1979 ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE OAS

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INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
OAS

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C O N T E N T

REPORT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES ON ITS ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD JULY 1, 1978 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1979

INTRODUCTION

In fulfillment of my duties and responsibilities as Director General of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, I hereby submit to the members of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States the Annual Report for the programs, projects and activities conducted by this organization between July 1, 1978 and December 31, 1979.

This Report covers an eighteen-month period in compliance with the dictates of Resolution IICA/JD/Res.13(27/78) of May 10, 1978, putting the administrative fiscal year on a calendar-year basis as of 1980.

I would like to take this occasion to express my sincere gratitude to the distinguished members of the General Assembly for their support and confidence in IICA's development activities. This support and this confidence have been reflected in the approval of the Program-Budget for fiscal year 1980 and of the twenty major resolutions approved by the Board of Directors during its Eighteenth Annual Meeting, held in La Paz, Bolivia, May 14 - 16, 1979.

Specifically, the meeting approved resolutions to:

- Modify the Headquarters building.
- Expand the programs for publications and informative media.

- Systematize reciprocal technical cooperation.
- Establish the Animal Health and Plant Protection programs.
- Evaluate programs and projects.
- Promote the participation of campesino women in rural development programs.
- Study and evaluate natural resources, with the use of remote sensing.
- Enter into contracts, agreements, contributions.
- Develop the Program-budget for the Simon Bolivar Fund.
- Pay homage to Simon Wilson and Jefferson Rangel in recognition of their valuable service to the institution, and study the possibility of creating an inter-American award to stimulate the participation of women in development.

By offering such broad-based support of our programs, the member countries are revealing their altruistic, unified understanding and acceptance of the objectives pursued by our programs and of the systems and methods used for implementing them. Now, at a time when IICA's new Convention is undergoing the ratification process, I am particularly aware of the need to submit to your consideration, as members of the General Assembly, some of the ideas the General Directorate has been unfolding on inter-American technical cooperation for rural development and the need to reinforce service structures in order to upgrade our operating conditions. This will enable us to respond more rapidly and effectively to the challenges of agricultural and rural development in the eighties.

The Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences closely adheres to the humanistic conception of development, the objectives of stimulating and promoting rural development, and the strategies and priorities set down in its

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General Plan. Its primary function is to support the efforts of member countries in the field of technical and administrative organization. We work through specific development institutions to:

- increase production and productivity;
- increase employment in the rural sector; and
- increase the participation of the rural population in the process and benefits of development.

Our objectives and strategies for technical cooperation strive to work closely with the Member States, reinforcing national institutions responsible for establishing and implementing rural development policies articulated by the respective governments.

The intrinsic function of these objectives and strategies is to enable the technical cooperation provided by IICA's programs on the regional and country levels to adjust systematically to the characteristics, needs and interests inherent in the region and to the actual, specific situation of each individual country. We also seek to adapt ourselves to the country objectives, needs and development priorities, as stated in the operational strategies that first led us to open and subsequently strengthen the IICA Offices in the countries of the Americas.

IICA's humanistic rural development doctrine corresponds to our Hemispheric structure of public service. Under this doctrine, our work is based on the need for, and the urgency of achieving results that will have positive repercussions by improving the standard of living of the rural population and promoting its progressive well-being.

A careful analysis of the decisive factors of the development of the agricultural sector in recent years, as well as the current situation at the

beginning of this new decade, shows that, in general, the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean have not in fact achieved what we would consider satisfactory results as the fruit of our development efforts. This is true at least in terms of the objectives and goals that constitute IICA's primary concerns in its day-to-day operations.

Population pressures and the consequent rising consumer expectations during most of the last decade in this region, forced the agricultural sector to increase production at price levels that could compete in international markets and thus finance the foreign exchange needed for overall development. At the same time, products had to be sold for low prices on the domestic markets in order to maintain the viability of urbanization and industrial production.

The countries have adopted diverse policies to deal with this situation. In some cases, free-market mechanisms were altered, and in a few others, the tenure of natural resources has been restructured. As was to be expected, the prevailing sectors of private initiative became aware of the resulting improvements in financing for industrial development, generating employment and improving the distribution of wealth to benefit the secondary sector, and it lost interest in participating in agricultural production. The various conflicts that emerged from this process were overcome by noticeably weakening the public agricultural sector.

Certainly, agricultural production has grown as new areas have been incorporated into the extension of exploitable resources. To a lesser extent, production increases are also a consequence of productivity increases in certain major products. Nevertheless, if the resulting expansion is compared with population growth, per capita levels prove to be markedly low.

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Food production, which on the overall level has maintained its relative position, represents a significant productive effort whose results have scarcely been satisfactory on the whole. In specific situations in certain countries, they have even been a cause for deep concern.

Technological modernization and rural productive development have been concentrated in commercial operations. By contrast, there have been steady increases in the number of ever-smaller agricultural operations and in the number of landless workers with few opportunities for permanent employment.

Rural employment levels have not shown appreciable progress in terms of making productive use of the population. Similarly, the rural population has not been absorbed by other productive sectors. Improved life expectancy and employment opportunities in the urban sector have played a significant role in sustaining the chaotic country-to-city migration process, with its train of well-known problems.

The rural dwellers have not enjoyed active participation in the design and implementation of development policies, in spite of the fact that such policies define these people as its target population. Similarly, they have not shared the proportional benefits that result from economic growth.

In short, the low levels of participation of the rural population in decision-making, the poverty that continues to define their lives, the country-to-city exodus, and their inability to meet their basic needs continue to be the characteristic features of the agricultural sector in this region, on the overall level.

To a certain extent, it appears particularly inappropriate that these negative effects should have been felt during years of economic growth throughout the world and in the region which concerns us. During those years,

even the agricultural sector recorded more or less considerable production rises, although often at the expense of a dangerous breakdown of the productive capacity of natural resources.

As we stand on the threshold of the eighties, we find that world expectations for economic growth are relatively low. The energy problem is reaching crisis proportions. Foreign indebtedness in the region is high. Inflationary pressures are being felt by all economies. These factors place the rural sector in the position of having to produce better, higher-quality results under conditions more difficult than those in the recent past.

Demands have increased for agriculture to continue funding economic growth using available resources that, even in terms of aggregate value, have been reduced. As if that were not enough, this sector has been subjected to policies that are increasingly weighted in favor of the urban sector.

Nevertheless, even in the face of this complex set of elements that form the backdrop against which we pursue our tasks of rural development and carry out our institutional responsibilities, IICA finds itself in a position to implement its programs by turning to the valuable and timely appearance of a higher level of social awareness in the region. This new mentality recognizes the importance and priorities of rural development procedures in our countries and of gradually and progressively organizing rural and urban resources.

Priorities for the Rural Sector in the Region

The problems we face are specific in nature and vary from one country to another. In general, however, they include population, employment, balance of payments, nutrition, availability of natural resources and developing the

knowledge needed to choose wisely from among the various potential policy approaches, and, above all, to isolate the type of economic and social problems that exist and determine how best to solve them. We at IICA are convinced that the problem areas this region has faced in the past, and continues to face today, include production, employment, and the participation of the population in searching for the solutions that must be adopted immediately and decisively.

1. Production

In the area of production for providing the general population with proper nutrition, we can forsee that:

- a key issue during most of the decade will be the use and production of energy;
- efforts will have to be renewed for producing low-cost food products;
- greater emphasis will be placed on efforts to increase exportation;
- privileged status will be given to studying and promoting agricultural sources of energy;
- primary interest will be drawn to revising and properly defining the potential of available resources and identifying and promoting native products with energy and protein potential that has been overlooked or only slightly developed in the past; and
- efforts to create and transfer technology will be given new incentives, and greater emphasis will be placed on the use of ecologically sound productive methods.

2. Employment

The relative importance of this objective may vary from one country to another, but in the framework of mandatory efforts to solve the problems of the population effectively, we can foresee that:

- non-traditional production systems will be developed to provide for higher levels of labor absorption;
- efforts will be promoted to develop agribusiness;
- efforts will be increased for improving the operation of the rural labor market;
- efforts will be continued to identify non-agricultural sources of employment;
- efforts will be continued to decentralize industry and locate it in rural areas.

3. Participation

This objective will also receive a different emphasis from one country to the next, but the primary need on the regional level is to meet the basic needs of the rural population. Participation in benefits will require participation in decision-making. This must come about within the framework of a narrow margin of available resources and of a pattern of urbanization which, due to its magnitude and its relative political importance, will accentuate the difficulties or meeting the needs of the rural target population.

a. Pressure will be increased for reducing the concentration of land holdings.

b. Pressure will be increased for improving the conditions of life in rural area.

c. Methods will be sought for improving the participation of the rural population in identifying and implementing projects for promoting rural development.

d. Associative production systems will be sought as a means of improving participation.

Areas of International Cooperation for Rural Development

International assistance for the promotion of rural development can be divided into three major areas: technical, financial and political. This division will undoubtedly be attenuated in practice during this decade, for the definition of policy objectives and individual or joint action by the countries will require integrated financial support and technical subsystems.

Although this integration is expected to grow steadily, a brief analysis of expectations in the policy and financial areas will be given.

1. Cooperation in policy decisions

We can expect renewed efforts toward joint action in international trade, taking the form of blocs of exporting countries and of integration on the basis of subregional agreements.

The region will also seek agreements on improving the conditions for external financing and will strive to step up the development of joint projects in the now classic areas of communication and energy.

In spite of the ongoing nature of the priority for new agreements on trade, financing and infrastructure development, this decade will also see improvements in the relative importance of agreements on rural problems. We can expect more policy decisions for joint projects on rural development, technology, health and

agribusiness. The exchange of experiences and reciprocal technical assistance will be increased. But the most innovative factor that should be mentioned is that efforts will be made toward the joint implementation of rural development projects in the border areas, and supply agreements should be forthcoming.

2. Financial cooperation

The flow of resources needed for rural development will require improvements in the institutional capacity of the countries and of the financial agencies that design and execute projects. Experience shows that while the portfolios held by international financing agencies have been inadequate to deal with the magnitude of needs, they have simultaneously been excessive in comparison with institucional capabilities for designing high-priority projects. When they are finally disbursed, these funds therefore have at best a limited impact on the target population.

