Poverty Reduction Cooperation Fund

Project (country and short title):	Improving Nutrition of Poor Mothers and Children in Asia through Rice and Wheat Biofortification		
	(Several Countries)[1]		
PRF Champion (name and division):	Joseph M. Hunt, Senior Health, Nutrition, and Early Childhood Specialist, RSDD/RSAN		
Narrative Summary The Project will address iron deficiency anemia and other nutritional deficiencies through food technology because other methods have failed. The method is biofortification of rice germplasm by increasing iron and Vitamin A content and testing the impact of biofortified rice on infant and young child nutritional status and cognitive ability. Screening of wheat germplasm will initiate a separate wheat biofortification project possibly led by ADB and DFID in 2004.	**Verifiable Indicators** Completion of rice and wheat germplasm screening by IV 2003	**Means of Verification** Quarterly project reports; supervision missions to NARS; annual project review meetings (scheduled in Jan 2003 at Bangladesh Rice Research Institute, Dhaka)	**Important Assumption** The collaboration among donors, CGIAR institutes, and NARS is based on free exchange of genetic materials.
Goal: : Increase micronutrient content of rice and wheat germplasm	Reduced maternal and young child mortality. Improved IQ of preschoolers.	HPLC analysis of new back-crossed germplasm by CGIAR institutes and Waite ARI under representative milling and cooking conditions	Evidence that cultural practices will preserve higher micronutrient content
Purpose: Reduce micronutrient deficiencies in Asia sustainably by least cost to pooor consumers	Reduced prevalence of anemia and Vitamin A deficiency in preschoolers and women of reproductive age.	Demographic and Health Survey, National Nutrition Surveys, Maternal and Infant Feeding Efficacy Trials (under PRF)	

file:
update:

Outputs: 1. Selection of biofortified rice varieties for breeding and seed dissemination program in DMCs 2. Selection of wheat varieties for back-cross breeding in wheat biofortification project (2004). 3. Regional Strategy for Biofortification disseminated to donors 4. Accepted evidence that rice varieties shall be adopted because they will improve nutrition	1. Assessment Report on micronutrient content of biofortified rice in 4 DMCs; 2. Report on complete screening of wheat germplasm for selection of varieties as candidates for wheat biofortification project covering South and Central Asia; 3. Report of Regional Investors' Roundtable on Dissemination of Biofortified Rice Varieties (IV 2003) 4. Peer-reviewed publications on infant feeding efficacy trial, Bangladesh 5. Regional investment plan for Rice Biofortification	Regional Investors' Strategy Adopted at Roundtable; Donors and DMCs make resource commitments to support dissemination	1. Screening of germplasm by NARS into breeding strategy 2. Evidence on nutritional impact is methodologically correct based on case-control design 3. Key investors are tapped.
Activities 1. Screening 1,200 rice varieties for beta carotene content in the endosperm 2. Screening wheat germplasm accession list for South and Central Asia for high micronutrient density, especially iron 3. Conducting an efficacy trial on cognitive impact of iron-enriched, rice-based complementary food for infants 4. Investors' Roundtable for Rice Biofortification for Donors and DMCs		Inputs: -diagnostic equipment -survey instruments -workshops -operations research peer review -institutional reviews -monitoring and evaluation -pilot tests and design of psychometric instruments -economic and cost-effectiveness analysis	
[1] Bangladesh, Indonesia, Pakistan (and Afghanistan), Philippines, Viet Nam, Uzbekistan			

file:
update: