first of the surveys under Phase II was conducted during the last two weeks of August in Kisii District (Nyaribari Chache and West Kitutu Locations). A summary of the preliminary findings of this survey is attached to this report. The survey went very well, with excellent cooperation from both government officials and the local population. Mr. Richard Amiani, C.O. (Ophthal.) and the staff of the Kisii District Land Registry office were both very helpful in assisting to get the survey set up in a very short time. It is anticipated that the next survey will be conducted in April, 1981, in Baringo District.

II. Activities (cont'd)

Education: The Field Training Specialist continued with her teaching activities, presenting lectures at the Nyeri Provincial Hospital Nursing School. In addition, she prepared teaching outlines for use with nurses, village health workers, teachers, and school children. During the next quarter, she will begin teaching Ophthalmic Public Health to general clinical officer students at Kenyatta National Hospital, Nairobi. Dr. Steinkuller has begun teaching ophthalmology to students at the Nakuru Medical Training Centre.

Seminars on Primary Eye Care and Blindness Prevention: Meetings were held by the Director of Field Operations and the Field Training Specialist with Provincial Medical Officers in Western, Eastern, and Nyanza Provinces to explain the purpose and format of the seminars. Public Health Education Specialists have been named by all three of these Provincial Medical Officers to work with the Field Training Specialist in planning and executing the seminars and other related activities. It is hoped that the seminars will be started during the next quarter, and will be held at the Rural Health Training Centres. These RHTC's have not been available to date because they have been in session.

III. Finances

Local expenditures this quarter totalled K.Sh.427,101/20 ($56,947 @ Sh.7.5 per $). Expenditures from IEF/Bethesda totalled $99,899.00 for the quarter. A financial summary, giving a breakdown of expenses by line item for both Kenya (in K.Sh.) and Bethesda (in $) is attached.

IV. Project Vehicles

The project now has eight vehicles (two short-wheel base Landrovers, four Toyota Land Cruisers, one Toyota pick-up, and one Subaru stationwagon.) Three vehicles are with Rural Blindness Prevention Units, and five are with project staff members. A source and origin waiver, which would allow the purchase of an additional five vehicles (Datsun-type stationwagons) has been requested, but as of the date of this report, not yet received. This is needed urgently.

V. Community-based Primary Eye Care Projects

The first of the community-based primary eye care projects has been started, and is located at Saradidi, in Bondo Division of Siaya District, Nyanza Province. The KRBPP will develop a primary eye care/blindness prevention component for the already existing primary health care project which was started earlier this year by Dr. Dan Kaseje of the Faculty of Medicine (Department of Community Health), University of Nairobi, and part-time consultant for the KRBPP. When fully operational, the Saradidi Community Health Project will serve approximately 15,000 people. Using their own and donated resources, community members have built and partially staffed a small health centre, and have established a program of training village health workers who will eventually work in the community in preventive and public health activities. The first training of this nature which they received was through a two-day seminar conducted last summer by the KRBPP Field Training Specialist on primary eye care and blindness prevention. The KRBPP has contributed both personnel time and equipment to assist in getting the project "off the ground". The Saradidi Community Health Project is approved by the Ministry of Health, and a letter to this effect from the Provincial Medical Officer, Nyanza Province, is attached.

V. Community-based Primary Eye Care Projects (cont'd)

The staff of the KRBPP selected this project for its initial involvement in community-based primary eye care because it was felt that starting our activities in an integrated project of this nature would provide valuable experience which would facilitate smooth establishment of future primary eye care projects.

