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African Women Leaders in Agriculture and the Environment
The AWLAE Program
Seventh Quarterly Report: April 1-June 30, 1998

Report Outline

Summary of Activities Under Program Strategic Objectives & IRS
Program Goals

1. Background
2. Strategic Objectives and Intermediate Results includes current activities under USAID-funded components
 - A. Strategic Objective 1 - Increased visibility, participation, and advocacy of, by, and for women
 - B. Increased educational opportunities for girls and women
 - C. Increased economic empowerment for women
 - D. Increased sustainability of the regional offices

Attachment 1 - Financial Report

Attachment 2 - Donor Summary

1. Background

AWLAE's strategic objective is to increase participation and leadership of African women at all levels of agricultural and environmental activity -- including production, extension, research, agricultural university teaching, and policy-making. Progress towards this strategic objective will contribute to food security and environmental sustainability in sub-Saharan Africa, where 70% of the domestically consumed food is produced by female farmers.

This program began in 1989 in six core countries: Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Mali, Senegal, Tanzania, and Uganda. AID Grant #FAO-2750-G-00-2072-00 funded the program during 1992-1995 for \$700,000. This second grant from USAID supports the program from September 27, 1996-September 29, 1999 in the amount of \$1,317,421. The AWLAE program has expanded to Benin, Ghana, and Ethiopia, and preliminary work has been done in South Africa, including five gender workshops for the senior members of the National Department of Agriculture.

2. Strategic Objectives

The AWLAE program has been organized to accomplish three objectives:

- 1) Prepare women leaders**
- 2) Build an enabling professional environment**
- 3) Create sustaining mechanisms.**

These objectives support USAID's democracy/governance, education, and economic Strategic Objectives. The following report is organized under the overall Strategic Objectives of the AWLAE program. See the attached report on donor support to date.

The program operates on four key Strategic Objectives with a number of Intermediate Results:

1. SO #1: Increased Visibility, Participation, and Advocacy Of, By, For Women
2. SO #2: Increased Educational Opportunities for Girls and Women
3. SO #3: Increased Economic Empowerment of Women
4. SO #4: Increased Sustainability of the Regional Offices

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE #1:

INCREASED VISIBILITY, PARTICIPATION, AND ADVOCACY OF, BY, FOR WOMEN

IR # 1: Increased Engagement of & Support by Policy Makers

The program operates on the premise that an enabling institutional environment enhances women's effective participation and advancement.

A. Institutional Support for AWLAE Professional Associations

- The Ministry of Agriculture in Tanzania continues to make funds available to TAWLAE professional association to further its work. Between April and June 1998:
 1. Financial support for travel to appraise the Dodoma donkey cart project in a remote area near the border. One of the field activities directly and indirectly supported by the Philanthropic Foundation and USAID.
 2. Pledged to further support the Dodoma cart project through making ploughs available for hire to help the women open up more agricultural land. Project launched in May 1998.
- Gertrude Mongella, Secretary General of the 1995 UN Conference on Women in Beijing and patron of the AWLAE professional association (TAWLAE) in Tanzania,

negotiated six six-month scholarships to Japan for professional training for AWLAE members.

- In Mali, the Ministry of Rural Development and the Environment continues to support the Center for Excellence and Gender Studies sponsored by AWLAE-Mali. The center is located in the Institut d'Economie Rural and receives in kind support from that institution in exchange for access to gender materials.
- In both Mali and Senegal, ministries are giving time for women and men to attend AWLAE leadership and development training workshops.
- The African Rural Social Sciences Research Networks (ARSSRN) a USAID-funded Winrock program is providing research grants to members of the ALFALFA countries to do studies on rural development and gender issues. A call for proposals has been sent out and a significant number of women from the AWLAE program have sent in proposals. We hope to have the proposals funded by fall. A policy workshop will also be held where recipients of the grants will present their studies to policymakers.
- In Mali, the NAC and Reine Boni, held a meeting with Mr. Adama Cissoko, head of International Organizations from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This is in preparation for the MASHAV workshop will take place in November. Mr. Adama expressed interest in the AWLAE program and in the training coming up.

