

INDIA:

Indo-German Watershed Development Programmes Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh

In March 2000, GITEC was entrusted with two missions concerning rehabilitation and development of degraded watersheds in India. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) assigned our team with the mid-term review of the Indo-German Watershed Development Programme (IGWDP) in the state of Maharashtra, KfW contracted the same team for a programme preparation study in the neighbouring state of Andhra Pradesh.

The IGWDP Maharashtra was supported by German Financial Cooperation (FC) since 1992 and has received DM 37 million up to now. It is considered to be one of the pioneers in the development of participatory self-help approaches in integrated natural resource management. The programme is borne and coordinated by NABARD, whereas the individual projects are implemented by Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) supported by the Watershed Organization Trust (WOTR), an apex body that supports and trains the institutions involved with the support of German Technical Cooperation (GTZ).

The programme with its more than 52 projects is one of the selected EXPO 2000-Projects as exemplary for German development cooperation. The evolution of this programme led to a unique institutional and financing structure that worked independently from existing government structures and thus enabled to encourage fruitful discussion and innovation. During the review the success of the programme concerning technical and institutional model development was highlighted. Yet a reorientation to increase the target group involvement as well as the participation of existing institutions was instigated together with all stakeholders in order to increase the sustainability and replicability of the programme.

The proposal for the neighbouring IGWDP Andhra Pradesh already incorporated the governmental institutions in a much more intensive way. It also streamlined the funding and implementation procedures to a larger extent, learning from the Maharashtra experience. As a very close cooperation with GTZ was intended,



INDIA: Discussion with a Women's Committee in a Village in Andhra Pradesh

a team from GTZ joined the GITEC team to appraise the proposal jointly. Still there are institutional and technical bottlenecks that do not make an immediate entry of German FC advisable. Technical Cooperation was proposed to start as early as possible, followed by FC support as soon as solutions for the problems identified are developed.

The GITEC-team consisting of eleven members, partly seconded from an Indian consulting company, was working in India from May to July 2000. It was headed by M. Warich, M.Sc. (Geography). The mission reports are to be submitted by September.

EDITORIAL: GITEC on the Internet

Detailed information on GITEC is now available at our website www.gitec-consult.de. A general portrayal of the company, its history, and its role in the international "groupe *egis*" is followed by a comprehensive presentation of the fields of activity in which GITEC is active worldwide. This is supported by descriptions of selected projects executed during the last 15 years which offer an excellent compendium on the company's expertise. Special attention is being called to the site containing information on the company's staff requirements. We are convinced to present therewith an always actual information on GITEC to our clients and business relations.

The Management

PHILIPPINES: Women's Health and Safe Motherhood - Inspection of Hospitals

Since 1995, the Department of Health (DOH) in Manila is implementing the Women's Health and Safe Motherhood Project (WHSMP) to improve the health situation of women in rural areas. Main donors are, i.a., the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and, in the frame of the German Financial Cooperation, the KfW. The project aims at mitigating the multi-level deficiencies in this sector and comprises supply of equipment, training, and construction works.

In October 1996, GITEC was awarded by the DOH the implementation of the programme component financed through KfW for an estimated period of five years. In cooperation with the Project Management Office (PMO) of the DOH, GITEC is responsible for the delivery of medical equip-

ment, instruments, and drugs to 92 provincial and district hospitals as well as to a large number of health stations and dispensaries. In addition to the ongoing monitoring activities, GITEC was requested, in December 1999, to carry out a pre-installation inspection of the receiving hospitals. As part of the ADB civil works component, these hospitals have been improved for women's health care services through the construction of new buildings and/or the rehabilitation of existing ones. In order to prepare a well-coordinated delivery programme, a detailed checklist of the status of civil works on each site had to be prepared to obtain an estimate of their anticipated completion dates.

The inspection mission has been carried out in May and June 2000 by our staff mem-

ber Dipl.-Ing. arch. U. Becker. During this period 47 hospitals in 23 provinces have been inspected, and several coordination meetings took place not only with PMO representatives but also with responsible region-based engineers, management staff of the hospitals, and local contractors' staff. With the exception of Mindanao which could not be visited due to peace and order problems, a detailed overview of the status of works "on site" could be obtained.

The findings will be presented in a Pre-installation Inspection Report together with an optimized installation programme based on the conclusion of the inspection and detailed for individual provinces and regions. Delivery of the equipment is foreseen for the last quarter of 2000 and the beginning of 2001.

