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**THE 1976 ANNUAL PROGRAM OF WORK
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY A.I.D.**

CONTRACT AFR-750

for the
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
at the
NATIONAL ADVANCED SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE



**UNIVERSITY OF CAMEROON
YAOUNDE, CAMEROON**

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INTRODUCTION

The Program of Work for the calendar year 1976, is the fifth in a series of such reports which have been prepared since the authorization of the Southern University/USAID Contract, Afr/750 on November 4, 1970. The grant agreement enabled Southern University, which is located at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to respond to a need to assist the National Advanced School of Agriculture in establishing a Department of Agricultural Economics.

The National Advanced School of Agriculture is the only university-level School of Agriculture in former French Equatorial Africa. It was established in 1963, and by all standards it is a relatively young but very important institution in a developing country like Cameroon.

The Government of Cameroon, in its development plans, has placed a high priority on agriculture as a basic industry through which economic development may be accelerated, and the National Advanced School of Agriculture has been designated as a part of this national fabric.

To date, the National Advanced School of Agriculture has graduated 182 students with Ingénieur Agronome degrees. Thirty-one students are expected to receive degrees at the end of the 1975-76 academic year. The fourth fifth-year plan (1976-81) anticipates a substantial increase in student enrollment.

In the semi-annual report of June 30, 1975, a description of program changes and the nature and direction of the reorganization now taking place at NASA were briefly made. Some of these changes are now being implemented.

With the beginning of the 1975-76 academic year, the administration of NASA became Cameroonized. Mr. Gibering Bol Alima, former Assistant or Deputy Director, became Director of NASA. This position was formerly held by Dr. Alfred Mathieu, Director of the FAO Project at NASA.

Mr. Richard Molu, former Head, Department of Soil Sciences at NASA was appointed Deputy Director.

Program Objectives

The Department of Rural Economics is one of the seven departments comprising the National Advanced School of Agriculture. Its overall objective is to broaden the depth and breadth of scientific agricultural course offerings through teaching, research, and related activities in Rural Economics. More specifically the Department seeks:

- to develop a curriculum in Rural Economics suitable to the needs of all students at the school as part of their required and/or specialized needs;
- to organize and implement a program of research related to the socioeconomic setting in Cameroon, and especially to the small farmer and his problems;
- to develop a departmental library with acquisitions -- books, journals, references etc., related to both developed and developing economies.
- to assist in the training, manpower development, and supervision of Cameroonian counterparts who would eventually staff the Department and replace the U.S. expatriate staff.

Substantial progress has been made in achieving the objectives of the Project despite the problems attendant upon institution building in

a foreign country and the time frame of operation. For example, a curriculum has been built in Agricultural Economics following the American pattern, but adapted and made relevant to NASA's mission and scope. The subject matter content has been structured and related to developmental needs. The research reflects some priority needs of the country. Eight participant trainees have, or are being trained in leading American Universities. The departmental library holdings include an excellent collection of books on developed and developing economies. The Department maintains an adequate stock of office machines and supplies.

Two Cameroonians are on the staff of the Department and are now on study leave obtaining higher degrees. In another section of this report other aspects of Cameroonian counterparts will be related.

Faculty

Richie, W. T., Chief of Party and Professor, and Head of Department, B.S. Savannah State College; M.S., Ph.D., Ohio State University.

Fotzo, Pascal T., Assistant Stagiaire, Ingénieur Agronome; National Advanced School of Agriculture, University of Yaoundé (on study leave; University of Ibadan, Nigeria).

Mukherjee, Tridib K., Professor, B.A. University of Calcutta; M.S., Ph.D., University of Maryland.

Ongla, Jean, Chargé d'Enseignement, Ingénieur Agronome; National Advanced School of Agriculture, University of Yaoundé; M.S. University of Florida. (on leave; University of Florida).

Parks, Alfred L. Associate Professor, B.S., Arkansas AM and N College; M.S., Ph.D., University of Illinois.

Office Staff

At the present time, the Department employs four local persons and has the use of one other who is supplied by the National Advanced School of Agriculture.

Innocent U. Odoemenem.....Secretary
Charlotte C. Massib.....Secretary
Armand Z. Omgwa.....Field Enumerator
Emmanuel M. Agha.....Field Enumerator
Michel Jiazet.....Field Enumerator

PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION

Curriculum and Program of Instruction

An educational institution's program or curriculum must be continuously related to a country's qualitative and quantitative needs for trained manpower. In order to articulate these needs there must be a systematic and coordinated dialogue or communication between and among planning groups, governmental ministries, industry leaders, and educational officials.

