

# Terminal Evaluation

## Middle East

### 1. Outline of the Project

**Country:**

Egypt

**Project title:**

Rice Cultivation Techniques

**Issue/Sector:**

Agriculture/General

**Cooperation scheme:**

Third-Country Training Program

**Division in charge:**

Regional Department IV (Africa, Middle East and Europe)

**Total cost:****Period of Cooperation**

1997 - 2001

**Partner Country's Implementing Organization:**

Egyptian International Centre for Agriculture(EICA)

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

Third-country Training Program; "Rice Cultivation Techniques:Phase1"

Third-country Training Program; "Rice Cultivation Techniques:Phase2"

### 1-1 Background of the Project

Many African countries have been affected by the agricultural management practices of the past colonial times and tend to depend on a certain primary products. Because of this, the crops of these countries were easily affected by natural disasters and changing climates, thus, weakening these countries' economic foundation. Nearly half of the population of these countries work in the agricultural industry, and many of workers produce products for self-sufficiency on a small scale. To stabilize food supply, the quality and quantity of the cash crops has been improved recently. Accordingly, the wet-rice cultivation area has been increasing rapidly in African countries, and this makes it necessary to disseminate modern rice cultivation techniques throughout African countries. Toward this end, the Government of Egypt requested the Government of Japan to implement training covering modern rice cultivation techniques through lectures and on-site practice to the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture or organizations related to agriculture dissemination in Africa as a part of the Japan-Egypt Trilateral Cooperation Program with Japan and Egypt together providing support to African countries.

### 1-2 Project Overview

The Project implemented the training course of modern rice cultivation techniques through lectures and on-site practice to the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and organizations related to agriculture dissemination in African countries to increase rice productivity.

#### (1) Overall Goal

Through the dissemination activities by the participants, the fruit of the labor of farmers and rice cultivation productivity are improved in areas overseen by the participants.

#### (2) Project Purpose

Participants from African countries disseminate the acquired appropriate techniques and knowledge on rice cultivation in their respective countries.

#### (3) Outputs

Participants who are engaged in the rice cultivation sector acquire the appropriate techniques and knowledge in this sector.

#### (4) Inputs

Japanese side:

Japanese experts dispatched 7

Local Cost 1.816 Million Egyptian Pounds (52 Million Yen)

Egyptian side:

Local Cost

counterparts 140

#### (5) Participant Countries

Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Malawi, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania and Zambia.

### 3. Results of Evaluation

#### 3-1 Summary of Evaluation Results

---

##### (1) Relevance

The wet-rice cultivation area in African countries covered 6.333 million hectares on average from 1989 - 1991 (average production was 12.88 million tons) and rapidly increased to become 7.929 million hectares in 1998 (average production was 17.312 million tons). This indicates that African countries are applying up-to-date rice cultivation techniques as one of the countermeasures to end the chronic food shortage. It also shows a tendency toward rice being recognized as a commercial crop. This, again, reflects the governmental policy to reduce expensive rice imports and to maintain foreign reserves as much as possible. Judging from these facts, the Project plays the important role in food security, rice's market value as a commercial crop and the increasing need for training.

##### (2) Effectiveness

According to the answers of ex-participants to the questionnaire, 78 percent of the respondents said that they "almost understood everything" they studied. As for the Project Purpose, "Participants from African countries disseminate the acquired appropriate techniques and knowledge on rice cultivation in their respective countries", 85 percent of the respondents said "they utilize the knowledge and techniques attained in the training in daily work" and that the Training contributed to the dissemination of the techniques and knowledge in their respective countries.

##### (3) Efficiency

The period of the Training and the curriculum were in line with the timing of rice cultivation and methods in African countries, and both were appropriate. The equipment of the pilot cultivating area and its maintenance status are favorable, and the participants highly appreciated them. The budget for the all of the Training was made available as planned, and the amount of the budget was appropriate.

##### (4) Impact

Most ex-participants utilized the knowledge and techniques acquired in the trainings at their work sites; however, only a few ex-participants referred to the overall goal of the Project, "Through the dissemination activities by the participants, the fruit of farming labor and rice cultivation productivity are improved in the areas overseen by participants". However, some respondents indicated that per unit rice productivity was improved, which means that the knowledge and techniques attained in the Training have been disseminated to the African countries little by little.

##### (5) Sustainability

Looking at the facts observed till today, the capability of the administration and management of EICA has already been improved. The participating countries and the management of EICA are having difficulties in planning and implementing training without the aid of the Government of Japan because of their budget constraints.

### **3-2 Factors that promoted realization of effects**

---

In addition to the excellent personnel and the training curriculum of EICA, the counterpart Government has cost sharing experience. The major factors of "people, things and money" were appropriately provided in the Project and this could be one of the factors that helped to accomplish the Project Purpose.

### **3-3 Factors that impeded realization of effects**

---

Some of the participants were from French-speaking African countries; however, the lecturers could give lectures only in English, so it was difficult to enhance the understanding of those participants.

### **3-4 Conclusion**

---

The contents of the Training curriculum and the scheme of EICA are both fulfilled, and the training has been implemented in line with the needs of the participants. Considering that there are needs for the training in the field of rice cultivation in African countries and the strong demand from the participants to continue the training, the training needs in that field is still strong, so it is judged that the training will be continuously implemented.

### **3-5 Recommendations**

---

(1) The Government of Egypt should continuously try to increase cost sharing every year so that the training will be continuously implemented and well managed.

(2) As for the selection of the participants, those who were involved in the projects of JICA were selected, which should be continued from now on. They should consider the participant's situation from the pilot project of rice cultivation in African countries which the Egyptian Fund for technical cooperation with Africa, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt has implemented. And the Project should be organized in line with the technical development project which the Central Government of the country itself implements in the country. In this case, the contents of the Project should be changed to add contents related to the above-mentioned project.

### **3-6 Lessons Learned**

---

(1) The introduction of tests at the commencement and termination of the Project should be considered to judge the effects of the Project objectively.

(2) Long term follow-ups such as the donation of equipment at the Overseas Offices in African countries are necessary to maximize utilization and application of the attained knowledge and techniques in actual work.

### **3-7 Follow-up Situation**

---

N/A