

AID EVALUATION SUMMARY - PART I

PD-ABR-676

1 BEFORE FILLING OUT THIS FORM READ THE ATTACHED INSTRUCTIONS
2 USE LETTER QUALITY TYPE NOT DOT MATRIX TYPE

IDENTIFICATION DATA

<p>A. Reporting AID Unit</p> <p>Mission or AID/W Office <u>ST/POP/R</u> (ES# _____)</p>		<p>B. Was Evaluation Scheduled in Current FY Annual Evaluation Plan?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Skipped <input type="checkbox"/> Ad Hoc <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Evaluation Plan Submission Date FY <u>Q</u></p>	<p>C. Evaluation Timing</p> <p>Interim <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Final <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Ex Post <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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D. Activity or Activities Evaluated (List the following information for project(s) or program(s) evaluated. If not applicable list title and date of the evaluation report.)

Project No	Project /Program Title	First PROAG or Equivalent (FY)	Most Recent FACD (Mo/Yr)	Planned LOP Cost (000)	Amount Obligated to Date (000)
936-3040	Natural Family Planning (NFP) Georgetown University (Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology)	1985	Sept 91	20,000	15,875

FILE

ACTIONS

E. Action Decisions Approved By Mission or AID/W Office Director	Action(s) Required	Name of Officer Responsible for Action	Date Action to be Completed
1	The evaluation committee recommended a new position of Project Director. A search to fill this position is underway. The appointment of a Project Director will facilitate project management and will reduce the internal conflicts of the Institute staff.	Georgetown University	As soon as possible
2	Policies and procedures regarding peer review of proposed research will be incorporated into the project via the Biomedical Ad Hoc Review Committee and Technical Advisory Group (TAG). These will serve as important resources and will work closely with the Executive Committee.	Georgetown University STIPOP/R	Dec 1990
3	Coordination of the Project's activities will be improved by regular and timely staff and Executive Committee meetings and dissemination of reports on various meetings and Project activities.	Georgetown University	Dec 1990
4	The research findings of the Institute will be disseminated to a wide audience. Sufficient resources in the follow-on project should be allocated for this purpose. This will maximize the effectiveness of the Institute's efforts.	Georgetown University	Ongoing

APPROVALS

F. Date Of Mission Or AID/W Office Review Of Evaluation (Month) (Day) Year

G. Approvals of Evaluation Summary And Action Decisions

Name (Typed)	Project/Program Officer	Representative of Borrower/Grantee	Evaluation Officer	Mission or AID/W Office Director
	Brij Shrivastava		Irene Koek	Duff Gillespie
Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>			
Date	5 23 91			

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D Activity or Activities Evaluated (List the following information for project(s) or program(s) evaluated. If not applicable list title and date of the evaluation report.)					
Project No	Project /Program Title	First PROAG or Equivalent (FY)	Most Recent PACD (Mo/Yr)	Planned LOP Cost (000)	Amount Obligated to Date (000)

ACTIONS		
E. Action Decisions Approved By Mission or AID/W Office Director	Name of Officer Responsible for Action	Date Action to be Completed
<p style="text-align: center;">Action(s) Required</p> <p>5 Georgetown, in conjunction with the International Federation for the Family Life Promotions (IFFLP), should identify which NFP programs in LDCs are or have the potential to be developed into centers of excellence which can serve as models. These centers will be future places where others can come for training, a place to accumulate good data bases, and a place to be used for research.</p> <p><u>Follow-on Project</u></p> <p>1 A I D should fund a second NFP Project when the current Project concludes in 1991. The follow-on project should be implemented through another cooperative agreement. The title of this Project should be changed to reflect the expansion of its mission to include fertility awareness and breastfeeding.</p> <p>2 Because no one institution contains all of the capabilities that are necessary to carry out this complex project, it will probably be necessary to involve at least</p>	<p>Georgetown University IFFLP & S2T/POP -</p> <p>A I D and Georgetown University</p> <p>A I D and Georgetown University</p>	<p>Sept 1991 On going</p> <p>Sept 1991</p> <p>Sept 1991</p>
(All non extra sheet necessary)		

APPROVALS			
F. Date Of Mission Or AID/W Office Review Of Evaluation	(Month)	(Day)	(Year)

G. Approvals of Evaluation Summary And Action Decisions				
	Project/Program Officer	Representative of Borrower/Grantee	Evaluation Officer	Mission or AID/W Office Director
Name Typed				
Signature				
Date				

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D Activity or Activities Evaluated (List the following information for project(s) or program(s) evaluated. If not applicable list title and date of the evaluation report.)