B. Institutional Support & Training of AWLAE Women Leaders

- In Tanzania, three women who participated in the 1995 *Leadership for Change* Workshop, funded by USAID, are now Board Members of some of the key Agricultural Boards, such as the Cotton Marketing Board.
- In Uganda, the Ministries of Agriculture, Environment and the Universities are now allowing AUPWAE members time to participate in the activities of the association.
- In Uganda, at the launching of the district-level Rukunyu Donkey project implemented by AUPWAE, the Ministry of Agriculture provided technical support, including training the rural women on the harnessing of and management of the donkeys.
- In Mali, a writers' workshop, funded by USAID, was held to for the members of the AWLAE-Mali NGO and National Action Committee members. The workshop focused on the role and function of communication and writing skills for the writing and critiquing. Media coverage was present including newspaper and television and radio programs.

- In Senegal, the Leadership for Change Workshop took place as follow up to the Mashav workshop in February. The workshop was geared towards the ASELFAE group, men focus groups, and NAC participants. The NGO followed up with a strategic planning document and report on activities.
- Mary Opoku Asiana studied crop protection and since her AWLAE fellowship, she has been employed at the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in Ghana. She develops programs for her district to enable self-sufficiency in food production. She is an example of the linkage between the professional women and rural women farmers. She has been posted to one of the most disadvantaged districts in her country and is introducing her farmers to the use of irrigation systems. Her efforts are impacting on farmer and fisher groups through promoting income generating activities. Mary's successes have only just begun - her goal is to become Director of Agriculture and have developed a self-sufficient food secure district. The Leadership for Change Workshop and follow up activity of the AWLAE program have contributed to her confidence-building and acquiring skills to eventually realize her goals. Adding another success story to the AWLAE program, Mary is one of four women, who all attended the Leadership for Change workshop in Benin who returned to Ghana and within a year helped form a new AWLAE NGO - AWLAE Ghana. These women were so motivated and had such strong missions, they raised start-up money on their own, registered as a legal organization and have therefore added Ghana to the AWLAE program officially. Ruth Woode's leadership and motivation spearheaded the start up of AWLAE-Ghana. Ruth is also a returned AWLAE fellow, whose position is in the Ministry of Agriculture and Extension.

C. AWLAE Institutional Collaboration on Gender

- In Kenya, a one-day gender sensitization of the KEFRI (Kenyan Forestry Research Institute) managers and scientists in 1996 led to the formation of a Gender Research Group whose aim is to facilitate the integration of gender in forestry research. Received US\$500 to investigate a heavily polluting source of energy in use in an area neighboring Nairobi (July 1998). AWLAE continues to play an active role in that Gender Group. Supported by the institutional collaboration funds of the USAID grant.
- In Kenya, a woman scientist who was trained on "Communications and Writing Skills" in 1997, supported by CIDA and the CTA, has been assigned responsibility within the Editorial Board of the KEFRI Institute. Supported by institutional collaboration funds of the USAID grant.
- In Kenya, AWLAE continues significant input into KARI (Kenyan Agricultural Research Institute) efforts to mainstream gender into research, especially with regard to methodologies. AWLAE remains an active member of the Gender Working Group in this major institution. Supported by institutional collaboration funds of the USAID grant.

- In Kenya, AWLAE office was invited to actively participate in the reformulation of the Extension Strategy of the Ministry of Agriculture. Two participants contributed to the substantive inclusion of the gender perspectives in the new strategy. The Ministry now has a gender policy and the AWLAE program is conducting gender sensitization training in 1998. Supported by institutional collaboration funds of the USAID grant.
- In Kenya, AWLAE published a report of the February 1997 workshop to disseminate research findings on the "Status and Advancement of Women Professionals in Public Institutions". The workshop at Egerton University was attended by policy makers from the Ministry of Agriculture and key universities. This activity led to the Egerton Gender Center, originally supported by USAID, to receive a grant from CIDA to reach more policy makers on gender sensitization.
- In Mali, Naminata Cissoko, President of the AWLAE-Mali NGO has been appointed to a high position in the Ministry for the Promotion of Women and Families.
- In Senegal, Khardiata Lo N'Diaye, president of ASELFAE NGO (AWLAE) is actively doing field work through the Ministry of the Family, Social Action, and National Solidarity. She is seconded by a World Bank project carried out by the Ministry. Khardiata is the director of the component concerning promotion for women and works in several capacities to help women organize, read, improve economic status, reduce labor time among others. She visits about 50 villages a year.
- The AWLAE-CI in Cote d'Ivoire in collaboration with other NGOs was influential promoting government reforms and voting laws against female initiation practices.
- In Mali, Alassane Diarra, an ARSSRN alumnus from Mali, is serving as a consultant for a community-based project NGO in Mali, ONG Kilabo. He and the group have joined the NAC and will be participating on the committee.