The countries should prepare for this decade by more clearly specifying their priorities for the various components of rural development. We foresee greater emphasis on projects for production and productivity, with a margin for meeting the various objectives. In all cases, we can expect better policy definition and greater technical support in the design and execution of projects. But, above all, what will be needed is a clear definition of simplified criteria, tailor-made to the needs of the various clientele for the design, processing, and operation of projects.

Technical Cooperation for Rural Development

IICA has initiated an analysis of the priorities for technical cooperation in the eighties in order to specify the needs and interests of the member

countries. The outcome of this analysis will reveal the potential for cooperation among the various agencies providing technical and financial assistance. Our proposal will be discussed at the upcoming Inter-American Conference on Agriculture, slated for April, 1981. Nevertheless, I feel it is appropriate to advance certain general points concerning the possible high-priority programs we see on the horizon.

In view of the problems directly related to IICA's objectives, we have defined ten areas of concentration for our programs, for we feel they are of fundamental importance for this region:

1. Developing food products indigenous to large areas of the Americas that have high levels of caloric and protein potential, including agro-energy raw materials (Tropics, Subtropics, and High Andes).
2. Studying systems for small-scale farmers and associative enterprises, with an emphasis on the use of intermediate technology.
3. Strengthening institutional systems for planning rural development, with an emphasis on project design and management and administrative coordination for effectively reaching the target population.
4. Developing and coordinating institutional systems responsible for creating, disseminating, and adopting technology for agricultural production and productivity.
5. Promoting agribusiness as one of the tools for rural development, with an emphasis on processing for energy production.

6. Expanding campesino organization, with an eye to self-managing in associative systems of land tenure and use, marketing, and agribusiness.
7. Furthering rural education, particularly intermediate-level agricultural education and adult education.
8. Developing human resources for overall rural development and for certain specific areas, such as training for rural management, credit, marketing, agribusiness, campesino organization, the participation of youth and women in the developing rural areas, etc.
9. Using innovative methods for determining the potential and use of basic agricultural elements (soil, water, climate, plants) as a means of preserving the ecological balance and seeking the conservation and rational use of renewable resources.
10. Developing information technology to improve the use of available research and of technological and scientific experimentation in the region for facilitating joint endeavors by the countries.

José Emilio G. Araujo
Director General

CHAPTER I

TOOLS FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

At IICA, a specialized organization of the Inter-American System, the primary, ongoing concern is that the member countries continuously maintain a broad, in-depth understanding of the institution's doctrinary and program foundations. They must understand our structure, objectives and functions so we can work together with them in our efforts to provide services and to determine those areas particularly suited to cooperative efforts and adaptable for better forms of cooperation. Only in this way can positive results be achieved.

For this reason, we have continued to devote special attention to generating evaluative and objective criticism of IICA's activities and to maintain a steady flow of information with the most receptive levels of the Member States.

During the past decade, the countries reflected their support of general institutional action by approving the General Plan drawn up by a High-Level External Evaluating Committee. It was based on the doctrinary and program structure of the Humanistic and Hemispheric Projection adopted in 1970 by the Director General.

In 1976, the countries approved the Medium-Term Indicative Plan for a five-year period. Its objectives specify: 1) systematically continuing the implementation of the General Plan; 2) providing an improved basis for judment by IICA officials and technical personnel for decision-making and for the planning and implementation of technical cooperation activities in the

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Institute; and 3) providing the countries with specific information on IICA's doctrinary approach and on the Institute's concrete potential for action.

At the present time, in pursuance of the process of ongoing dialogue with the Member States, as required by the goals discussed above, an Evaluation of the General Plan, the Indicative Plan, and the programs included therein is being submitted to the Special Committee of IICA's Board of Directors for consideration.

Similarly, IICA's institutional development has recently taken a step of major importance. On March 6, 1979, a long process of negotiation drew to a close when the Representatives of the Member States, vested with plenipotentiary powers by their governments, gathered in Washington D.C. to sign the legal instrument for the new Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture.

The new Convention, according to the Chairman of IICA's Board of Directors, "... redefines the goals of the Institute, identifying it more explicitly as an organization devoted to promoting and stimulating agricultural development and rural well-being. The name is being changed to make it more consistent with the idea that agricultural and rural development will be promoted through participatory reciprocal cooperation among the countries and among the official agencies and workers in the agricultural sector."

According to Article 34 of the document, IICA's new Convention will go into effect as soon as two thirds of the Member States of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences have deposited their respective ratification instruments.

Because of the active participation of the Member States in directing and supervising the work of the Institute, and the close working relationships

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that have emerged with the institutional systems responsible for the rural sector in the countries, we have been able to put into effect an operational, functional plan of action to characterize all our efforts. It involves providing technical cooperation with the many activities already taking place in a country and promoted by the government itself. The goal is to bring about rural development by cooperating with the national institutions.

Essentially, we strive to implement participatory technical cooperation. This replaces the traditional concept of technical assistance with a system combining the efforts of international support with the technical capabilities developed in the countries. The system will activate the "reciprocal technical cooperation", ushering in the possibility of intensifying cooperation among the countries through IICA action.

CHAPTER II

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS

Origin, Legal Foundations, Structure and Purposes of IICA

The Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences (IICA) is the specialized agency of the OAS for the agricultural sector. It was founded in 1942 by the American governments, for promoting the economic and social development of their countries through education, staff training, research, consultation and communications, in the field of agriculture.

Organization

IICA is an autonomous intergovernmental institution. It is ruled by its own Convention and performs its duties through the following entities:

a. The General Directorate, located in San José, Costa Rica, establishes institutional policy and operates through the Office of the Associate Deputy General for External Coordination, which is in charge of official relations with the governments of member countries and with international organizations on the regional and world levels, is responsible for seeking sources of external funding; the Office of the Associate Deputy Director General for Planning, which is in charge of preparing and up-dating IICA's technical and institutional policies, in accordance with pertinent standards; and the Office of the Deputy Director General for Operations, which analyzes the technical quality of IICA's activities and provides technical support and follow-up as needed.

Two other IICA entities of Hemispheric scope are headquartered in Costa Rica: The Inter-American Agricultural Documentation and Information Center (CIDIA) and the Public Information Office.

b. Four Regional Offices, covering the Andean, Antillean, Northern and Southern zones, have offices in Lima, Peru; Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; Guatemala City, Guatemala; and Montevideo, Uruguay, respectively.

c. Twenty-four National Office are located in the member countries, and Canada shares the IICA Office in Washington, D.C.

Board of Directors

The highest governing authority of IICA rests in the Board of Directors. It is comprised of the representatives of the American States that sit on the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States (OAS), as well as representatives from Canada and Guyana. The Board of Directors meets annually in Washington, D.C. It delegates its authority to high-level representatives of the national Ministries or Secretariats of Agriculture, to constitute the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors. This meeting is held in a different country each year, following a meeting of the Special Committee to: study and present opinions on the proposed Program-Budget presented by the General Directorate; suggest guidelines for its preparation; examine, discuss and present opinions on all matters entrusted to it specifically, as well as on any proposals that the Member State Representatives and the Director General may wish to submit to the Board for its consideration at this meeting.

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General Objectives

The objectives of the institution are to assist the American States in stimulating and promoting rural development as a means for achieving general development and increasing the well-being of the population, and to support national efforts to:

a. Increase agricultural production and productivity in proportion to increases in population and income, especially with products that can compete on international markets and contribute to improving the diet of the population.

b. Increase the capacity to generate employment in the rural sector in proportion to the growth rate of the active rural population.

c. Increase the participation of the rural population in development, reducing the margins of poverty to levels that permit continuous and significant progress toward a state of full opportunity for all members of the rural community.

The basic strategy IICA uses to achieve these objectives is to reinforce the institutions in the nations of the Americas dedicated to agricultural development.

General Plan

The General Plan is a pragmatic interpretation of IICA's objectives and the basic principles expressed in its Convention, and it responds to the ever-changing conditions of agriculture and rural development in the American countries. This was described by the Director General in his message to the Board of Directors as "A Hemispheric and Humanistic Projection for the Decade 1971-1980."

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Medium-Term Indicative Plan

This document activated IICA's General Plan and will govern the institution's actions and development through 1982. The Board of Directors recommended that the Indicative Plan be evaluated regularly, in order to keep it up to date with the changing needs and interests of the member countries.

National Committees

These committees operate under the regulations of official IICA planning policies and are the first link in the decision-making chain which culminates with the approval of the Program-Budget.

Lines of Action

These define and focus IICA's activities for improving national rural sector systems in the member countries. They target the following areas:

- Information and Documentation for Rural Development.
- Education for Rural Development.
- Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer.
- Agricultural Production, Productivity and Marketing.
- Regional Rural Development.
- Structural Change and Campesino Organization.
- Formulation and Administration of Agricultural Policy.

Task Forces

The Task Forces were created to complement IICA's organization. Their main purpose is to conduct studies and provide advisory services to the rural development programs included under the Lines of Action.

Simon Bolivar Fund

This is a multinational fund of voluntary contributions. It was created in 1974 with a contribution of ten million dollars from the Government of Venezuela.

Institutional Relations

IICA sustains relations with the OAS, organizations of the Inter-American System, organizations of the world system, specific official agencies of some of the member countries, and the extra-continental countries that act as IICA Observer States. In general terms, these relations showed satisfactory levels of cooperation and a marked tendency to expand their efforts for the benefit of steady improvements in our technical, economic and social programs.

Some of the major achievements have been:

- The Convention for the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture was approved.
- Basic Agreements were approved with the Government of Costa Rica and Grenada, on privileges and immunities for the Institute and its personnel.
- Article 10 of the CATIE Contract was amended. The Permanent Committee approved the corresponding report for submission to the Board of Directors.

  The Eighteenth Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors was held in La Paz, Bolivia. At that time, over twenty resolutions were approved (as listed in the Introduction to this Report).
- The Director General was authorized up to fifty thousand dollars to provide the Government of Nicaragua with technical cooperation during

its current emergency situation, for restoring rural development in the country. He has also allocated up to forty thousand dollars for assisting the Government of the Dominican Republic to rehabilitate agricultural production affected by Hurricance David.

- A resolution was approved authorizing the Director General to consult with the Member States on recruiting and appointing a representative for each of IICA's operative zones. This representative would participate personally in the Working Groups established by recommendation of the Seventh Inter-American Conference on Agriculture. The task of these groups is to study and analyze the viability of establishing a specific line of financing for undertaking projects to solve problems of poverty, low productivity and low levels of income and consumption among the campesino populations.
- The Director General was authorized to draw on a maximum of two million dollars from an open line of credit for IICA with the American Security and Trust Company.
- A working Group was designated by the Special Committee and made up of representatives from Brazil, Canada, Chile (Chair), United States, Mexico, and Venezuela. This group conducted a study of the draft project on "General Operative Norms for IICA's General Directorate."
- Contact was made with the Embassies of Austria, Egypt, Switzerland and Germany on appointing Permanent Observers to IICA from these countries.
- The First Meeting of Directors of Plant Protection was held to discuss general guidelines for the Plant Protection Program recently introduced by IICA.

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- IICA participated in the Fourteenth Annual Meeting of CIES, 1979.
- The Seventh Meeting of the Joint OAS/IICA Coordinating Committee was held.
- IICA participated in the OAS/IDB/ISRAEL/IICA Working Group and the Special Program on Training for Integrated Rural Planning.
- IICA participated in the CEPCIES Meetings (Haiti, Panama, El Salvador).
- Contacts were made with the Regional Program for Scientific and Technological Development (PROCYT) on the OAS Sectoral Energy Program.
- Relations with the IDB included the Departments of Operations, the Department of Socio-Economic Development, the Department of Project Analysis,and the Department of Plans and Programs. Cooperation was also provided in negotiating and processing support for the activities of the Cooperative Research Program for the countries of the Southern Cone.
- Relations were sustained with the World Bank on the following projects: Agricultural and Rural Development Projects for Central America and Panama; negotiating the implementation of the EMBRAPA-Brazil and Honduras projects; and participating in the Second Meeting of Cooperation for Development in the Caribbean.
- Relations were sustained with the Agency for International Development (AID) on: sponsoring the Project for "Communications for Women Involved in Production and Marketing"; promoting negotiations for an agreement under which IICA would act as the implementing agency for contributing to the development of communication methods for training women to increase their efficiency in agricultural production and marketing; negotiating and processing the completion of projects on Sectoral

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Planning and Agricultural Policy Analysis (PROPLAN), Agricultural Project Management, the Agricultural Credit Insurance Project, the Institutional Support Project, and the Agricultural Credit Project; cooperating with specific IICA programs (remote sensing); negotiating the acquisition of resources for the "Internal Management Project"; supporting activities recommended by the Seventh Inter-American Conference on Agriculture and the work in agro-energy, the new unit for Rural Development, and a Statistical Center for Technical Training and Assistance.

- Relations with universities were increased, especially with Cornell, Iowa State, Michigan State and Wisconsin, for identifying new opportunities for cooperation and the use of communications media and for specific projects on scientific and technical progress; participating in the Meeting of Administrators of "Land Grant Colleges and State Universities" of the United States.
- Foundations. Relations have been continued, especially with the Rockefeller Foundation, Ford Foundation, Kellogg Foundation and Inter-American Foundation.
- Contact was made with the Permanent Observer Mission of Canada to finalize negotiations on the progress of activities specified in recommendations of the Board of Directors and Recommendation I of the Seventh Inter-American Conference on Agriculture.
- In cooperation with other institutions, contact was established on information exchange with IFPRI, FAO and ECLA in the fields of agro-energy, in support of Recommendations I and 2 of the Seventh Inter-American Conference on Agriculture. Mechanisms and specific

Planning and Organization [illegible] analysis (PROPLAN), educational [illegible] the [illegible] Assessment Project, the [illegible] Project, [illegible] educational [illegible] for [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]; [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

areas of increased cooperation between IICA and UNDP were identified. IICA participated in the 82nd Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Pan American Health Organization and in the 31st Meeting of the Directors' Council of the Regional Committee for the Americas of the World Health Organization. The PAHO meeting dealt with the Pan American Center for Hoof and Mouth Disease. Relations were increased with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), especially in cooperation on specific projects for agricultural project management, remote sensing, animal health, plant protection, agricultural credit insurance, areas for information exchange, and the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD). More active work was done with the Inter-American Commission on Women (ICW).

- Extra-continental countries. Contact was increased with present and potential IICA Observer countries.

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CHAPTER III

PARTICIPATORY TECHNICAL COOPERATION

In this chapter, we will discuss the type of technical cooperation that will have to exist in this new decade among the international development organizations and their member countries, and among the countries themselves. At the same time, we will give general information on IICA's primary achievements in this field.

This "participatory" form of technical cooperation essentially changes the traditional concept of technical assistance, replacing it with a system that combines international support efforts with the technical abilities developed and in operation in the countries of the Americas. This provides the very raison d'etre for the type of reciprocal technical cooperation capable of intensifying cooperation and support among countries with varying levels of development.

Practically all the institutional efforts of a public service organization such as IICA can be considered "reciprocal technical cooperation."

Below is a listing of some of IICA's major achievements during this period, as an illustration of this type of technical cooperation. It provides a clearer idea of the type of participatory technical cooperation for the development of the rural sector that IICA is increasingly emphasizing.

Achievements in the Zones

- Barbados has a Project for the conservation and management of land and water resources for integrated rural development (Antillean Zone). In

this project, national officials and specialists visited experimental zones and other similar activities in such countries as Brazil, Colombia and Costa Rica. Through their contacts with experts from EMBRAPA, CIAT, and CATIE, they acquired information on cassava production and industrialization systems. At the same time, the functions of a land and water use unit were developed, as well as an information system on the conservation and management of soil and water resources.

- Agricultural officials and specialists from Colombia (Andean Zone) have been sent to other countries for training purposes, and representatives have been received from abroad. The participating countries were: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Uruguay,and Venezuela. The participants in this project were made aware of a highly varied cooperative environment that includes such efforts as in-service training on marketing for Argentine officials, visits by three Venezuelan professionals to analyze methods being used in Colombia at the "Agustin Codazzi" Geographic Institute for farm appraisal, and observations of the soy production process in the country. Thirty-four specialists from these countries have visited Colombia for training purposes, and numerous Colombian specialists have visited the other countries to provide consultation and give courses or seminars.
- Three specialists from Ecuador visited the Yurimaguas zone of Peru to receive in-service training on production systems for use in the humid tropics. Others went to Brazil to participate in the Inter-American Educational Management Conference, and four more traveled

to Colombia for training in project management and mathods of technology transfer for small-scale farmers.

- A total of 21 professionals from nine countries went to Mexico (Northern Zone) for observation visits or training programs in the following fields: campesino marketing and organization; campesino training; and coffee cultivation. At the same time, Mexican officials attended training courses and made observation visits in a number of countries of the region, dealing with the fields of animal production improvement, agricultural credit, marketing, planning, and production systems.
- In the countries of the Southern Zone, significant progress has been made with the Regional Cooperative Programs. In addition, 32 specialists received training in various zones of their own countries or traveled to eight neighboring countries (Mexico, Costa Rica, Honduras, Paraguay, Peru, Colombia, Panama and Guatemala) on observation visits or for training in such areas as community enterprises, plant protection, irrigation, associative forms of production, microbiology, etc.
- Nine specialists from Paraguay received various forms of training in reciprocal technical cooperation programs involving national institutions from Brazil and Chile.
- In the case of Uruguay, nine national specialists traveled around the region for reciprocal technical cooperation activities, and nineteen foreign professionals from five different countries visited Uruguay to provide consultation or receive training. The major fields of action were related to sheep production, entomology, beef cattle, pasturage, and livestock crossbreeding.

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION, DOCUMENTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Information, documentation and communication are the most important tools the agricultural sector has at its disposal for implementing national policies on agricultural research, education, marketing, planning and organization.

Nevertheless, many problems must be overcome in this field if the tool is to be wielded skillfully and productively in the pursuit of the objectives sustained by a development institution such as ours. The most important goal in this area is to make the best possible use of the available information gleaned from the enormous volumes that are currently being produced in the world and on our Continent.

In practice, a number of obstacles are hampering the proper use of information and must be overcome. These include the shortage of duly trained personnel; underdeveloped technology in the institutional context of our countries; a shortage of effective media; a certain misunderstanding of the relative importance of information for the dynamics of development; growing volumes of unprocessed material; indiscriminate spurts in the cost of materials used for producing written, audiovisual, and verbal information; and a lack of the policies and technical elements that would make it possible to select the most relevant material within the context of overall production in the Americas.

A total of some 80,000 technical or informative papers are produced every year in the Americas. Of this material, IICA's AGRINTER system has

processed some 20,000 documents per year, recovering,analyzing, and including them in the Indice Agrícola de América Latina y el Caribe (Agricultural Index for Latin America and the Caribbean).

This means that, even if we assume that fifty percent of the production in the area is not relevant, fully fifty percent of the remaining relevant material is still unavailable, or is known only in relatively small circles on the national level.

This is why IICA has made special efforts to fulfill the Recommendations issued by the Seventh Inter-American Conference on Agriculture, the specific Resolutions of its own Board of Directors, and the results of evaluations of Line 1, "Information and Documentation for Rural Development." IICA has taken a series of steps and measures to help countries develop the ability to improve agricultural information systems and increase services to the users of this information.

Beginning in 1980, IICA will concentrate on several specific areas, such as technical editing in CIDIA, in order to make better use of available infrastructure.

The Inter-American Agricultural Documentation, Information, and Communication Center (CIDIA)

CIDIA has undergone several changes. As of 1978, it was renamed with the title shown above.

The general objective of the Center is to reinforce national systems of agricultural documentation, information and communication, and to create the conditions needed for integrating national efforts into the Inter-American Agricultural Information System, AGRINTER.

CIDIA's new structure has improved the coordination of the Center's orientation and management and has increased the efficiency of IICA's technical activities in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, with the participation of national offices.

CIDIA is currently running four projects: 1) designing and implementing agricultural information; 2) transferring information and services to users; 3) the Agricultural Information Project for the Central American Isthmus, PIADIC; and 4) information processing and analysis.

CIDIA works through the countries of the Continent to promote two basic types of projects: 1) mini-projects and 2) integrated or information system projects.

The objectives and implementation of the mini-projects have received attention from IDRC (Canada), which supports the idea behind the projects and is contributing to their implementation.

The mini-projects are closely related to the most critical information and documentation problems in the countries. From July 1978 to the present, thirteen countries of Latin America and the Caribbean have prepared such projects, five of which have already been approved by financing agencies. In addition, ten countries have now implemented integrated projects.

CIDIA provides six types of services: 1) Agricultural Information Services, with a current volume of 70,000 references in the data bank; 2) Specialized Documentation and Library Services, with approximately 110,000 volumes of books and 3,500 periodical titles; 3) Publications, including the Indice Agrícola de América Latina y el Caribe, Desarrollo del Trópico Americano (Development of the American Tropics), a quarterly bulletin, and the alert services; 4) Cooperation and Consultation for the Development

and Implementation of National Information Systems, which includes another of CIDIA's important activities: organizing information centers and processing available information; and 5) Training Human Resources, especially through the International Course on Data Banks and Informational Technology, and the AGRINTER Round table, with the participation of all the countries.

The Agricultural Information Project for the Central American Isthmus (PIADIC)

PIADIC is a joint effort between IICA, the countries of the region, including Panama, and AID's Regional Office for Central America and Panama (ROCAP).

Stage One efforts (begun in 1975) concentrated on consulting, promoting, and establishing contacts with the governments of the countries and the major organizations involved in decision-making for the agricultural sector. In each country, a National Coordinating Committee was set up, and a regional level committee was established as a coordinating mechanism.

At the present stage, work has been done on designing the Agricultural Information System in each country. Training work has begun with human resources in charge of setting up national systems and implementing certain specific projects. To date, over three hundred national specialists have been trained through seminars, short courses, and in-service training.

IICA has recently decided to institutionalize PIADIC by incorporating it into CIDIA as a permanent Regional Project, as recommended by the Seventh Inter-American Conference on Agriculture and the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors in 1978, concerning the reinforcement of rural information systems in the member countries.

Public Information

The tasks of information, which take place on all levels and in many different forms, must respond to the needs of the environment in which the institutional efforts are being made. They must systematically act as a channel through which we transmit useful konwledge for the implementation of the policies, objectives and strategies of the Institute. Therefore, public information programs must adhere to the limits defined by the political, technical, cultural, and numerical nature of the audience for which they are prepared, as well as to the goals and objectives projected for the institution.

IICA has a well-structured Public Information program that, up to the present time, has responded to the interests of the institution by providing reliable, timely, and accurate information to technical, official, and general recipients.

Nevertheless, for the new phase of institutional work that will begin in 1980, certain innovative measures are in the planning for increasing the responsibilities of the Public Information Program. Particular emphasis will be placed on displaying the results of IICA's work and on factors related to the restructuring of the departments involved in this area, as well as substantial increases in the production of audiovisual materials.

General Achievements in Information:

For the period covered by this report, we can mention the following very general achievements in the field of information for development:

- We have made substantial increases in the production of Educational Books and Materials, with a publication total of over eleven books

in 1979 alone, as well as a high volume of general educational materials. Our six-year agreement with the Kellogg Foundation, which provided funds for IICA's Publication Program, ended in October, 1979, thus bringing its fruitful efforts to a close. At the present time, a broad-scale project is being prepared in this field, with the use of a loan requested from one of the development financing agencies, approved by the Board of Directors in Resolution RAJD/Res.92(18/79).

- We have updated and expanded coverage of the scientific journals Desarrollo Rural en las Américas and Turrialba.
- We have considerably expanded the distribution of our quarterly bulletin, IICA in the Americas, and in 1978, the new English edition was added.
- Substantial increases have been made in the production of publications in the Official Series, thus expanding the information available to technical readers in the member countries. Up to the present time, these Official Series have produced over 200 titles each. The Institutional Development Series is achieving significant production increases, and three new titles appeared during the period covered by this report.
- Solid, effective ties have been established with international organizations such as IDB, the World Bank, FAO, the OAS, CIMPEC, etc.
- In the area of the logistics of information efforts, the publications distribution system has been restructured.

Examples of Achievements by Zones

- Projects have been conducted to support improvements of the national agricultural information and documentation systems in Jamaica, the

Dominican Republic, and Trinidad-Tobago (Antillean Zone).

- Information units have been developed in the member organizations of SININCA in Colombia (Andean Zone) for compiling and defining information according to area and speciality. Particular emphasis has been placed on coffee, forestry, natural resources, ecology, agribusiness, rural development , botany, soils, and remote sensing. Still to be covered are management, legislation, aquatic sciences and fishing, agricultural education, agricultural statistics, economics, and rural sociology, all of which are currently in preparation.
- The AGRINTER Round Table was held in Peru.
- The Agricultural Information Project (PIADIC, in the Northern Zone) was maintained.
- Work continued in Argentina (Southern Zone) in support of institutionalizing the Agricultural Information System (SNICA).
- Support has been given to the national information and library system in Brazil, with the help of EMBRAPA.
- In Chile, work has continued in cooperation with the various organizations of the National Agricultural and Forest Information subsystem, in support of the CONICYT training programs. A course was given, with teaching support from CIDIA, on "Managing the Data Base". In addition, IICA cooperated with the National Agricultural Research Institute on updating and completing lists for the Chilean agricultural bibliography, and editing Volume II. Training courses were given for specialists.
- Training in library science was given in Paraguay, and a project was designed for creating the National Agricultural Library (BINA).
- In Uruguay, a National Agricultural and Forest Information Subsystem

was created by government decree, and the country participated in the AGRINTER Round Table.

- Major CIDIA bibliographies have been prepared, including the study of remote sensing, a pioneer effort in this field in Latin America.

CHAPTER V

IICA AND AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

IICA's Line II, Education for Rural Development, underwent several modifications during the Seventies. With these changes, the conceptual approach of the work and the operational organization of the two basic programs -Educational Planning, and Implementation of Educational Policies- clearly define the sphere of action through which IICA must help the Member States organize their educational systems to work as a function of national goals for rural development.

The first of these two programs is specifically geared to assisting governments with planning rural educational services in general, and in particular, with providing services oriented toward preparing human resources to contribute to all the dimensions of this process.

From this point of view, the Indicative Plan placed special emphasis on intermediate institutional goals for organizing the mechanisms needed to carry out planning. This process would integrate: the demands, in terms of techniques and contents, derived from the rural development process itself; the specialized approaches used at each existing educational level; and the various educational patterns that make up the overall subsystem.

The second program established the goal of organizing specific support projects for the various levels and systems of education, making it possible to guarantee that the programs and products be incorporated into the overall educational picture on all levels of the rural labor market.

In line with the approach used for this second program, Line II allows

for the possibility of continuing to provide assistance to higher education (professional and post-graduate). The possibility also exists for working in secondary education, technical education, campesino training, and other specific forms of training, and of recycling members of the public and private sector involved in developing this field.

Relevant Actions in the Region

In at least two countries, IICA's new approach to education has been an influential factor in preliminary governmental efforts to systematize the work of planning complete educational subsystems.

In the case of Ecuador, for example, a higher educational planning network has been established, under which the various agricultural schools have developed compatible and complementary planning systems for their physical, scientific, and academic progress.

In general, a vigorous process of reviewing and completing professional profiles for the sector on this level has begun.

Interesting changes have also been taking place in the work of the second Line of Action program. Besides the example of Costa Rica, in which work has been done on revising and completing professional profiles for the sector, assistance has been given to the Government of Paraguay for developing a strong program of intermediate-level technical education. By combining its needs with other efforts of the institutional system in the sector, the project acquired outside financing for guaranteeing the orderly, functional expansion of the subsystem, together with productive projects in the regional and rural spheres. It provides for the training and upgrading of critical human resources for educational development and the progressive technification of agricultural production in the country.

Special impetus has also been given to adult education efforts in rural areas and to campesino training.

With support from the Regional Program for Educational Development of the General Secretariat of the OAS (PREDE/OAS), the first steps were taken this year toward organizing an Inter-American Information and Documentation Center on Adult Education in Rural Areas. It is expected to go into full operation during 1980.

A cooperative project with UNESCO's Department of Adult Education is also in the planning stage.

Finally, it should be mentioned that ambitious efforts have begun in two of the member countries for developing and implementing Integrated Rural Education Projects. In Brazil, work is being done to organize such projects.

In the light of progress achieved so far, it is particularly important, at the beginning of this new decade, to conduct a complete examination of the impact these new forms of educational action have had, in order to consolidate properly the changes that have come about in the orientation of this Line of Action for Education within the context of the Medium-Term Indicative Plan.

IICA Actions in the Zones

In summary, IICA has done the following work:

- A project is underway in Haiti for introducing an integrated rural education system (CEIDER), with the support of the IDB.
- In cooperation with the Colombian Ministry of Agriculture (Andean Zone), courses were given on anal price and market information and

preparing and evaluating rural credit programs. The Colombian National Agricultural Training Program (PNCA) cooperated with IICA to provide eighteen training courses attended by 332 specialists, including foreigners. This was considered major progress in the work of the Program.

- By the end of 1979, IICA had trained 666 participants involved in 31 activities.
- In Peru, final work was completed for "Supporting the Reform of Educational Services in Rural Areas", sponsored by the Ministry of Education. The major effort has been to further the rural development program of the La Molina National Agrarian University and the San Antonio Abad University in Cuzco.
- Significant progress has been made on the study of Agricultural Education in Costa Rica in the area of seconday education. This was clear in the final diagnosis of the 52 secondary-level Agricultural Schools in Costa Rica (Northern Zone). On the basis of this accomplishment, a project is currently being developed on Integral Farm Planning for the secondary Agricultural Schools. It examines ways in which the schools can be used rationally and discusses revisions of related academic programs. Work has continued with the universities and the Ministry of Public Education on a coordinated study for the organization and planning of agriculture in the country.
- Efforts in Chile (Southern Zone) continued toward upgrading Secondary Curricula, and ongoing training was offered for secondary teachers. Cooperation was provided for setting up the High Council for Agricultural and Forest Sciences, as a part of the Council of University

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Presidents, which will also assume the Permanent Program for Graduates and the advisory services for planning and developing educational programs for rural development.