Project No	Project /Program Title	First PROAG or Equivalent (FY)	Most Recent PACD (Mo/Yr)	Planned LOP Cost (000)	Amount Obligated to Date (000)

ACTIONS

E Action Decisions Approved By Mission or AID/W Office Director Action(s) Required two, and possibly three or more organizations in the follow-on Project. The legal relationships between the organizations which agree to work together on the Project should be subcontracts between the lead organization and the other major collaborators. 3 The Project should be implemented through two major divisions, one for breastfeeding, and the lactational amenorrhea method (LAM) and one for NFP and fertility awareness. All subprojects and major activities should come under one of these divisions. Each division should develop a five-year strategy which specifies realistic long-term goals and objectives. These plans should be developed in collaboration with A I D , and should provide direction for the entire Project.	Name of Officer Responsible for Action Georgetown University and ST/POP/R	Date Action to be Completed Sept 1991
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(Attach ext. sheet necessary)

APPROVALS

F Date Of Mission Or AID/W Office Review Of Evaluation (Month) _____ (Day) _____ (Year) _____

G Approvals of Evaluation Summary And Action Decisions

	Project/Program Officer	Representative of Borrower/Grantee	Evaluation Officer	Mission or AID/W Office Director
Name (Typed)				
Signature				
Date				

ABSTRACT

H. Evaluation Abstract (Do not exceed the space provided)

This Project was designed to improve the knowledge, availability, acceptability and effectiveness of natural family planning (NFP) in less developed countries (LDCs) This Project is being implemented by the Institute for International Studies in Natural Family Planning (Institute) through a cooperative agreement between the A I D Office of Population and Georgetown University In 1988 the Project was expanded to include a larger emphasis on breastfeeding The evaluation was conducted by POPTECH in order to examine Project progress to date in response to its stated purposes and priorities

Despite the fact that this Project is being implemented by a new institutional entity which works within a difficult environment, considerable progress has been made in several areas (1) synthesis and dissemination of research findings, (2) development of consensus within the NFP community, (3) improvement of NFP service provision, (4) breastfeeding/LAM efforts, and research

The evaluation team recommended that the Institute should broaden view of its mission, in particular, by focusing on calendar rhythm as well as on modern NFP methods A I D should fund a second NFP Project when the current one ends Because of the diverse nature of the project, it may be necessary to involve at least two, possible three more organizations to implement it Sixty percent of the project's programmable resources should be devoted to work related to NFP and fertility awareness, 40 percent should be devoted to work related to breastfeeding and LAM

C O S T S

I. Evaluation Costs

1 Evaluation Team		Contract Number OR TDY Person Days	Contract Cost OR TDY Cost (U S \$)	Source of Funds
Name	Affiliation			
Judith Rooks	DPE-3024-Z-8078 Dual & Asso	42 Days	\$18,584.80	S&T/POP
John France	DPE-3024-Z-8078 Dual & Asso	26 Days	\$15,909.79	S&T/POP
Janith Williams	DPE-3024-Z-8078 Dual & Asso	21 88 Days	\$ 9,297.43	S&T/POP
Marianne Lown	DPE-3024-Z-8078 Dual & Asso	5 Days	\$ 1,810.39	S&T/POP

2 Mission/Office Professional Staff
Person-Days (Estimate) _____

3 Borrower/Grantee Professional
Staff Person-Days (Estimate) _____

4

A I D EVALUATION SUMMARY - PART II

SUMMARY

J Summary of Evaluation Findings Conclusions and Recommendations (Try not to exceed the three (3) pages provided)
Address the following items

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose of evaluation and methodology used • Purpose of activity(ies) evaluated • Findings and conclusions (relate to questions) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal recommendations • Lessons learned |
|--|--|

Mission or Office S&T/POP/R	Date This Summary Prepared 5/23/91	Title And Date Of Full Evaluation Report Evaluation of the Natural Family Planning Project 7/17/1990 (Project 936-3040)
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The Natural Family Planning (NFP) Project was designed in 1985 to improve the knowledge, availability, acceptability, and effectiveness of natural family planning in less developed countries (LDCs). NFP is defined to include all methods of contraception that rely on periodic abstinence and/or breastfeeding. To implement this project the Institute of International Studies in Natural Family Planning (Institute) was created with a total authorized funding level of \$20 million for five years (1985-1990), under a cooperative agreement between the Agency for International Development (A I D) and the Georgetown University School of Medicine. Last year the agreement was extended until September 1991, with a total budget of \$15,875,000.

The evaluation was conducted by PPOTECH during the fourth year of the Project to identify accomplishments, strengths, weaknesses and problems of the Project, and to consider whether the Project should be funded in the future.