The National Advanced School of Agriculture is one of the Schools of the University of Yaoundé, and comes under the administration of the Ministry of Education. Other governmental ministries and agencies have a role in the direction of NASA by their membership on a twelve-member Council as listed below:

Presidency of the Republic.....1 representative
Chancellor of the University of Yaoundé.....1 representative
Ministry of Agriculture.....3 representatives

Ministry of Livestock and Animal Industries.....	3 representatives
Ministry of Education	1 representative
Ministry of Economy and Plan.....	1 representative
National Office for Scientific and Technical Research (ONAREST).....	1 representative

Thus, structurally, there is an institutional body whereby NASA's role and mission can be articulated and hopefully translated into a curriculum which will enable NASA to develop realistically in terms of the requirements of the nation.

The curriculum of the Department is developed as an integral part of an overall program of enriching the educational experiences of students at NASA. It is developed and refined by faculty members of the department in close cooperation with the Teaching Committee (Commission d'Enseignement) of the School. A faculty from the department is a member of this committee.

Beginning in 1963 with the first class graduating in 1965 up to the 11th graduation in 1975, there had been only one program at NASA for its graduates - the Ingénieur Agronome (B.S. in Agriculture).

The Ingénieur Agronome was a four-year program; two years were spent at the faculty of Science and two years at NASA. This program provided training for many students entering the Ministry of Agriculture and associated or related agencies, as well as the private sector. It was under this program that the Southern University staff members provided instruction in different areas of Agricultural Economics at NASA.

However, this program is being revised beginning with the 1975-76 school year. The Ingénieur Agronome now becomes a five year program with all five-years of classroom instructions offered at NASA. The previous two years at NASA were found to be too short to include all the practical and theoretical experiences needed by the Ingénieur Agronome in the Ministry of Agriculture. The new five-year program will be for both the Ingénieur Agronome and Ingénieur des Eaux, Forêts et Chasses. The two programs of study are the same for the first three years, followed by specialization during the fourth and fifth years.

A second and a new phase of NASA's program is the three-year training program for Ingénieurs des Travaux which is more technically and practically oriented. This new cadre of graduates will provide field extension personnel for the action programs of the Ministry of Agriculture and would enter civil service at a lower level than the Ingénieur Agronome graduates.

A revised and expanded curriculum in Agricultural Economics is now being planned and developed for the first four years of Ingénieurs Agronome and extended for the options in the fifth year. Further study is in progress relative to the foregoing programs.

A Presidential Decree No. 75/195 dated March 13, 1975, mandates that the University of Yaoundé offer a doctorate degree in those areas of study where the physical and human resources can be mobilized. As of now, there has been no decision regarding departments that will offer the doctorate; however, at the request of the Director, the Department of Rural Economy prepared a discussion paper outlining the physical and

human resources such a program would require. The staff is now studying doctorate programs that are offered at some African Universities and also at universities in other countries. The staff is interested in how these programs may be adapted to NASA.

Beginning with the first graduation in 1965, through the 11th graduation in 1975, the number of Ingénieurs Agronome for each year has increased from 5 in 1965, to 34 in the 1975-76 academic year, a cumulative total of 212, of which 194 have been Cameroonians, and 18 students from neighboring countries.

From the beginning of the Project to date, 179 students of the former cycles have received Agricultural Economics instruction and 56 students of the first year of the new cycle have received English instruction from the Southern University Team.

During the 1975-76 academic year, instruction will be provided by the Department to students in the 12th, 13th, and 14th promotions. The 12th and 13th promotions come under the previous four-year program (two years at the Faculty of Science and the last two years at NASA). The 14th promotion is the first class at NASA under the new five year program.

Below is a breakdown of the number of students in each promotion:

12th promotion.....31 students

13th promotion.....33 students

14th promotion.....54 students

Thus, there is a total of 118 students who will be taught during the academic year 1975-76 by instructors from the Department.

The faculty of the seven Departments of the NASA now consists of

the following: 15 Cameroonian, 8 French experts, 5 FAO experts, 3 American experts, and 2 Belgian experts.

Table 1 on the following page shows the number of students from both Cameroon and neighboring countries who have received the Ingénieur Agronome degree, 1965-1975, and the provisional numbers for 1976 (12th graduation) and 1977 (13th promotion).

TEACHING

Teaching Objectives

The staff of the Department is cognizant of its responsibility to assist NASA in preparing its students in the basic sciences that support agriculture. For example in trying to carry out its teaching duties the staff will:

- attempt to provide students with both depth and breadth in training in specialized areas of agricultural economics such as marketing, management, credit, production
- try to translate economic principles and concepts into local experiences
- provide students with an understanding and appreciation of where agricultural economics fits into the body of scientific knowledge in the economy of Cameroon
- provide students with tools to identify relevant economic problems at the micro- as well as the macro- levels
- help students develop a logical approach to decision making in order for them to be able to make use of this approach in determining objectives and solving problems
- impress upon students the necessity of being able to integrate the various components of their education into a meaningful whole.