- In Paraguay, the advisory project for agricultural educational organizations centered its work in the area of teaching agricultural methods. It is expected that an agreement will be signed between IICA and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, with financing from the IDB.
- In Uruguay, a program on improving teaching methods in various areas was implemented for the direct benefit of over thirty professors from the University's School of Agronomy.

CHAPTER VI

IICA AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

The growth of agricultural production in the countries of the Continent, with the exception of the United States and Canada, maintained an average annual rate of 3.4 percent, contributing little to the 5.8 percent overall economic growth rate. The most important restrictions on this agricultural growth are of a physical, technological, economic and institutional nature.

The modest production growth experienced during the past three decades is due for the most part (67 percent) to the expansion of the agricultural frontiers, which added new lands for cultivation, and to a lesser degree (only 33 percent) to the introduction of improvements in productivity.

Nevertheless, in most of the countries on the Continent, with the exception of those that have territory in the Amazon valley, the possibilities of substantially increasing the amount of cultivated lands are very limited. Furthermore, in the case of the humid tropics ecosystem, increases in agricultural areas can only take place following careful research, in order not to cause serious and irreversible damage.

Another possibility exists for expanding the agricultural frontier. It lies in increasing areas available for cultivation through irrigation. Presently, fourteen million such hectares exist, and the figure could conceivably be increased to fifty million, which is the potential total area for this type of cultivation system. Nevertheless, it should be noted that this would require significant investments.

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The current challenge facing the countries is to increase agricultural productivity, particularly in food crops, in order to meet the needs of the ever-growing population and to produce enough surplus for export.

As a consequence of the increasingly acute food shortage, all the countries have been moving strongly toward assigning high-priority positions in their economic and social development policies to agricultural production, especially food production.

In making these decisions, the countries face what we can call the "common problems" of research and technology transfer, which are connected with the following factors: unclear definition of approaches and strategies; weak coordination with sectoral development plans; problems of administrative organization and management; poor policies on human resources, especially in terms of training and of permanent scientific research teams; and severe deficiencies in efforts to coordinate research organizations with mechanisms for disseminating and adopting technology, which in turn is reflected in deficiencies in credit, marketing, input supply and other services.

Taking these points into consideration, it is necessary to identify, characterize and analyze production systems at the unit or enterprise level, pinpoint their real problems and adopt or generate technology appropriate to the needs, levels and possibilities of the farmer.

Aside from their basic approaches and guidelines, organizations dealing with research and technology transfer should constantly seek to adjust their actions to national policy and objective guidelines for production, productivity, generation of employment and better living conditions for the rural population, focusing especially on the low-income sectors.

This overall type of approach requires systematic, realistic and ongoing action. It will be necessary to have innovative institutions for

research and technology transfer, highly sensitive and capable of confronting the real problems that have a negative effect on productivity, income and the farmers' wellbeing.

Development Programs Currently Underway

In accordance with IICA's projected concepts of development and its operational approaches, Line of Action III, Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer, includes two basic programs. The first is directly related to upgrading national systems in the area of rural development. The goal of the second is to influence the coordination of research and technology transfer efforts in all the member countries.

Briefly, the programs of this Line of Action seek the mutual reinforcement of institutions, as well as the search for and operation of joint and integrated programs. This should include participative funding mechanisms and the coordination, operation and dissemination of output. High priority should be given to acquiring external funding to reinforce multinational action and upgrade the system's research and transfer network.

Below is a listing of several selected activities included in these programs. Because of their various characteristics, they constitute clear examples of the doctrine, theory, and program projection that IICA applies to the development of technical cooperation activities in the area of agricultural research and technology transfer in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean:

- Relations have been established through an agreement with the Caribbean Food Crops Society, which brings together agricultural researchers from seventeen Caribbean countries and territories (Antillean Zone).

- IICA's greatest Line III effort has been the project for upgrading the agricultural technology generation and transfer system in the Dominican Republic.
- In Bolivia (Andean Zone), support has continued for the Andean crop stations at Belen and Patacamaya, and a Germplasm Bank was created. Advisory services were provided for the Quinoa Agro-industrial Project, executed by IBTA with the support of FAO, and Bolivia participated in the IICA/IDB Research Agreement for the Southern Cone.
- The new CENICAÑA (National Sugar Cane Research Center) was consolidated in Colombia. An agreement was signed with ICA, the Colombian Agricultural Institute, for providing consultation on research planning and agricultural extension.
- In Peru,the National Agricultural Research Institute has received assistance, especially in formulating the project on its organization and performance.
- In Venezuela, an agricultural research planning system was designed and formulated.
- In Costa Rica (Northern Zone), cooperation was provided in preparing the following programs: a) National Research and Technology Transfer Program, prepared by OPSA; b) research, training and final designs for the Irrigation Program at the Enrique Jiménez Núñez Experimental Station through a contract signed between the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, the National Electricity Service (SNE) and IICA, to be financed by the IDB.
- In Guatemala, work has been done on the institutional reinforcement of ICTA and DIGESA, organizations responsible for the generation and transfer of technology on the national level.

- In Argentina (Southern Zone), action has continued on methods for determining appropriate systems for the Pampas region and for analyzing the factors that condition the adoption of technology.
- Under the current agreement, Brazil's EMBRAPA has received support, cooperation and advisory services, and support has continued to CEPLAC. Specific EMBRAPA activities include research into cassava, cotton, beans, sorghum, rice, rubber, beef and dairy cattle, etc.

CHAPTER VII

IICA AND THE PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

The area of promoting production and productivity under Line of Action IV: Agricultural Production, Productivity and Marketing, should be analyzed in accordance with its three essential purposes: 1) human and animal nutrition; 2) industrial raw materials; and 3) acquiring foreign exchange for outside markets.

In the first case, the governments of the member countries must guarantee their people sufficient nutritional products, in accordance with their life-styles and nutritional needs.

The problem in the second area is the industrial transformation of agricultural products, thus generating more employment, and in this area there is a need for steady production flows, in both quantitative and qualitative terms.

In the third case, we must guarantee the continuity and timeliness of production for foreign markets.

All these elements must, in turn, fit in with the need to create special conditions for the development of agricultural enterprises or units for small -and medium- scale producers, the major targets of IICA actions.

This is why IICA's Line IV, Program I activities seek to satisfy objectives aimed at the systems and organizations that promote production, equipping them to:

- Function on the basis of policies consistent with national development plans, with the actual status of their clientele, and with the

effect. This is due to the lack of farmer organization and the shortage, or at times total absence, of marketing systems. It is therefore important to increase the efficiency of the organizations responsible for product and input marketing and to assure the timely supply of foodstuffs to the consumer, in terms of volume, quality, and appropriate prices. At the same time, more emphasis should be placed on efforts to reduce or eliminate post-harvest losses, responsible for a high rate of loss which has reached alarming levels, specially in the areas of basic grains and perishable products.

Both marketing needs and the reduction of post-harvest losses suggest the adoption of efforts on the part of IICA and the institutions we support, to deal with the factors of policy, infrastructure, technology and methodology, full training of human resources, and overall raising of social awareness about the nature and possible solutions of the problem.

Therefore, the goals of IICA's marketing program are to anable the organizations of the institutional marketing system to:

- Establish an effective market information system that not only facilitates decision-making and the establishment of marketing policies by sectoral authorities, but also is easy for small-scale farmers to interpret and use.
- Cooperate with other organizations in the institutional system dealing with the needs of the agricultural sector, in order to use economic incentives for facilitating organizational efforts by small-scale farmers and campesinos for marketing their own products.
- Provide the services needed for expanding or improving marketing and rural agribusiness infrastructure, in the benefit of small-scale farmers.

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- Give all farmers equal market access opportunities, whether through market regulatory standards or mechanisms, or by promoting discriminatory marketing systems giving small-scale farmers clear access to agricultural product markets under conditions of equality.
- Make the structural changes in traditional markets that are needed for giving equal access to foreign and domestic markets for all agricultural products grown by small-scale farmers.

Program and Project Activities in the Countries

Projects in this important area have led to valuable and significant progress in all the countries of the region. Below is a brief outline of several of them:

- Jamaica (Antillean Zone) is the site of one of the most interesting activities under this Line of Action -the Allsides zone project on hillside farming. The project is in its third year, having been initiated in 1977, and it has been highly influential in the development of other, similar projects in the country. One example is Pindar/Two Meetings, financed with US$ 26 million from AID. Another project, the Norwegian/UNDP Project, was financed by Norway for two million dollars. A pilot project on hillsides farming (GOJ/IDB/IICA) will be launched in 1980, with two million dollars in financing from the IDB. We feel that the major value of IICA's project in the country has been its catalytic effect, for it has helped sustain and provide support for the production of foodstuffs and for the conservation of soil in the hillside zones.
- The Integrated Rural Service Centers (CENSERI's) have been created in the Dominican Republic as a result of recommendations made by the

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Programmes and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] is this important [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Integrated Marketing Project, which was executed by IICA and the Secretary of State for Agriculture. The CENSERI is a rural storage project for small-scale farmers working in associative groups, and it is oriented toward three major areas: storing agricultural products; input distribution; and food distribution.

- Under one of the projects financed by the Simon Bolivar Fund, work has continued on projects for the production, research and marketing of quinoa and tarhui in Peru (Andean Zone).
- With assistance from the Agricultural Sector Planning Office, OPSA, in Costa Rica (Northern Zone), guidelines were established for restructuring the marketing subsystem in the country. This will make it possible to implement marketing policies through problem area programs such as price stabilization, input storage, and marketing for small-scale farmers.
- The primary focus in Argentina (Southern Zone) has been in the area of coordination and participation in market and marketing studies, as well as in coordinating and preparing methods for farm planning. Projects have been designed for the institutions involved in fruit and vegetable product marketing, and cooperation was provided for INTA in marketing methods for the National Agricultural Input and Product Supply Plan.
- In Brazil, two programs are underway, containing four important projects and a total of 31 activities. The program for promoting production has focused primarily on supporting the implementation of the Brazilian Technical Assistance and Rural Extension System (SIBRATER) and developing methods for identifying managerial models for low-income farmers.

CHAPTER VIII

IICA AND REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The primary goal of IICA's Line of Action V, "Regional Rural Development," is to promote and support national-level regional rural development efforts and to contribute to upgrading technical methods and criteria for the identification, selection, and development of geographic areas. This work is done through two basic programs: regional development planning and regional rural development policy implementation.

Our strategies for implementing the first of these two important programs, in line with the mandate issued by the Board of Directors at its Eighteenth Annual Meeting (La Paz, Bolivia, May, 1979), are:

- Working at the appropriate levels of authority to promote institutional policies for regional development, in order to reach the decisions necessary for assigning leadership and managerial functions to existing organizations, or to institutions created specifically for this purpose.
- Working together with technical groups from the organizations in question to develop central policy guidelines for regional development.
- Providing the organizations with the elements they need to select, from among existing methods, the most appropriate techniques for designing a regionalization system; or alternatively, for developing new methods geared to their own circumstances.
- Cooperating with these organizations to develop institutional

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models compatible with the existing institutional system, and supporting the organizations in testing and evaluating these models.

- Providing the organizations with models for planning, administration and evaluation, or helping them design their own.
- Cooperating in the definition of operational goals for training programs, and helping the organizations train their teachers.
- Working together with the organizations to design appropriate managerial systems for the various types of regional development projects, before actual implementation begins.
- Cooperating with organizations involved, to establish effective ties with national and international organizations capable of helping develop this type of project.
- Cooperating with the country in conducting pre-investment studies on fundable projects.

Strategies for the second program are:

- Working together with technical teams from the organizations involved in programs to help them develop and adopt criteria on which to set priorities from among the various available alternatives for action.
- Cooperating with these organizations to develop methods for obtaining and analyzing the information needed for orienting their work, using methods developed and proven in other countries or regions, whenever appropriate.
- Developing the technical competence of each organization or group of organizations, in the areas of overall planning and, in particular, planning for the design and implementation of specific projects.
- Cooperating with the organizations in analyzing and improving managerial and administrative systems.

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[illegible] evaluation these models.

- Providing [illegible] for planning, administration and evaluation [illegible] training data [illegible] type their own.
- Cooperating in [illegible] models for training [illegible] and [illegible] teachers.
- Working [illegible] appropriate management [illegible] development projects, [illegible] training.
- [illegible] to mobilize effective [illegible] [illegible] of defining [illegible]
- [illegible] strategies [illegible] attempt [illegible] [illegible] strategies.
- Working [illegible] the organizations involved in programs to build their [illegible] priorities from among the various available alternatives for [illegible]
- Cooperating with [illegible] institutions [illegible] for the [illegible] institutions [illegible] work, [illegible] in [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

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- Proposing methods to establish or upgrade the necessary functional ties between the organizations involved on the project level, both at the planning stage and in implementation.
- Providing organizations with approved models of mechanisms for assuring the participation of beneficiaries, and cooperating with them to help them adopt or develop the models most appropiate to their needs.
- Finally, taking the types of action most suited to the goals of each case and each set of circumstances.

Program Actions in the Region

IICA's Line V, Regional Rural Development, was active in all the member countries of IICA, and results have been highly satisfactory. The examples given by Zone below illustrate the nature and impact of the projects, rather than giving an idea of quantitative scope.

- In the Antillean Zone, two particularly important projects have made progress. The Development Islets and ODVA (IDB) Projects are underway in Haiti, and the Natural Resources Management Project is progressing well in the Dominican Republic. The agricultural rehabilitation of the Artibonite Valley in Haiti has involved irrigation and drainage improvements on the land plots, dissemination of methods for improving production, loans to guarantee the use of new techniques, and a new inventory of land holdings. In the Dominican Republic, the Program for Implementing Regional Rural Development Policies includes a project for reinforcing the natural resources

management system in the agricultural sector. Thirteen important activities took place under this heading.

- Andean Zone activities included: Bolivia -the Challapata and Chimore projects; Ecuador -the implementation of two projects and eleven activities for planning and implementing rural development policies; Colombia -consolidating project management work; Peru -cooperating with ORDELORETO; and Venezuela -pursuing the task of formulating policies for planning and developing the National Technical Cooperation Plan.
- In Costa Rica (Northern Zone), the Integral Development of the Tempisque Basin achieved over fifty percent of its goals.
- In El Salvador, the areas for the Simon Bolivar Fund Project were defined (Integral Development of the Northern Zone).
- In Argentina (Southern Zone), progress was made in coordinating the activities of the Andresito Settlement Project and the project for using the border areas in Misiones Province. Considerable emphasis was also placed on irrigation.
- In Brazil, broad-scale progress was made on the two basic Line V Programs, especially in terms of helping CEPLAC draw up and implement the Development Program for the cacao-producing region of Bahía. Support was given to the National Agricultural Planning Committee for Rio Grande do Sul, in implementing the Integrated Investment Program for the Agricultural Sector. Support was also provided to CODEVASF for designing and implementing integrated regional development projects, and SUDENE received advisory assistance in executing the Cooperative Human Resources Training Program and the program providing technical assistance for irrigation farming.

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[illegible]ment system in the [illegible] sector. Thirteen important sectors [illegible]

[illegible] Policies [illegible] the Ministry one Cancer projects [illegible] implementation of two projects and eleven activities for planning and [illegible] rural development policies; [illegible] strengthening project management work; [illegible] cooperating [illegible] and Venezuela requesting [illegible] of formulating policies [illegible] and developing the National Technical Cooperation [illegible]

- In Costa Rica (Puerto Limón) the Integrated Development of the Tempisque [illegible] was over. Fifty percent of its goals [illegible]

- In Honduras the cross-[illegible] Rural Fund Project was [illegible] Integral Development of the Aguán Zone).

- In Jamaica (Southern [illegible]) [illegible] was in coordinating the activities of the Agricultural Settlement Planning and the project for using [illegible] in Mainland Jamaica. Considerable [illegible] [illegible] institutions.

- [illegible] project [illegible] on the [illegible] V [illegible] feasibility in terms of hospital [illegible] and important [illegible] Development [illegible] for the [illegible] Table. Support was given to the National Agricultural Planning Commission for [illegible] in [illegible] the integrated development program for [illegible] Integrated Support. Support was also [illegible] to CONICASE for [illegible] implementing integrated rural development projects, and USDRC received advisory assistance in assuming the Cooperative Women Development Training Program and the program of giving budgetary assistance for integrated training

- In Chile, the Regional Rural Development Project for the agricultural sector, begun in the Requinoa commune in the Sixth Region, was extened throughout the area under irrigation, and a sub-area was opened in the dry farming zone.
- In Uruguay, the IICA/Ministry of Agriculture and Fishing Agreement, financed by the Simon Bolivar Fund, continued developing the Agricultural Regional Development Project in the Northern area of the country. A Seminar on the Conservation and Management of Renewable Resources was given, and ninety participants attended. This was the first such seminar ever held on the national level, bringing together all the organizations and professionals involved in this field, to examine problems of immediate concern.

[illegible], the [illegible] Rural Development Project for the agricultural sector, begun in [illegible] covering in [illegible] fashion, was extended throughout the [illegible] area [illegible] and a sub area was opened in the dry Tarai [illegible].

[illegible] Ministry of Agriculture and Fishing Development, [illegible] facilities and [illegible] developing the agricultural [illegible] project in [illegible] hinterland area of the country. A [illegible] preservation and management [illegible] water resources [illegible] industry participation strategies. This was the first such [illegible] the national level [illegible] to examine all the [illegible] in this field, to examine [illegible] and [illegible].

CHAPTER IX

IICA AND STRUCTURAL CHANGE

Under Line of Action VI, "Structural Change and Campesino Organization", IICA encourages the adoption of measures for changing the agrarian structure and reinforcing campesino organizations, in order to promote an adequate distribution of resources, an increase in employment, and participation in the decisions and policies that affect landless campesinos, agricultural wage earners and the owners of small landholdings.

The two major programs included under this Line of Action, in order to achieve these goals, are: the Agrarian Reform Program and the Campesino Organization Program.

In the first, IICA's actions focus on the institutions responsible for defining and executing programs on agrarian reform. They seek to:

- Increase the priority of agrarian reform in development plans, by promoting and disseminating rational arguments to demonstrate the consistency of that process with the needs of rural development, based on ethical, economic and social considerations.
- Plan the participation process for the campesinos, particularly for the benefit of landless campesinos, agricultural wage earners and small-scale landowners.
- Effectuate the acquisition and allocation of lands on a significant scale and at a rate that is consonant with the country's rural development needs.
- Provide massive and participative training to beneficiaries of the

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The [illegible] In order to [illegible] those [illegible] Before [illegible] organizing [illegible]

[illegible] for [illegible]

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process, in technical, business, civic and cultural matters;and ensure that other institutions, specifically or generically responsible for this task, develop it adequately.

- Effectively organize and provide the services necessary for land allocation, or ensure that these services be provided adequately by the institutions generically responsible for them.
- Implement coordinated research and training programs on problems of the agrarian structure and the difficulties that emerge when it is transformed.

In the field of campesino organization, the primary objective of IICA's activities is to help all the countries of the region establish an institutional mechanism for coordination and execution. This involves planning the structure, describing and adopting legal standards that will assure the effective operation of campesino organizations and enterprises, and providing the training needed in the area of organization on all appropriate levels, including methods, techniques, and cultural factors.

IICA Actions in the Countries of the Region

The following aspects of the achievements in this area are given as examples of the type of work being done:

- In Guyana (Antillean Zone), the project on appropriate production models resulted in a wealth of basic information and generated a series of training actions for farmers and national government officials. In the Dominican Republic, the major activities were related to the inherent features of campesino organization.
- In Colombia (Andean Zone), the INCORA support project of consolidating campesino community enterprises was based on a diagnosis of the community enterprises in Cúcuta.