IR #2: Creation of Sustainable Women's Advocacy Organizations

Long-term impact of the AWLAE-created professional associations depends heavily on their management capabilities and their ability to mobilize local resources to support their operations. These activities are supported by the capacity-building component of the USAID grant, Ford Foundation, and other donors.

- In Tanzania, TAWLAE operates in offices provided free by the Government of Tanzania. Visit by AWLAE staff in June reported that these offices are the best organized and most efficient in AWLAE East Africa network. TAWLAE was launched by the *Leadership for Change I* workshop, funded by USAID in 1995.

- In Kenya, KEPAWAE operates in offices provided free by the University of Nairobi. KEPAWAE was launched by a *Leadership for Change I* workshop, funded by USAID in 1996.
- In Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, a Ford Foundation grant (1997-98) has equipped all three offices with photocopiers, computers, etc. and supported the employment of program assistants.
- In Kenya, KEPAWAE has a standing promise from the Ministry of Agriculture for a vehicle to facilitate its operations.
- In Tanzania, TAWLAE continues to receive extensive technical and transportation support within the six regions where TAWLAE has Regional Coordinators. TAWLAE membership throughout the country now stands at approximately one thousand.
- In Tanzania, TAWLAE is developing a Business Plan this summer. At the suggestion of a USAID staff member, TAWLAE is exploring plans to utilize the expertise of its professional members, maintain their AWLAE involvement while employed in other full-time jobs, and become an influence for gender change throughout the country. The 1000-member network and six regional coordinators make TAWLAE an important natural channel for other efforts to reach rural women and for rural women to make known their needs and issues.
- In Uganda, AWLAE staff assisted AUPWAE to set up its financial systems and trained the National Coordinator on its operational systems in June 1998. Similar support is being provided to TAWLAE in July 1998.
- In Senegal, the office for ASELFAE has been set up sharing space with the Winrock International office in Dakar. An assistant for the program was hired. The program was formally inaugurated by the audience with the Minister of State, Minister of Agriculture and a delegation of ASELFAE.
- In Mali, the Winrock AWLAE representative, Assa Bore Kante was invited to set up the Winrock office next to the Center for Excellence at the Institut Economie Rural. There will be an MOU signed between the institutions and expected positive collaboration. Assa Bore Kante, a former AWLAE fellow, has recently been hired as a long-term extension and training expert on the Mali-Sustainable Agricultural Growth project. She will be a Winrock employee under a sub-contract with the prime organization in SEG, Chemonics. We believe this is a real plus for the AWLAE program and indicates the value added for beneficiaries such as Assa Bore Kante. We are currently recruiting replacement for Assa as AWLAE Mali coordinator.

IR #3: Increased Knowledge and Skills to Address Gender Issues

Promotion of gender responsive programs and policies is at the heart of AWLAE's work. These activities are supported by the advocacy component of the USAID grant.

