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APEC PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION

Private Sector Training Component
U S Agency for International Development

Cooperative Agreement No AEP-0005-A-00-5011-00
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Final Report

Submitted to

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1 Summary of Accomplishments

The Offshore Technology Research Center has been actively involved in a broad range of international activities to facilitate and accelerate economic and technological development by forging a bond between the Pacific Rim economies and the United States. These activities included the establishment of cooperative educational partnerships between Texas A & M University and the University of Technology (UNITECH) in Lae, Papua New Guinea, and the Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB) in Bandung, Indonesia, with support from the U S Agency for International Development through the National Science Foundation. These cooperative partnerships have led to educational exchange programs as well as very successful workshops on offshore technology, which were held in conjunction with UNITECH in Papua New Guinea and ITB in Indonesia. Based on these successful workshops, a proposal was submitted through USAID to APEC HURDIT, and was granted for an APEC Workshop on Offshore Technology.

The current USAID Cooperative Agreement was awarded as a result of the APEC support for the Workshop on Offshore Technology funded by the APEC Secretariat in Singapore. This report summarizes the activities associated with the Cooperative Agreement.

2 Description of Activities During the Cooperative Agreement

The "APEC Asia Pacific Petroleum/Gas Offshore Technology Workshop" was very successful and was held on November 23-24, 1995, in the Conference facilities of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) at Causeway Bay in Hong Kong. There were approximately 50 leaders from the private sector, government, and universities, with participation from the PRC as well as Hong Kong and the United States. Topics included an overview of China Offshore Exploration, Seismic Processing Techniques for the South China Sea, Platform Design for South East Asia, the State of Technology in Offshore Site Investigation in South East Asia, and the Challenges of Offshore Pipelines, as well as topics related to offshore structures, materials, and sea floor engineering. The Workshop was cosponsored by the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, the University of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Discussion following the workshop demonstrated the interest and importance of the field of offshore technology to the private sector in Hong Kong and the region. As a result of the Workshop, it is likely that the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers will develop a new division related to offshore technology, as the participants concluded that the field of offshore technology, and the associated environmental concerns, would be important to Hong Kong in the next decade.

3 Description of Methods Used

Planning for the APEC Workshop on Offshore Technology was based on recent activities of the NSF sponsored Offshore Technology Research Center, combined with recent developments in the Pacific Rim. Once the program was outlined, identification of speakers and topic areas was pursued. Arrangements were then made with the cooperating organizations and institutions. The private sector was actively involved in the Workshop, both as speakers and as participants.

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While there were no major problems associated with this Cooperative Agreement, it is interesting to note that essentially every organization with whom the Workshop was discussed viewed the Workshop as an opportunity to make a profit, in some cases with upfront support required to help defray anticipated expenses of the Workshop

4 Summary and Recommendations

The support provided by USAID through the APEC Partnership for Education to Texas A & M University and our NSF sponsored Offshore Technology Research Center has been very beneficial, and has led to increased activity and opportunity for Texas A & M University in the Pacific Rim. As a result of the Workshops on Offshore Technology which have been held in Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, and Hong Kong, there have been requests for additional Workshops in other Pacific Rim countries. At this time, Workshops are being explored with institutions in the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand.

In view of the success of the USAID Partners in Education program, it is recommended that the program be continued and expanded.

5 Fiscal Report

In keeping with the conditions of this Cooperative Agreement, funds were used only for the international travel expenses of the speakers/participants in the APEC Workshop on Offshore Technology, and these funds were matched with 1:1 cost sharing with private sector funds as follows:

USAID Amount Used	\$8298 00
Private Sector Matching Funds	\$8392 00

As required, a written request for country clearance was submitted to USAID/W in advance of the Workshop and approval was granted by the USAID Hong Kong Mission. The USAID Mission did not request a debriefing of the Workshop.