

BANGLADESH: Tangail Infrastructure Development Project, Phases II and III

As already mentioned earlier in GITEC News Letter, Phase II of this project is being implemented since 1996 as a cooperation project of the German Technical Cooperation (TC) and Financial Cooperation (FC). During project execution two important aspects have been added to the FC component:

1. Construction of the 225 m long Hatubhanga Bridge crossing the Banshi River as well as 1.2 km all-weather access roads opening the eastern part of the Tangail District; GITEC was responsible for advising the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) in connection with international tendering, contract award, and supervision of the construction works, scheduled to be completed in December 2000.

2. In September 1998, an excessively long and heavy rainy season caused vast areas of the country being under water. This inflicted severe damage to the existing infrastructure. Also effected were parts of the road network and markets in the Tangail District. Within the framework of an internationally financed emergency relief programme the FC component of our project took over a flood damage repair programme, covering the most urgent repairs on bridges, culverts, roads, and markets. GITEC was entrusted to assist LGED with the assessment of damages, planning of repair works, tendering, contract awards, and supervision of construction. The works are now nearing substantial completion.

Phase III of the TC component which commenced in January 2000 includes the continuation and consolidation of the activities of Phase II and the support for two additional components (support of destitute women, ecological village development) through the assignment of international (one long-term and several short-term) experts as well as a number of local long- and short-term experts. Phase III of the TC is scheduled until December 2002, project manager is Dipl.-Wirtschaftsingenieur R. Kuhnle.

Awarded to GITEC as well and ongoing since April 2000, Phase III of the FC component also includes the continuation

and consolidation of the activities of Phase II with additional 60 km of road rehabilitation and improvement, the construction of ten new markets and the procurement of additional construction equipment. The project team consists of one long-term expert (project manager), Mr. D.W. Campbell B.Sc., one short-term expert and local experts for design and supervision of construction. The total project period of Phase III is scheduled for 26 months.



BANGLADESH: Construction of the Hatubhanga Bridge

BOLIVIA: Water Supply and Sewerage in Medium Towns

After a competitive bidding, GITEC (together with a local consulting firm) was entrusted in August 2000 with the elaboration of a feasibility study for the water supply and sewerage programme in 11 medium towns, located in 5 provinces in Bolivia. The study is being funded through the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) in the frame of the Financial Cooperation between Germany and Bolivia, the Client being the "Viceministerio de Servicios Básicos" in La Paz. Besides of the usual investigations in the fields of water supply and sewerage including the inventory of existing systems in the towns, tasks comprise also the evaluation of possibilities to establish two Water Associations, one in the area of Bustillo (with the towns of Siglo XX, Catavi, Llallagua, Uncía and Chayanta in the "Altiplano"), the other in the "Chaco

Boliviano" (with the towns of Villa Montes, Boyuibe, Camiri, Lagunillas, Villa Vaca Guzmán and Monteagudo in southern Bolivia). The towns to be incorporated in the Water Association of Bustillo suffer from adverse environmental impacts of past mining activities and their remaining waste dips, and of ongoing wash-outs of materials of the waste dips.

The study's objective consists in the improvement of environmental conditions and of water supply, as well as in safeguarding an appropriate sewerage in the individual towns, whose systems should be united in Water Associations. The project's duration is scheduled to cover 4.75 months. The activities in Bolivia were started in mid-September under the direction of Dipl.-Ing. H.D. Neidiger.

*At the end of this year
we would like to thank our Clients and Partners
for the confidence and effective cooperation we have enjoyed,
and to express our best wishes for a successful 2001.*

MALAWI: Community Based Management in Water Supply and Sanitation

After the official launching of the new Rural Water and Sanitation Policy in Malawi, in May 2000 by the Minister of Water Development in Lilongwe, some 500 communities and water user groups will be prepared for sustainable Community Based Management of their water supply and sanitation facilities. Although community contributions in construction and repair and maintenance of water supply facilities have been intro-

duced in the country in some areas, this World Bank-financed National Water Development Project (NWDP) is the first Pilot Intervention to prepare the District Governments to take over the task of Community Based Management in rural water supply under the decentralisation policy of local government. In 10 Districts the staff will be trained in the selection, preparation and monitoring of some 50 sustainable water supply pilot projects.

In February 2000, GITEC was entrusted with the provision of management and training services for the NWDP in 5 Districts in Southern Region, i.e. Blantyre, Chikwawa, Mwanza, Thyolo, and Zomba, where priority areas are selected for the introduction of the new government policy. Under the present Pilot Project the water facilities introduced are limited to bore holes fitted with AFRI-DEV hand pumps, a total of 250 of which should be established.

LAO PDR: Rehabilitation of National Road No. 6 (RN 6)

We already reported on the project for the rehabilitation of the 270 km National Road No. 6 from Muang Kham via Xam Neua to the Vietnamese border in our News Letter No. 34 (December 1995). At this time the project, implemented under the Ministry of Communication, Transport, Post and Construction (MCTPC) in Vientiane and financed through KfW, was still in the study and design phase.

