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ACTIVITY PROGRESS REPORT N° . 1 :

Quarterly Report on the Abéché

Rural Development Project

Report Submitted By: Africare/Chad

Report Submitted on: July 3, 1984

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## I. GENERAL REFERENCE

- Agency : Africare
- Activity Title: Chad Refugee Rehabilitation Project
- Country/Area of Activity: Chad/Abéché
- Activity N° : - A.I.D. Project N° 698-0502.4a  
- Africare Project N° 2204
- A.I.D. Grant Agreement N°: Cooperative grant N°. 677-0502-A-00-4013-00
- Total Value of Activity: \$ 2,850,000
- Reporting Period: January 30-April 30, 1984
- Report Prepared By: Bill Stringfellow and Bob Pierce
- Report Submitted On: July 3, 1984

## II STATUS OF THE PROJECT ON JANUARY 30, 1984

### A. Technical

#### I. Seed Distribution

The need for a seed distribution program was amply demonstrated in Annex E of the project proposal submitted to USAID by Africare in January, 1984 (see Annex N° 1 of this report). On the basis of figures provided to the Africare Design Team by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), it was decided to distribute 500 tons of millet and bottomland sorghum (berbérés), to be purchased locally, and 110 tons of upland sorghum from Niger, conditional on its availability to the World Food Programme (WFP) in Chad and its suitability for planting in the target area, the Rural Sub-Prefecture of Abéché.

This matter of the target area became a major topic of discussion even before the arrival of the seed distribution specialist. Given the limited scope of the FAO seed distribution program for the entire country - funds for the purchase and transport of only 800 tons were available at the time - the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development wanted Africare to reduce the quantity of seed to be distributed in the sub-prefecture and to distribute the remaining portion in other parts of the "Geographical Ouaddaï", the Prefectures<sup>of</sup>/Ouaddaï and Biltine. Officials at the Ministry felt that it was extravagant to distribute some 43 % of the available seed for all of Chad to only one of its 54 sub-prefectures. Their request, then, to broaden the scope of the seed distribution program stemmed from a desire to stretch limited resources as far as possible and to reach as many farmers as possible.

## 2. Hydrology/Forestry Activities

An interim Africare hydrologist, Bob Pierce, was hired at the beginning of March, 1984 to serve three months implementing Phase I activities. Primary responsibilities included establishing an office in Abéché repairing expatriate residences, implementing phase I hydrology/forestry projects, and, if possible, conducting preliminary engineering surveys of proposed dam sites. While in Washington the hydrologist ordered an assortment of technician tools such as an automatic level and tripod, water and soil test equipment, measuring chain, etc. These tools eventually arrived in Abéché the 23rd of April. Upon arrival in Abéché the 22nd of March the hydrologist discovered that government officials, village leaders, and the World Food Programme were already busy organizing both water retention projects and forestry activities. The N'Gatar dam project, a Phase II activity outlined in the design proposal, was already under way. Several other projects basically of the same genre (masonry dams across 20 meter-wide wadis, or seasonal rivers) were also under construction. Village peasants, organized by cantonal chiefs and the rural sub-prefect, were busy stockpiling rocks and digging dam foundations. The WFP Food For Work Program was providing food rations in compensation to day laborers. Rations for a day's work included 400g (grams) cereal, 150 g powdered milk, 150 g cooking oil, and 100 g of sugar. Work was progressing at a number of sites at a steady pace. Problems encountered at this stage of activities, prior to Africare's arrival in Abéché, included a lack of logistical support and materials, especially cement. The local communities had a genuine commitment to these projects since it was the peasants themselves who decided on the nature of the projects as well as the sites. Africare thus had a chance to become immediately involved in several small dam projects by providing material and logistical and technical assistance for projects already in motion.

In Nov/Dec. 1983 the design team had a chance to visit the nursery of the Water and Forest Service in Abéché. At this time a skeleton staff was tending several hundred tree seedlings. Since then, starting around the 1st of January, 1984, the WFP has provided compensation for day laborers and financed the construction of small flower pots. This catalyst boosted nursery production exponentially. Problems remained, such as a lack of water, which prevented a further increase in seedling production. The water

and Forest Service offices were also in need of extensive repairs.

At the beginning of the reporting period the proposed Africare office and residences were also in a state of substantial disrepair.

#### B. Administrative

At the outset of the project, personnel considerations constituted the top administrative priority. The two long-term technical positions, those of the Construction Engineer and the Forester/Ecologist, were to be filled as soon as possible by Africare/Washington. As for the post of Logistics Supervisor, the possibility of Africare's sub-contracting with D.M.S. had been raised during the Design Team's stay. However, it was eventually decided that Africare would fill this position through its regular recruiting procedures and that the Logistics Supervisor would be based in N'Djamena and not in Abéché, as originally anticipated.

### III PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING THE PRESENT REPORTING PERIOD

#### A. Technical

##### 1. Seed Distribution

Given the administrative obstacles involved in starting up Africare's operation in Abéché (recruitment of its technicians and installation of an office up country), the seed distribution program emerged as the first, and most visible, element of the Phase I activities of the project. The Seed Distribution Specialist arrived in Chad on February 10, 1984, within the time frame established in the implementation plan of the Cooperative Agreement between US-AID and Africare. Nature dictated a rapid implementation schedule (see Annex N° 2, taken from the Africare project proposal). This sense of urgency also permeated the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, which was so anxious to implement the seed program that it had already conducted germination tests on grain samples from some local merchants before the arrival of the specialist.

Program activities were broken down by the specialist into the following components:

- 1) selection of the seed (variety);
- 2) procurement of the seed;
- 3) storage of the seed in N'Djamena;
- 4) transport of the seed to Abéché;
- 5) storage of the seed in Abéché;
- 6) delivery/distribution of the seed in the target area;
- 7) record-keeping on finances, inventory, and distributions as well as project reporting;
- 8) in-kind repayment of seed to the Abéché branch of the National

Office for Rural Development (O.N.D.R.) at harvest time to restart a revolving seed pool.

Specific goals were established on the time line of the aforementioned implementation schedule. The activities during this reporting period were focused on the pre-distribution phase: storage of the seed in Abéché, the culmination of the first five components, was to be finished by the end of May. In fact, it had already been accomplished by the end of April. This was due, in part, to the bypassing of the N'Djamena storage phase (the third component) and to the fortuitous availability of the FAO vehicle fleet, which greatly facilitated transport of the seed (the fourth component).

Modifications of the project proposal, some major and some minor, were called for during the reporting period. The fundamental question of the geographical area to be served had, in theory, already been resolved by the start of the project and was no longer at issue. Nonetheless, at the specialist's introductory meeting at the Ministry, the possibility of expanding the target area was immediately raised by the Director of Agriculture. As mentioned earlier, the quantity of seed to be furnished to a single sub-prefecture - 610 tons - seemed disproportionate to the officials at the ministry. In subsequent discussions there and at FAO, another important reason to reduce the quantity to be distributed within the sub-prefecture was advanced: the figures (provided by FAO) for the rural sub-prefecture of Abéché which were used by the Design Team as a basis for its calculations on the amount of seed to be furnished were excessive. Too much seed had, indeed, been programmed for the Rural Sub-Prefecture of Abéché. This situation was confirmed by the specialist during his visit to Abéché from March 1-5, 1984, and was then brought to the attention of US-AID. Modifications in the distribution plan, discussed in Section IV of this report, were accepted, but they had no effect on the implementation schedule.

Another situation requiring a major change in the program was discovered in the course of the same trip: production of bottomland sorghum (berbéré) was not as widespread in the Abéché Rural Sub-Prefecture as indicated by the originally proposed quantity of seed to be purchased (177 tons). As a result, a reduction in the amount of berbéré, and a corresponding increase in the amount of millet, was called for. When the WFP sorghum from Niger was finally tested upon its arrival <sup>in April,</sup> two months later than scheduled, it was found to be totally unsuitable for planting. Since sorghum production in the target area has increased in recent years, it was recommended that a small quantity be purchased in N'Djamena to fill the void. This, of course, required yet another revision in the quantities of seed to be purchased. Below is a comparison of the original plan and the one that finally emerged:

(FIGURES ARE IN METRIC TONS)

	ORIGINAL PLAN	CEREAL	FINAL PLAN
	323 MT	MILLET	400 MT
AFRICARE LOCAL PURCHASE	177 MT	BOTTOMLAND SORGHUM (BERBERE)	60 MT
		UPLAND SORGHUM	40 MT
WFP DONATION FROM NIGER	110 MT	UPLAND SORGHUM	-
TOTAL	610 MT	-	500 MT

Perhaps the primary source of concern for the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and for Africare was the type and origin of seed, especially millet, to be selected. A committee consisting of the specialist and ministry representatives from the Department of Agriculture, the National Office for Rural Development, and the Division of Agricultural Production (D.P.A.) - was formed for the Africare program and the type of seed was the primary topic of discussion in its initial meeting, held on February 18, 1984. There was considerable disagreement on this subject. One member insisted that seed purchased in N'Djamena could not grow in the Abéché area and recommended that it be purchased in Abéché. Others questioned the recommendation in the project proposal-based on findings from the 1983 harvest, as presented to the Design Team by the O.N.D.R. Chief of Sector for the "Geographical Ouaddaï-for the purchase of millet from the Maiduguri area of Nigeria, asserting that this variety was ill-adapted to growing conditions in the Abéché area. Instead, they urged that millet/<sup>from</sup> the Bokoro/Ngama region of the Chari Baqirmi prefecture be purchased. A compromise was eventually reached on this point: both varieties were deemed acceptable. Bids would be taken from local grain merchants and the most responsive ones would be selected, regardless of whether the seed came from the Bokoro/Ngama or from the Maiduguri region (Grain from other areas, especially southern Chad, would be unacceptable.)

In response to the specialist's request at the same meeting for government warehousing in N'Djamena, the Director General of Agriculture pointed out that none was available. He proposed that the seed be examined at the contractors' and that it be shipped directly to Abéché, which eliminated a step in the delivery process and which was acceptable to all members.

When the question of transport was raised at the ministry during the initial stages of the program, the specialist was informed that Africare could use the "FAO vehicles", which had been donated to the government but which were temporarily under FAO management. This eventually enabled Africare to avoid using rental vehicles as planned in the project proposal from the Cooperative of Chadian Transporters (C.T.T.), whose capacity to furnish trucks had not always been equal to demand in the past.

At the same time, the specialist contacted the WFP Country Representative to request, within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between WFP and Africare, the use of WFP storage facilities in Abéché and vehicles for delivery of the seed in outlying areas. He was referred to the WFP/Abéché Representative, with whom he met on several occasions both in N'Djamena and in Abéché, during the week of February 28-March 5. Given WFP/Abéché's large quantities of incoming emergency food, whose arrival was difficult to forecast, Africare could not be assured of warehouse space. However, transport of the seed from Abéché to destination with WFP vehicles was promised at a minimal rate.

The procurement process, due to have begun by late February was not, in fact, begun until the return of the specialist from Abéché. A radio announcement requesting bids was made on March 10-11 and written guidelines for their submission were handed out to prospective contractors on March 12. ~~Sixty~~ One sealed bids were submitted to Africare on March 18; the names of the suppliers were detached and the bids were numbered. They were evaluated by the committee the following day. A dozen bids fell within the price range established by the committee for the three cereals. The appropriate suppliers, whose numbers were still unknown to the committee, were contacted and random samples were taken from their stocks by the specialist and <sup>by</sup> representatives from the Division of Agricultural Production (D.P.A.). Germination tests were conducted by the latter and several days later the results were passed on to the committee. Because of the quantity of seed to be purchased (500 tons) and the apparent incapacity of any one merchant to furnish that amount, it was necessary to select several contractors. This entailed extensive and strenuous negotiations with potential suppliers which were not concluded until early April. Below is a table with the names of the contractors who were chosen and the quantities of seed which they furnished:

CONTRACTOR	MILLET			BOTTOMLAND SORGHUM (BERBERE)			UPLAND SORGHUM			TOTAL (CFA)	DATE OF CONTRACT
	NUMBER OF TONS	UNIT PRICE (CFA/TON)	TOTAL PRICE (CFA)	NUMBER OF TONS	UNIT PRICE (CFA/TON)	TOTAL PRICE (CFA)	NUMBER OF TONS	UNIT PRICE (CFA/ TON)	TOTAL PRICE (CFA)		
1) DAUD BOURIA	150	170,000	25,500,000	30	170,000	5,100,000	-	-	-	30,600,000	APRIL 5
2) DAUD ADOUM	100	170,000	17,000,000	30	165,000	4,950,000	-	-	-	21,950,000	APRIL 9
3) ISSA M. HAMAT	150	165,000	24,750,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,750,000	APRIL 9
4) MAHAMAT BRAHIM CHERIF	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	135,000	5,400,000	5,400,000	APRIL 16
TOTAL	400	-	67,250,000	60	-	10,050,000	40	-	5,400,000	82,700,000	-

The purchase was well within the budgetary line item of \$ 240,000 (see Section X), in which a margin of safety for the annual rise in grain prices had been foreseen. Millet prices had climbed to about 200,00 francs CFA per ton at their peak the previous year; 192,000 francs CFA per ton were budgeted for this seed purchase, at an exchange rate of 400 francs to the dollar. The average cost per ton, in fact, came to only 165,400 francs CFA. Significant savings were made thanks to several factors: the increasing strength of the dollar; the timeliness of the purchase; and the inclusion of upland sorghum, which was to have been donated by WFP and whose price was considerably less than that of millet or bottomland sorghum.

Most of the contractors' grain was already in N'Djamena and had only to be loaded. The FAO vehicle fleet, however, was not immediately available and there was a two-week delay before its 20 trucks were ready for loading. Unfortunately, the new FAO policy to reduce the truck's capacity from 30 to 20 tons meant that all 500 tons could not be loaded. Rather than making two trips, it was decided to complement the 20 FAO vehicles with those from the Cooperative of Chadian Transporters, so that there would be a single convoy.

The vehicles were loaded on April 19-20 at various sites in N'Djamena, primarily at the open air grain market. Loading was supervised by three separate teams, each consisting of two agents from the ministry and one from Africare. Random samples, from ten percent of the bags, were taken to ascertain the quality of the seed and its conformity with the samples that had been previously collected. One bag in fifteen was weighed to ascertain that it was full weight. The convoy, accompanied by the specialist and six agents from the ministry and Africare, departed N'Djamena on April 21, and reached Abéché on April 25. As anticipated by the WFP/Abéché Representative, there was no available space in WFP warehouses. However, a government warehouse was made available for seed. Unfortunately, the full amount could not be stored there. Accordingly, a small warehouse in town was rented to store the balance of the seed (100 tons). The seed was unloaded on April 26-27, under the supervision of the agents accompanying the convoy.

## 2. Hydrology/Forestry Activities

The interim Africare hydrologist was able to accomplish several Phase I goals as well as a few Phase II ones. Material and technical assistance was provided for the following water resource projects: Atilo, N'Gatar, Malkoko, Kilidji, Tiré, Moura, Batouma, and Dougouri dam; Dougouri, Abou padam, and the Water and Forest Service well reconstruction. The Batouma hafir project (a hafir is a sort of artificial lake), a phase II activity, was virtually completed with the assistance of Jason Deans of the Mennonite Committee. The Dougouri dam, a major Phase II activity, was well under way by the end of the reporting period. For this particular project Africare has provided extensive technical advice, a salaried construction foreman, rented trucks, fuel, and water. The N'Gatar dam, another Phase II

project, is also well under way to completion. Again, Africare provided cement and technical and logistical assistance. The Tiré ground catchment scheme, a Phase I activity, was virtually completed by the end of the reporting period.

The peasants of Tiré decided to build a traditional hafir instead of the more technically sophisticated and expensive concrete storage reservoir. A reservoir was excavated with the fill used for embankments. The reservoir is a few hundred meters from neighboring mountains and it is planned that storm runoff from the mountains will fill the excavated hafir. Africare provided tools and technical advice and it should be noted that this particular project was pretty much an autonomous self-help endeavor.

Numerous small masonry dam projects not specifically budgeted for in the design proposal were nonetheless given Africare assistance. The projects were locally inspired, of a water resource nature, at various stages of construction, and within the confines of the Abéché Rural Sub-Prefecture. For the most part, assistance to each project has amounted to less than 150,000 francs CFA (roughly \$ 375).

Africare has over the past quarter assisted in the reconstruction of a well at the compound of the Water and Forest Service and provided financial assistance for office repairs there. The nursery has been expanded substantially to over 20,000 seedlings by the end of the reporting quarter. To date there has been no transplanting of seedling to plantation areas<sup>as</sup>/it is out of season for this sort of activity. The Deputy Inspector has been very helpful and he appears to be an astute organizer. His immediate supervisor, the Inspector, has not been as cooperative and has made some requests which go beyond the scope of the project (e.g. appliances for his home). It is hoped that such misunderstandings regarding allowable project expenditures will be resolved and that they will not hinder project implementation.

The Africare hydrologist did not have time to construct a spring box at Soumour, a planned Phase I activity. The reconstruction of the Moura gum arabic plantation was postponed for lack of logistical support, i.e. a shortage of vehicles to transport cadres to the work site.

In addition to implementing both Phase I and Phase II activities the hydrologist spent a fair amount of time repairing the Africare office, building a warehouse, and constructing an expatriot compound. Work was performed by local contractors and closely monitored by the interim project manager. So far progress has been satisfactory with contractors fulfilling obligations without fuss.

#### Administrative

Personnel matters remained in the forefront throughout this reporting period. Priority was given to the recruitment of the technicians, particular the Construction Engineer (referred to elsewhere in this report as the Hydrologist), whose immediate presence was required to start up operations in Abéché. An interim solution was found by Africare/Washington: Bob Pierce who, as a previous member of the

Design Team, was well-acquainted with the project, was hired for a three month consultancy. He arrived in-country on March 12, 1984. The search for a permanent/<sup>replacem</sup> for the duration of the project, culminated in the hiring of Fritz Etienne, who was scheduled to arrive in early May. Africare/Chad was likewise informed of the impending arrival (late June) of Manuela Huso, the Forester/ Ecologist.

The most immediate administrative problem for Africare/Chad involved the dual position of Seed Distribution Specialist and Logistics Supervisor occupied by Bill Stringfellow. Within a short while after his arrival, it became obvious that each was a full-time post and that one or the other - or both - was bound to suffer from neglect. Since the seed program was given top priority, he was instructed to devote his full energies to it. Consequently, it was decided to look locally for an interim logistician who could fill in for him until the end of the seed program, at which point he could regain his other duties. Asma Khalid was hired on March 15, 1984, as Assistant Logistics Supervisor.

#### IV ANALYSIS OF CONSTRAINTS/PROBLEMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS PROVIDED

##### A. Technical

###### 1. Seed Distribution

One of the operating assumptions in the project proposal was that Africare would not be duplicating the FAO seed distribution program. However, this did not turn out to be the case; there was unavoidable overlap since the FAO program was a nationwide effort. This meant that there was a natural tendency to coordinate the two programs by trying to incorporate the small-scale program into the larger one.

Undoubtedly the greatest problem in the planning and execution of this activity was the near-total lack of "hard" information on the subject. Virtually no statistics were available and those that could be found were usually either out-dated or highly questionable. This deficiency, the lack of an adequate information bank has been addressed elsewhere in the project, but the compilation of studies and documents on the Ouaddaï region, the proposed solution, has not yet been undertaken.

The first sign of this recurring problem was the question concerning the Africare figure on the quantity of seed needed in the Abéché Rural Sub-Prefecture, which was "based on an estimated 54,000 hectares of grain planted in the area". This differed substantially from the figure listed in one of the ministry's documents (undated), which showed that only 65,000 hectares were under cultivation in the entire "Geographical Ouaddaï", which encompasses eight other sub-prefectures, two of which (Goz-Beida and Am-Dam) are important grain-producing regions. If accurate, the latter figure would discredit the Africare one as a gross over-estimate. Yet another set of figures, drawn from an unspecified earlier period and cited in the 1983 year-end report (not seen by the Design Team) of the O.N.D.R. Chief of Sector, was presented to the specialist

during his first trip to Abéché. It corroborated, on the whole, the other government figure, indicating that there were 31,439 hectares used for millet production in the Abéché Rural Sub-Prefecture; only 43 hectares of upland sorghum were mentioned and no figures for bottomland sorghum (berbéré) were given. Obviously, at the time of writing, the production of millet surpassed that of the other two cereals in the area many times over. Berbéré production was so limited that it was not even listed; yet the amount of berbéré to be purchased for the project in comparison to the amount of millet was a ratio of 1:2 ! (The quantity of berbéré seed was reduced by almost two-thirds to rectify this glaring contradiction.)

These discrepancies in statistics entailed two important changes: an enlargement of the target area, beyond the Abéché Rural Sub-Prefecture and a decrease in the amount of berbéré to be distributed, from 177 to 60 tons. The exact quantity of seed to be maintained for the original target area had not yet been determined at the end of the reporting period. No reliable figures on the current agricultural situation, which had been greatly affected by migration, existed. Nonetheless, on the basis of the aforementioned figures from his 1983 year-end report, the O.N.D.R. Chief of Sector estimated that 250-300 tons would be adequate for the needs of the Abéché Rural Sub-Prefecture; the specialist concurred. The remainder of the seed would be distributed in neighboring sub-prefectures.

Seed selection was the second major stumbling block in implementing the project and, if there is enough rain, it will be the most important factor in determining its success or failure. Despite ONDR's informal testing of the seed provided by FAO the previous year there was little evidence to go on for the Design Team. Ears of millet (from the 1983 FAO batch) that had grown well were displayed in the ONDR/Abéché office; samples of several other varieties that had been attacked by parasites were also shown. However, given the vicissitudes of dealing with N'Djamena's grain merchants, no one knew for certain the origin of the given varieties. Nor did the ONDR Chief of Sector know which suppliers had furnished the seed whose results were there for all to see in his office, although he had been told that the high-performance variety came from Maiduguri.

Nonetheless, the Africare recommendation for the purchase of millet from Maiduguri met with some skepticism from the committee. When informed that this variety had a 75 day cycle to maturity, some members of the committee were dissatisfied, saying that a variety with a 45 day cycle was necessary in Abéché, whose rainy season was not at all certain to last for two and a half months. (In fact, the specialist was later informed that there had only been three significant rains in the immediate Abéché area last year the first of which was July 7, and that there had been no rainy season to speak of). However, the only alternative, millet from the Bokoro/Nzama region of the Chari Baguirmi prefecture, was also said to have a cycle of the same duration, 75 days, and was no improvement. The adaptability of these two varieties to growing conditions in the Abéché region was unproven, so it was decided to accept either variety.

Because of the lengthy closing of the Nigerian border, relatively little millet from Maidugiri could be found on the N'Djamena market. Most of the available millet came from Chari-Baguirmi or from southern Chad; the latter was studiously avoided.

It was pointed out to the specialist at a later date that there was some short-cycle seed of unspecified duration (45 days ?), from the area of Lake Chad, near Karal. A minimal quantity of it was sent to ONDR/Abéché by another agency and is being tested this year (it was not produced in sufficient quantity for widespread use in 1984. The results of this experiment should be carefully examined if any future seed projects are under consideration.

The problem of rainfall has only been touched upon briefly, but its importance is self-explanatory. Until the drought cycle is finally broken, non-irrigated agriculture in the Abéché area is doomed to failure. Regardless of the quality of the Africare seed, a successful harvest in 1984 will require, above all else, a return of the pre-drought rainfall patterns in the region.

## 2. Hydrology/Forestry Activities

It's safe to say the Abéché Rural Development Project has progressed at a quick and sustained pace in the sense that both Phase I and Phase II projects are either completed or on their way to it. Additional projects have been given Africare assistance at modest expense. The biggest constraint has been the lack of a heavy, all-terrain dump truck. This would be very useful for transporting rocks and fill material to the work sites. The hydrologist has been forced to rent trucks in order to supply critical logistical support for projects. There have been very minor problems with government officials requesting financial support for projects not of a water resource nature. Explanations regarding the scope and nature of allowable projects have been provided to these officials. Given the substantial resources of the Abéché project there will be a tendency for government officials to request Africare assistance for a wide range of activities not necessarily of a water resource/forestry nature. Requests for project assistance not specifically outlined in the design proposal will have to be referred to N'Djamena. The interim hydrologist strongly recommends however that the Abéché project manager be allowed a high degree of flexibility in selecting additional mini-projects.

It is suggested that the N'Djamena-based project logistician frequently visit Abéché and that a reliable radio network be installed as soon as possible. The lack of banking facilities in Abéché will no doubt cause innumerable accounting difficulties. Needless to say the necessity of carrying around very substantial sums of cash is a security risk.

## B: Administrative

The most important administrative problem, as mentioned earlier was personnel. Delays in recruiting the forester/ecologist were certain to prevent Africare from meeting all its Phase I goals in forestry.

## V SUMMARY OF PROJECT STATUS ON APRIL 30, 1984

### A Technical

#### 1. Seed Distribution

The program was well ahead of schedule; the only remaining fieldwork for the specialist was the supervision of the actual distribution of the seed. Follow-up work, of course, would later be necessary by the permanent technicians and by the local O.N.D.R. staff.

#### 2. Hydrology/Forestry Activities

Most of the small dam projects (Atilo, N'Gatar, Malkoko, Ouéré, Kilidji, Moura) are about 75 % completed. Sustained effort will have to be maintained to finish these projects before the start of the rainy season. The three wells projects are 50 % completed and should be monitored closely to ensure prompt completion. The Dougouri dam is progressing steadily and has become somewhat of a showpiece for visiting ministerial and aid missions. The reservoir which has been able to retain water over the past several years is being re-excavated and the fill is being used to repair eroded embankments. The fissures need to be repaired, a bulldozer should be rented to repair damaged sections, and the spillway should be redesigned and reinforced with concrete. The Batouma hafir is virtually complete, which does not mean to say that it will not need to be repaired in the coming years.

The permanent Africare hydrologist will need to work feverishly over the next six weeks finishing projects before the onset of the rainy season. It will then be one of his major responsibilities to conduct baseline data surveys, i. e. rainfall data collection, wadi flow measurements, and determination peak design flows. It is going to be extremely interesting to see how the small masonry dams hold up over the coming rainy season. The Facha dam site needs to be surveyed and a plan formulated in order to begin work in September, 1984. At the moment forestry activities at the Water and Forest Service are being expanded and, with the completion of a second well, it will be possible to substantially increase tree seedling production.

The Africare office in Abéché has been repaired and painted. A warehouse has been constructed and one of the expatriot houses has been refurnished with a new roof and false ceiling.

## B. Administrative

The interim hydrologist was awaiting the arrival, in early May, of his replacement, Fritz Etienne, who was to benefit from a one to two week turnover.

Manuela Huso, the forester/ecologist, was due to arrive in late June.

The groundwork for the Phase I water-related activities had been laid by the interim hydrologist. Nevertheless, the administrative structure for implementing a project of this scope - other than the actual structure (the office) itself - was practically non-existent in Abéché. Establishment of such a structure, from recruitment and training of local personnel to accounting policies in a town with no bank, should be one of the hydrologist's top priorities.

## VI PROJECTED ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMING REPORTING PERIOD

### A. Technical

#### 1 Seed Distribution

The immediate task was to draw up and to carry out an equitable distribution plan. A tentative deadline of mid-June was set for the completion of distributions. Extension agents (Chefs de sous-secteur and vulgarisateurs) from O.N.D.R. were first instructed to survey the Abéché Rural Sub-Prefecture to obtain a rough estimate of the number of farmers and the area under cultivation. The specialist was to return to Abéché in mid-May to analyze the available information with his ONDR counterpart, the Chief of Sector, and to establish and execute the resulting distribution scheme.

#### 2. Hydrology/Forestry Activities

The interim hydrologist is scheduled to leave Chad the 15th of May, 1964 after introducing the permanent hydrologist, Fritz Etienne, to the local Abéché Africare staff and touring various dam sites. As previously stated, current projects need to be completed and baseline data collected to ensure proper design of future water retention structures. The interim hydrologist strongly recommends that gabion structures be considered as an alternative means of retaining wadi flows. They are flexible and long lasting and will probably survive much longer than masonry dams currently being constructed. The Sourour spring box should be constructed during the coming rainy season and systematic plans should be drawn for Doumouri and Facha dam sites. A plan should also be drawn for a dam traversing the representative 20-25 meter wide wadis

found around Abéché. The hydrologist and forester will need to formulate implementation plans for next season's activities and closely coordinate their work with the appropriate governmental agencies.

#### B. Administrative

The impending rainy season will signal the end of Phase I activities in the field. This respite is to be used primarily for data collection and for planning purposes. It will likewise enable the African technicians in Abéché to establish themselves administratively (see Section V, B.).

### VII BENEFICIARIES

#### A. Technical

##### 1. Seed Distribution

It is of course, very difficult to come up with a reliable figure for the number of beneficiaries. The goal of the project was to distribute suitable seed to all the farmers of the Abéché Rural Sub-Prefecture. Only in the aforementioned year-end report of the ONDR Chief of Sector was the specialist able to find such a figure. This estimate, undoubtedly taken from the pre-1979 period, was 25,945 farmers; it was not stated if that number indicated the entire "active population" or simply the heads of family.

In any event, practically every family in the sub-prefecture farms a plot of land, as even most of the nomads in the area are semi-nomadic and farm as well as herd. Thus, the intended beneficiaries constituted, arguably, the entire population of the sub-prefecture. Large-scale migration on account of drought and war had drastically altered the demographics of the area and had rendered the pre-1979 statistics obsolete.

##### 2. Hydrology/Forestry Activities

Below is a list with the number of workers at individual project sites as well as an estimation of the total number of beneficiaries:

	(	Dougouri	-	200	X	5	=	1000
	(	Batouma	-	70	X	5	=	350
	(	Atilo	-	70	X	5	=	350
dam or ha-	(	N'Gatar	-	75	X	5	=	350
fir project	(	Malkoko	-	115	X	5	=	575
	(	Moura	-	130	X	5	=	650
	(	Ouééré	-	80	X	5	=	400
	(	Kilidji	-	80	X	5	=	400
	(	Tiré	-	80	X	5	=	400

wells	( Dougouri	- 25 X 5 =	125
projects	( Abougoudam	- 25 X 5 =	125
	( Water and Forest Service	- 4 X 5 =	20
	Repair office/residence	- 40 X 5 =	200
<hr/>			
	TOTAL	900 X 5 =	4970

The day laborers, especially at the smaller projects in the bush, are equally divided between men and women. The women stockpile rocks and often carry them several kilometers to the work site. The men dig out the foundation and aid in the masonry work. It is difficult to calculate the number of indirect beneficiaries but one can draw an estimate by multiplying the number of workers, mentioned above, by five to arrive at a figure for total beneficiaries. This particular method is used by the WFP to determine daily rations - which is to say that each worker in principle receives enough each day to feed five people.

#### VIII MEETINGS HELD, SITE VISITS, SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES OF AFRICARE U.S. HIRE STAFF

##### A. Technical

##### 1. Seed Distribution

A number of meetings were mentioned in Section III. As for site visits, the specialist made two trips to Abéché. The first, from March 1- was a fact-finding mission, intended to shed more light on the matter of the quantity of seed needed for the Abéché Rural Sub-Prefecture. Initial arrangements for the storage and eventual distribution of the seed were also made. The second trip, from April 21-30, was for the conveying and storage of the seed.

##### 2. Hydrology/Forestry Activities; Pierce's schedule

###### . March 04 - March 09 :

Pierce arrives Washington; arranges travel formalities; orders technician equipment; contacts Soil Conservation Service, Army Corps of Engineers, Maccafari Gabions, UNDP

###### . March 10 - March 11 : Paris

- March 12 - March 21: N'Djamena

Travel formalities, meetings with the Evangelical Mission, Rural Engineering Dpt, the Ministry of Agriculture, CARE, Doctors Without Borders (MSF), World Food Program, USAID

- March 22 - March 29: Abéché

Meetings with the Prefect, the Deputy Prefect, the Rural Sub-Prefect; the National Office for Rural Development (ONDR), Dept. of Public Works, World Food Program, Water and Forest Service, local merchants and contractors

- March 22 - March 29: Abéché site visits

Atilo, N'Gatar, Malkoko, Koura, Dougouri, Facha, Batouma,

- March 29 - April 12: N'Djamena

Meetings at various ministries, Rural Engineering Dept., ONDR, Ministry of Agriculture, Catholic Mission, WFP, FAO, USAID, inform status of project; equipment failed to arrive N'Djamena, Abéché flight cancelled, and N'Djamena stay extended; co-ordinate purchase and shipment of construction equipment to Abéché.

- April 12 - May 07: Abéché

Visited appropriate government offices, contractors, etc.; FAO, Swiss Disaster Relief project site visits; Dougouri, Batouma, Facha, Atilo, N'Gatar, Malkoko, Tiré, Kilidji, Ouere, Aboundoura, Koura, Abougoudam, Ouadi Chok.

- May 07 - May 11 : N'Djamena

meet Fritz Etienne, his orientation, meetings with appropriate ministries including Meteorological Service

- May 11 - May 14 : Abéché

Orientation with Fritz Etienne; meetings with appropriate government officials; site visits to Dougouri, Atilo, Water and Forest Service; Agricultural conference; visit by Minister of Agriculture at Dougouridam

- May 14: N'Djamena

- May 15: departure N'Djamena - Paris

## IX PROPOSED PROJECT/BUDGET AMENDMENTS

See the exchange of correspondence between Africare/Chad and USAID/Chad on this subject in Annex N° 3.

**AFRICARE/CHAD'S LOCAL EXPENDITURES +**

BUDGET: COST ELEMENT		BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF REPORTING PERIOD	AFRICARE LINE ITEMS		LOCAL EXPENDITURES				BALANCE AT END OF REPORTING PERIOD
DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT(Ⓕ)		N°	DESCRIPTION	MONTH FEB (Ⓕ 1.00=400 CFA)	MONTE MARCH (Ⓕ 1.00=401 CFA)	MONTH APRIL (Ⓕ 1.00=413 CFA)	TOTAL(Ⓕ)	
SALARY	477,951		02	LOCAL HIRE	73	1.056	1.737	2.866	475.070
			06	TEMP. EMPLOYEES	0	0	15	15	
								2.881	
FRINGE AND OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	105,805		11-20	FRINGE BENEFITS	0	13	0	13	105.792
TRAVEL, HOUSING AND RELOCATION	466,965		29	HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS	75	1.156	525	1.756	458.317
			30	HOUSING MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS	0	113	0	113	
			31	HOUSING RENTAL	0	2.515	254	2.769	
			32	GENERAL TRAVEL	347	648	2.492	3.487	
			33	PER DIEM	0	205	51	256	
			34	VEHICLE REPAIR AND SERVICE	0	64	203	267	
			37	INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL					
			38	INTERNATIONAL SUBSISTENCE					
							8.648		

-19-

EQUIPMENT	465,500	40	FORESTRY EQUIPMENT	0	2	148	150
		41	HYDROLOGY EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0
		42	OFFICE/ABECHE	0	0	0	0
		46	TECHNICIANS' TOOLS	0	0	0	0
		48	DUMP TRUCK	0	0	0	0
		49	LIGHT TRUCKS	0	71	0	71
		51	MOTORCYCLES	2.017	105	0	2.122
		52	OFFICE EQUIPMENT	16	1.718	1.395	3.129
		53	OFFICE FURNISHINGS	288	1.795	383	2.466
		54	EQUIPMENT REPAIR/ SERVICE/ RENTAL	1	0	0	1
		55	TRUCK RENTAL	0	0	0	0
					7.939	457.561	

SUPPLIES, PARTICIPANT, TRAINING, CONSTRUCTION COST

686,000

-20-

56	FORESTRY SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0
57	HYDROLOGY SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0
58	AG. SUPPLIES AND SEEDS	0	9	200.242	200.251
59	RESOURCE INFO CENTER	0	0	0	0
60	ANIMAL TRACTION EXPERIMENTS	0	0	0	0
63	OFFICE SUPPLIES	24	378	1.128	1.530
64	PHOTOCOPYING	0	0	0	0
65	PHOTOGRAPHY	0	0	21	21
68	HOUSE, OFFICE, FENCING, CONSTRUCTION	0	0	7.371	7.371
73	FORESTRY CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS	0	0	0	0
74	HYDROLOGY CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS	0	0	4.903	4.903
76	CONSTRUCTION CREW WAGES	0	30	12	42
78	LANGUAGE TRAINING	0	0	0	0
79	SUBSCRIPTIONS AND PUBLICATIONS	0	0	0	0
80	ONDR TRAINING MATERIALS AND SEED TREATMENT	0	0	0	0
					214.118
					471.882

BUSINESS/OTHER DIRECT COST	241,346		84	FREIGHT ON COMMO- DITIES	0	0	12.900	12.900	
			85	INSURANCE	0	411	0	411	
			89	TELEPHONE AND TELEX	0	217	6	223	
			90	POSTAGE	0	14	22	36	
			93	OFFICE RENTAL	0	5.985	0	5.985	
			94	OFFICE MAINTENANCE/ OPERATIONS	0	36	327	363	
			97	OTHER DIRECT COST	0	0	0	0	
								19.916	221.428
INDIRECT LEVEL I (21.45 %)	289,268	NO LOCAL EXPEN- DITURES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
INDIRECT LEVEL II (10.7 %)	117,165	NO LOCAL EXPEN- DITURES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2,850,000	2,850,000						253.517	2.596.483

+ N.B. These expenditures along with the necessary supporting documentation (invoices, receipts, etc.) have been submitted in monthly financial reports to Africare Headquarters. The quarterly financial report, A.I.D. Form 269, will be prepared by Africare Headquarters. Form 269 is, of course, the official reporting document to U.S.A.I.D. on the financial status of this project and, in case of any minor discrepancy with this document, is considered binding. This document is only intended to serve as an interim report. The monthly exchange rates used in this document have been determined by Africare Headquarters.

## ANNEX NO. 1

Annex E. Proposed Agricultural ImprovementsSeed Distribution

One of the most readily identifiable needs in the project area is seed for planting during the 1984 growing season. During the team's interviews with village Farmers, three conclusions were evident:

- the failed harvest of 1983 season did not produce enough grain for planting next year;
- the ONDR seed distribution program of 1983, sponsored by FAO, did not reach farmers even quite close to Abeche and no resources exists for 1984;
- even if seed is available, next spring, shortages will drive prices beyond the means of most farmers.

The first conclusion is based on visits to twenty-two different sites in the Abeche region. At most, only a few small fields were found to have produced grain at all. For the most part, plantings had failed completely. Those fields that did produce gave yields so very meager that less grain was harvested than planted. To cite an example, we see that in the village of N'Gatar the 1983 harvest had the following results:

<u>Grain</u>	<u>Koros planted</u>	<u>Koros Harvested</u>
Sorghum	10	4
Millet	10	0

Additional discussions with farmers in other villages indicated similar results. It is clear then that on-farm seed stocks will not meet the needs of the coming year.

Last season (1983) millet seed that was donated and transported by the FAO was distributed by the National Office for Rural Development (ONDR). The convoy reached Abeche on June 21, 1983. The following list shows what seed was given out before rival armies reached the city two weeks later. Distribution was done in Abeche for the surrounding rural communities. It is known that other locations received their shipments shortly before being overrun, but just how much seed was actually given out to farmers is not known. There are no ONDR agents in most of these locations. In Abeche itself, 160 tons of seed destined for more outlying areas was pillaged when the city fell.

As mentioned, the FAO provided transport by renting trucks from the CTT (Cooperative Tchadienne de Transport), the Chadian Trucking Organization. This arrangement was found to be costly. ONDR did not have figures available, but FAO in N'djamena said that 9 million CFA was spent on seed transport. CTT transport was also unreliable. The city of Goz Beïda received none of its share due to mechanical breakdowns.

During the team's interviews with Abeche area farmers, most said that they had not received ONDR seed during 1983.

For the coming season, no FAO assisted distributon has been planned. During the team's visit we were told that the FAO was considering such a plan. So far no donor has been found. We were also told that Africare would not be duplicating the FAO effort, since not all of the country's seed needs could be met by their program. Currently, the ONDR has no seed stocks, nor money to buy seed. Only one Land Rover pickup truck is available for all of Ouaddai and Biltine. Government resources are not adequate to assure seed suplies.

The overall lack of grain for food will surely push prices up as the dry season continues. Assuming no outside interventon, grain prices —including seeds for planting — will be at their highest at the start of the planting season. Farmers are already exhausting their resources quickly to obtain food. Gathering wood and residues from the failed crop stands for selling in Abeche has permitted food purchases so far. Barter of animals for grain indicates a sharp increase in the de facto price of grain. At one village, the team was told that one sheep could be traded for only two to three koros of grain.

We can conclude then that at this time no seed source is readily available for the 1984 season. The consequences of such a shortage are obvious. Fewer plantings next year could prolong food relief programs now necessary to prevent famine.

In undertaking this program, Africare will have to define three factors:

- The geographic area that will be served
- The amount of seed per household
- The type of seed and its origin.

The geographic area that should be served should correspond to the geographic limits of the Abeche rural subprefecture. In this way, Africare representatives could assume that seed was delivered to specific locations even using a small pickup truck or borrowng a World Food Program (WFP) food truck for a day or so. Coordination of these efforts with ONDR would be possible in that they only have agents in the immediate Abeche area. Villagers have expressed willingness to come to Abeche on their own to obtain seed if necessary.

For the purposes of planning, we will asume that estimates made for the 1984 season by FAO are correct for the Abeche rural district. This figure comes to 323 tons of millet, 110 ton of upland sorghum and 177 ton of bottomland sorghum that is transplanted (berbere). These figures are based on an estimated 54,000 hectares of grain planted on the area. Seeding rates are 3 kg per hectare for millet and sorghum and 5 kg per hectare of Berbera. Three seeding of each hectare have been provided for following local practice.

Talking with villagers, we found that between two and three hectares of grain are planted per family, depending on family size (number of wives, children, etc.). Due to multiple plantings, almost 80 kgs of millet per household is needed by some farmers.

-3-

The type of millet that is to be distributed is very important. The local ONDR chief informally tested several types last year near Abougoudam and found that a type brought in by the FAO from the Maiduguri area of Nigeria out-performed local types and those brought in from southern Chad. At first glance this would seem to be an odd choice in that the Maiduguri type is known to have a low yield potential — only 600 to 800 kg/ha versus 800 - 1200 kg/ha. for varieties from southern Chad. Maiduguri has a number of characteristics however that give it a higher probability of success in Abeche. It is short season, only 75 days to maturity, and resistant to dry conditions — apparently doing better than the average millet which requires 148 grams of water per gram of dry matter produced. It is also resistant to several types of smuts that are common in the area.

Maiduguri would seem like a safe type of millet to distribute. At this time such informal, one-season tests could not be thought of as the basis of a crop improvement plan, but as adequate for a relief distribution. An appropriate type of sorghum will be more difficult to find. As discussed elsewhere in this report, the highly localized adaptation of sorghum to both day length and average length of seasonal rain might make imported types riskier.

Sorghum was not distributed during the 1983 season due to the theft, before it could reach Chad, of grain ordered from Sudan by the FAO (according to the local ONDR office). Thus, no testing of available types was done. Local farmers believe that some of the types of sorghum grown further south in Goz Beida would be appropriate for Abeche, but we are not sure that sufficient quantities could be purchased. The head of ONDR, Mr. Gibrael, expressed concern that a suitable upland sorghum would be hard to find. Grain sold in N'djamena would not grow well in the Abeche area. At the time of writing the WFP Representative has indicated that sorghum from Niger might be appropriate and that WFP would consider donating 110 tons. This possibility is being explored.

The FAO seed multiplication program near N'djamena might eventually be a source of seed for the project. At this point, however, our discussions with their agronomist in charge of the program indicate that no seed will be available for the 1984 season.

Appropriate lowland sorghum and millet are available from private traders in N'djamena. Africare has been given a list of suppliers from FAO.

The budget for this activity includes a large amount of money for seed purchase. Although this amount may seem excessive at current prices, grain shortages could push prices up to levels reached earlier this year (over 20,000 CFA per 100 kg. sack of millet). If this does not happen these funds could be used for other project activities.

One of the major objectives to the seed distribution will be to build up seed stocks. Seed therefore will not be given away, but repaid in kind (plus 20%) at the time of harvest. ONDR will store these stocks for additional distributions. In kind repayment of seed has been tried successfully elsewhere in Chad.

Dougouri and Facha - additional water from project activities should make hand watered gardens possible. The extent of these activities can not be accurately estimated, but interest in them seems genuine and widespread.

### III. Seed Selection

In many development programs, it is assumed that suitable improved varieties exist for introduction into a project area. Typically, only a modicum of local testing is called for. In this case, however, and in spite of recommendations made in the P.I.D., the team suggests that introduction of new types of millet and sorghum be limited. Multiplication and purification of local types should be the major seed improvement activity until such times as seed stocks have been built up. The initial recommendation made in the P.I.D. called for new introductions of short-season types from Cameroon. This recommendation, made before the 1983 growing season, assumed that 1) there would be a successful harvest in 1983, 2) seed from the AID-funded northern Cameroon seed project would be readily available, and 3) FAO seed distribution for the 1983 season would have met emergency needs and built up on-farm stocks. In fact, none of these three assumptions came into being. The 1983 rains failed. The FAO seed distribution was a limited success, disrupted by military events with the subsequent pillage of newly arrived seed stocks. A recent evaluation of the northern Cameroon seed project by an associate of the team's agronomist indicates that seed from this project is not readily available.

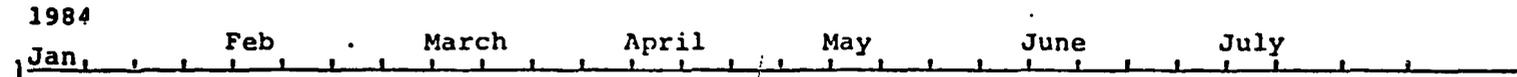
It is our belief, then, that attempts at introduction would be premature at this time. The harshness of the local climate results in a high degree of local adaptation by crops. This is especially true of sorghum and to a lesser but still significant degree, millet.

In the case of sorghum, a high degree of photoperiodism (sensitivity to day length) is combined with adaptation to the average end of the rainy season for that particular location. Thus, without thorough local testing, new introductions might increase the risk of crop failure. With only three growing seasons during the life of the project, it would seem more sensible to build up local seed reserves and food stocks first. We believe that at least two successful harvests will be necessary to go beyond the current emergency situation.

This is not to suggest that seed improvement measures should not be undertaken even during early stages of the project. Sanitary measures such as elimination of seed that is obviously infected with smuts could help increase yields. In addition, recommendations for selection that were outlined by Mississippi State University in earlier work on Chad (1976) could be incorporated into the seed build-up effort. Such simple procedures as germination testing, removal of weeds and better storage methods could also contribute to yield improvements.

Eventually, introduction of new types could be attempted, but not until the third year of project activity and perhaps continued into another phase of activity.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTION FOR 1984 SEED DISTRIBUTION



Ⓢ Begin recruitment TDY Logistics expert

]-----[ Africare/Chad Rep. conducts informal inquiries on grain supply, availability of trucks; liaison with WFP; preparation of TDY arrival, memo of intent WFP, seed will be delivered by April 15 to Ndjamea; Africare will ship on to Abeche.

TDY arrival ]-----[ TDY departure

]-----[ Formalities with appropriate Ministries, contacts with merchants and trucking companies, arrange for warehouse rental.

]-----[ TDY trip to Abeche to arrange for grain storage, contact with appropriate ministries, device system for distribution on the canton level

]-----[ Rent warehouse in Ndjamea, hire guards.

]-----[ Begin procurement of upland sorghum, millet, berberi; announce on radio for bids, contact leading merchants, conduct germination tests; sign contracts

]-----[ Start bidding and contract procedures for leasing trucks, see Director of transport for lease of 21 trucks over 2-month period

Begin shipments to Abeche ]-----[ Last grain shipment to Abeche

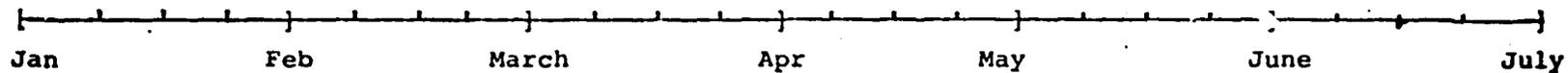
Schedule assumes prompt project approval, major funding available before March 1 for procurement of seed: 177 tons berberi 110 tons upland sorghum (WFP) 323 tons millet 610 tons*
--

ANNEX  
10

\* Arrange for 21 30-ton trucks

Implementation Action For 1984 Seed Distribution

1984



]—[ Return trip to Abeche to monitor shipment and storage of grain

Arrival of AFRICARE permanent staff in Abeche - co-ordinate distribution on canton level - seed distributed both in Abeche and in the cantons using Africare vehicles ]—————

Begin distribution of seed ]—————

- \* WFP will provide an appropriate upland sorghum seed from Niger delivered to N'djamena. Trucks have been budgeted to transport the seed on to Abeche. If seed does not arrive on time or no appropriate variety is available Africare will simply continue shipment of its own 500 tons.



# Africare

"L'Amélioration de la qualité de la vie en Afrique rurale en développant les ressources hydrauliques, la production agricole, et les services de santé."

AFRICARE TCHAD  
B. P. 689  
N'Djamena  
Tel. 30-25

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1601 Conn. Ave., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20009  
Etats-Unis

Réf : N° 021/AFRICARE/84

John Woods  
B. P. 413  
U.S.A.I.D.  
N'DJAMENA, CHAD

April 16, 1984

Dear John,

The Abéché rural development design proposal budgeted a generous sum for the construction and repair of earthen dams. This budget was based on the assumptions that:

- 1) workers would be paid cash wages in addition to Food For Work;
- 2) construction materials (e.g. fill dirt, and rip rap) would have to be purchased on a piece work basis;
- 3) tools would have to be imported and purchased retail.

Recent observations by the Africare hydrologist of dams actually being constructed reveal that the three conditions are not applicable at the moment. Workers are showing up in mass and being compensated solely with food rations. The workers are stockpiling the construction material at the sites and the tools used are made locally and are purchased with Food For Work stocks.

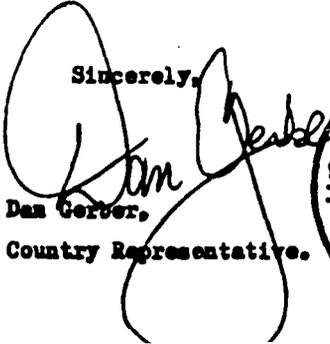
This leaves hydrologic activity line items over budgeted. Due to the above we suggest that the project give material and technical assistance to a few additional water resource projects not outlined in the proposal. The reasons for doing so are:

- 1) the projects are already at various stages of construction;
- 2) there is a desperate need for materials (e.g. cement for which there is currently no money);

- 3) the government and local communities are very supportive of these projects;
- 4) Africare has the resources at hand to support these efforts;
- 5) the genre of the projects are basically the same as these outlined in the design proposal.

We also suggest that Africare limit its participation within the geographic region mutually agreed upon in the design proposal (i.e. Abéché rural) and that the projects be of a water resource development nature. The Africare hydrologist was quite impressed with the enthusiasm of local functionaries and village peasants and recommends that Africare and USAID be as flexible as possible in aiding water resource development projects in the Abéché area.

We await your comments and approval for the above proposed charges.

Sincerely,  
  
 Dan Gerber,  
 Country Representative.





UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

N'DJAMENA

UNITED STATES ADDRESS  
N'DJAMENA (AID)  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520

INTERNATIONAL ADDRESS  
USAID  
B. P. 413  
N'DJAMENA - CHAD  
TEL. : 30-23

April 18, 1984

Mr. Daniel E. Gerber  
Country Representative  
AFRICARE/Chad  
N'Djamena

Dear Dan:

In reference to your April 16 letter in which you make the case for increasing the number of water resource activities to be implemented under the Chad Refugee Rehabilitation Project (Cooperative Agreement n°677-0502-A-00-4013-00) without any increase in funding required nor any major readjustments between budget line items, I have no objection to your proceeding in this manner. It is understood that the increased number of activities is possible due to the cost savings outlined in paragraph one of your April 16 letter.

However, I would like to be advised in advance of activity sites and specific types of hydrologic activities envisaged. Resources provided under this grant should not be disbursed for implementation of these additional activities until they have been approved by AID/Chad.

Also, I mentioned to Bill Stringfellow a few weeks ago that it would be useful if a map of the region, with activity sites clearly marked, could be forwarded to this office. Would you please follow up on this? The new, proposed activity sites should also be indicated.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John B. Woods  
AID Representative



# Africare

"L'Amélioration de la qualité de la vie en Afrique rurale en développant les ressources hydrauliques, la production agricole, et les services de santé."

AFRICARE TCHAD  
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Siège Administratif:  
1601 Conn. Ave., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20009  
Etats-Unis

R42 N° 049/AFRICARE/84

N'Djaména May 8, 1984

Mr. John Woods  
AID Representative  
USAID/CHAD  
B. P. 413  
N'DJAMÉNA

Dear John,

We were pleased to obtain AID/Chad's conditional approval (your letter of April 18) to increase the number of water resources activities to be implemented under the Chad Refugee Rehabilitation Project (Cooperative Agreement N° 677-0502-A-00-4013-00). Our request to broaden the scope of these activities, given the large cost savings detailed in our letter of April 16, was formulated upon the recommendation of the Africare hydrologist in Abéché.

Unfortunately, due to a lack of communication on this matter with the hydrologist, certain materials were provided and some funds were disbursed in Abéché for additional activities without USAID/Chad's prior approval. Your letter of April 18 was delivered to the Africare hydrologist in Abéché on April 25 with instructions to follow it to the letter. No further disbursements have been made for these activities since then, nor will they be made without AID/Chad's approval. Each activity, briefly described below, is water-related and each site is located within the rural sub-prefecture of Abéché:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Total estimated expenditures</u>	<u>Material provided</u>	<u>Funds already disbursed (approx.)</u>
a) Atilo, 10 km. north of Abéché	dam repairs	500,000 CFA	28 bags of cement, fuel for transport of rocks, rental trucks, etc.	310,000 CFA
b) Malkoko, 12 km. north-east of Abéché	dam repairs	250,000 CFA	16 bags of cement; fuel; rental trucks	220,000 CFA
c) Moura, 70 km. east of Abéché	dam repairs	500,000 CFA	20 bags of cement; fuel; rental trucks	250,000 CFA
d) Wéré (Oueré), 20 km. southeast of Abéché	dam repairs	500,000 CFA	5 bags of cement; fuel; rental trucks	137,500 CFA
e) Kiledji, 20 km. west of Abéché	dam repairs	500,000 CFA	5 bags of cement; fuel; rental trucks	137,500 CFA
f) Aboundouro, 18 km. northwest of Abéché	dam repairs	500,000 CFA	fuel; rental trucks	100,000 CFA
g) Abougoudan, 20 km. south of Abéché	2 wells projects	200,000 CFA	5 bags of cement; 4000 bricks	89,500 CFA

These activities had already begun on the initiative of the local people and authorities. Tools were provided and "wages" were paid to the laborers by the W.F.P. (World Food Program) through Food For Work. An immediate contribution from Africare/Abéché was solicited in other areas, such as the furnishing of cement, bricks, fuel, and transport of rocks to the work sites (via rental trucks). Some cement and fuel were provided by the hydrologist without our prior knowledge, or consent, in Abéché.

A number of other water-related project proposals have also been submitted to the W.F.P. and Africare representatives in Abéché by the local O.N.D.R. (National Office for Rural Development) Chief of Sector. Both the W.F.P. and Africare representatives in Abéché agreed that these activities would be worthwhile and financially feasible. The projects would be carried out by the standard formula of

-5-

W.F.P. - Africare collaboration: "wages" and tools would be furnished by W.F.P. through Food For Work; technical expertise and supervision and other materials (notably cement and fuel) would be furnished by Africare. Copies of the original project proposals have been enclosed; they are complemented by the following activity descriptions:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Total estimated expenditures</u>	<u>Africare contribution</u>
a) Warnak (Canton Marfa), 20 km south of Abéché	Digging artificial pond as water hole for livestock	250,000 CFA	fuel, rental trucks
b) Ouadi-Tchakem (Canton Marfa), 30 km south of Abéché	Building a dam	500,000 CFA	cement, fuel, rental trucks
c) Motougouli (Canton Guerri), 25 km northwest of Abéché	Digging artificial pond as water hole for livestock	250,000 CFA	fuel, rental trucks
d) Ouadi Chok (near Abougoudam), 30 km south of Abéché	Building 2 dams	1,000,000 CFA	cement, fuel, rental trucks

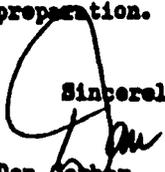
We hereby request AID/Chad's approval for both sets of projects, whose estimated cost is about 5,000,000 francs CFA, or roughly \$ 12,500. This can be easily absorbed, as indicated in our letter of April 16, by the savings made in the following line items:

1. BASIC PROJECT EQUIPMENT, B) Hydrology Equipment;
2. CONSTRUCTION: MATERIALS, B) Hydrology; and
3. CONSTRUCTION: LABOR TECH. COSTS, Construction Crew Wages.

The total amount budgeted for these three (sub-) line items for the first year of the project is \$ 83,000.

Incidentally, a map indicating all Africare work sites for the project will be included in the first quarterly report, which is in the process of preparation.

Sincerely,

  
Dan Gebber,

Country Representative.

**P.S.** The first two sites, Warnak and Tchaken, seem especially important since they are located in the Canton Marfa, one of the seven cantons in the Rural Sub-Prefecture. This canton and the Canton Bourtail were bypassed in the selection of work sites in the original proposal, so they would particularly benefit from these mini-projects. The Aboundourom site, where work has already begun, (refer to the first table), is situated in the Canton Bourtail.



**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
**AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**N'DJAMENA**

UNITED STATES ADDRESS  
N'DJAMENA (AID)  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

May 17, 1984

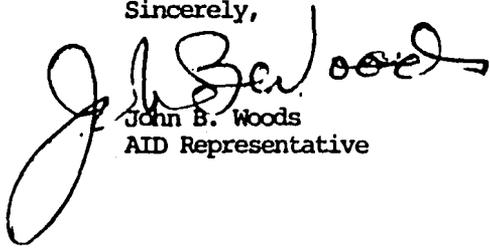
Mr. Daniel Gerber  
Country Representative  
AFRICARE/Chad  
N'Djamena

Dear Dan:

The additional water resource activities proposed by AFRICARE/Chad for incorporation in the Chad Refugee Rehabilitation Project (Cooperative Agreement No. 677-0502-A-00-4013-00) appear to us eminently justifiable; AID/Chad therefore has no objection to the use of project funds in support of the 11 activities enumerated in your letter No. 049 dated May 8, 1984.

We are pleased to note that AFRICARE and WFP are collaborating jointly on these activities.

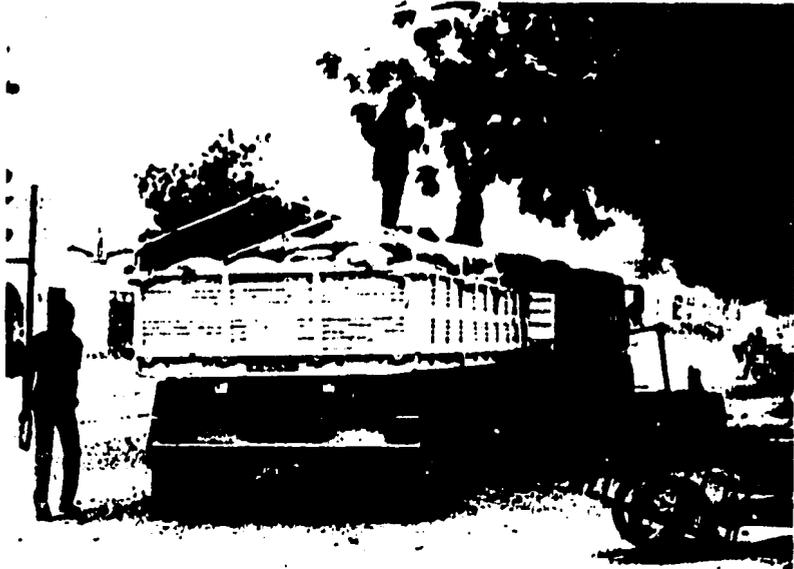
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John B. Woods". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a horizontal stroke at the end.

John B. Woods  
AID Representative

Reçu le 18 MAI 1984

ANNEX NO. 5



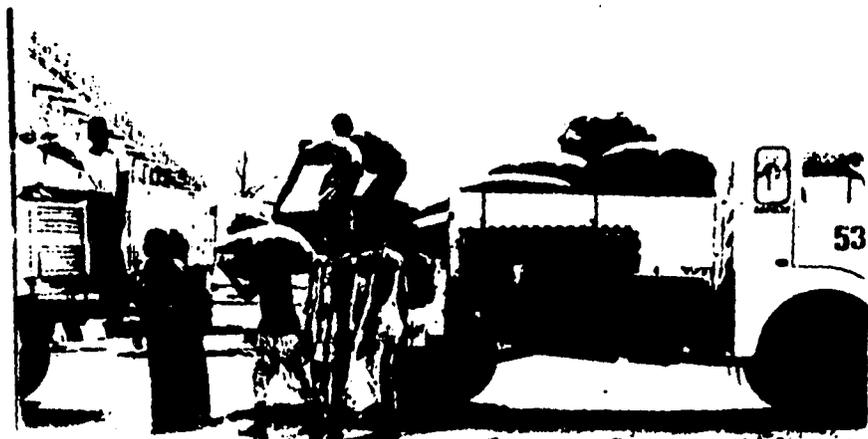
Truck being loaded with  
sack in N'Djaména. Mosque  
is in background.



Sacks being weighed prior  
to loading in N'Djaména.



Trucks safely arrived in  
Abeche.



Unloading of seed in Abeche.