VI. Blindness Prevention and Health Education Activities

During the quarter, the Rural Blindness Prevention Unit based at Nakuru visited four schools, seven rural clinics, and the GK Prison at Naivasha, examining a total of 2,300 patients, of whom 260 (11.3%) were suffering from conjunctivitis, and 119 (5.1%) from trachoma. The RBPU at Machakos was off the road for the better part of September awaiting inspection and re-licensing, and was largely inactive during August because of school holidays. However, the unit did manage to visit 19 schools, examining 3,948 students. Of these, 574 (14.5%) were reportedly suffering from trachoma. This unit reported 17 cases of suspected vitamin A deficiency during the quarter. The RBPU at Meru examined a total of 3,346 patients at schools and MCH clinics. Of these, 533 (15.9%) were found to have trachoma. The Nyeri RBPU examined a total of 5,225 patients at schools and MCH clinics. There were 196 (3.7%) reported cases of trachoma. In addition, Mr. Karanja, the C.O. (Ophth.) with the Nyeri Unit has been lecturing in primary eye care/blindness prevention at the Muranga District Hospital Nursing School during this quarter. The fifth RBPU is still unassigned, but it is hoped that it will be back on the road before the end of the year.

VII. Clinical Activities

During the quarter, Dr. Whitfield continued his clinical and supervisory duties as Provincial Ophthalmologist, Central Province. Dr. Steinkuller continued to supervise the RBPU and some MEU's in Rift Valley Province, but he has not been appointed Provincial Ophthalmologist, the appointment having apparently been given to an ophthalmologist with more seniority in the MOH. This does not seem to be interfering with Dr. Steinkuller's project responsibilities. However, a letter has been written to the Director of Medical Services, Ministry of Health by the Project Director seeking some clarification in the matter since the contract for the project specifies that the project ophthalmologists will both serve as Provincial Ophthalmologists for their respective Provinces. Copies of this letter have already been forwarded to USAID.

VIII. Projected Activities

During the next quarter, it is anticipated that the final report for Phase I of the project will be completed and submitted, along with the general three year evaluation plan and a tentative first year evaluation schedule for phase II. The first of the primary eye care/blindness prevention seminars will be held, probably in Eastern Province, where the Provincial Medical Officer is quite anxious to see them started.

INTERNATIONAL EYE FOUNDATION
kenya rural blindness prevention project

JAMHURI CRESCENT TELEPHONE: 567316 NAIROBI

PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF THE OCULAR STATUS SURVEY IN NYANZA PROVINCE, KISII DISTRICT IN AUGUST, 1980

RANDOLPH WHITFIELD, JR. M.D.
Program Director
P.O. Box 1323, Nyeri
Telephone: Kiganjo 8

PAUL STEINKULLER, M.D.
Assistant Project Director
P.O. Box 1366, Nakuru
Telephone: 3520

R. DOUGLASS ARBUCKLE, M.A.
Director Field Operations
P.O. Box 55585, Nairobi

ALEX MACKAY, M.A.
Fiscal Manager
P.O. Box 25187, Nairobi
Telephone: 566501

VICTORIA M. SHEFFIELD, C.O.T.
Field Training Specialist
P.O. Box 15085, Nairobi

DENNIS G. ROSS-DEGNAN, M.S.P.H.
Health Planner
P.O. Box 14585, Nairobi.

The Kenya Ministry of Health and the Kenya Rural Blindness Prevention Project carried out an ocular status survey in Kisii District between August 18 and 27, 1980.

Utilizing a random cluster sampling technique, 1906 survey members were identified and registered and of those registered 1748 survey members were examined, 92% of those registered. The survey covered the locations of West Kitutu and Nyaribari Chache.

A summary of the preliminary results follows.

Prevalence of Significant Visual Loss (less than 6/18 in the better eye - 2.9%

Prevalence of Severe Visual Loss(less than 6/60 in the better eye - 0.45%

Prevalence of blindness by USA criteria (6/60 or less in the better eye; 0.2% in the USA) - 1.0%

The major causes of visual loss:

Refractive error	40%	(almost all uncorrected low myopes)
Senile Cataract	32%	
Senile Macular Deg.	16%	
Congenital Abnorm.	2%	
Sequellae of Trauma	2%	
Other	8%	

The causes of visual loss among those seen in the open clinic have not been used to enrich the above figures.

