

Terminal Evaluation

Asia

1. Outline of the Project

Country:

Philippines

Project title:

Advanced Telecommunications Outside Plant Technology
(Optical Fiber)

Issue/Sector:

Telecommunications

Cooperation scheme:

Third-country Training Program

Division in charge:

Southeast Asia Division, Regional Department I

Total cost:**Period of Cooperation**

Fiscal Year 1998 - 2002

Partner Country's Implementing Organization:

Telecommunications Training Institute (TTI)

Supporting Organization in Japan:**Related Cooperation:**

Project-type Technical Cooperation; Telecommunications Training Institute
Third-country Training Program "Techniques on Communication"

1-1 Background of the Project

In the field of telecommunications, the Government of Japan provided Project-type Technical Cooperation at the Telecommunications Training Institute (TTI) five years from 1982 in accordance with the telecommunications expansion plan for the northern part of Luzon in the Philippines. Since termination of the project in 1995, the Government of Japan has dispatched Long-term Experts in the field of data exchange, wireless transfer and satellite communications, as well as data communications technology.

As for third-country training programs on communication line technique, the Training has covered both metallic and optical fiber cables. However, accompanying the increased use of optical fiber cables has been an increasing need for a specialized training program on fiber optics. The demand was especially conspicuous among countries in the rapidly developing Asian-Pacific region, pointing out an urgent need to foster engineers who were able to with the state-of-art low-cost and easy-to-maintain optical fiber products. Under these circumstances, the Government of the Philippines requested the Government of Japan to provide cooperation for implementation of the third-country training program: "Advanced Telecommunications Outside Plant Technology (Optical Fiber)" (the Training), "outside" referring to optical fiber technology used outside the plant environment.

1-2 Project Overview

The training course is conducted with the cooperation of TTI and targets mid- to upper-level experienced workers and officials from governmental organizations in the Philippines.

(1) Overall Goal

- 1) Information and communications services by optical fiber network are extended.
- 2) Capability of TTI to implement and manage the training course to the increasing number of foreign trainees, which results in the promotion of South-South Cooperation in Asia-Pacific Region.

(2) Project Purpose

Knowledge and new techniques in the field of Advanced telecommunications Outside Plant Technology (Optical Fiber) are acquired.

(3) Outputs

- 1) Participants understand the concept, principle and characteristics of optical fiber cable.
- 2) Participants acquire knowledge in the design, installation, and testing of optical fiber cable and skills in maintaining an optical fiber cable network.
- 3) Participants acquire techniques in serial underground optical fiber cable installation.

(4) Inputs

Japanese side:

Short-term Experts	3	Local Cost	31 Million Yen
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Philippine side:

Counterparts	4
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Land and Facilities

Local Cost	3.25 Philippine pesos (8 Million Yen)
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(5) Participant Countries

Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, India, Maldives, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Vietnam, Laos, Philippines, Iran and Malaysia.

2. Evaluation Team

Members of Evaluation Team	JICA Philippine office (Commissioned to TITO T.ORITA, SR)
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Period of Evaluation	28 December 2001 - 15 March 2002	Type of Evaluation:	Terminal Evaluation By Overseas Offices
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3. Results of Evaluation

3-1 Summary of Evaluation Results

(1) Relevance

The Training had high relevance for the following reasons. The participants mentioned that the training in optical fiber was an appropriate theme which met their needs, since optical fiber was the most widely used cable technology in the telecommunications field.

(2) Effectiveness

According to the results of the questionnaire and interviews, 96 percent of the respondents rated the Training as "very good." They also said that they clearly understood the concepts and applications of optical fiber. From the indicators, the Project Purpose was accomplished effectively.

(3) Efficiency

The Program was implemented as planned; Japanese Experts were dispatched to conduct lectures and advise TTI as planned; although, one participant failed to participate. Most participants gained the knowledge and skills taught in the Training which featured an appropriate training curriculum, class rooms, facilities, equipment, textbooks, and study tours. The lecturers were skilled, the textbooks were easy-to understand, and the technology introduced in the Training was state-of-the-art.

(4) Impact

Ninety percent (90%) of the respondents to the questionnaire survey had shared the knowledge and skills they gained with all of their colleagues. Also, over 80 percent of the respondents said that they maintained contact with other participants in order to share information in this field, indicative that the Training had positive impacts.

(5) Sustainability

Through findings in this evaluation, technical sustainability of the training results was identified; some ex-participants organized workshops in their ministries and exhibited the results of training, others gave lectures at a training course after returning home. As for TTI's capacity to conduct the training, since TTI has allocated 12,626,500 pesos a year, it is expected that after the termination of the Program, TTI to be able to continue the Training without aid from the Government of Japan.

3-2 Factors that promoted realization of effects

(1) Factors concerning Planning

N/A

(2) Factors concerning the Implementation Process

The close coordination between TTI and JICA resulted in the appropriate dispatch of Japanese experts and provision of equipment, which contributed to very successful implementation of the Program.

3-3 Factors that impeded realization of effects

(1) Factors concerning Planning

N/A

(2) Factors concerning the Implementation Process

N/A

3-4 Conclusion

The Project demonstrates stability as ex-participants have applied the acquired knowledge and skills of optical fiber cable in their daily work. However, rapid technical innovation in the field of optical fiber cable networks requires that the related personnel and organizations make continuous efforts to acquire up-to-date information and equipment in order to fully utilize the acquired knowledge and skills.

3-5 Recommendations

Monitoring after the Training should be the major focus. It is recommended that participants present an action plan, that the implementing agencies follow up their activities, and that all concerned should be responsible for the realization of effects.

In addition, TTI, which successfully implemented the Training and is one of the a few telecommunications training centers in the Asia-Pacific Region, should maintain close contact with JICA to stay up-to-date with regard to technical support.

3-6 Lessons Learned

Optical fiber technology is in an early stage of use in many developing countries and there are a few training facilities, so further cooperation in this field is needed to foster the necessary human resources. As advances in the field of IT are rapid, the government of developing countries should continuously address issues in this field.

3-7 Follow-up Situation

N/A