

# Terminal Evaluation

## Middle East

### I. Outline of the Project

- Country: Egypt
- Project title: Rice Processing Technology
- Issue/Sector: Agriculture
- Cooperation scheme: TCTP
- Division in charge: Africa, Middle East and Europe Dept.  
Middle East and Europe Division
- Total cost: 42.8 million Yen
- Cost per participant: 0.66 million Yen
- Share of Japan' contribution: 1999:99%~2003:85%
- Period of Cooperation (R/D): 1994~1998  
(Extension): 1999~2003  
(F/U) :
- Partner Country's Implementing Organization: Egyptian Fund for Technical Cooperation with Africa (EFTCA),  
Rice Technology Training Centre (RTTC)
- Supporting Organization in Japan: SATAKE co.ltd
- Related Cooperation:

### 1. Background of the Project

To increase rice production is an urgent and crucial issue for countries in Africa to cope with food shortage as population increase. Egypt has achieved high rice productivity comparing to other African countries, and this can be explained by high yields and less post harvest losses due to better storing conditions and superior processing technology.

The institutional setup and the organizational background (links to other institutions) of RTTC make it the suitable institution to conduct this particular training. Having organized and conducted two phases of TCTP rice processing favors RTTC as implementing agency more than any other institution in Egypt.

### 2. Project Overview

The course included lectures, practical application and visits to relating institutions with the aim of enabling participants from 16 countries to acquire broad knowledge and skills regarding rice harvesting, milling, drying, storage techniques, quality control and rice by-products. The project was elaborated in order to meet the needs for effective and efficient postharvest rice processing techniques from participant countries.

#### (1) Outputs of the Training Program

Overall objective is to contribute to improve rice processing in African countries. Participants acquire broad skills on rice processing such as milling, drying, storage and by-products.

#### (2) Inputs

##### Japanese side:

Long-term Expert		Equipment	Yen
Short-term Expert	6	Local cost	37 million Yen
Trainees received	65	Others	Yen

## Egyptian's Side:

Counterpart	Equipment	local currency( Yen)
Land and Facilities	local currency ( Yen)	
Local Cost	175,000 local currency ( 5.19 million Yen)	
Others	local currency ( Yen)	

## II. Evaluation team

Members of Evaluation Team

JICA Egypt Office (commissioned to North South Consultants Exchange)

Period of Evaluation

01/ 11/ 2003~ 15/ 03/ 2004

Type of Evaluation:

Terminal

## III. Results of Evaluation

### III-1. Achievement of the Training Program

67 participants from 17 African countries have been successfully trained in rice processing

### III-2. Evaluation Results

#### (1) Analysis on the Achievement in terms of Outputs

- The number of participants as well as the number of invited countries was meeting the prospects and all former participants stated that the training has been useful to them. The former participants responded to the questionnaires that the curriculum were sufficiently in line with the objectives of this training course and the training was carried out at proper period of year.
- 86.5 % of the participants stated that lectures were adapted to the conditions in their country
- 85.7 % stated that they made use of their knowledge gained
- 92.9 % said that they have changed their approach in issues of rice processing

Judging from the above facts, the training gained its expected output and contributed to the overall objective.

#### (2) Relevance

Although arable land is very limited in Egypt it had by far the highest rice production in the years 1998 and 2002 compared to the invited African countries. The high production figures can be explained by high yields and less post harvest losses due to better storing conditions and superior processing technology. The majority of the former participants provide a very positive feedback.

As the RTTC is well equipped with training facilities and has enough training experiences, it has to be mentioned that the RTTC is the most appropriate institution in Egypt to conduct this particular training course

### III-3 Factors promoting sustainability and impact

#### (1) Factors concerning to Planning

- Implementing curriculum with many different subjects from general information on rice production issues to specific post harvest techniques enabled to meet needs of many participants.
- Country reports prepared by participants have a positive impact on the curriculum

#### (2) Factors concerning to the Implementation Process

- In addition to the course evaluation after each year, an evaluation in form of a knowledge review was conducted before and after the training in order to analyze the level of knowledge. These helped to adapt the training to the needs of the participants.
- Based on the terminal evaluation of phase 1, throughout the entire course interpreters for francophone participants were provided and improved effects of the training

### **III-4 Factors inhibiting sustainability and impact**

#### **(1) Factors concerning to Planning**

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- The tight curriculum is very ambitious and leaves little free time to the participants. A practical oriented curriculum with the emphasis on small scale rice processing technology was not in accordance with the situations in the respective African countries.
- Little measures are taken to stay in contact with former participants after the course in the planning phase.

#### **(2) Factors concerning to the Implementation Process**

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- Insufficient number of translator for all lectures prevented some participants from understanding the lectures.
- Different level of qualification amongst participants was a constraint to save time for explanations and caused lack of willingness for a few participants.
- The time schedule of the entire training was set very tight and most of the participants commented that there has been no time to visit the library and prepare courses beforehand although this is very subjective depending on skills of the respective participants.

### **III-5 Conclusion**

All former participants mentioned that the training was useful to them and met their expectations. After the participants from African countries obtained broad knowledge and skills regarding rice processing through the training, it is expected that they would contribute to improve to food production, which is a crucial issue in their countries. This can be concluded that the training achieve its objective.

### **III-6 Recommendations**

(1) As increasing food production is one of the top priority issues for African countries and the training has had high effect, it is highly recommended to continue TCTP rice processing.

(2) When continuing the training, the following must be improved

- a) Adjust application and selection period so that the future participants have enough time to prepare for the course. Improve measures to assure the qualification of future participants through proof of experience in the field of rice production and processing by setting the conditions for the nominees to at least five years of experience.
- b) Reduce the number of lectures concerning general information and substitute them with more practical training especially in the field of small scale rice processing technology.
- c) Amend human resources for translation in order to reduce time spent for it and herewith improvement of lecture quality.
- d) Continue to implement the evaluation test before and after the training as well as the yearly evaluation of TCTP

### **III-7 Lessons Learned**

- In order to facilitate future evaluations and also to maintain relations a sound follow up of the TCTP such as creating a database, with all its former participants is recommended to RTTC, JICA and all other institutions involved in the application, implementation and organization of the course.
- Requiring participants to submit country report, taking those information into consideration previous to the course and conducting course evaluation by participants facilitate to meet participants' needs.
- For participants from various linguistic background, to assign interpreter increase the effect of the training as well as the motivation of participants.