- In Peru, CENCIRA received direct assistance in formulating a project on training and management, with financial support from the IDB. Once this assistance had been completed, cooperation continued in such areas as training in enterprise management and the formulation and evaluation of projects.
- In Costa Rica (Northern Zone), IICA continued to cooperate with the Land and Settlement Institute (ITCO) on a broad set of activities for planning, training national officials, and coordinating ITCO activities with the work of the Program for Training and Studies on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development of the Central American Isthmus (PRACA). This program was also very active throughout Central America during this period.
- In Mexico, work is continuing in support of the organizations already active in selecting specific projects and improving the economic and organizational picture, especially in dealing with the country's problem of land parcels.
- In Argentina (Southern Zone), a number of meetings was held on organizing scale associative enterprises in the Posadas Zone.
- In Paraguay, the Military Settlement Office has been giving financial support since 1978 for the Project on Associative Enterprises for Armed Forces Conscripts. This has provided considerable incentive for field work in such fundamental areas as working with youth, developing an associative enterprise model, and introducing civilian enterprises made up of young people from rural zones under heavy population pressure.
- Special assistance was given the young members of the Agricultural Youth Movement in Uruguay. Once IICA's Plan of Action had been

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on tur[illegible] in
[illegible] ninina in [illegible] formulation
[illegible] ion of projects.

[illegible] (Northern Zone), ITA certain [illegible] the
[illegible] Settlement Institute (ITA) [illegible]
[illegible] voluntary, tripartite, national affiliate. [illegible] ITA
activities with [illegible] of the [illegible] studies
on Agrarian Re[illegible] Social [illegible] Central American
Isthmus (PCIS) [illegible] through [illegible]
Central Am[illegible]
In Mexico work i[illegible] organizations already
active in [illegible] economic and
rural clinical [illegible] in [illegible] activity's
problems of [illegible]
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- Special [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
Youth Mov[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

activated, it became possible to introduce a project for Cooperative Enterprises which was formalized through an Agreement between the Movement, the National Settlement Institute, and IICA, with financing from the Simon Bolivar Fund.

CHAPTER X

IICA AND AGRICULTURAL POLICY

According to the principal objective of Line of Action VII: Formulation and Administration of Agricultural Policy, IICA's responsibility in this field is to reinforce member countries' sectoral development planning and to increase the institutional system's effectiveness in implementing national agricultural policies and sectoral plans.

In order to achieve these goals, IICA promotes training for all personnel participating in the overall process of policy formulation and decision-making. IICA also emphasizes establishing mechanisms for international consultation and the exchange of experiences in order to technically and practically enrich policies in common areas of concern for regions and subregions.

Specifically, the principal objectives of the program are to:

- Support the design, institutionalization and operation of planning systems.
- Cooperate in preparing Sectoral Development Plans.
- Cooperate in preparing sectoral programs and projects.
- Support the preparation of plans for each of the sector entities.
- Cooperate in reinforcing the technical-administrative structure of the planning entities and ensure the availability of trained personnel and necessary financial resources.
- Finally, assist the countries to establish relations with leadership levels, in order to make their work plans consistent with political decisions, and to establish or reinforce relations with the recipients and the entities that implement development plans.

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[illegible] Objectives of Action with Formulation of Policies

[illegible] Bilateral responsibility in the field is [illegible] development planning and to increase the [illegible] equitable distribution in implementing national agricultural [illegible] and [illegible].

In order to adopt [illegible] to the [illegible] to all personnel involved [illegible] of policy formulation and decision making. [illegible] required as [illegible] national [illegible] [illegible] exact [illegible] flexibility and practically [illegible] policies in [illegible] for [illegible] and subregions.

Specifically, the principal objectives of the program are to [illegible] the design, [illegible] and [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible]

- Support [illegible] sector [illegible]
- Support [illegible] interest [illegible]
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- Concentrate in a [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] structure. [illegible] the planning [illegible] and [illegible] the availability of trained manpower and [illegible] financial resources.
- Finally, [illegible] the [illegible] establishing [illegible] of a [illegible] levels, in order to make [illegible] work plans consistent with political decisions, and to [illegible] or reinforce [illegible] with the [illegible] and the [illegible] that implement development [illegible].

Simultaneously, the Rural Development Management Program works to help adapt the entities and their administrative procedures to the needs of rural development.

Principal Actions in the Countries

- Rural and institutional analysis project in Barbados (Antillean Zone). Contacts with the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the CDB's acceptance of IICA's proposal for collaborating in project preparation and management. Final approval is expected in 1980.
- Reinforcement of the statistical capability of the Resource Development and Planning Division of the Ministry of Agriculture in Guyana, through staff training and the development of basic information, which will be used for creating a data base and the reporting system.
- Formulation and implementation of sectoral planning policies in the Dominican Republic, especially for establishing a method for studying the decision-making system, defining the pattern of state intervention in the agricultural sector, adjusting the agricultural planning model, preparing plans in this field, developing training courses, etc.
- Continue support to the technical units in Peru (Andean Zone). During this period, activities focused on methods and strategies for rural development in Ayacucho, Cuzco, Arequipa and Huánuco. During the second semester of 1979, the Institute collaborated with the National Planning Institute in formulating a training program for micro-regional development.

- In Venezuela (Andean Zone), the program achieved the goals projected for the period, notably in the training of human resources.
- In Costa Rica (Northern Zone), a broad program of technical cooperation was developed for establishing, consolidating and institutionalizing the Agricultural Sectoral Planning System, aimed at reinforcing the Agricultural Sectoral Planning Office, through an agreement financed with Simon Bolivar Fund resources.
- In Mexico, efforts were made to consolidate and develop an agricultural planning system for the State of Yucatan.
- In Argentina (Southern Zone), the study on the formulation and application of agricultural policy was completed. A document was prepared on the country's accomplishments in the areas of analysis, classification, and records of enterprises and production systems, which includes proposals for future action as part of the multinational project "Ongoing Analysis System for Agricultural Enterprises and Production Systems."
- In Brazil, the program for policy formulation and sectoral planning focused on three projects: to support the reinforcement of the national agricultural planning system; to support the Inter-American School for Public Administration, and to develop human resources for the agricultural public sector.
- In Uruguay, activities were carried out in relation to the national inventory on agricultural research projects and in multinational cooperation for analyzing agricultural enterprises.

CHAPTER XI

THE SIMON BOLIVAR FUND

The Simon Bolivar Fund is a technical instrument created by IICA's member countries to accelerate the rural development of Latin America and the Caribbean. It was created with voluntary and unconditional contributions from the member countries, especially Venezuela, whose contribution totaled 10 million dollars, payable over a five-year period.

The basic strategy used for achieving Fund goals is to upgrade institutional systems, or their various components, by identifying, preparing, managing and evaluating projects in the following areas of concentration:

- Increasing the production and productivity of basic foods and other agricultural products which contribute to the member countries' development, or to the solution of food or nutritional problems affecting their populations.
- Improving the marketing of agricultural inputs and products.
- Supporting overall or sectoral management and planning mechanisms in formulating and implementing rural development plans and policies.

IICA's efforts for achieving Fund objectives have concentrated in areas selected according to pre-determined high priority criteria.

Since the Fund began its activities in July, 1976, thirty-three projects have been established in twenty-one countries in the region. Of these, eight have been completed and twenty-five are underway.

In reference to the Fund's future action, it should be noted that originally, some projects were specifically intended to bring about increases

in production and productivity, and to improve marketing or other factors. However, the annual revision and updating process has redirected these projects toward final objectives more in line with rural development. This necessarily creates a demand for diagnostic studies, resource inventories and other basic studies. In some cases, it has been necessary to wait for decisions from the governments before project objectives could be readjusted.

One of the original goals of the Simon Bolivar Fund was to provide IICA with an important and effective tool for upgrading its own service structure, and at the same time, benefit the development of the member countries.

An analysis made at this time of the impact Simon Bolivar Fund projects have had on upgrading the Institute's rural development programs would clearly indicate that Fund goals are being fully met.

CHAPTER XII

SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

IICA's Special Programs have been carried out by express mandate of the member countries or through agreements, conventions and contracts which make it possible for the Institute to cooperate in specific fields of action according to the stated needs of the countries. A more complete understanding of the work accomplished by these programs can be acquired by reading the full report contained under the same chapter heading in the Annual Report of the General Directorate, prepared for the Board of Directors and the General Assembly of the Organization of American States.

That document contains a complete, if not exhaustive, account of the activities carried out or initiated during this report period or that will be continued in the future under the following Programs:

1. Programs of the Task Force on Rural Women, especially regarding research and analysis efforts into the problems rural women encounter in development, IICA's policies on the participation of women in its programs, and developing ideas for designing projects for the Institute.

2. Inter-American Program for Rural Youth, especially dealing with Regional Meetings, Self-managed Enterprises, the Conference on Rural Youth, publications, etc.

3. Task Force on Technology Generation, Transfer and Adaptation, particularly in matters referring to the Cooperative Research Project on Agricultural Technology in Latin America (PROTAAL), and the project for Analyzing Human Resources for Agricultural Research in Selected

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Countries in Latin America.

4. Cooperative Program for the Protection of Coffee Cultivation, involving Mexico, Central America and Panama.

5. Agricultural Credit Insurance Project, through an agreement signed between IICA and the Agency for International Development (AID).

6. Tropical Agriculture Research and Training Center (CATIE), focusing on developing research into Production Systems for the small-scale farmer.

7. Cooperative Program for Agricultural Research in the Southern Cone Countries, especially dealing with the factors of implementation.

8. Latin American and Caribbean Agricultural Planning and Policy Analysis Project, especially in terms of the work done on creating a conceptual frame of reference for the planning process, studies of planning systems and case studies on selected aspects of the planning process.

9. Program for the Development of the American Tropics (IICA-Tropics Program), especially referring to the significant progress made.

10. Training and Studies Program on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development in the Central American Isthmus (PRACA), especially dealing with its institutional expansion by incorporating the Dominican Republic into the program.