- In Kenya, AWLAE participated in the review of the Agricultural Sector Extension Strategy for the Ministry of Agriculture. AWLAE's participation helped strengthened the inclusion of gender and participatory processes.
- In Kenya, four male members of the AWLAE National Action Committee have now recruited another 11 male colleagues from agricultural/environmental institutions to form the Men's Advocacy Group. After developing a 5-year Strategic Plan this spring, they have begun gender sensitization work with boys and girls in five secondary schools during the formative years of young people. The Men's Advocacy Group is solely funded by USAID funds.
- In Kenya, AWLAE participates actively in the World Bank NGO caucus in Nairobi in April 1998 to review the performance of Bank-funded programs in Kenya. AWLAE contributed a gender perspective to this caucus.
- In Kenya, the Gender Center at Egerton University, Kenya's primary agricultural university, has now built a gender training capacity (24 trainers) who train local organizations on gender issues, including the Ministry of Agriculture, the Kenya Wildlife Service, and CIMMYT, a member of the international Consultative Group on Agricultural Research. USAID funds provided initial support with its earlier grant to establish and equip the free-standing, seven-room Gender Center with computers and gender resource materials and books. The director of the Center has remained an active member of the AWLAE National Action Committee since its inception in the early 1990s.
- In Kenya, AWLAE facilitated a gender session during the capacity-building training of the KEPAWAE professional association members in February 1998.
- In Kenya, AWLAE's active involvement in the Gender Task Force of KARI (Kenya Agricultural Research Institute) has now contributed to the development of training materials, particularly in the merger of PRA and Gender training.
- In Mali, the male focus group met in seminar in combination with some of the AWLAE women. The women requested to participate and since we have begun opening the training seminars to both men and women, they were invited to attend. The workshop was held by AWLAE Regional Coordinator Isidore Boutchué, based in Abidjan.
- In Mali, men from the ASELFAE NGO participated in the Leadership for Change workshop also conducted by Isidore Boutchué.

- In Côte d'Ivoire, the Winrock Center for excellence in Abidjan organized a forum on Gender and Equity within the economic adjustment context. The forum was organized in collaboration with the North South Institute and CIRES (Ivorian National Center for Economic Research). Reine Boni, AWLAE regional representative was a key presenter at the seminar. AWLAE Abidjan has recently submitted a proposal to the North South Institute to serve as a pan-African secretariat for the GERA program - Gender and Economic Reform in Africa - .

IR #4: Documentation of Status and Issues of Professional Women

The consolidation of various AWLAE data bases is now at an advanced stage, with completion expected by the end of 1998. Many of the original data bases were funded with USAID support through the AWLAE Gender Centers in four countries.

A comprehensive and accurate database on women scientists in agriculture and environment will facilitate communication and mobilization of professional women, as well as serve as a resource for institutions seeking professional women with specialized skills within the sectors of agriculture and environment. Some of the information sets to be included in this broader database, which will eventually cover 11 countries, include:

- The National Action Committees
- Scholarship holders, both long-term and short-term
- AWLAE Professional Association Members
- *Leadership for Change* Training Participants
- AWLAE Research Grant Recipients
- AWLAE Needs Assessment Roundtable Members, 1989
- AWLAE Stakeholders & Donors
- AWLAE Staff Members
- Other women scientists.

IR#:5 Gender Reviews of Institutional Agricultural Policies, Programs and Curricula

This IR helps create an enabling environment for both professional and rural women, providing an institutionalization of gender in ways that will positively change policies, programs and education curricula. These activities are support by USAID. Some of the successes in this area include:

- In Uganda, gender sensitization of the top policy makers (Permanent Secretaries) in 1994 funded by USAID was found to have impacted the attitudes and practices of these top managers.
- In Uganda, gender is now included in the nutritional agricultural mid-level curricula at the leading agricultural institution. This activity was done with the participation of an AWLAE woman scientist from the *Leadership for Change* training in 1994, which was funded by USAID.

- In Kenya, AWLAE continues to actively participate in the KARI (Kenya Agricultural Research Institute) process of integrating gender in its research agenda.
- In Kenya, AWLAE has participated in the development of a people-centered and gender-responsive Extension Strategy as part of an overall Agricultural Sector review of the Ministry of Agriculture.
- In Kenya, AWLAE is an active member of the World/Bank NGO Caucus, which works with the World Bank to ensure participation of the civil society, especially with regard to gender.
- In Kenya, the AWLAE program is planning gender sensitization training of top and mid-level officers of the Ministries of Agriculture and Environment in August 1998.
- In Mali and Senegal, the AWLAE program are planning gender sensitization training of top and mid-level members of the Ministries of Agriculture, Education, and Rural Development, respectively.
- Khardiata Lo N'Diaye, President of ASELFAE, attended the 42nd session of the Commission du Statut de la Femme held in New York by the United Nations
- Reine Boni, regional AWLAE representative was invited to give a paper as faculty to the Salzburg Seminar in Salzburg, Austria. The paper concerned the roles of women and children in agricultural productivity in Africa. The paper was well received.
- In Senegal, ALELFAE was invited to the launching of an official training manual on Management of Economic Activities of Women sponsored by the African Center to Women's Entrepreneurship.- The manual will be in French, Pular, and Wolof.

