

# TA COMPLETION REPORT

Division: AWAR

TA NO./NAME: 1956-BHU Irrigation Action Plan					TA AMOUNT APPROVED: \$350,000 REVISED AMOUNT: -	SOURCE:  JSF
EXECUTING AGENCY: Ministry of Agriculture					TA AMOUNT UNDISB.: a/	TA AMOUNT UTILIZED: \$340,137.58
DATE: 28 May 1996	APPROVAL: 22 Sep 1993	SIGNING: 9 Feb 1994	FIELD: 21 Mar 1994	CLOSING:	ORIGINAL: 31 Mar 1996	ACTUAL: 31 May 1996

## TA DESCRIPTION

The TA was designed to assist the Government to develop an action plan for implementing the National Irrigation Policy. To do so, technology and methods of efficient use of water would be developed and the technology transferred to the staff of the Research, Extension and Irrigation Division (REID). The TA was to be implemented in two phases. Phase I activities included a comprehensive review of the irrigation sector to make recommendations for improving the National Irrigation Policy. The recommendations were to be tested in pilot schemes during Phase II.

## TA OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE

The objective of the TA was to increase the Government's capacity for developing effective farmer-managed irrigation systems through strengthening of REID's capability to formulate effective action plans for implementing the National Irrigation Policy and developing plans for working with farmers. The scope of the TA included (i) development of an effective action plan, (ii) formation of collaboration arrangements with farmers and concerned agencies, and (iii) testing of the action plan in pilot schemes. The TA would provide 12 person-months of international consultancy inputs, 8 person-months for an irrigation specialist and 4 person-months for a sociologist over a period of 24 months. The TA also provided for overseas training and procurement of a vehicle, office equipment and irrigation equipment for field trials.

## INPUTS EVALUATION

A total of 15.5 person-months of consultancy were provided. The Irrigation Specialist's input was increased by 3.5 person-months to allow completion of Phase II activities which were delayed because of problems in fund transfers from the Bank. The consultants worked closely, and had good relationships, with counterpart staff and the task force working group. The TOR were satisfactorily completed. Savings from the TA were utilized for procurement of an additional set of irrigation equipment, tents and mountain boots.

The counterpart staff and other staff of REID cooperated well with the consultants and their performance was satisfactory.

The Bank fielded four missions during the TA period. The number of missions was sufficient for monitoring the TA.

## OUTPUTS EVALUATION

During Phase I the consultants produced an Inception Report and a Final Report which includes a review of the irrigation sector, recommendations for improving the National Irrigation Policy and an Impact Study of an irrigation scheme. During Phase II, 3 progress reports and a final report were produced. The reports were well received by the Government. A National Irrigation Workshop was successfully organized to present the recommendations of the action plan to the Government. The recommendations have been accepted by the Government and will be incorporated in the National Irrigation Policy as well as the Eighth Five Year Plan (FY 1997-2002).

A study tour to India was successfully conducted and the staff found it to be very useful. In addition, staff were trained in India on the operation of drip and sprinkler irrigation. Testing of the action plan in a pilot scheme has resulted in refinements made to the National Irrigation Policy. The procurement and delivery of vehicle and the irrigation and camping equipment were delayed due to a number of reasons including problems in transfer of funds from the Bank. With the late installation of the irrigation equipment, the first set was installed two months before TA closing and the second set one month after, the irrigation trials have just commenced and it is too early to produce results.

## OVERALL ASSESSMENT AND RATING

The TA has improved and refined the National Irrigation Policy for more effective irrigation management through testing on irrigation schemes and provided assistance in preparation of a framework for the irrigation sector during the Eighth Five Year Plan. The TA has provided training for REID staff through a study tour and close interaction with the consultants. The staff are now confident in carrying out socio-economic studies and installation of drip and sprinkler irrigation equipment and continuing with the irrigation trials which commenced during the TA implementation. The TA has achieved its objective of strengthening the capacity of the REID in developing effective farmer-managed irrigation systems. The TA has also successfully resulted in transfer of technology to the staff.

The overall rating is successful.

## LESSONS LEARNED

The success of the TA is attributable to its realistic design. The TOR of the consultants were realistic and achievable within the timeframe of the TA. The flexibility allowed for during implementation also contributed to the success.

## RECOMMENDATION AND FOLLOW-UP ACTION

The TA has strengthened REID staff in the planning process and assisted in formulating an action plan to implement the National Irrigation Policy. However, the capacity within REID for putting the action plan into practice is still not adequate. The Government has requested an ADTA to further strengthen REID to enable the implementation of the National Irrigation Policy during the Eighth Five Year Plan. It is recommended that Bank finance the follow-on ADTA. An amount of \$300,000 has been programmed for this in 1997 and cofinancing from the Dutch Government is likely. It is also recommended that processing of the TA commence in the fourth quarter of 1996 for approval in early 1997.

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a/ TA account is still open for remaining disbursements.