TABLE 1. NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE RECEIVED THE DIPLOMA OF INGENIEUR AGRONOME, NASA, 1965-1975 AND PROVISIONAL FOR 1975-76, 1976-77

Graduation Sequence	Graduation Year	Student Graduating	Origin	
			Cameroon	Foreign
1	1964-65	5	5	0
2	1965-66	10	10	0
3	1966-67	13	13	0
4	1967-68	8	8	0
5	1968-69	8	7	1 (Gabon)
6	1969-70	6	6	0
7	1970-71	15	11	3 (Congo) 1 (Chad)
8	1971-72	30	25	4 (Dahomey) (Upper-Volta)
9	1972-73	28	22	5 (Dahomey) 1 (Chad)
10	1973-74	27	25	1 (Dahomey) 1 (Chad)
11	1974-75	32	32	0
12 *	1975-76	31	30	1 (Dahomey)
13 *	1976-77	34	30	2 (CAR) 1 (Chad) 1 (Togo)
TOTAL		246	225	23

* Provisional

The following is a listing of courses taught in 1974-75 and to be offered in 1975-76 with a short description for each course:

2. Courses Taught in 1974-75

During the 1974-75 academic year a total of 200 hours of class-room lectures and four hours of orientation for the 1975-76 stage were completed by the faculty of the Department of Agricultural Economics. The course descriptions and figures related to each course offered are given below:

(a) Price Theory (Dr. Mukharjee) 35 hours

The objective of this course is to identify and examine economic activities of individual economic units as consumers, resource owners, and business firms; to review the flow of goods and services from the business to the household; the composition of the flow; and to evaluate the supply, demand and pricing of the component parts of this flow. It will also provide students with an evaluation of flow of resources from the household to the business with their allocation among alternative uses.

(b) Introduction to Agricultural Economics (Dr. Parks) 40 hours

The objective of this course is to provide a brief historical sketch of Agricultural Economics as a discipline and how it relates into a meaningful context of agriculture and development. This course is designed primarily for beginners in Agricultural Economics, and to provide an understanding of those economic principles that relate to agriculture. This approach will hopefully stimulate the beginning student's interest in Agricultural Economics.

(c) Principles of Farm Management (Dr. Parks) 35 hours

The objective of this course in Farm Management is to provide the student with the basic principles of economics that are applicable to the organization, management, and operations of a farm, budgeting, resource acquisition, and enterprise selection and organization. It is hoped that some practical applications can be made in the form of student projects and/or papers.

(d) Marketing Principles (Mr. Ongla) 30 hours

Identification and definition of the role, functions and institutions of markets in an economy. The process of price formation and its implications to economic stability and development will be discussed in the context of each market structure. The role of cooperatives in the marketing process; an historical overview of cooperatives in Cameroon; and the criteria for establishing a successful cooperative will be examined.

(e) Economic Development (Dr. Richie) 60 hours

In this course, the primary objective is to identify the necessary conditions for agricultural growth by focusing on the agricultural development process itself.

The procedure will be to (1) review the theories of economic development and show the critical role played by agriculture in the overall development process, (2) specify elements required for the construction of a relevant theory of agricultural development, including technical changes, (3) explore the nature of the agricultural productivity gap among countries and the source of the productivity gap, (4) present a quantitative historical analysis of the agricultural development

experiences of Japan and the U.S. since 1880, (5) explore the conditions for successful transmission of agricultural technology among countries, and (6) identify causes of success and failure in agricultural development among countries.

Persons from the Ministries of Agriculture and Planning and from other agencies within the area will be invited to give lectures in specific topic related to development and planning in Cameroon.

Table 2 summarizes the course offerings and number of hours taught during the 1974-75 academic year by the Southern University faculty.

TABLE 2. SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS COURSES AND ACTUAL HOURS OFFERED TO THE 11TH AND 12TH GRADUATION STUDENTS, NASA, 1974-75.

Subject	Instructor	11th Graduation No. of hours	12th Graduation No. of hours	Total
Introduction to Agricultural Economics	Dr. Parks	-	40	40
Principles of Farm Management	Dr. Parks	35	-	35
Price Theory	Dr. Mukherjee	38	-	38
* Marketing, Credit and Cooperatives	Mr. Ongla	36	-	36
** Agricultural Economic Development	Dr. Richie	60	-	60
TOTAL		169	40	209

* For Ongla, the actual hours taught were 36 instead of 30 as listed in the Annual Program of Work for 1975; for Mukherjee, 38 instead of 35.

** This course was divided as follows: Agricultural Economic Development, Dr. Richie - 35 hours; Rural Legislation, Dr. Méloné - 15 hours; (Dr. Méloné is Professor of Law, University of Yaoundé);

Planification, Mr. Daniel Kilem, 10 hours (Mr. Kilem is Director of Plan, Ministry of Planning).

3. Courses to be Taught in 1975-76

Courses to be taught in the field of Agricultural Economics 1975-76 will be the same as those in 1974-75. However, the Department was asked to teach an additional course in "English" for the "Nouveau Regime" students during the academic year 1975-76.

The following course will be offered in 1975-76.

(a) Price Theory (Dr. Mukherjee) 35 hours

Course description as outlined earlier in this text

(b) Introduction to Agricultural Economics (Dr. Parks) 40 hours

Course description as outlined earlier in this text.

(c) Principles of Farm Management (Dr. Parks) 35 hours

Course description as outlined earlier in this report

(d) Marketing Principles (Dr. Richie) 30 hours

Course description as outlined earlier in this report

(e) Economic Development (Dr. Mukherjee) 60 hours

(f) English as a Foreign Language (Dr. Richie, Dr. Mukherjee,
Dr. Parks) 40 hours

The objective of this course is to teach English to the mainly French-speaking students of the "Nouveau Regime" (Freshman year students) and give them a workable knowledge of English.

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction and Language problem and solutions have already been discussed in The 1975 Annual Program of Work.

Cameroon is a "bilingual" country and the use of English (in addition to French) as a medium of instruction is being increasingly encouraged within the University and especially at NASA.

The faculty of the Department of Agricultural Economics uses the English language as its teaching medium. Class lectures are supplemented by course manuals which are prepared by the staff and are made available to all students. Other interested persons in the ministries and various branches of the Government can also receive copies.

RESEARCH PROGRAM

The U.S. Land-Grant model, education, research, and extension tailored to the needs of the several states, is highly relevant and can be adapted to the agricultural situations in developing nation like Cameroon.

One of the important objectives of the Department of Agricultural Economics is to organize and implement a program of research related to the socioeconomic setting of Cameroon, and especially to small farmers and their problems. The research undertaken by the Department seeks to identify and analyze the economic variables relevant to the short-run and long-run agricultural and economic development of Cameroon.

Research in Progress:

Faculty

Name: Pascal T. Fotzo

Title: Rural Credit for Cameroon Agriculture: A Case Study of Fonader's Leading Policies.

Objectives:

1. To ascertain basic credit needs of farmers of the Centre-Sud Province.
2. To find the way in which information is communicated about Fonader from the institution to the farmers.
3. To assess Fonader's accomplishments to date and see whether it is an appropriate rural credit institution adapted to Cameroonian rural farmers' conditions as an acceleration of rural development.
4. To make recommendations according to the findings.

Name: Tridib K. Mukherjee

Title: Nature, Causes, and Policies Relative to Inflation in Cameroon.

Objectives:

1. To study the nature and characteristics of the price structure and price movements in Cameroon since 1965 with special reference to agricultural prices.
2. To identify the causes of the recent inflation in Cameroon.
3. To review and analyze the Government's policies to combat inflation.
4. To make necessary recommendations

Name: Jean Ongla

Title: Improving the Marketing of Selected Food Products in Cameroon.

Objectives:

1. Study the demand and supply situations of selected food products in producing and consuming areas, respectively.

2. To estimate transportation costs between producing and consuming areas.
3. To study commodity prices and how they fluctuate in Yaoundé markets.
4. To determine optimal flows of food products between producing and consuming areas.
5. To determine farmers' responsiveness to new and improved technology.
6. To make recommendations.

Name: Alfred L. Parks

Title: An Analysis of Resource Use and Allocation Among Enterprises on Farms in Cameroon.

Objectives:

1. To determine the level of resources (technical level) used by farmers.
2. To identify various enterprises and combination of enterprises
3. To identify land use patterns.
4. To identify basic resource constraints within which farmers operate.

Name: W. T. Richie

Title: Production and Marketing Problems Associated with Selected Food Crops Among Small Farmers in the Northwest Provinces.

Objectives:

1. To examine and document actual production and marketing problems in selected food crop production among small farmers in the Northwest province.
2. To identify future research needs.
3. To suggest tentative policy prescriptions which would benefit the small farmer while at the same time contribute to overall agricultural economic development.

Research Associate

Name: Thomas L. Vollrath*

Title: Credit Needs for Rice Farmers in the Northwest Province.

Objectives:

1. To determine the level and utilization of credit needed to increase small rice farmers' productivity and to bring actual production patterns up to optimal level.
2. To ascertain the role of institutional credit extension in inducing the adoption and diffusion of suggested production recommendations.
3. To identify appropriate designs and institutional modifications needed to more effectively channel production credit to small producers of rice.

Participant Trainee

Name: Joseph Ntangsi**

Title: Decision-making in a Peasant Economy: The Case of Lekie Cameroon

Objectives:

1. Illumination of some important aspects of peasant behavior in the particular geographical context of Lekie
2. Determination of whether the rationality of peasants is consistent with stated national production goals under prevailing structural market conditions.

