

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION  
Washington 25, D. C.

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NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS:

Attacking basic problems in underdeveloped countries at the grass roots has proven to be one of the most successful ways of advancing the welfare of the people. Through its community development programs, the Mutual Security Program has helped its partner countries better the lives of millions of citizens.

During fiscal year 1956, ICA participated in 47 such community development projects,

Provided 124 technicians and advisors, either as ICA employees or through contracts with appropriate institutions, and

Provided \$18,632,739 in financial assistance to the effort.

Attached is a summary report on the community development projects.

Similar reports on other fields of activity are in preparation and will be sent to you shortly. We hope they will prove interesting and useful.



William J. Caldwell  
Director of Public Reports

Attachment

**HOW MUTUAL SECURITY  
FUNDS ARE USED**

**VIII - Community Development  
and Social Welfare**

**International Cooperation Administration  
Office of Public Reports**

**August 1957**

## ICA PROJECTS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE - FY 1956

**Objectives:** "Community Development" is the term used to describe the technique many governments have adopted to reach their village people and to make more effective use of local initiative and energy for increased production and better living standards. Community Development is a process of social action in which the people of a community organize themselves for planning and action; define their common and individual needs and problems; make group and individual plans to meet their needs and solve their problems; execute these plans with a maximum of reliance upon community resources; and supplement these resources when necessary with services and material from governmental and non-governmental agencies outside the community. Governments have learned that when local people have a chance to decide how they can better their own local conditions, better sanitation, greater literacy, and other desirable improvements are more easily introduced and have a more lasting effect. In addition to greater literacy, improved health and more productive agriculture, community development produces its own end result in the form of experience and skill in the democratic processes. It is a direct way of bringing about self-help in the local population, an efficient way of multiplying the effects of U. S. technical assistance. It helps develop an enduring base for a sound national economy and is a way of meeting the increasing demand for a better life.

Social Welfare -- ICA and its predecessor agencies have recognized a relationship between the social and economic aspects of economic development and have provided a modest amount of technical assistance in the social services in a limited number of countries. The objectives are: (a) to enable persons and groups to improve their capacities for engaging in productive economic and civic activities, (b) to enable people to adjust successfully to dislocations arising from economic forces and technological changes, (c) to use available resources for rehabilitative and social services to non-productive groups causing a drain on the economy, to groups representing cores of unrest and instability, and to children and other groups especially vulnerable to social disorganization, and (d) to assist countries to make better use of their voluntary organizations.

Emphasis is placed on (1) rural welfare programs designed to improve the productive capacities and standard of living of the rural population and reduce an uneconomical migration to the Cities, (2) use of social work techniques to facilitate health and other basic programs, (3) the encouragement of indigenous voluntary organizations, and (4) the inclusion of measures which will reach and involve the active cooperation of women.

Note: This category also includes refugee, resettlement and emergency feeding programs, i. e., Korea and Vietnam.

The figures given on next page do not include individual social welfare technicians included in health projects.

ICA PROJECTS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE - FY 1956

Total Projects: 47 Total Costs: \$18,632,739 No. Technicians: 124 \* No. Participants: 47

Sub-Fields	Number Projects	Number Countries	Costs	Sample Projects & Accomplishments
Community Development	33	24	\$5,820,659	<p><u>India</u> - Initiated October 1952, ICA has contributed through FY 1957 \$15,102,468 and Government of India \$260,875,410. The tangible results include the reclamation of 895,000 acres of land, the irrigation of an additional 1.5 million acres, the establishment of 12,000 new schools, 30,000 adult education centers and the building of 28,000 miles of new roads. It has affected the lives of 80 million rural people. There are equally or perhaps more significant but less tangible results in the development of a basis for local democratic government. The example of India has stimulated similar programs in such countries as Pakistan, Philippines, and Thailand, which ICA is assisting but these have not been in operation long enough to yet show results of the same magnitude.</p>

\* Including contract personnel.

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Sub-Fields	Number Projects	Number Countries	Costs	Sample Projects & Accomplishments
Social Welfare	10	6	\$11, 012, 080	<p><u>India</u> - Project was initiated in 1952. Through FY 57 it cost \$377, 478. The objective of the project is to provide the technical assistance both to public and private welfare agencies and to schools of social work with particular reference to the group work and community organization techniques in order to assist India in meeting some of the many social problems which hinder their economic development. Includes assistance in such activities as community centers for new industrial worker, elimination of child beggars, providing sheltered employment for widows and assisting voluntary agencies to make better use of their resources. The largest part of the money, some \$275, 000, is for a contract with the Council on Social Work Education to assist in strengthening five schools of social work in order that they may provide training more suited to the social problems of India.</p>

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Sub-Fields	Number Projects	Number Countries	Costs	Sample Projects & Accomplishments
All Other	4	2	\$1,800,000	<p><u>Korea</u> - Under this heading are projects designed to meet social problems which do not fit into any of the above two categories. An example is a Korea project in refugee resettlement in which the U. S. has expended some \$11 million and the Korean Government some \$25 million. This project has been concerned with not only relief to refugees but the resettlement of the displaced families from north of the 38th Parallel. The project includes assistance to enable widows to become self-supporting, the resettlement of farm families on new lands. The major resettlement problem has been accomplished. Emphasis is now being placed on assuring that the resettled families become self-supporting and completely assimilated.</p>