HAITI: Rehabilitation of the Road Cap Haïtien – Dajabon

The project road is about 70 km long and leads from Cap Haïtien at the north coast of Haïti parallel to the coast to the border town Dajabon in the Dominican Republic. It is one of the few road links between the two countries. In particular Santiago de Los Caballeros, the second largest town of the Dominican Republic, and the agriculturally important Dominican region of Cibao will benefit through the road project by an improved access to Haïti's north and the entire country. The section between Cap Haïtien and Trou du Nord (30 km) has already been asphalted. However, owing to lack of maintenance most of the bituminous surface has been destroyed. The following earth road section to the Dominican border (40 km) is also in a desolate condition.

The Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communications (MTPTC) in Port-au-Prince entrusted GITEC in May 2000 with the execution of the study and design for the rehabilitation of the road Cap Haïtien – Dajabon, which will be financed through the European Development Fund. Four additional detailed design tasks in direct connection with the road rehabilitation complement the project: (i) rehabilitation of a branch road to Fort Liberté (4 km); (ii) bridge over the Massacre

River; (iii) buildings and installations for the Haïtien and Dominican border posts; and (iv) possible by-passes of the border towns of Ouanaminthe and Dajabon. The design criteria for the project road are 7 m width of carriageway (11 m crown width) and a design speed of 80 km/h. For the branch to Fort Liberté the design speed is the same with a carriageway width of 6 m (crown 8.5 m).

For the preliminary design the following tasks will be executed: Traffic analyses and forecasts; topographical survey; hydrologi-

cal and soil mechanical investigations including borrow pits; investigations on existing and possibly design of new bridges and other structures; recommendation for road signs and safety precautions; environmental impact study on the planned design; maintenance programme for the road and the structures; and design for installation of the border posts. Finally an economic viability (cost-benefit) and a traffic analysis will be elaborated for the project.

The results of the preliminary design will be handed over to the MTPTC and the Commission of the European Union for scrutiny. After concurrence all possible alterations will be incorporated in a final report and a recommendation for financing will be established. On the basis of the definite preliminary design and the approved financing plan the final design and tender documents for the construction works will be prepared.

The project team includes seven experts, led by Dipl.-Ing. W. Schur. The first experts left for their project work in Haïti in mid-June 2000. The submission of the design is scheduled for mid-December 2000; completion of the project is planned for July 2001.



HAITI: Existing Bridge over the Massacre River

MALAWI: Improvement of Health Services in Zomba and Chitipa District

To overcome a precarious health care situation based on a chronic lack of funds for investment in new health facilities and the adequate operation of existing ones, the German Government has agreed to support through Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) the rehabilitation of existing health facilities in Malawi. Having been involved in the development of health services and hospitals, and in the support of family planning programmes for more than 15 years, KfW has recently embarked on a programme of financial assistance for the improvement of health services in the City of Zomba and in Chitipa District.



MALAWI: Preparation of Rehabilitation Works for Chitipa District Hospital (above), and Family Planning Campaign in the Zomba Central Hospital (below)

After competitive bidding in late 1999, GITEC was awarded by the Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP) in Lilongwe the contracts for implementation of the projects Integrated Urban Health Services in Zomba and Improvement of Health Services in Chitipa District. In both projects the tasks of the consultant will focus on (i) an updated project preparation, based on earlier Project Preparation Studies elaborated for KfW and MOHP; (ii) the execution of the detailed design of rehabilitation measures and



the preparation of the respective tender documents; (iii) construction supervision and contracts management; (iv) procurement of medical and non-medical equipment for the hospitals and health centres to be rehabilitated.

The Zomba Integrated Urban Health Services Project comprises the rehabilitation of the aged (originally built in the 1930s) and congested 320 bed Central Hospital as well as the construction of an additional Urban Health Centre in Malawi's former Capital City. The Project on the Improvement of Health Services in Chitipa District includes the rehabilitation and extension of the 115 bed Chitipa District Hospital and the improvement of six MOHP-operated Rural Health Centres throughout the District in the extreme north of Malawi.

The inception phase for both projects was executed in May and June 2000 under the direction of Dipl.-Ing. B. Niemann. The detailed design works are scheduled to commence in early September 2000. The completion of all rehabilitation works and procurement activities is expected by the end of 2002.

YEMEN: Water Supply and Sewerage Sadah

In January 2000, GITEC was awarded by the National Water and Sanitation Authority, Sana'a, the contract for consulting services for the updating of a feasibility study for water supply and sewerage of the town of Sadah. The previous feasibility study had been elaborated by GITEC between 1986 and 1989 as part of the Provincial Towns Project, which included a total of 10 towns. In view of the time elapsed since the earlier study it was considered necessary to update that study before a final design phase could be implemented. These services are funded through KfW as part of the German Financial Cooperation.