* Vollrath is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Tennessee

** Ntangsi is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of California, Berkeley.

Research Assistants

Name: Jean Calvin Bahoken *

Title: Aspects anciens et modernes des structures familiales et du mode de travail en Cameroun "YUME" dans le Mbam.

Objectives:

1. Dégager de cette étude le(s) modèle(s) de quelques structures familiales étudiées et les principes élémentaires de l'ordre social ancien susceptibles d'être utilisés dans l'édification d'un ordre nouveau d'économie moderne intégré.
2. Décrire le mode de production paysan dans le Département en mettant en lumière le concept de YUME et les technologies locales devant être adaptées par l'introduction des technologies modernes dont l'expérience est concluante.

Name: Tcheulochue Ngounou Jean-Baptiste **

Title: Evaluation of a Regional Agricultural Program

Objectives:

1. To determine the causes of low production efforts made to increase production.
2. Propose some solutions for an increase in production of rice which has a great demand.
3. Offer some solutions which may provide direction for public policy
4. To offer solutions to the public.

* Bahoken is Enseignant-Chercheur Scientifique.

** Tcheulochue is Délégué Départemental d'Agriculture du NDE.

Cameroonian Counterparts

One of the underlying objectives of the Southern University Cameroon Project was to ultimately staff the Department with Cameroonian professionals and to participate in their training and preparation when they replace the three American staff members before the Project's termination date. The idea was to have at least three of the eight participants obtain the Ph.D. degree and join the Department.

Jean Ongla, who received the Master's under the program, taught in the Department during the 1974-75 school year. He will return to the University of Florida in January 1976 to continue his program for the Ph.D. degree under a Ford Foundation Grant. Ongla will return to the Department in September 1976 to resume his teaching and research duties.

Arrangements have been made between the Department and Ongla's major advisor at Florida to have a staff member of the Department of Agricultural Economics at NASA serve as one of Ongla's advisors. Also the Department's research enumerators will continue to gather some market data for Ongla in order to assist him in shortening the time for receipt of the doctorate.

Pascal T. Fotzo, a 1974 graduate of NASA, was on the staff of the Department during the 1974-75 academic year. He is now on study leave pursuing the Master's at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. Fotzo also received a Ford Foundation study grant. He will return to the Department at the end of the school year for a short period to gather data for his research under the supervision of the Departmental staff.

Afterward, Fotzo will return to Ibadan to complete the necessary degree requirements.

If the Project is to end in June 1976, the objective of staffing the Department with three qualified Cameroonian professionals who would have worked with the American staff for at least one year will not be realized, neither will there have been a gradual phasing out and smooth transition of personnel and responsibilities.

Institutions building takes time and requires long-term commitments, and it now appears that given five years to develop a viable Department of Agricultural Economics was unrealistic.

PARTICIPANT TRAINING

The original Contract Agreement set forth two simultaneous and related objectives for the Southern University Cameroon Project. First, it specified that Southern University was to assist the National Advanced School of Agriculture in establishing a Department of Agricultural Economics by providing three American Agricultural Economists with Ph.D. degrees to staff the Department until Cameroonian counterparts could be trained; and secondly, it made provisions for eight Cameroonians to be trained to the M.A. and in some cases to the Ph.D. level in those specializations required by the Department of Agricultural Economics.

In the 1976 budget, funds should be allocated for the continuation of the training of five participants who are now studying at U.S. universities under the Southern University Cameroon Project.

Joseph Ntangsi began his training in September 1973, and is expected to complete his Ph.D. in June 1977, at the University of California,

Berkeley, California. He is returning to Cameroon in January 1976, to commence the Ph.D. research on Equilibrium Between Food Crop and Cash Crop Production: An Economic Analysis in South Central Cameroon. Ntangsi's field research will continue through September 1976.

During Ntangsi's research time in Cameroon he will work under the supervision of the staff of the Department of Agricultural Economics. A close coordination between the Department and Ntangsi's advisor at Berkeley will be maintained. In fact, Dr. Mukherjee, a staff member of the Department, has been proposed as a member of Ntangsi's three-man advisory committee.

Francois Kamajou completed the Master's degree in August 1975 and has applied for an extension of time for work towards the Ph.D. degree.

Another participant André Meka, whose training began in September 1974, is scheduled to receive the M.S. degree from Michigan State University in June 1976.

Joseph Sama is expected to receive the M.S. degree from Kansas State University in June 1977. Sama's training under the program commenced in June 1975.

Bernard Ngakonwe, the last of the eight participants, began English tutoring at Southern University in October 1975. It is not definite when he will be prepared to enter a graduate school, as no graduate school has been selected at this date, but perhaps in the next month or so something will materialize.

All of the participants now under the program are doing well in their academic studies.

Pierre Tonye completed the Master's program in June 1975, and is no longer under the Southern University Cameroon Program.

