

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION

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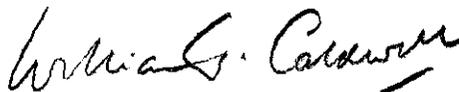
July 25, 1957

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS:

Because so many of the less-developed nations of the world with whom ICA carries out programs of economic development and technical cooperation have preponderantly agricultural economies, they have requested and received a significant amount of United States assistance, through ICA, in this field. During fiscal year 1956, ICA participated in 501 agricultural and rural improvement projects in underdeveloped countries around the world.

Working on these projects were 743 ICA technicians, assisting and advising their local counterparts on modern methods and techniques. These technicians came from the ranks of country agents, home economists, agricultural extension services, land grant college faculties, and similar vocations in the United States. The total cost of U. S. assistance to these projects in FY 1956 was \$68,083,584.

Attached is a report on the types of agricultural projects in which ICA is assisting friendly governments overseas at their specific request, together with examples of what the projects have accomplished. Similar reports on activities in education, health, industry and other fields are in preparation. I hope they will prove useful and interesting to you.



William J. Caldwell
Director of Public Reports

HOW MUTUAL SECURITY
FUNDS ARE USED

I - To promote agricultural development

International Cooperation Administration
Office of Public Reports

July 25, 1957

ICA PROJECTS IN AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES - FY 1956

Objectives: Since the great mass of people in the newly developing countries of the world are involved in agriculture or related fields, projects for the improvement of agriculture are of basic importance to any country's progress. Essentially we seek to do two things. First is to assist countries in demonstrating and understanding that adaptable, improved agricultural practices raise their productivity. Secondly, and perhaps more important from a long-time viewpoint, to assist them in developing and improving the basic institutions which are needed in agricultural education, research and extension if agriculture is to progress.

Total Projects - 501; Total Costs - \$68,083,584; No. Technicians - 743; No. Participants - 1242

Sub-Fields	Number Projects	Number Countries	Costs	Sample Projects and Accomplishments
Research, Agricultural Education and Extension	93	49	\$12,131,183	<p><u>Greece - Advisory Group on Agricultural Extension Training and Research - FY 1956</u> funds available for this project were \$64,225. Since the enactment of new National legislation in 1951, developed with the help of ICA agricultural technicians, Greece has built up a national extension organization which now includes 400 agricultural and 130 home economics extension workers. Some results: 2500 village extension committees; 27 villages with former 4-H members as mayors; extensive use of agricultural informational materials and techniques that characterize U. S. extension services.</p>

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Sub-Fields	Number Projects	Number Countries	Costs	Sample Projects and Accomplishments
Research, Agricultural Education and Extension				<p><u>India - Agricultural Education and Research -</u> FY 1956 funds available for this project were \$1, 029, 010. Under ICA/financed contracts, 5 U. S. land-grant colleges, with some 45 U. S. technicians, are helping institute in 5 major regions of India "land-grant type" agricultural- home economics colleges with new concepts.</p>

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Land and Water Resources	93	37	\$25, 713, 249	<p data-bbox="1140 500 1906 880"><u>Philippines - Land Development - NARRA - FY 1956 funds for this project were \$409, 000. Under this project which is closely related to the three reported under another, sub-field, approximately 1, 500, 000 acres of public land has been subdivided into new small farms; 300, 000 families have been resettled; improved conditions of tenancy have been legislated and then administered through a new tenancy commission and a new Court of Agrarian Relations.</u></p> <p data-bbox="1140 930 1906 1311"><u>Iraq - Irrigation Administration and Development - FY 1956 funds available for this project were \$153, 841. ICA has provided technical assistance in planning major new irrigation works and major storage in the watersheds of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. Project works are financed by the Government of Iraq. In 1957 water was delivered to the Greater Mussayib project (approximately 200, 000 acres) and land settlement is being initiated.</u></p>

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Sub-Fields	Number Projects	Number Countries	Costs	Sample Projects and Accomplishments
Crop and Livestock Development	95	41	\$6, 978, 731	<p data-bbox="1115 426 1934 1032"> <u>Thailand - Livestock Improvement and Disease Control - FY 1956</u> funds available for this project were \$96, 000. As only one activity in this project, ICA has assisted in equipping a laboratory for the production of vaccine to control rinderpest, a disease of cattle unknown in America but one of the severest in Asia and Africa. Death losses in cattle may run 75% or higher. The disease has now been eradicated in Thailand and by cooperative agreement, eradication is progressing successfully in the three Indochina states. Before the inception of this eradication program in 1952, Thailand lost approximately 200, 000 head of cattle a year from rinderpest. After three years, the losses are less than 100 animals per year. </p> <p data-bbox="1115 1070 1934 1538"> <u>India - Fertilizer Demonstration - FY 1956</u> funds available for this project were \$499, 590. Although increased use of fertilizer in India during the past five years has helped increase agricultural production by 19 to 20%, this is barely keeping pace with the population. A large scale fertilizer demonstration program was started in 1952. The consumption of ammonium sulphate equivalent in 1951/52 was approximately 240, 000 metric tons, while the anticipated consumption for the season closing in June 1957 is approximately 657, 000 metric tons. ICA's contribution has consisted primarily of </p>

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Crop and Livestock Development (continued)				<p>technicians and approximately one-half the cost of the demonstration fertilizer used during the first two years of the program. ICA contemplates furnishing no more than \$10,000 worth of the latest types of fertilizer per year for continued testing in the future.</p>

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Agricultural Economics Farm Organizations and Agricultural Credit	46	26	\$4,700,241	<p>Philippines - (a) Land Tenure, (b) Cooperatives (Credit and Marketing) and (c) Rural Credit - FY 1956 funds available for these three closely related projects were \$153,458; \$307,000; and \$71,000 respectively. Since 1951, under these three projects, ICA has assisted in a far-reaching program of agricultural credit and land reform (see above) that has improved immeasurably the economic welfare of the masses of farmers and strengthened the political stability of the Republic. More than 375 farmer cooperative credit and marketing associations with membership exceeding 225,000 and volume of local loans equivalent to \$25,000,000 have been organized. Also 75 newly-organized rural banks with more than \$3,000,000 of local private capital and loans in excess of the equivalent of \$7,500,000 are providing credit to rural businesses and farmers and enabling rural people to deposit their savings. ICA provided technical assistance and limited commodities for all of these activities and cooperated in a program of training Filipinos to carry on the work.</p>

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Agricultural Economics Farm Organizations and Agricultural Credit (continued)				<p><u>Libya - Agricultural Credit - FY 1956 funds available for this project were \$1, 429, 400.</u> In Libya, which had no indigenous bank, ICA furnished technical and financial assistance that resulted in the organization, adequate capitalization and successful early operation of the Libyan National Bank and the Libyan National Agricultural Bank. ICA furnished 5 technicians to assist the Agricultural Bank in developing lending policies, operating procedures, accounting practices and personnel training programs. In 1954, there was no Libyan national trained or experienced in banking or agricultural credit; today, they are rapidly learning how to operate their own credit institutions.</p>

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Agricultural Marketing and Processing	18	14	\$5,007,470	<p>Lebanon - Agricultural Marketing - FY 1956 available for this project were \$27,500. Lebanon's chief export income is from fruit and vegetables. In the past, due to poorly graded and packed fruit, heavy losses from decay in transit resulted in distrust by foreign buyers. Through educational work with groups and individuals, including the use of ICA-provided harvesting and packing demonstrational equipment, private concerns have installed facilities never before used in Lebanon, government fruit and vegetable inspectors were trained and work with producers, packers, shippers, government, transportation agencies and foreign buyers has markedly increased foreign demand.</p>

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Home Economics and Rural Youth	8	8	\$ 98, 415	<p><u>Thailand - Rural Youth - FY 1956 funds available for this project were \$30, 000. Since 1953 Thailand, with the help of one U. S. technician and three Thais trained in the U. S. , has organized 80 clubs of 3, 000 members (about one-third girls) covering about one-third of the provinces. Major projects are poultry and gardening. The youth program is providing the foundation for the entire extension service program in Thailand.</u></p> <p><u>Greece - Home Economics Extension Work -</u> The extension program for farm girls and women began on a very practical basis in 1950. At that time food production and conservation was the chief problem. Women were enthusiastic about learning to prevent disease in their chickens, to can fruit and vegetables, plant gardens, etc. During the five-year period 1951-56, 716, 576 quarts of fruits, vegetables, and juices, and 31, 879 quarts of meat were canned. Nutrition, food preservation and child feeding have also been stressed. In 1956 there were 120 home agents working in Greece. 227, 457 farm women and girls attended demonstrations given by these agents in that year. Over the 5-year period six U. S. technicians have been advised in this work. Nine Greek girls have been trained in the U. S.</p>

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Forestry	31	22	\$1, 612, 967	<p><u>Iran - Forestry and Conservation -</u> FY 1956 funds available for this project were \$53, 068. Singular accomplishments have been the development of and acceptance by the Iranian Government of a forestry plan designed to protect existing forests and to assure continued supply of charcoal, an essential fuel in Iran, to permit sustained yield forestry harvesting and the reforestation of some watersheds. A forestry school and a forest products laboratory have been established.</p>

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Fisheries	18	14	\$2, 355, 503	<p><u>Taiwan - Fishing Fleet Rehabilitation -</u> FY 1956 funds available for this project were \$8, 000. The fisheries assistance program, started in 1951, has rehabilitated and improved the Taiwan commercial fishery. This was done through the establishment of shore facilities, technical training to improve fishing techniques, modernization of gear and fishing craft, establishment of cooperatives to help finance equipment and systematize marketing, and development of processing facilities. The catch of fish has increased about 50%, but a further increase of about 18% is needed.</p>

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All Other Agriculture & Natural Resources	99	43	\$9,485,825	<p>Lebanon - Farm Machinery - FY 1956 funds available for this project were \$70,900. The project was initiated to demonstrate how food production could be increased by rehabilitating old lands and terraces and by more intensive cultivation through mechanization. Nationals were trained in the design of terraces and land reclamation measures suitable for construction by mechanical means as contrasted with earlier works performed by hand tools. Lebanon personnel were also sent to the U. S. for training. Operation and maintenance schools were organized and personnel were trained in these fields as well as in administration. Lebanese personnel have progressed to a point that the project can be turned over to them and ICA is accordingly phasing out.</p>