IR # 6: Improved Leadership Skills and Self-Confidence to Address Gender Issues

AWLAE recognizes that beyond leadership skills, self-confidence is a major issue for many women professionals. Through the *Leadership for Change* training, AWLAE addresses these issues of personal and professional challenges, awareness of and inspiration from being part of changing history in their countries, and active on-going support for one another. USAID has funded leadership workshops in both East and West Africa.

- In Uganda, plans are underway for a second tier of *Leadership for Change* training in July 1998.

- In Kenya, plans are underway for the second tier of *Leadership for Change* training in August 1998. As part of this training, AWLAE will bring back the original women leaders to establish links with the new leaders and provide inspiration and support. USAID and the new Program Coordinator for the USAID-funded AWLAE program in Ethiopia have been invited to attend.
- In Mali. A Strategic Planning and Organizational Management seminar is going to be held in November 1998 in collaboration with the Embassy of Israel and the Mashav Training Institute. The same trainers will be present as were in both Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal for the NGOs.
- The Iowa University scholarship program has benefited seven women during the last two years (1997-98), and discussions are underway for further scholarships with a strong Leadership and Management Training component for women from Kenya (3) Tanzania (3) and Uganda (1).

IR # 7: Increased Male Advocacy for Women

The AWLAE program operates from the premise that sustainable and equitable development is only possible when men and women work together. This principle runs throughout the programs and management of the entire AWLAE operation. USAID supports the National Action Committees, which include active male participants, and specifically funds the Men's Advocacy Groups.

- In Kenya, four men who sat on the original National Action Committee in 1994 continue to be among AWLAE's most active members. They come from agricultural, environmental, and research institutes.
- In Uganda, men are also involved in the National Action Committee and the linkage with men in the regions, especially in implementation of a national advocacy campaign linking farmers and professionals in advocacy on a key issue identified by the farmers.
- In Kenya, the Men's Advocacy Group is now working with youth (boys and girls) to create sensitivity at a formative stage in their secondary school lives. This group is the brainchild of four male NAC members from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI), and the International Center for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF) and the Kenya Energy and Environmental NGOs (KENGO). They are beginning work this summer in five schools.
- In Kenya, a male member of the National Action Committee continues with efforts to integrate gender into extension work in the Eastern Province of Kenya.

IR # 8: Increased Visibility of Issues of Women Farmers

- One of the ways of increasing support to women farmers is through giving voice to their issues, developing data to bolster their issues and needs, and bringing these issues

to the attention of decision-makers and of the media. These activities are supported by advocacy components of the USAID grant. Examples include:

- In Uganda, a 4-district program is underway to gather data on rural women's constraints to effective participation in development. A Farmer's Roundtable for two districts has been held; research grants are now in the process of being awarded to document their stated needs. This information will be used to advocate for change through the media and meetings with key parliamentarians, as well as local officials involved in resource allocation to activities that affect women farmers.
- In Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda, AWLAE members continue to contribute to radio programs on issues of women farmers which reach a large number of people.

The AWLAE staff participated the Lusaka UN meeting this spring that focused on issues of gender equity, especially on access to and control over land and other productive resources

***STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE #2:
INCREASED EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIRLS AND
WOMEN***

IR #1: Increased Numbers of Professional Women with Credentials

AWLAE focuses primarily on leadership training, post-graduate scholarships and professional support to potential women leaders. Their growing presence in policy, research, academia, and extension work can help change the policies, programs, and practices that affect women farmers. USAID has supported the leadership training and continued professional development and integration of scholars into the AWLAE program activities upon their return home.

- Post Graduate Training: East Africa has supported a total of 25 scholarships to-date (12 completed and returned home). This year, two new opportunities are likely to come from the University of Arkansas and Cornell University. Local M.Sc. scholarships will be funded under the new USDA monetization program for AWLAE in East Africa expected to start up in September.
- Professional Development opportunities. These have been discussed above under the Iowa University program.

IR # 2: Development of Mentoring and Career Programs for Girls

As part of an approach to preparing women leaders, AWLAE work extends to the next generation, supporting the retention of girls in school, especially in the sciences.