Of the participants thus far, trained under the Program, Jean Ongla is the only one to return and join the Department of Agricultural Economics at NASA. He taught in the Department during the 1974-75 school year but will return to the University of Florida in January 1976, to pursue the Ph.D. degree under a Ford Foundation Grant.

All of the participants have, and are being trained in Land-Grant Universities. The Land-Grant Universities of the United States have a brilliant record of service through education, research, and extension which may be effectively adapted by institutions such as NASA.

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

A research associate is an American graduate student, who has been selected by the staff of the Department with the approval of the Campus Coordinator at Southern University and the Director of NASA, to do research on a relevant problem of Cameroonian agriculture. The research associate spends from nine to twelve months in Cameroon getting to know the country and carrying out his research objectives under the supervision of the Departmental staff. He later returns to his University Campus where he completes the analysis of his data and writes a thesis or dissertation.

Two graduate students, Richard Goldman from Cornell University, and Thomas Vollrath from the University of Tennessee have been research associates at NASA. Goldman completed his M.S. thesis in June 1975.

The title of his thesis was: Structure of Cocoa Farms in the Lekie Division, Cameroon: A Physical and Financial Evaluation. Copies of his thesis have been distributed to the Southern University Campus Coordinator; the Department of Agricultural Economics, NASA, the Director of NASA, and the Chairman of the School's Research Committee.

Thomas Vollrath returned to the University of Tennessee in July 1975, and is now in the process of writing his dissertation in the area of Credit Needs for Rice Farmers in the Northwest Province.

Both Goldman's and Vollrath's research deal with relevant problems of Cameroon agriculture and should make a contribution to the further development of the agricultural sector of the country.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

Research assistants are Cameroonian civil servants attached to the Department of Agricultural Economics at the The National Advanced School of Agriculture to do short-term problem oriented research which is considered by the civil servant and his Ministry to be relevant concerns of the Ministry.

Research assistants receive from the Project a supplement to their salaries in the form of per diem, travel, and miscellaneous expenses connected with their research.

Presently, there are two research assistants attached to the Department for short periods of time.

Dr. Bahoken Jean-Calvin, Ministry of Economy and Plan and part-time Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Yaoundé.

Dr. Bahoken is doing research on Aspects Anciens et modernes des structures Familiales et du mode de travail en Cameroun "YUME" dans le Mbam.

Mr. Tcheulochue Ngounou Jean-Baptiste, Ministry of Agriculture, Ingénieur Agronome Délégué Départemental d'Agriculture de NDE. He is a graduate of NASA. Tcheulochue's research activity is concerned with, Evaluation d'un Programme Agricole Regional.

For the most part, nominees to the research assistant program present a problem which needs to be addressed at some level of their academic training.

The National Advanced School of Agriculture and the Department of Agricultural Economics are extremely interested in having more Ministerial civil servants in the Research Assistant Program. There is a possibility that two more will join.

The research assistant program was formally coordinated by Mr. Ongla but during the present school year Dr. Richie will work with the program.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

Committees

During the 1975-76 academic year the Department's staff will carry out varied duties and responsibilities within the Department and in the School generally, such as:

Dr. Mukherjee:

- a. Coordinator of Departmental research
- b. Member of the School's Research Committee
- c. Member of Ntangsi's three-man Advisory Committee

Dr. Parks:

- a. Coordinator of Departmental Library resources
- b. Member of the School's Committee on Extension

Dr. Richie:

- a. Member of the University's Council of Administration
- b. Member of Council of Professors
- c. Member of Council of Heads of Departments
- d. Member of the School's Committee on Construction, space utilization, and environmental control
- e. Coordinator of the Department's Research Assistant Program (This responsibility formerly was Mr. Ongla's. Ongla will resume his studies at the University of Florida in January 1976.)

Besides the above activities, the staff attends all regular School's meetings.

STUDY TOURS

Each year two field trips of 10-14 days duration are taken by students to observe and study the agricultural, climatic and ecological zones of Cameroon. Each Department of NASA participates to the extent of meeting with the students prior to their departure to discuss and explain what is desired while on the trip. For example, the staff of the Department of Agricultural Economics recently met with students of the 12th promotion who were scheduled for a trip to the Northern Province and asked them to observe and study some Agricultural Economics problems in the Province, and making the following statements:

"One of the reasons for your trip is to obtain a broader understanding of the agricultural sector in the Northern Province. The information and knowledge you will obtain will not only prove helpful to you but will also be of inestimable value to the Agricultural Economics faculty in helping them to enrich their courses."

"Each member of the faculty has submitted a list of questions which you will find helpful in your discussions. The list is not conclusive. You will be expected to be observant, perspective, and raise other pertinent questions."