11. Agricultural Credit, primarily dealing with IICA's relationship with the Latin American Association of Development Funding Institutions (ALIDE), which includes the active membership of 135 development banks that operate in Latin America and the Caribbean.

12. Animal Health Program, especially regarding establishing a mechanism for coordinating efforts to deal with problems of pests and diseases affecting animals and causing significant economic loss.

13. Plant Protection Program, especially dealing with recommendations made at the Seventh Inter-American Conference on Agriculture as programmed by IICA's Board of Directors for their implementation.

Similarly, for a detailed account of the Special Events that occurred during this period, please turn to the corresponding section in the Annual Report. (Granting the Inter-American Agricultural Award, Celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Kellog Foundation and the Twenty-Third Meeting of the Council of Directors.)

CHAPTER XIII

FINANCIAL SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS

General Information

This information is presented for the 1978-79 fiscal period and the second semester of 1979, in accordance with the decision of the Board of Directors, which put the fiscal year onto a calendar year basis as of 1980.

As a result of efforts made to seek outside funding for increasing IICA's projects and activities without having to increase quota requirements of the member countries, extra-quota resources increased significantly. Including Simon Bolivar Fund resources of US$ 1,945,645 received during the 1974-75 fiscal year, extra-quota resources reached a total of US$ 7,104,220 for fiscal year 1978-79.

Of total resources received and expended during fiscal year 1974-75, quota resources represented 76.4%. while for fiscal year 1978-79, they represented 57.7% of the total, the Simon Bolivar Fund 10.6% and extra-quota resources 31.7% of the US$ 16,813,220 received during the period.

Second Semester 1979

Extra-quota resources continued to grow. Funding from quota resources represented only 54.6%, the Simon Bolivar Fund represented 9% and extra-quota resources amounted to 36.4% of the total US$ 10,826,149 received and expended during the six-month period.

General Resources - General Information

Total quota collections between July 1, 1978 and June 30, 1979, were slightly less than anticipated for the fiscal period. Although technically the report shows a collection figure of 84.2% of the budget approved for the

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period, this figure is misleading because two large quota payments amounting to approximately US$ 1,500,000 were in the process of being paid as of June 30, but were not registered officially until the first days of July. In effect, these payments registered before June 30 would have given a collection percentage of 99.2%. In spite of this excellent recovery, additional payments of substantial amounts anticipated were not received, and it is expected that these funds will be recovered during the 1980 fiscal year.

General Working Fund

As a result of the two large quota payments of approximately US$ 1,500,000 not registered by June 30, the General Working Fund's liquidity was low. With the receipt of these payments in the first days of July, liqquidity was reestablished. Nevertheless, the Fund is expected to be strengthened in 1980 with the payment of the two significant amounts mentioned which were not received as anticipated.

Quota Resources

The effect of the two quota payments registered in July instead of June is reflected in all the fundable statements. Outstanding quotas, shown as having doubled from the previous year, would have been reduced to approximately US$ 1,600,000 with the two late payments mentioned. Again, it is expected that this amount will be substantially reduced with the additional payments received.

Accounts Receivable

The amount outstanding showed an increase over last year because of the increased activity financed by extra-quota funds. These funds, received through contracts, agreements and grants, are received periodically and not always by June 30, the closing date of that fiscal year. However, they are not considered doubtful.

Inventories

Inventories showed only a slight increase over the previous year, relecting a normal increase in activity.

Accounts Payable and Revolving Funds

Accounts payable were affected also by the two quota payments registered in July, and the amount reflected in part the emergency use of other funds for year-end payments, pending deposit of approximately US$ 1,500,000 received during the first days of July. The balance in this account reflects a rather tight cash-flow situation at the year's end, which was immediately resolved upon the receipt of new funds.

Revolving funds reflected a decrease at the end of the year because of increased activity during the period.

Summary

The financial position is considered to be sound, and a substantial collection of payments due is expected to be recovered during 1980, which will considerably strengthen the liquidity of the General Working Fund, and thereby, the overall liquidity.

Second Semester 1979 - General Information

The collection of quotas for this period, which normally does not reflect much movement because of the difference between our prior fiscal year and that of the countries, was exceptionally good. During this period, as mentioned before, the two large quota payments were registered in July, and were therefore reflected in this second semester collection figure. At the same time, many member countries made exceptional efforts to cancel their quotas for this semester, and the total amount collected for the period reached 106.9% of the total approved budget.

General Working Fund

As expected, even with the change in fiscal year dates, the collection percentage was good. Substantial amounts expected and not received left Working Fund liquidity weak at the end of 1979. In this instance as well, it is expected that this situation will be remedied during 1980.

Quota Resources

The total amount of outstanding quotas was reduced considerably during this period, but the amount is still larger than is desirable. Strong efforts will be made during 1980 to remedy this situation.

Accounts and Contributions Receivable

This amount increased slightly, due to additional activities financed by extra-quota funds. These amounts are received periodically, and payment of these sums does not always coincide with our cut-off date. Payments are not considered to be doubtful, however.

Inventories

Inventories reflected a very slight reduction during the period.

Accounts Payable and Revolving Fund

Accounts payable reflected the emergency use of funds from an approved line of credit with IICA's bank, which was used to finance operations at the end of the period until additional quota payments were received.

Summary

The financial position is considered to be sound. As expected, the change in fiscal year dates, during which time the member countries were expected to pay quotas for the second semester of 1979 as well as the full quota due for 1980, left our cash position, or liquidity in the General Working Fund, weakened. It is expected that this situation will change during 1980, and that by the end of this transition period, the situation will have been normalized.

Simon Bolivar Fund - General Information

Between July 1, 1978 and June 30, 1979, voluntary contributions were received from the Governments of Chile, Ecuador, Honduras, Jamaica, Panama and Venezuela for a total of US$ 2,060,173. Authorized expenditures for this period were US$ 1,744,219.

General Working Fund

This fund was increased by only US$ 80,000 because the balance and liquidity of the Simon Bolivar Fund are considered to be sufficiently strong to assure a continuity of activities during periods when contributions are not received.

Summary

The Simon Bolivar Fund is considered to be financially sound, and that, together with a strong General Working Fund, activities in progress can continue to be financed safely during a reasonable time horizon.

Second Semester -1979- General Information

During this period, contributions were received from Costa Rica, Chile, Ecuador, Honduras, Panama and Venezuela in the amount of US$ 44,165. Authorized expenditures for this period, which considered accumulated and available funds, amounted to US$ 969,522.

General Working Fund

The increase in this fund was limited to US$ 12,500, because the Simon Bolivar Fund is considered to be sufficiently strong and liquid to assure continuity of activities during periods when contributions are not received.

Summary

The Fund continues to operate on a sound financial basis, and together with a strong and liquid General Working Fund, activities can be financed safely during a reasonable time horizon.

APPENDIX I

SUMMARY OF IICA ACTIVITIES BY LINES OF ACTION AND BY COUNTRY

(July 1st, 1978 - December 31, 1979)

	LINES OF ACTION								
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	Support Activity	TOTAL
Argentina	7	2	3	5	11	1	6		35
Barbados	1	2	-	-	5	-	3		11
Bolivia	6	1	12	11	10	-	7		47
Brazil	6	7	23	25	23	-	11		95
Colombia	8	34	2	2	21	6	3		76
Costa Rica	76*	7	2	19	4	10	12		130
Chile	4	6	-	-	10	-	10		30
Dominican Republic	3	11	-	23	6	6	14		63
Ecuador	5	5	1	2	12	3	8		36
El Salvador	1	1	9	1	11	1	11		35
Guatemala	3	5	13	1	-	2	5		29
Guyana	1	-	-	4	-	2	4		11
Haiti	1	4	2	17	16	-	8		48
Honduras	1	10	-	8	11	7	11		48
Jamaica	4	1	3	17	-	2	-		27
Mexico	4	1	2	8	1	11	10		37
Nicaragua	-	-	-	2	4	-	2		8
Panama	1	-	1	3	17	21	4		47
Paraguay	8	7	6	-	6	7	-		34
Peru	5	9	1	21	10	8	1		55
Trinidad-Tobago	1	-	1	2	-	-	2		6
Uruguay	6	6	17	2	6	-	5		42
Venezuela	10	1	4	38	13	33	17		116
Multinational Act.	39	4	8	11	5	1	2		70
CIRA								15	15
Public Inform. Dir.								40	40
SIJR								18	18
Sec.Rel.Scient.Asns.								5	5
Dir. General								19	19
Deputy Dir. General								64	64
ADDG Planning								88	88
ADDG Operations								11	11
ADDG Ext. Coordin.								9	9
TOTAL	201	124	110	222	202	121	156	269	1.405

* This includes the Inter-American Agricultural Documentation and Information Center (CIDIA)

APPENDIX II

NUMBER OF INSTITUTIONS COOPERATING WITH IICA

(July 1st, 1978 - December 31, 1979)

Country	Number of Institutions
Argentina	42
Barbados	13
Bolivia	22
Brazil	95
Colombia	42
Costa Rica	17
Chile	42
Dominican Republic	20
Ecuador	40
El Salvador	26
Guatemala	17
Guyana	17
Haiti	19
Honduras	13
Jamaica	25
Mexico	66
Nicaragua	14
Panama	14
Paraguay	33
Peru	40
Trinidad-Tobago	2
Uruguay	40
Venezuela	43
International Organizations	55
Organizations in extra-continental countries	20
TOTAL	777

APPENDIX III

PARTICIPANTS IN IICA ACTIVITIES

(July 1st, 1978 - December 31, 1979)

Country	Number of Participants
Argentina	950
Barbados	250
Bolivia	100
Brazil	2.600
Colombia	1.688
Costa Rica	836
Chile	3.015
Dominican Republic	600
Ecuador	500
El Salvador	247
Guatemala	689
Guyana	149
Haiti	1.817
Honduras	3.300
Jamaica	1.489
México	608
Nicaragua	103
Panama	283
Paraguay	2.136
Peru	3.030
Trinidad-Tobago	65
Uruguay	531
Venezuela	1.604
TOTAL	26.590

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