- In Kenya, the AWLAE-created professional association has set up an Education Fund for poor but gifted girls. The Minister of Agriculture personally contributed \$8000 to this fund at the launching of the association.
- In Kenya, one *Leadership for Change* participant and AWLAE Scholar (Cornell) is now personally mobilizing support of girls in 18 villages where her family and friends reside. She has raised funds for the continued education of 12 girls.
- In Uganda, members of AUPWAE continue to visit schools to mentor girls, especially in the sciences.
- In Kenya, the Men's Advocacy Group is now working with boys and girls in five selected secondary schools to begin to diffuse the gender myths in boys and to encourage girls to venture into subjects traditionally dominated by men.
- In Kenya, AWLAE is supporting young undergraduates from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology who are working on a project that will mentor young girls in schools in the neighborhood of the University.
- In Kenya, two participants of the 1993 *Leadership for Change* training are now working with educational authorities in Nyanza Province to address the high rate of drop out by girls.
- In Kenya, the AWLAE-founded Kenyan NGO, the Kenyan Professional Association of Women in Agriculture and the Environment (KEPAWAE) is funding scholarships for girls and young women. The two-year old association has over 200 members throughout the country covering a wide range of disciplines: KEPAWAE brings together women professionals, and provides them with a forum for deliberation of professional issues and activities. Its purpose is to advance women professionals in the fields of agriculture and environment and link professionals with rural women to promote activities that will raise the living standards of rural communities. PAWAE promotes the education and retention of girls in secondary education through a scholarship program, bolstered by career guidance and mentoring by its professional members. KEPAWAE awards competitive scholarships to extremely disadvantaged girls so they can attend public school. KEPAWAE has raised funding for 10 girls for 1997-98.
- In Côte d'Ivoire, through AWALE scholarship funds, at the secondary level, 15 girls are attending the Polytechnique Institute of Yamoussoukro. They are training to become engineers and environmental and agricultural scientists. Additionally, AWLAE-CI has collaborated with a local NGO Club Feminin Jeanne Berthe Bra (CFJ2B), operating in the rural Daloa region. Ms. Angele Bakayoko founded the NGO after she completed leadership training provided for professional women through the AWLAE Program in Côte d'Ivoire. CFJ2B is a voluntary organization comprised of professional women and men, whose goal is to improve the economic status of

women in Côte d'Ivoire. A primary interest and successful activity of CFJ2B is funding and implementing scholarships for girls. The CFJ2B has raised funds for and disbursed 23 scholarships to impoverished girls who have to leave school since it was founded two years ago.

In IR #3: Increased Advocacy for Girls Education

AWLAE believes that the professional women who represent the first generation of females in their countries to leave their rural villages are uniquely positioned to advocate for girls' education.

USAID supports this work through the institutional collaboration component of the current grant.

- In East Africa, the AWLAE program participates in a National Girl Child Network, which consists of organizations advocating for various aspects of the Girl Child – Health, Education, Rights, etc. Membership in the FAWE National Chapter and a member of the Education sub-committee provide an opportunity for the AWLAE program to further its work.
- In Uganda, AUPWAE is represented in the Executive Committee of the Uganda FAWE Chapter.

In Kenya, AWLAE is a member of the FAWE Kenya chapter and sits on the regional education sub-committee.

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE #3:
INCREASED ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR WOMEN**

IR#1: Increased Percentage of Rural Women with Access to Extension Education

Although statistics for those women who have been reached through the conscious effort of the program are not available, the following projects and activities are an indication of this outreach targeting women. USAID has funded various components of these activities.

- In Kenya, development work undertaken by Fridah Mugo, a 1993 AWLAE *Leadership for Change* participant, has promoted use of energy-saving stoves in many areas and mobilized communities in Naitiri area of Bungoma on food security areas. The AWLAE program is funding community planning sessions in a dozen villages in September 1998.
- In Kenya, two other 1993 *Leadership for Change* participants are actively engaged in work with women farmers: Dr. Margaret Mulaa in KARI, Kitale, and Josephine Onyango in Bondo with Kenya Freedom from Hunger Council.