"Specifically, you are asked to note and observe activities and practices related to:

- Systems of farming -- crops (cash, food), livestock
- Pasture and range management
- Soil and water management
- Farm operations and practices
- Markets, marketing systems, and channels
- Transportation
- Current research activities
- Institutions - extension, research, credit, education, cooperatives
- Price policy and other incentives (subsidies).
- General attitude of farmers and government officials."

The information and data obtained by the students are later incorporated into staff teaching to enrich the course by relating to local needs.

Stage d'Etude

All students between the first and second years at NASA are required to conduct a one-month Stage d'Etude to obtain data about a specific village. This information is written and prepared as a monograph which is submitted to the Stage d'Etude Committee and later to Departments for evaluation. The Department of Agricultural Economics is specifically asked to do an evaluation on the socioeconomic part of the report.

The monographs have been educational to the Departmental staff in that they provide the staff with a broad knowledge of cultural and socioeconomic phenomena of villages in Cameroon.

LIBRARY

The acquisition of new books, journals, publications, and various library resources continues to play a very important role in the Departmental activities. During calendar year 1975 the Departmental Library acquired 188 new titles of books, journals, publication, etc., which brings the departmental collections to approximately 1533 items. In addition to the number of books received during the calendar year 1975; 66 other books and publications comprising 182 volumes, are still on order. These books probably will not be received until sometime in 1976.

The departmental collection of library resources represents the best collection of library resources on agricultural and general economics in the area. This collection has been admired by other faculty at NASA, faculty from the University, and other visitors. The use of these resources continues to be rather limited, but improving.

The departmental collection of journals is rather poor in comparison to its book collection. The following journals are being received, on a sporadic basis, by the Departmental Library:

- a. American Journal of Agricultural Economics
- b. American Economic Review
- c. Land Economics
- d. Development Digest
- e. Agricultural Economics Research

It is hoped that receipt of these journals can be improved in the future. The Departmental Library is also trying to increase the number of journals that it now receives.

The Departmental Library also receives various other miscellaneous publications such as Foreign Agriculture, USDA Outlook Papers, USAID Bibliographic series Library, etc.

TABLE 1. STATUS OF LIBRARY, January 5, 1976 (All numbers approximate)

<u>Source</u>	<u>Indexed Items (Titles)</u>	<u>Volumes and Pieces</u>
<u>Books:</u>		
Southern University Project	509	935
Local Purchase	25	40
USAID, FAO, Other	57	112
Subtotal	591	1,082
<u>Journals and Publications:</u>		
Southern University Project	4	11
USAID, USDA	10	99
Other	8	82
Subtotal	22	192
<u>Documents and Papers:</u>		
Bibliographical References	11	27
Documents	140	167
Papers Test	-	65
Subtotal	151	259
TOTAL	864	1,533
<hr/>		
<u>Books on Order:</u>		
Southern University Project	53	159
Other	13	26

TRAVEL FOR PROGRAM SUPPORT

As stated in previous sections of this report, the faculty of the Department are involved in three basic functions: teaching, research, and public services (extension). The latter two of these functions involving travel.

During the past year members of the faculty have been able to do a considerable amount of travel; however, not as much as was discussed, but anticipates even more in the coming months as their research efforts continue and the demand for public services continues to intensify.

The performance of research and public service activities require a considerable amount of travel in any society whether developed or underdeveloped. In an underdeveloped situation where the storage bank of information is rather limited and where the exchange of knowledge that is available is rather cumbersome, travel in search of knowledge and the exchange of ideas becomes even more important.

The situation as it exists with the faculty of the Department is somewhat analogous to operating in a vacuum. That is to say, unless the faculty gets out and expose themselves, their existence remains unknown and rather useless. On the other hand too, since their exposure to the outside world is very limited, they must also try at every opportunity to get out and collaborate with others.

In regards to these demands some budgetary allowances were made¹ in the past year. It is hoped that such allowances of an even greater magnitude will be made available in the future. As was pointed out

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No budgetary allowances were made for travel for Cameroonian counterparts (Ongla and Fotzo).

in the semi-annual report, one problem that has hampered tremendously in-country travel has been the lack of rugged terrain vehicles. The condition of roads in Cameroon makes it virtually impossible to travel by road in other than a 4 wheel drive type vehicle. Over the past year, the Department has been deprived of such a vehicle. It may be pointed out however, that the Department has one 4-wheel drive vehicle, but it's condition is such that it is not reliable for extensive use.

Breakdown of Travel:

A. Faculty Travel

During calendar year 1975, each member of the faculty was able to do a considerable amount of travel both within Cameroon and other West African countries.

In July Dr. Mukherjee and Dr. Parks, along with Mr. Fotzo and Mr. Ongla traveled to Accra, Ghana to attend the Conference of the West African Association of Agricultural Economists. In December, Dr. Richie traveled to Ibadan, Nigeria to visit the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture.

