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# Annual Report Global Training for Development Benin Training Program

**USAID Contract No. FAO-I-00-96-90018-00**

**Temporary D.O. NO. OUT-FAO-I-808-96-00018-00**

**USAID/Benin GTD Delivery Order**

**July 7, 1997-July 31, 1998**

**Submitted to  
USAID Benin**

**by  
Academy for Educational Development  
Washington, D C  
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## Narrative Section

The annual report will recount the activities carried out during the first year of the Benin Training Program in fulfillment of the tasks outlined in the July 1997 contract by AED, prime Contractor and AMEX, Inc , sub-contractor for in-country activities

### **A Country Training Strategy and Annual Plan**

This task was carried out by AED's sub-contractor, AMEX, Inc , from February 26-March 8, 1998 The report was submitted to the Mission at that time Andrew Gilboy, Delivery Order Manager for AMEX, Inc and Patrice Zmitrovic, AMEX, Inc Program Development Specialist, spent two weeks in Benin meeting with Mission staff, the Strategic Objective Teams, and representatives of partnering institutions with which the Mission has a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement They assisted them in the development of Terms of Reference for each proposed in-country training event, and guided their planning and goal setting so as to ensure that in-country training meets the Team's anticipated results

In an effort to clarify how future programs will be carried out, the report outlined how responsibilities for implementing the proposed in-country training programs will be divided between AMEX, Inc , AXE, the Beninese logistics firm, and CDM, the local financial management firm

Although they were not ranked by priority, the report outlined the proposed training programs, by SO, which remained to be implemented It also described a follow-on plan to survey the in-country training participants beginning in March 1998 Since they had biodata information for the participants, the survey would be conducted by AXE on behalf of AMEX, Inc As of this writing the follow-on has not been begun AED is querying AMEX, Inc as to their plans to complete this contract deliverable

### **B In-country Training**

Over the course of the first year of the contract, AMEX, Inc , in conjunction with Logistics sub-contractors AXE and CDM, implemented six in-country training programs as they were requested by the Mission The Mission and other donors identified the participants and invited them AXE estimated the cost of the program and notified AMEX, Inc of the budget They then made all logistical arrangements and hosted the seminar, hiring any trainers that were required and providing the materials necessary for the seminar CDM, the Financial Management sub-contractor, paid out invoices as funds became available

The program implemented in the first quarter

SO1 Improve Governance and Reinforce Democracy

IR Civil Society Strengthening through NGO Capacity Building

"Bingos Lessons Learned and Future Perspectives" was held September 26-27, 1997. Forty-eight representatives of Beninese NGOs who attended the seminar reviewed three years of the BINGOS' program and made recommendations for the additional two years of the program.

The second quarter brought the implementation of two programs.

SO1 Improve Basic Education

IR Civil Participation in Primary Education Reform Increased

"FENAPEB", which was held December 1-5, 1997, involved the Training of Trainers Follow-up on the Bamako seminar on reinforcement of PTA's. Thirty-three participants attended the seminar.

SPO1 Improve Governance and Reinforce Democracy

IR Civil Strengthening through NGO Capacity Building

"NGO Capacity Building" which was held December 16-19, 1997, sought to propose modifications for revision of the 1901 law regulating Non-Governmental Associations. One hundred thirteen people attended the seminar.

In the third quarter, three seminars were implemented.

SPO1 Improve Governance and Reinforce Democracy

IR Mechanism to Promote Ethical Standards in Governance Strengthened

"SYSCOA" was held January 18-30, 1998, to provide training for Examiners and Inspectors from the Supreme Court's Public Finance Inspection Office and the Ministry of Finance's Inspector General's Office, in the new SYSCOA audit system. Forty people participated in the seminar. \*\*This program was not proposed in the contract, but it replaced a Democracy and Governance program on public administration constraints to economic growth from IR Mechanism to Promote Ethical Standards in Governance Strengthened, which has not yet been held. Forty people participated.

SPO1 Improve Governance and Reinforce Democracy

IR Effectiveness and Independence of the Legislative Reinforcement

"CENA", which was jointly financed by several donor agencies, was held February 13-14, 1998. It was to bring together several key partners and institutions involved in the electoral procedural system to share information on the new electoral law and develop recommendations and an action plan for institutionalizing CENA. One-hundred-fifty people attended the seminar.

