

Terminal Evaluation

Asia

1. Outline of the Project

Country:

Philippines

Project title:

Bohol Integrated Agriculture Promotion Project (BIAPP)

Issue/Sector:

Agriculture/General

Cooperation scheme:

Project-type Technical Cooperation

Division in charge:

Agricultural Technical Cooperation Division, Agricultural Development Cooperation Department

Total cost:

766 Million Yen

Period of Cooperation 11 November 1996 - 10 November 2001

Partner Country's Implementing Organization:

Department of Agriculture
Bohol Agriculture Promotion Center (APC)

Supporting Organization in Japan:

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan

Related Cooperation:

Grant Aid; "Bohol Agriculture Promotion Center Project"

Grant Aid; "Capayas Irrigation Project"

ODA Loan; "Bohol Irrigation Project Phase II"

Project-type Technical Cooperation; "Bohol Agriculture Promotion Center Project"

1-1 Background of the Project

The Government of the Philippines presented its Integrated Area Development Plan to reduce income disparity between urban and rural areas in the 1970s. Later, the Government requested the cooperation of Japan in promoting the agricultural development of Bohol island, a key area of agriculture. In response to this request, JICA implemented the Project-type Technical Cooperation "Bohol Agriculture Promotion Center Project" for five years from February 1983. This cooperation was extended until February 1990.

In July 1995, The Government of the Philippines requested Aftercare Cooperation*. In response, JICA dispatched an Aftercare Study Team in January 1996, and it was found that new assistance by the Japanese Government was needed rather than Aftercare Cooperation. As the following-up the result of the "Bohol Agriculture Promotion Center Project" the "Bohol Integrated Agriculture Promotion Project", was implemented to demonstrate technology transfer to farmers in Capayas, Bohol island.

(*) Aftercare Cooperation: Cooperation to further develop and maintain the effect of a project through a supplemental technical training and an improvement process for a project whose level such as newly-developed techniques is falling after the termination of the Project-type Technical Cooperation. Examples are maintenance of the donated equipment, the donation of new equipment and the dispatch of experts.

1-2 Project Overview

For productivity improvement at the Project's sub-site activities such as (land cultivated by Irrigators Association (IA) members in Capayas Irrigation Project (CIP)), improvement of cultivation and water management, dissemination of techniques, instructions on machinery, strengthening of Irrigators Association's IA staff activities and enhancement of training are implemented to the Bohol Agriculture Promotion Center (APC) staff and IA members in the Project-site.

(1) Overall Goal

Agricultural production and income of farmers in Bohol will be increased.

(2) Project Purpose

Agricultural productivity is increased by improving management of farming activities at the Project sub-site (The land cultivated by Irrigators Association members in Capayas Irrigation Project in Capayas Irrigation Project Capayas irrigation project area).

(3) Outputs

- 1) Fact finding and monitoring team can be organized by Bohol Agriculture Promotion Center (APC) staff.
- 2) The location-specific techniques for rice-based farming are adopted at the sub-site.
- 3) Effective management of IA activities is carried out at the sub-site.
- 4) Technical capabilities of extension workers and key farmers in Bohol are enhanced.
- 5) Agricultural promotion system is improved by enhanced collaborative relationship between APC and Local Government Unit (LGU).

(4) Inputs

Japanese side:

Long-term Expert	12	Equipment	140 Million Yen
Short-term Expert	15	Local Cost	36 Million Yen
Trainees received	15		

Philippine side:

Counterparts	38		
Local Cost		41.17 Million Pesos (107 Million Yen)	

2. Evaluation Team

Members of Evaluation Team Team Leader: Kazuo NAKAGAWA, Managing Director, Agricultural Development Cooperation Department, JICA
Agronomy/Farm Management/ Farm Mechanization: Teruhisa NAMBA, Agronomist, Ex-JICA Expert
Water Management: Koichi MATSUDA, Section Chief of Management, Irrigation and Drainage Division, Rural Infrastructure Department, Kyusyu Regional Agricultural Administration Office
Evaluation Analysis: Maki HAMAOKA, Socio-Economist, Japan Techno Co., Ltd.
Planning Evaluation: Yuko ISHIZAWA, Staff, Agricultural Technical Cooperation Division, Agricultural Development Cooperation Department, JICA

Period of Evaluation 16 July 2001 - 28 July 2001

Type of Evaluation:
Terminal Evaluation

3. Results of Evaluation

3-1 Summary of Evaluation Results

(1) Relevance

The Department of Agriculture drew up "Mid-term Agriculture Development Plan (1993-1998)" and promoted its rice-based "Grain Production Enhancement Program". In the Plan, Regional Field Unit 7 (RFU 7) of Department of Agriculture was designated as the area for increased rice production; "Gintong Ani (golden harvest) Program" for the development and dissemination of technology suitable to the area. The developed irrigation area, the "Capayas Irrigation Project", was designated

as a rice production first-priority area. Based on these designations, the Project Purpose and the Overall Goal are in line with the Philippine agricultural development policy, and the Project has high relevancy to this policy. On the other hand, some farmers could hardly adopt the new technologies due to the small size of their farms and their financial capability. As a result, the Project did not meet the needs of some of the project targets. This partially may be due to an insufficient basic survey at the preliminary stage of the Project.