Meanwhile the construction works for all sections were awarded and have reached substantial completion: Section A (Muang Kham to Nam Neun, 93 km), spot improvement and bituminous surface treatment are completed, the latter being financed from another budget; Section B (Nam Neun to Xam Neua, 92 km), total new construction and bituminous surface treatment are completed; Section C (Xam Neua to Na Meo, 84 km), total new construction and bituminous surface treatment are not yet completed. The deterioration of Section C required, other than originally planned, a complete reconstruction.

All lots were awarded to a Vietnamese contractor and required intensive supervision and immediate advisory services.

Apart from topographical problems the construction progress was regularly hampered by extremely adverse weather conditions (particularly in the years 1998 and 1999). Due to the increasingly disadvantageous development of the DM/US\$ exchange rate, additional funds had to be made available. Another additional cost factor was the necessary

clearing of unexploded ordnance (UXO) from the Viet Nam War.

A Village-based Road Maintenance System was developed and successfully introduced and implemented under the guidance of GITEC and of representatives of the MCTPC. Problems arose when the timely payment of the people involved was no longer guaranteed which lead to a demotivation of the target group. In the meantime the road maintenance works have been shifted to another project under the MCTPC, where the respective districts are responsible for their own road sections. Furthermore, a mobile axle load control unit was established, which controls the loads of tropical wood also outside the RN 6 and imposes – when necessary – respective penalties.

Since mid-1998, the consulting services are managed and implemented by Mr. W.-R. Böwig. The completion of the project is scheduled for January 2001. Already now the RN 6 constitutes an important main trade link not only between the remote provinces in the north-east of the country and southern Laos but also the neighbouring countries Viet Nam and China.



LAO PDR: Mobile Axle Load Control Unit in Action

In order to guarantee sustainability of the introduced policy it is anticipated to prepare both the District Governments and the communities for their new role in rural water supply services but also to establish supporting privatised services by forming local Community Support Groups, there where the community is not able to repair and maintain their facilities. This privatised services to be hired by the water users will replace the services offered by the Ministry of Water Development in the past. The major challenge in the Pilot Project is to select and sensitise the communities to participate in the Project for which conditions are in comparison with other rural water supply more demanding in terms of the required community contributions. Also challenging will be the training of the district staff as managers with new responsibilities.

Parallel with the training activities in the five Pilot Districts GITEC will improve the existing policy documents and training manuals reflecting the experience with the implementation of the new rural water supply policy. The documents will eventually serve as guidelines for other organisations and agencies active in the rural water supply and sanitation sector in Malawi. The experience of GITEC in this sector in Malawi (e.g. Rural Water Supply Projects Kalembo, Liwonde and Mangochi) is obviously very helpful in the design and introduction of sustainable measures.

In addition to the project formulation and training assignments GITEC is requested to develop District Profiles in the five selected Districts to serve as reference for future interventions in the rural water supply sector by other agencies, under the new water development policy.

The Project activities which started in May 2000 will cover an 18-month period. The Project team is headed by Ch. van den Heuvel, M. Sc., who is assisted by three local experts in the fields of management, community development and hydrogeology.

INDIA: Minor Irrigation Project Rajasthan

Between 1988 and 1996, the Government of Rajasthan at funding by the German Government through KfW has implemented Phase I of the Minor Irrigation Programme comprising 14 minor irrigation schemes. This programme shall be continued in a Phase II from 2001 onwards even on a larger scale of 30 to 40 schemes (about 25,000 ha), for which a loan of DM 30 million has been earmarked. The objective of the programme is poverty alleviation in rural areas by an increase of income from agricultural production. The programme shall reach mainly small and marginal farmers.

The Phase I focussed on the construction of new schemes. But due to the increasing scarcity of water resources available in Rajasthan, Phase II is supposed to concentrate on the rehabilitation of existing schemes in order to increase the water utilization efficiency of already developed resources, and benefit a maximum number of people by less funds spent on the individual schemes. Besides of the reduction of water losses from irrigation, the Government's State Water Policy requests an extensive participation of water users in planning, implementation, operation and maintenance of irrigation schemes. The latter is geared to improve water management and equity in water distribution, increase irrigation efficiencies and reduce high irrigation subsidies, which are a heavy burden on the budget of one of the poorest states of India.

In May 2000, GITEC was appointed by the Government of Rajasthan to conduct a preparation study for Phase II of the programme. On the basis of an analysis of the performance of Phase I schemes, the implementation plan for Phase II will be elaborated including the pre-selection of schemes, the programme organization, and the operation and maintenance concept to be applied at considering an intensive participation of beneficiaries at all stages of the project cycle.