Respectfully Submitted,

Randolph Whitfield, Jr. MD
Provincial Ophthalmologist, Central
30 August, 1980

6

INTERNATIONAL EYE FOUNDATION

KENYA RURAL BLINDNESS PREVENTION PROJECT

Quarterly Financial Report, July, Aug., Sept., 1980 A.I.D. Project Number 615-0203

Grant Budget Line Items / Amount.	Total Exp. This Period	Exp. Billed to AID This Period	Cumulative Exp. Billed to AID	Project Exp. To be Billed To AID Next Period
1. Salaries/Fringe $375,000	$ 48,749.00 KSh. 87,201/=	$ 48,749.00 KSh. 65,000/=	$ 95,359.00 KSh.170,243/40	$ 46,425.00 KSh. 67,500/=
2. Travel & Transport $198,000	$ 9,484.00 KSh.153,635/15	$ 9,484.00 KSh.131,260/=	$ 43,359.00 KSh.241,535/50	-0- KSh.112,500/=
3. Subsist. & P.D. $109,000	$ -0- KSh. 92,692/40	-0- KSh. 81,500/=	$ 2,095.00 KSh.183,212/85	$ -0- KSh.112,500/=
4. Evaluation $ 16,000				
5. Surveys $ 9,000	$ -0- KSh. 40,474/60	$ -0- KSh. 40,000/=	$ -0- KSh. 40,574/60	$ -0- KSh. -0-
6. Surgical Equip. $ 5,000	$ 7,456.00 KSh. -0-	$ 7,456.00 KSh. -0-	$ 8,330.00 KSh. -0-	$ -0- KSh. -0-
7. Teaching Materials $ 16,000	$ 84.00 KSh. 3,742/40	$ -0- KSh. 7,750/=	$ 282.00 KSh. 7,750/=	$ -0- KSh. 7,500/=
8. Drugs & Medications $ 5,000	$ 19,908.00 KSh. 4,112/=	$ -0- KSh. 5,500/=	$ 3,277.00 KSh. 5,500/=	$ 19,908.00 KSh. -0-
9. Office Equipment $ 23,000	$ 532.00 KSh. 26,193/65	$ 532.00 KSh. 21,250/=	$ 990.00 KSh. 90,411/75	$ -0- KSh. 60,000/=
10. Other Direct Costs $144,000	$ 13,686.00 KSh. 19,050/=	$ 13,686.00 KSh. 5,000/=	$ 31,153.00 KSh. 19,050/=	$ 15,000.00 KSh. 45,000/=
TOTAL $900,000	$ 99,899.00 KSh.427,101/20	$ 79,907.00 KSh.357,260/=	$184,845.00 KSh.758,278/10	$ 81,333.00 KSh.405,000/=

NB: "$" indicates dollar expenditures (from Bethesda office in U.S.)
"KSh." indicates shilling expenditures in Kenya.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Telegrams: "PROVMED", Kisumu
Telephone: Kisumu 2731 & 2732

When replying please quote
Ref. No. and date MC/31.Vol.11/(27).

PROVINCIAL MEDICAL HEADQUARTERS
NYANZA PROVINCE
P.O. Box 721, KISUMU

19th April, 1980

Dr. Dan Kaseje,
Department of Community Health,
Faculty of Medicine,
P.O. BOX 30588,
NAIROBI.

Dear Dr. Kaseje,

RE: SARADIDI HEALTH PROJECT:

Thank you for your letter of 16th April, 1980 on the above project. As I told you when you called in my office, a project like the one you intend to start at Saradidi is what we aim to start in all parts of the this province. I must commend you for the initiative you have taken.

You can count on my full support and any help you need from my office will be given to you whole heartedly.

I also intend to start a project like this in West Seme location in Kisumu, Kurungu in South Nyanza and one project in Kisii District. Call at my office when you come down to Kisumu.

Yours Sincerely,

(Dr. Y.O. Angir)
PROVINCIAL MEDICAL OFFICER
NYANZA PROVINCE,

c.c. The Medical Officer of Health,
Siaya District Hospital,
P.O. BOX 144,
SIAYA.

The Chairman,
Department of Community Health,
P.O. BOX 30588,
NAIROBI.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY