

PROJECT ASSISTANCE COMPLETION REPORT

I. Background Data

A. Project No. and Title:	597-0003.01, Democratic Development and Administration of Justice
B. Implementing Agency:	Costa Rican Ministry of the Presidency
C. PACD: Original:	September 30, 1987
Revised:	1) September 30, 1988 2) September 30, 1989
D. Amount Obligated:	\$250,000
E. Total Expenditures:	\$217,416
F. Host Country Contribution:	None Planned

II. Project Goal

The goal of the Project was to support AID program and institution-building activities in democracy development and administration of justice in Costa Rica.

III. Project Description

A. Major LOP Outputs

Support the Project goal by financing a) activities including studies, evaluations, training, and sponsorship of local and international workshops and conferences, and b) limited technical assistance services for the implementation of democracy strengthening activities, including contracting of consultants to develop project concepts in support of the AID program strategy in Costa Rica.

B. Final Outputs

A major portion of the funds from this Project financed the contracts of the consultants who assisted in the preparation of the Project Identification Document and Project Paper for the Costa Rica Justice Sector Improvement Project (JSIP). The JSIP's goal has been the consolidation and modernization of the Costa Rican justice system through the up-grading of 1) national coordination and planning in the justice sector, 2) professional judicial education, and 3) availability of current information regarding legislation.

Funding was also provided to INCAE for carrying out a seminar in conjunction with Florida International University for the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly. The purpose of the seminar was to expose members of the Legislative Assembly to mechanisms and theories aimed at improving the Assembly's technical-administrative structure, and as a result, the performance of its members.

This Project also financed the participation of a Costa Rican superior criminal appeals court judge and of the legal assistant to the Executive Director of the Inter-american Institute of Human Rights in the International Law Institute seminar, "Administration of Justice and Constitutional Rights", given for legal professionals responsible for the effective administration of the judicial system. Through the comparison of different constitutional and judicial systems, the seminar provided participants with theoretical and practical training to help them in establishing related policies on a more rational and effective basis.

IV. Overall Status and Lessons Learned

Overall, the Project was successful in fulfilling the very general purposes set out in the Agreement, in that its design permitted the execution of a wide variety of project-related activities. A project of such a broad nature proved to be a very useful mechanism for addressing the many different issues surrounding the area of administration of justice and democratic development.