During the month of April, Dr. Parks traveled to Douala, Victoria, and Buea, in the Littoral and S.W. Provinces of Cameroon. While there he was able to visit and tour several of the agricultural interests, including many of the CDC estates.

Drs. Richie and Mukherjee traveled to Bamenda, Bali, Buea, Victoria, and Douala during the month of May. During this trip they were able to visit and consult with several Provincial delegates of agriculture, representatives of CDC, and of the Pan-African Institute.

In June Dr. Parks traveled to Ngaoundere and Garoua where he was able to observe the cattle region and to visit with delegates of the Ministry of Elevage. Dr. Parks returned to the Northern Province during the month of December. In this trip Dr. Parks visited Ngaoundere, Garoua, Maroua, Waza, Mokolo, etc. This trip enabled him to see first hand the contrasting differences in cultures and agricultural activities of the different regions.

A considerable amount of local travel such as visits to various Ministries, short trips to nearby villages, etc., have taken place during the year.

B. Research Associate Travel

For the first six months of the year, there was one American graduate student working in the Department. Mr. Tomas Vollrath, from the University of Tennessee, did a considerable amount of travelling in collecting data for his Ph.D. dissertation. Mr. Vollrath's research, "On the Cooperative Credit Needs of Small Rich Farmers", was done in the Northwest province, near Bamenda.

C. Project Director

In order to properly coordinate the activities of the project, that is, between the field and Campus, it is necessary from time to time for the project director to make inspection tours of the field staff. During the year, one trip was made to Yaoundé by the project director to collaborate with the field staff. A second trip, which is made annually for budget preparation, etc., was postponed, and probably will be made in early January 1976.

It is also necessary for the project director to coordinate activities between the campus office and the Washington office of USAID. To carry out this responsibility, the project director must travel occasionally from Baton Rouge to Washington, D.C.

D. Other University Administrators

According to paragraph XV of the original Contract of the project, the contracting university may send, along with its campus coordinator, some of the senior university officials to the cooperating country to review the progress of the Project.

However, it was not until this year, that this provision was taken advantage of. In March, President Jesse Stone and Dr. T.T. Williams, Special Assistant to the President, accompanied the Project Director on a visit to Yaoundé. This visit was very warmly received, and created hopes of a permanent relationship between the two cooperating Universities.

THE BUDGET

The Annual Program of Work for 1976 is intended as a general guide for activities to be carried out under Contract AFR/750.

The personnel and other financial needs for carrying out the Program of Work are reflected in the 1976 Annual Budget Request which is being concurrently submitted.

The five-year phase of operation will end on June 30, 1976, unless extended. Thus, the field budget submitted for 1976 is for the period January 1976, through August 1976. It is felt that an additional two months July and August 1976, will be necessary for smooth operation and transition which would allow time for the Cameroonian counterpart to return; plus time for the American staff to return to the United States and become settled.

Financial support for the Southern University Contract AFR/750, is made available annually based upon a budget request that is submitted prior to the beginning of each calendar year. Through line-item categories, funds are made available for the period January through December 31, of each year. Normally the process of budget preparation and presentation entails detailed projections of financial needs twelve to fifteen months in advance.

PROJECT EXTENSION: AN ADDENDUM

As previously mentioned, the Department of Agricultural Economics was established in May 1971, as authorized by Contract Agreement AFR/750 in November 1970. However, the Project is to end in June 1976, unless an extension is granted. Requests for an extension have officially been made by the Director of the National Advanced School of Agriculture and by the Project Director at Southern University.

There are several components of an institution building project, such as, equipment, library, expatriate trained staff, funds to maintain the staff and department at an adequate level, and the training and development of an indigenous staff.

A critical factor at this time in the continuous development of the Department of Agricultural Economics is the staffing of the Department with trained Cameroonians. The first candidate selected as a participant trainee by the Cameroonian Government joined the Department in October 1974, after obtaining a Masters degree from the University of Florida. He is returning to the University of Florida in January 1976, for a period of eight months to work toward the Ph.D. degree. Another Cameroonian, a 1974 graduate of NASA, became a member of the Department also in October 1974. Since September 1975, he has been studying at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, on a Master's program.

One of the most important requirements in building a department is the development of a teaching staff with a high level of academic training. Looking at the situation as it exists at the time of this report, it is unlikely that the Department will have a Cameroonian with the Ph.D. degree on its staff before the end of 1977. And then, in

order to provide a smooth transition from the American staff to the Cameroonian staff, at least an additional year would be required for the American staff to remain in the Department. It is the thinking of the Project Director that the Southern University A.I.D. Contract could not expect to have achieved acceptable objectives before 1979 given the present constraints.

At the present time there are two participants in the Ph.D. program, one at the University of California, Berkeley, and one at the University of Illinois.

Substantial progress is being made in meeting the objectives of the Project; and it is now utmost importance that the American staff be retained until trained Cameroonians can replace them.