SPO1 Improve Governance and Reinforce Democracy  
IR Increased Participation of Civil Society in Decision-Making

"FONAC" National Forum for the Mobilization of Civil Society to Fight Against Corruption was held March 25-27, 1998. It was to provide an opportunity for a number of key partners to reflect on problems that impede the good functioning of public administration and to make recommendations for its improvement. Three-hundred people attended this seminar.

No training programs were held in the fourth quarter.

### **Proposed Programs Which Have Not Been Implemented**

Basic Education SO

SO1 Improve Basic Education  
IR Civil participation in Primary Education Reform Increased

Workshop on Union's role in increasing access and promoting quality of both learning and teaching. The program was proposed for September 8-11, 1997 for 100 participants.

SO1 Improve Basic Education  
IR Equity of Access to Basic Education Increased

Local exchange visits for community leaders in girls' education. The visits were proposed to be held from September 97-April 1998. During the AMEX DO Manager's visit to Benin in August/September to identify local partners for logistics and finance, the Mission confirmed that these visits would not be implemented in the Benin Training Program contract.

### **Improve Governance and Reinforce Democracy SO**

SPO1 Improve Governance and Reinforce Democracy  
IR Mechanism to Promote Ethical Standards in Government Strengthened

Workshop on union's role in increasing access and promoting quality of both learning and teaching. This program was to be held September 8-11, 1997 for 100 people. No alternative date has been received.

### **C U S -based Short-term Training**

#### Proposed Programs Which Were Not Held

Basic Education

SO1 Improve Basic Education

IR Equity of Access to Basic Education Increased

Observation and study tour to National Commission for Women, Washington, D C AED was to implement this visit of three policy makers and National Network Representatives, but as its date of commencement was August 4-22, shortly after the contract had been signed, it could not be arranged so quickly No alternative date was proposed

SO1 Improve Basic Education

IR Key Pedagogical Systems for Delivering Quality Basic Education Upgraded

GLOBE Training was to be implemented by AED on July 20-25, 1997 in Washington, D C Again, the date proposed fell too close to the establishment of the contract, thus this visit could not take place at the proposed time No alternative date was proposed

Expand Family Planning and HIV/AIDS Prevention Services

SPO2 Expand Family Planning and HIV/AIDS Prevention Services

IR Population Availability and Use of Quality Family Planning Services Increased

The four participants were not able to attend this scheduled program, possibly because it was to be held too close to the time of the signing of the contract for AED to be able to make the appropriate arrangements No alternative date was possible, as it was an off-the-shelf course of Western Consortium for Public Health in Santa Cruz, California

**U S -based Programs Implemented Which Were Not Proposed**

On April 8, AED was requested to arrange for two Beninese women to attend a USAID-sponsored conference in Maine from April 29-May 1, 1998 All arrangements were made and tickets were purchased Because of difficulties DHL had with transportation of their express mailed items, the tickets were received at the Mission late in the day that the women were to travel Alternative reservations were made for electronic tickets and the women left Benin the next day Unfortunately, due to difficulties in airline schedules and equipment, they were not able to attend the entire conference AED did its best to meet the women's requirements during and after the conference

AED received word from the Mission in July about the implementation of a joint USAID/USIA observation tour for four participants from Benin to be held at the beginning of August The program was planned and carried out, according to USIA's guidelines, by The African American Institute AED purchased the tickets for the participants' arrival in the U S and for program costs for the components of the program

**C U S -based Academic Training**

**PIO/P 698-0463-1-30047, Richard Afanuh**

Mr Afanuh graduated from Central State University at the end of the Summer 1997 term and

was to return to Benin in November after completing an internship. He contacted AED prior to his travel to request the Mission's concurrence to remain at his internship site through December 1997. The Mission approved his request, but Mr. Afanuh did not, in fact, return in December.

