

Radio Education Teacher Training

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From: Don Paige, Team Leader, SIU/Nepal *Don Paige*
Date: 28 October, 1979
Subject: SIU Contractor's Report No. 2

Attached please find two copies of the SIU Contractor's Report for 1st April, 1979 to 30th September, 1979. This report is being submitted in compliance of Para 12(b), General Provisions, AID/ASIA-C-1352.

DP/as

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NEPAL

CONTRACTOR'S REPORT #2

FOR THE PERIOD

1 APRIL 1979 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 1979

Rapid Education
Pilot Project
6/6/79
#12

RADIO EDUCATION TEACHER TRAINING PROJECT

PROJECT 367-0123

CONTRACT AID/ASIA-C-1352

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

IN COOPERATION WITH

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE

UNDER

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Background

The main objective of this project is to create the capacity for HMG of Nepal to train 2,500 in-service primary teachers per year via the media of radio broadcasts coupled with the use of self-instructional materials. To meet this objective the participation of various units of HMG is required. For example: 1) The Institute of Education (IOE) must select or prepare the appropriate curriculum materials for this project, then write, test, and produce the radio scripts and the self-instructional materials. 2) The Curriculum, Supervision, Textbook Development Centre (CSTDC) of the Ministry of Education (MOE) must record the scripts for broadcast. 3) Radio Nepal must Broadcast the recordings at appropriate times. 4) The MOE field supervisors must be trained and prepared to conduct both the face-to-face instructional aspect of the teacher training and the field supervision of individual teachers in their regular classroom setting; this will include periodic evaluation of their classroom behavior. And 5) The MOE must train, in cooperation with Radio Nepal, staff for hardware maintenance. Several other supportive activities must be conducted to assist in meeting the main objectives: participant training, completion of a suitable studio, procurement and testing of radio receivers and power packs, formative evaluation and general staff development.

Southern Illinois University at Carbondale (SIUC) participation includes 1) Providing long term advisors for self-instructional material preparation, radio-script writing, and evaluation, 2) Providing short-term advisors for technical, supervisory, and other training, 3) Developing suitable participant training programmes for various areas, and 4) Procuring, shipping, and testing project materials and equipment. In addition to SIU and HMG involvement, cooperation has been provided through other agencies as British Council, UNESCO, and UNICEF.

The SIUC Team Leader arrived in Nepal on September, 1978 and plans to continue in Nepal through the four-year life of the project. The Campus Coordinator of the project visited Nepal in October, 1978, September, 1979, and will visit in November, 1979 for the annual review. The President of SIUC visited Nepal in April, 1979 and the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research will visit in November 1979.

Summary of Accomplishments

19 September, 1978 -- 31 March, 1979

The contract was signed with Southern Illinois University at Carbondale on 19 September, 1978. The Team Leader arrived in Nepal on 28 September, 1978. The first six month period was one of considerable organization and administrative activity. An SIUC office was organized, equipped, and staffed on the campus of the Institute of Education at Sano Thimi.

The SIUC work plan was developed and approved by the HMG Radio Education Teacher Training Policy Council. Seven research reports were written. Equipment for the project was selected, bid, and ordered. An advisory engineer to Radio Nepal came from the Harris Corporation.

1 April, 1979 -- 30 September 1979

The second six months of operation of the Project were marked by a wide variety of creative activities, the arrival of the three Specialists, and the launching of the writing and evaluation programmes.

The "B" Level Curriculum of the Institute of Education was revised by a committee of the IOE staff and is to be the basis of the RETT curriculum. The Self-Instructional Materials advisor arrived on May, 1979; The Evaluation adviser in July, 1979; and the Radio-Script advisor in September, 1979. Each developed individual work plans and the draft of an intergrated team work

plan was developed in keeping with the Official Work Plan of June 1979.

The short-term Self-instructional specialist from SIUC spent two weeks working with the SIUC team and the RETT writing team.

The initial shipment of radios, antennae, batteries, and solar panels arrived and were tested in several field operations. Recording and radio-production equipment were tentatively selected for early purchase.

An Assistant Project Coordinator for HMG was selected along with a counterpart for the Self-instructional Materials advisor. Several of the writing team were selected and a workshop on Self-instructional Material writing was conducted.

Trial testing of radios and solar power packs was completed and research report number 8 completed. A research report (number 9) on attitudes of lower secondary school teachers toward Radio Education was also completed.

The Dean of the IOE went on an Administrative Training trip to several Asian countries. One 18-month participant started training at SIUC in Radio Engineering; a second participant was accepted for training to begin in January 1980. Special participants training was started for seven participants in radio production or maintenance in Malaysia.

Progress was made on selecting sites for group instruction and the selection of the participating teachers for the trial year programme.

Accomplishments Against Work Plan
(1 April 1979 -- 30 September 1979)

This section of the report reviews the actual goals of the period up to 30 September 1979, since the completion of Contractor's Report Number One. The reader is referred to Contractor's Report Number One for earlier accomplishments.

Goals (Pre)

- C. 2. Partitioning of "B" level curriculum for Radio Project.