(2) Effectiveness

Through the activities implemented by the Project, the average rice yield target of 4.0t/ha was accomplished just once during the rainy season of 2000. The average rice yield has increased since, but it has not exceeded the target during the dry seasons. Each technique attained through the Project was transferred, and the effects were visible. However, the techniques have not been disseminated to farmers through organized the farm management system with rice as the key crop. Integrated individually developed techniques also, have not been achieved. In strengthening the linkage of APC with LGU in agriculture promotion and IA activities, also, there has not been an attainment of a desirable level for efficient management.

(3) Efficiency

Personnel management and cost investment were effectively implemented as a whole. Because Long-term Experts were expected to cover a wide variety of technical transfers and other activities, they had to make prioritizing adjustments. Counterparts had sufficient capability to receive the technical transfer. However, (1) Long-term Experts on farming management were absent for six months before the next team took over; (2) in the farm mechanization section, two counterparts left during the project period (one was transferred to another section, and the other resigned) and (3) there was a considerable distance (125km) between APC and the sub-site. Together, these shortcomings were impediments to implementing activities and they may have lowered Project efficiency.

(4) Impact

The impacts given by the Project were generally positive. Regarding the institutional impact, RFU 7 of the Department of Agriculture started to address the promotion of rural development by setting up a model using BIAPP experience. The "Bohol Rice Network", was also organized with the encouragement of the Project and has played a major role as a technical working group of rice in Provincial Agriculture Technology Coordinating Office (PACTO). On the other hand, regarding the economic impact, some of the target farms have improved in terms of the operator's living conditions. These farmers have acquired more personal consumption power as a result of increased rice production, and an improved standard of living has been demonstrated by their purchase of a concrete-structure dwelling or television set.

(5) Sustainability

Nearly a half of the staff of the implementing organization, APC, are contract-based employees, and most are around 40 years old. The number of young staff was insufficient. Therefore, it is necessary to foster young personnel because there are some concerns about the allocation of staff and continuity of effects of the technology transfer. Apart from this, financial sustainability to cover basic operating expenses was observed because APC has been providing a regular budget as an institution for Research and Development/Extension activities under the Department of Agriculture's RFU7 Plan. Meanwhile, the insufficiency of IA capability in administration/management and the presence of the farmers' group in Capayas opposing IA were unstable factors negatively impacting on the sustainability on IA.

3-2 Factors that promoted realization of effects

(1) Factors concerning Planning

N/A

(2) Factors concerning the Implementation Process

The implementing organization, APC has the experience of the previously-implemented technical cooperation by the Government of Japan, Phase I of this cooperation, so the Phase I counterparts had already acquired fundamental Project knowledge. Therefore, the techniques were smoothly transferred and positive effects were observed.

3-3 Factors that impeded realization of effects

(1) Factors concerning Planning

N/A

(2) Factors concerning the Implementation Process

1) Hand-over between the counterparts from Provincial office of the National Irrigation Administration to Bohol Irrigation Project Stage 2 was met sufficiently conducted. Institutional Development officers who collect Irrigation service fees were changed frequently. These factors affected activities for securing the smooth implementation of IA management.

2) A number of constraining factors adversely affected project implementation, specifically those related to El Nino and heightening of the Capayas Dam.

3-4 Conclusion

The project has significantly enhanced the agricultural development productivity in the sub-site. However, the production is not stable partly delayed implementation due to the above-mentioned elements. Therefore, the Project purpose will not be attained within the project cooperation period.

3-5 Recommendations

(1) Two more years of assistance is necessary after the five-year project cooperation period in order to achieve unaccomplished Outputs 2), 3) and 5).

(2) To maintain the effects which have started to take root among farmers and related personnel through the Project, enhanced collaborative links between NIA and LGUs are indispensable. The Department of Agriculture needs to take action for further commitment by the concerned agencies, including budgetary allocation.

(3) For integrating of the location-specific technologies for rice-based farming systems, it is recommended that interactions/coordination/collaborations be enhanced among the sections in APC.

(4) Liaison Officers' Meeting, the "Bohol Rice Network" provides an opportunity for the concerned agencies to exchange information and to solve rice issues. The provincial government should take the initiative in enhancing the collaborative links among concerned agencies for food security in the province by involving all LGUs.

3-6 Lessons Learned

(1) The baseline survey conducted by the project was not well implemented because the experts and counterparts lacked experience. Insufficient parts of the survey were supplemented by parts of another survey in the middle of the Project. When the same kind of survey is conducted, the design and method should be well examined in advance by a specialist and the personnel assigned to the work should be appropriately trained in collecting/compiling reliable information.

(2) To ensure the success of a rural development project, greater cooperation and participation on the part of beneficiaries of project activities are required, and it is also necessary that some experts with a socio-cultural background be assigned to conduct a study on the interpersonal relationships in the rural community.

3-7 Follow-up Situation

Based on the above mentioned follow-up cooperation mainly in the areas of (1) integrating techniques in each field, (2) independency of IA, and (3) linkages among the concerned agencies to assure sustainability, has been implemented from 11 November 2001 - 10 November 2003.