- In Uganda, AWLAE members have been involved in the Rukunyu women's donkey project directed towards workload alleviation
- In Uganda, AWLAE members this year are promoting new sorghum varieties in Kumi District (to cover 300 acres in two years).
- In Uganda, AWLAE members this year are promoting improved cassava in Mukono district.
- In Uganda, AWLAE members this year are promoting livestock animal feeds in Mukono and Mpigi districts using materials from Namulonge Research Institute.
- In Uganda, returned AWLAE Scholar Janet Asege has provided technical support to an oil processing project in Kumi district since 1996.
- In Tanzania, AWLAE members are providing support to (1) a mushroom production project in Kibaha area (Coast Region) and Iringa district, (2) a seaweed production project in Coast region; (3) pottery-making in Iringa area.
- In Tanzania, returned AWLAE Scholar Elizabeth Lugeye is promoting sorghum utilization in Dodoma District.
- In Tanzania, AWLAE is supporting the Dodoma Cart project which will ease women's workload and help open up more land for agriculture. Gertrude Mongella participated in the June 1998 launching.
- In Côte d'Ivoire the project for building solar dryer is underway in the village of Akouré. The men and women of the village constructed a large installation which houses the enterprise of drying and processing manioc roots for flour. Through a collaborative agreement Winrock AWLAE has identified a local buyer. The women are therefore expected to make a profit on the enterprise.
- In Côte d'Ivoire, women are being trained to utilize the flour from the USDA/Winrock monetization project to learn to bake fanti bread and sell it. A training center has been constructed and opened.

IR #2: Increased Access to Credit

The AWLAE program is collaborating with the On Farm Production Enhancement Program of Winrock, which provides technical assistance in soil and seeds to farmers. In Ethiopia, the new USAID-funded five-year program will focus its efforts on rural women, including increasing their access to credit for purchase of seeds and fertilizer. Increasingly, AWLAE hopes to expand this aspect of women's economic empowerment.

- In Kenya, two women leaders from the USAID-funded 1993 *Leadership for Change* training have now launched credit systems for women farmers.
- In Kenya, the Dodoma Cart Project has built a credit system into the project.
- In Uganda, a pig promotion project (through use of potato vines) includes a credit component to assist in construction of animal housing.
- In Mali and Senegal, the ONFARM program is incorporating credit component in collaboration with AWLAE and other NGOs. Several of the women who are members of the professional associations will be able to facilitate and contribute to the credit and savings process to improve women farmers' access to inputs.
- In Côte d'Ivoire, Winrock AWLAE gave support to a collaborating NGO, J2Bin. J2B is preparing to improve activities assisting women with microcredit.
- In Côte d'Ivoire, in collaboration with the Peace Corps, Winrock is going to help establish for OUINE a village association micro-credit system to support microenterprise activities for women.

IR #3: Improved Processing and Marketing

Individual women leaders who participated in USAID-funded training are focusing their professional efforts on projects that will directly benefit women farmers.

- In Kenya, Rhoda Nungo of the 1993 USAID-funded *Leadership for Change* training is now promoting soya utilization in the western province of Kenya (Kakamega).
- In Tanzania, AWLAE members are supporting sorghum processing and utilization in the Dodoma region.
- In Tanzania, AWLAE members are promoting fruit processing and packaging in the Coast Region.
- In Côte d'Ivoire, Nadine Assemien is being retained by AWLAE program to live and work in Daola village to assist women in building better enterprises and increase their revenues. She is helping them organize and initiate business opportunities such as day care and lunch plans for children. Nadine is further exploring the possibility of bringing in telephones and some computer technology for the village.
- In Côte d'Ivoire, AWLAE-CI is working closely with the peace Corps and has opened a women's business training center called Project Wombat. These are week-long seminars which combine basic health and business training. Cooperatives with a legitimate need which have successfully completed the seminar are offered a loan which will be administered by the AWLAE-CI. Trainings target women's cooperatives in order to increase women's income. They are taught a variety of business skills ,

organizational management, accounting, marketing, stock management, and health principles. This program is being explored as a model for replication with the Peace corps in Mali with the AWLAE program.

IR #4: Increased Specialized Training for Women Farmers

In its *Leadership for Change* training funded by AID, women leaders are asked to identify projects and to focus their work on ways to provide more training to women farmers.