This process has been initiated; however it was felt best to wait and complete the process when both the Self-instructional work and the Radio-Script work was being undertaken. The basic objectives of the curriculum were translated into English during this period providing a second guide on what to include in the Radio Teacher Training Project. It is planned to work closely with Nepali educators in setting priorities of what is included in the curriculum of RETT Project.

- D. 1. Arrival of Self-Instructional Materials Specialists.

2. Arrival of Evaluation Specialist.

Dr. Krumhus, Dr. Graham, and Mrs. Ledee all arrived during this time period.

- E. 1. Arrival of Electronics Instructor.

2. Arrival of Self Instructional Consultant.

The electronics instructor arrived June 1979 but unfortunately was killed on July 6th in a motorcycle accident. Dr. Klasek served as the Self-Instructional consultant during September.

Goals (Phase I)

B. 7. Selection of Research Coordinator.

8. Selection of Field Operations Coordinator.

Neither of these individuals have been selected.

E. 2. Trial testing of radios in Nepal.

3. Trial testing of solar power packs.

The month testing during the monsoon season has been completed for both of these tests. Also altitude testing of the solar power systems has been completed at three different altitudes.

F. 2. Self-instructional production training.

3. Radio Nepal staff training.

A two month Self-instructional production training programme was conducted by Dr. Krumhus, the training will be continued. Radio Nepal staff training was delayed due to the death of the advisor.

G. 1. Observation trip to Asia.

3. Self-instructional materials training.

4. Radio script writing training.

5. Radio production training.

8. Technical training Radio Nepal.

The Dean of the IOE departed for an observation trip to Asia. Seven participants departed for training in Self-instructional writing, Radio script

writing, and Radio production training in Asia. One Radio Nepal technician departed for an 18 month training programme in the US.

Project Problems

1. The appointment of the total HMG staff outlined in the Project paper has been delayed. Even for minimum needs, many additional staff members need to be appointed to help with writing, radio production, and evaluation. The fact that several of those who have been appointed will be serving as participants for varying lengths of time slows the process. Others appointed have continued to complete projects (teaching, research, or administration) in the IOE or MOE thus not devoting full time to the Radio Project. It is also unclear as to how long various individuals who have been assigned to the project have been deputed; it is important that they feel committed to the four year project. If this project is to continue, it will be necessary to build a staff qualified to continue the writing and improvement of radio scripts and self-instructional materials after the SIUC Team departs. The Radio Production staff must be able to produce programmes that will hold the attention of the listeners. The research staff will need to be capable of designing suitable research programmes to properly evaluate future developments in a manner to facilitate revisions of materials and programmes. The Self-instructional writers must be able to analyze data provided by the evaluation team and incorporate into subsequent revisions. It is important to have competent people who are aware of teacher training procedures, who are capable of learning new techniques and who are motivated to want to work in this innovative programme.

2. Progress has been slowed on the design and construction of a suitable radio production studio. It will be impossible to start the trial year without this facility.
3. An early decision is needed for the proper type of power source for the radio. It appears that the solar panel and nine volt battery combination may be too difficult for most teachers to assemble (and reassemble). It appears that costs can be drastically reduced through the purchase of 1.5 volt batteries on the local markets.
4. The role of the field supervisors is a key element in this project -- both in the instruction of teachers and in the evaluation of their progress in the classroom. Their selection and training will be a difficult task.

Next Actions

1 October 1979 - 31 March 1980

1. Complete plans and initiate construction of studio and office building through USAID/Nepal.
2. Complete bid procedures for Short-wave transmitter for Radio Nepal and select site for its installation.
3. Encourage HMG to appoint minimum staff of script-writers, self-instructional material writers, radio producers and research and evaluation personnel.
4. Continue all staff training and development.

5. Develop masterplan for RETT curriculum -- topics, pattern of presentation, review, content for scripts and for self-instructional materials, and how to coordinate with in-school broadcasts. Refine the overall plan on an objective - by-objective basis.
6. Complete research of ability of teachers to assemble the receiving hardware.
7. Select pilot year teachers and sites, both experimental and control group teachers.
8. Organize details of two-week orientation programme for the teachers in the RETT.
9. Complete scripts and accompanying self-instructional materials for at least three months of the pilot year.
10. Complete ordering of radios and radio production studio equipment.
11. Plan distribution and maintenance system for the radios and power sources.
12. Plan training programme for field staff supervisors.
13. Initiate a stock pile of potential test items for pretests, posttests, attitude scales, etc.
14. Continue research into the difficulty level of the language that should be used in the radio scripts and self-instruction materials.

15. Field test sample self-instructional materials for pricing, necessary remediation and use of illustrations.
16. Establish starting points for the subject matter content and the methods portions of the curriculum. Determine what the minimum skills will be in order to participate in the programme.
17. Assist the writing team to become familiar with the specific areas of the curriculum for which they will be responsible for writing effective radio scripts and self-instruction materials.
18. Continue the training of HMG staff which have been assigned to the project and initiate training for the new staff being assigned.