In a telephone discussion between the Mission Training Liaison and the AED Delivery Order Manager, it was noted that Mr. Afanuh had not returned to Benin. Mr. Afanuh was contacted by AED in June to learn his intentions. When he responded to AED's message, he indicated that he intended to return to Benin in a few weeks and that he would report to the USAID Mission at that time. Because of his compliance, it was not necessary for AED to report him to USAID and INS as a non-returnee.

**PIO/P 698-0463-1-30046, Rodolphe Akoutey**

Mr. Akoutey completed his Bachelors Degree in Water Resources Management with honors and graduated from Central State University June 13, 1998. He requested and was approved to participate in a practicum during the summer, but because of his desire to return home at that time, he left the U.S. July 5.

**PIO/P 698-0436-1-30050, Carole Ogouma**

Ms. Ogouma completed her Bachelors Degree in Water Resources Management and graduated with honors from Central State University (CSU) June 13, 1998. She requested and was approved to pursue practical training at CSU for the summer. She is working in the International Center for Water Resources Management of CSU. Ms. Ogouma intends to return to Benin in August.

**PIO/P 698-0436-1-30048, Karen Hounsokou**

Ms. Hounsokou completed her Bachelors Degree in Water Resources Management and graduated from Central State University (CSU) June 13, 1998 with honors. She requested and was approved to pursue practical training at Illinois Institute of Technology for the summer. She informed AED that she has received scholarship funding offers from two universities for the Fall 1998 term. She intends to return to Benin in August to gain the Mission's waiver of the two-year residency requirement of her IAP-66A, so as to return to the U.S. for Fall 1998 admission.

**PIO/P 698-0436-1-30049, Georges Edon**

Mr. Edon completed the Bachelors Degree with high honors in Manufacturing Engineering from Central State University, June 13, 1998. Mr. Edon was approved to pursue practical training during the Summer term. He traveled to Flint, Michigan to participate in a leadership seminar for the remainder of the summer. He will return to Benin in August and petition the Mission for a waiver of the two-year residency requirement of his IAP-66A, so as to return to the U.S. to pursue graduate study on a scholarship.

Campus visits were made to Central State University just before the students' graduation in June, 1998. It was at this time that all participants indicated that they were very concerned about joining the job market in Benin with only a bachelors degree. They requested and were approved for practical training experiences during the summer 1998 period. They were all also busy gaining admission to graduate degree programs, which could provide them with assistantships.

They all indicated that they would return home in August to gain the Mission's waiver of their two-year residency requirement and be issued a visa stamp to return to the U S All former participants were adamant that they were committed to their country and felt that a graduate degree would only allow them to serve Benin better

### **Remaining Contractual Activities**

**In a conversation with the Benin Mission Training Liaison, Helene Donhossou, AED Delivery Order Manager, Jan Sanford, indicated that it would be difficult for AED to complete the two remaining contractual activities before the September 30 expiration of the contract Thus, a one-month no-cost extension was requested and approved in July, 1998, extending the contract through October 31, 1998**

### **D Training Impact Evaluation**

**AED has identified a consultant with extensive evaluation experience to take the place of Janet Kerley whom AED had proposed to perform this evaluation activity Plans are underway to hold this evaluation in September/October 1998, with the consultant scheduled to travel to Benin approximately September 15 for four weeks He would then return to Washington to prepare the report by October 23, 1998**

### **E Follow-on Activities**

**AED has identified a consultant to replace the proposed follow-on coordinator who will conduct a survey of all Mission training events since 1991 and design and implement post-training follow-on programs intended to assist trainees in using their new skills in their jobs**

**AED proposes using AXE or another logistics firm in Benin to arrange the logistics for the survey and to hire interviewers to assist The consultant will travel to Benin the last week of September and spend a week evaluating the information learned from the survey after which he will plan and conduct follow-on programs which will reinforce the capacity of the AFGRAD/ATLAS alumni associations by providing them with training to increase their skills in project design and management techniques**

**Since AMEX, Inc has not yet completed a follow-on survey and training for the six in-country training they implemented, this task may be combined with the impact evaluation and the follow-on survey mentioned above**

### **STATISTICAL SECTION**

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|----------------------------------|---|
| B In-country Training            | 684 participants in 6 training programs |
| C U S -based Short-term Training | 6 participants in two programs          |
| C U S -based Academic Training   | 5 participants                          |