- In Uganda, AWLAE members are promoting energy-saving stoves in Mukono district in collaboration with Winrock's ONFARM program.
- In Kenya, AWLAE members have been training rural women to utilize energy-saving stoves.
- In Kenya, three women groups have been trained through ICIPE on bee keeping.
- In Senegal, Aminata Kane, President of the Association of Rural Women Enterprises and an active member of ASELFAE is working in the Saint Louis region to improve agricultural productivity, livestock, artisan activities, fishing processing, and commercialization of agricultural products. This involves training, mobilization of funds for credit guarantees, access to land and credit.
- In Mali, three villages have been selected for intervention to increase women farmers' capacity and access to inputs. The NAC Action Plan will carry out interventions in Sébénikoro, concerning agricultural equipment and tools; water lack and digging of wells; credit programs. In the second village, Gnognakoro, they will assist with the procurement of a mill for the use of the womens' group; farm equipment; information on food technologies and training. In the third village, Tienfala the women will be assisted with rice production; shortage of labor and need for a tractor; acquisition of a mil; well water for garden plots.

IR #5: Increased Advocacy for Access and Control of Resources including Land

Access and control of resources are two of the major policy issues which are at the heart of barriers to the success of women farmers. USAID supports these activities through the advocacy component of the grant.

- In East Africa, the Regional Coordinator participated and contributed to papers on issues of women's access to resources, including land, during the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa meetings in Lusaka this spring.
- In Uganda, the model 4-district program is examining women's resource constraints. Women Farmer Roundtables are producing information, which will be used to advocate for equitable distribution of resources.

- In Kenya, AWLAE facilitated the gender training of senior policy-makers this spring.
- In Mali, Sangho Bntou, member of the Mali NAC, is working on the project for Rural women farmers in Moghadie. She is especially concerned with training, participatory approaches, and education. Her impact so far has been in the areas of helping women obtain access to land, helping women have decision-making responsibility and literacy.
- In Senegal, the village of N'Doyenne Peulh, near Dakar, was selected as the pilot village for the Development Strategies workshop for participatory rural appraisal. The ASELFAE has followed through and identified areas of intervention. They will work with the women to try to improve the water supply and return livestock management to the women who now only tend to the milk. They will try to develop a means of transportation for the villagers since they are without any form of transportation and are isolated. Intensification of agricultural productivity was another expressed wish of the villagers and ASELFAE will operationalize a plan to assist with this. Promotion of the status of women in the village is the fifth action.

Strategic Objective #4: Increased Sustainability of the AWLAE Regional Offices

Winrock is committed to the sustainability of the AWLAE Regional Offices (East and West Africa) and has launched concerted efforts towards this goal in the next two years. Some efforts in this direction include:

IR # 1: Establishment of Financially-Viable Regional Training Centers

The AWLAE program is establishing two regional Training Centers with the capability not only to sustain themselves, but to generate funds for support of the coordinating AWLAE regional offices. These offices provide coordination and considerable development of new business opportunities for AWLAE program activities. Funding for development, equipping and staff the new centers comes from the Ford Foundation and USDA monetization proceeds.

- In Kenya, AWLAE is currently developing a Business Plan that will reflect both the market needs and Winrock's comparative advantage and capability in the provision of training to groups in both Kenya and throughout the East Africa region. Sites are already being investigated for an enlarged AWLAE office that will contain the training center, as well as new staff for the USDA monetization program.
- The West Africa Regional Office has completed its business plan for the Regional Training Center as well as a full market study. The Center will officially open in August this year and fully equipped with computers, server, audio-visual and multi-media technology. The Electronic Learning Network CD-ROM will be incorporated starting in November. A brochure for the training Center will be available in the fall.

- In June, Reine Boni and Mr. Pierre Koffi, director of the Fondation de Development at Formation Professionelle (FDFP) in Côte d'Ivoire, attended intensive training at the CalPoly Pomona campus in California. The multi-media/technology training which will be given to at the Abidjan Training Center was presented. Mr. Koffi is spearheading the agreement between Winrock and the FDFP to utilize the Center for training FDFP staff and rural women. FDFP will utilize the center for other services as well, such as English language training and business development skills. The center will receive remuneration for the services. The center will be revenue earning, non-profit but able to cover its costs.

Attachment 1
Financial Summary