NFP is relatively a new field, with few experts, weak institutions, and limited absorptive capacity. The NFP community is divided and believes that the use of other contraceptive methods is morally wrong. There is also some competition and animosity between various NFP groups. Aside from these factors, the Institute has also had to deal with some prejudice, even hostility, against NFP from people who work in mainstream family planning service delivery organizations. Despite these constraints, the Project has made considerable progress in several areas.

The Institute has helped to develop greater consensus within the NFP community. It has added its weight to the moderate side of divisive issues, and has provided and guided processes through which people with different opinions can work together constructively. With less internal conflict, the NFP community has been able to put more of its energy into moving forward. These efforts of the Institute has established Georgetown University as a well-known institution in the field of natural family planning. Staff at the Institute are well qualified, staff, and there is no other university-based institution in this field in the world which is comparable to this center.

STRENGTHS

- The Institute has made an important contribution by summarizing the existing scientific knowledge regarding NFP and lactational amenorrhea (LAM) as a method of contraception, and presenting it in an objective, non-promotional manner which addresses the concerns and interests of policymakers and professionals.
- About half of the Project's resources are used for activities related to improving services including training and IE&C. Since NFP and LAM are entirely based on behavior rather than on the use of a product, methods to induce behavioral change are at the center of the effort. Most of these efforts have been focused on increasing the quantity and

quality of NFP instructions around the world. So far, the Institute has done relatively little work related to incorporating NFP into multimethod family planning services.

- The Institute is trying several promising innovative approaches to information, education and communications (IEC) and training which are reaching beyond both the church and the health care systems of many LDCs. This includes a project to reach young women enrolled in home economics courses in the Cote d'Ivoire and a project which is using mass media and community events to reach women in Peru.
- The Institute provides secretariat functions for the Interagency Group for Action on Breastfeeding (IGAB), an ad hoc coalition of technical staff with interest in and responsibility for breastfeeding activities at UNICEF, WHO, SIDA, and A I D. With this support, the IGAB has convened several important technical meetings, each of which resulted in an influential report, and has become an effective force within the international health policy arena. Further, the Institute is trying several approaches to teach health workers how to encourage and support breastfeeding and LAM during the six months immediately after a woman gives birth. Another important effort is an IEC project to promote optimal breastfeeding practices for child spacing and child survival among the Indian population in Peru. This project coordinates radio programs with community activities and breastfeeding education for health professionals and policymakers.
- The Institute is conducting important research on the physiology and endocrinology of a woman's fertile period and has made progress towards identifying biologic chemical indicators which could be used as the basis for an accurate test kit with which women could determine their fertile days. Such a kit might make NFP an attractive option for millions of women in Western countries. The Institute is also conducting a study which should help settle concerns that NFP failures may result in conceptual malformations due to "aging gametes."
- A variety of operations research projects have been designed to assess the effectiveness of efforts to teach NFP. These subprojects compare the quality, acceptability and cost-effectiveness of group teaching to that of individual NFP instruction and explore the feasibility of integrating NFP into a multimethod family planning program.

WEAKNESSES

- The Institute has not given sufficient attention to two particularly important areas of research: (1) field trials to measure the rates of effectiveness and continuation associated with various NFP methods, and with possible improvements in these methods, especially changes which might reduce the number of days that a couple using the method has to abstain from sexual intercourse, and (2) studies of the human behavior involved in contraception through periodic abstinence.
- The Institute has tried several ways to help NFP programs improve their management and administration. It does not seem, however, to have a carefully developed strategy for this effort.
- Within the first three years of the Project, the Institute staff developed internal management problems and conflicts. This prompted an independent management review. Following the review the administrative structure of the Institute was reorganized in July 1989. The new structure appears to be an

improvement which encourages collaboration among the directors of the divisions of the Institute

- The Institute has been slow to establish a overall strategy. Individual proposals have been judged on their intrinsic qualities but not in regards to their potential contribution to a set of clear, prioritized objectives. Decisions to pursue specific projects were influenced by various factors, including the skills and pre-existing personal interests of senior staff.

ATTACHMENTS

K. Attachments (List attachments submitted with this Evaluation Summary. Always attach copy of full evaluation report. Even if one was submitted earlier, attach studies, surveys, etc. from "on-going" evaluation, if relevant to the evaluation report.)

Fourth year evaluation of the Natural Family Planning Project (936-3040)
Population Technical Assistance Dual Associates and International Science and
Technology Inc Report No 89-055-107, July 17, 1990

COMMENTS

L. Comments By Mission, AID/W Office and Borrower/Grantee On Full Report

For the most part, the CTOs concur with the main findings of the evaluation. Efforts are in place to implement the programmatic and project management changes suggested. The CTOs do not concur with several of the suggestions regarding the structure of the follow-on Project. Also, the CTOs noted several errors of facts within the evaluation report but, nevertheless, the evaluation was of very high quality and worthwhile.