Sadah is the capital of the northernmost Governorate in the Republic of Yemen, located in the eastern midlands of the central

mountainous region, some 180 km north of Sana'a, at an elevation of 1,860 masl. It is the centre of an agricultural region producing cereals, fruit and vegetables. The town itself has at present a population of approximately 32,000 inhabitants of which some 25% live in the historical old town.

The present public water supply system is completely inadequate providing hardly half of the population every other day with water. Over the past years the groundwater level has dropped alarmingly due to the high water abstraction rates by the farmers. The sanitation component is dominated by traditional solutions like traditional toilets and "Arabic" toilets with cesspits.

Further to the adaptation of more up-to-date population figures, the town development in the past years and other data, the actual and future groundwater situation will have to be considered and a suitable solution for the sanitation aspect has to be developed. The proposed solutions will have to take into account that the longevity of the systems are ensured by tariffs which are acceptable to the population and cover the operation, maintenance and depreciation cost of the systems.

The project is being executed by a team of international experts supported by local auxiliary staff under the direction of Dipl.-Ing. H. D. Neidiger. The activities commenced in March 2000 and should be finished in July 2000.

HONDURAS: Rural Low-Cost Housing Programme (PVMR)

Since 1984 GITEC is assisting the Government of Honduras in its efforts to implement the housing programme for rural areas PVMR ("Programa de Vivienda Mínima Rural"), co-financed by the German Government through KfW. Such a long implementation period has motivated us to present again the project and its development in a more detailed manner (see our last report on it in the GITEC Newsletter No. 30 of July 1993).

During the last 16 years PVMR has gone through various adjustments, in coverage as well as conceptually. Initially the programme was conceived as a measure complementary to the settlement of organized groups of smallholder families in the framework of the Agrarian Reform (which has long since been abandoned). Its concepts and approaches have subsequently been further developed and refined, eventually encompassing joint actions with national organizations and external agencies interested in solving the problems of rural housing.

The programme includes the provision of credits for the rural poor through a revolving fund, in combination with technical assistance for the construction of different types of low-cost houses, the improvement of houses in precarious condition, and complementary sanitary works. The physical works are organized and executed through housing committees by applying a system of self-construction or organized mutual help, where the programme provides general assistance and training, while the technical services required on-site are being contracted directly by the beneficiaries.

From the very start PVMR had to develop its activities in a difficult environment, characterized by the chronic absence of a sector structure establishing general political and strategic lineaments and orienting the executorship of the various organizations involved in the affairs of the sector. One of the consequences is that the programme has experienced three different executing agencies and that it is affected by a number of adverse factors, among which feature promi-



HONDURAS: Setting-up of a Roof Structure for a Low-cost House

nently the bureaucratic system of registry of the different types of land ownership and the lack of differentiated standards for social housing.

Notwithstanding the above, the PVMR has managed to enlarge its goals and achievements considerably, rendering the actions more efficient through gradually decentralizing the organization towards the regional offices, harmonizing the modalities, procedures and internal systems with its twin project for the urban housing sector (PRIM-HUR), privatizing the management of the loan portfolio by involving the commercial banking sector, and forming alliances with other organizations with a stake in the sector. As a consequence, the programme's operations will become self-sustained by the year 2002, which is exceptional for this kind of project.

The following clearly shows the enlargement of the programme during its four phases of implementation:

- Phase I (1984 - 1991):
1,650 housing, 2,700 sanitary solutions
Funding: DM 6.0 million

- Phase II (1992 - 1997):
1,600 housing, 2,200 sanitary solutions
Funding: DM 7.0 million
- Phase III (1998 - 2000):
3,500 housing, 3,300 sanitary solutions
Funding: DM 10.0 million
- Phase IV (1999 - 2002):
3,600 housing, 3,200 sanitary solutions
Funding: DM 10.0 million

At the end of 1998 a new challenge had to be met, related to the disastrous effects of hurricane "Mitch", which stimulated a flow of external funds to attend to the emergency needs in the country's housing sector. On this very occasion PVMR was the only permanent programme with proven concepts for rural housing, which gave it the unique chance to develop standard models tailored to the specific reconstruction needs in the sector. In these efforts the programme was supported by KfW making available fresh funds of the German Financial Cooperation for the reconstruction phase, which gave rise to the simultaneous execution of programme phase III (Regular Programme) and phase IV (Reconstruction Programme).

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