Simultaneously to this irrigation programme, the World Bank is implementing the Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project. Besides of the intended organisational and institutional improvements for the water sector, the project includes the rehabilitation of large, medium and minor irrigation schemes of a total area of 500,000 ha, supported by a massive technical assistance component on the establishing and training of water user groups and NGOs. Furthermore, the staff of the Irrigation and of the Agricultural Departments shall be trained in order to

provide the required guidance and assistance to farmers and improve the performance of agricultural extension services. It is intended that the World Bank project's technical assistance component should also cover the Phase II Minor Irrigation Programme for an integrated approach to introduction and improvement of irrigated agriculture. Therefore, the respective coordination and cooperation requirements

have to be considered in the proposed management arrangements and in the implementation plan.

The study team comprising 2 European and 6 local experts is headed by Dipl.-Ing. W. Stenzel. The study is scheduled for completion by end of this year and shall serve as basis for programme appraisal by the funding agency.



INDIA: Participation of Water Users in Rehabilitation of an Irrigation Main Canal (Famine Relief Work)

PHILIPPINES: Women's Health and Safe Motherhood

Since October 1999, GITEC is implementing under a contract with the European Commission a Prospective Impact Monitoring for the Community Partnership component in the overall Women's Health and Safe Motherhood Project (WHSMP) in the Philippines. The WHSMP Partnership component was approved by the EC in 1995 and intends to bring services, service deliveries and beneficiaries closer together, by developing community level responses for the improvement of women's health. The project aims at empowering women to be able to take care of their own (reproductive) health and enhancing their health seeking behaviour.

The project's specific objective is to promote community organisation and support projects aimed at developing

sustainable women's health care systems. Its task is to assist in establishing partnerships among NGOs, local communities, local governments and the Department of Health (DoH) in Manila. Four areas of activities aim to achieve the specific objectives of the WHSMP Partnership component: (i) advocacy; (ii) capacity building; (iii) community health care; and (iv) community based health actions. Impact Monitoring proposes patterns for the follow-up of the overall project through development of intermediary indicators and situational analysis in the field.

The project is coordinated by GITEC's Department of Health and will be finished in mid-2002. It is intended to undertake yearly missions for monitoring carried out by a team of 4 international experts.

PR OF CHINA: Afforestation Projects Training Manual

During the long standing co-operation between the State Forestry Administration in Beijing, the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) and GITEC, an urgent need for standardised and practical forestry training materials became more and more apparent. Both, Chinese as well as German partners, identified a significant training demand for the afforestation projects and apart from these projects, a deficit in training materials for improved silvicultural practice. After KfW and the Chinese authorities agreed on the provision of the necessary funds, GITEC - in co-operation with German and international experts and institutions - has elaborated a comprehensive Training Manual to serve as a base for the accomplishment of the following purposes:

- Training of state extensionists on township and county level in forestry and land use planning
- Further education/qualification of forestry technicians in extension and training methodology
- Compilation of teaching and working material for the technical instruction of the target group (farmers and village administrators)
- Process directive for the implementation of the Sino-German Afforestation Projects

Initially, the Training Manual was planned as a compilation of unbound sheets for distribution to the farmers active in afforestation. As a result of an intensive dialogue with the 16 afforestation projects presently underway in China and the decision-makers in the Provinces and in Beijing, a format has been developed which includes not only technical text information but also illustrations and didactic training instructions. This takes into account the technical and didactic deficits of the extensionists in theory and practice of forestry extension services. The Manual consists of 7 series with a total of 30 modules to be used separately or in thematic blocks. Thus, a specific improvement of silvicultural practice and of the results of ongoing and future afforestation measures can be obtained by a well-aimed application of individual training modules, without leaving the bulk of the preparation of appropriate training material to the trainers.

The large edition of the Chinese and English versions of the Manual is already widely dis-

tributed within the forestry administration and further beyond. The high quality and density of information and the great innovations in comparison to existing local training materials have been positively acknowledged in the course of tests and workshops with Chinese officials, forestry training institutes, and national and foreign experts on-site. Consequently, GTZ and other bi- and multilateral donors already introduced the Manual to their projects and, where necessary, started to adjust it to their specific needs. The Training Manual has become a standard source of information and basic tool for forestry training in China by now, although

its official introduction at State level has been instigated at a nation-wide workshop at the State Forestry Administration only recently.

The Training Manual, a book of 350 pages was edited by the China Forestry Publishing House. Its Chinese and English versions can be obtained from the State Forestry Administration in Beijing. Contributions to the Manual were coordinated by the two chief editors, Dr. sc. agr. A. Züfle and Mr. Ye Jingzhong, Head of the GITEC Coordination Unit in Beijing and Deputy Dean of the College of Rural Development in Beijing.



PR OF CHINA: Cover Titles of the English and Chinese Version of the Training Manual

POSTSCRIPT

Dr. Adolf Züfle, who retired at the beginning of 2000 after having been Director of GITEC's Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for more than 20 years, has been recently appointed member of the Board of Directors of the College of Rural Development (CORD) at the China Agricultural University of Beijing. This nomination recognizes his great experience from a series of afforestation projects implemented in China for which GITEC has provided, since 1992,

technical assistance and training services in cooperation with the Center of Integrated Agricultural Development (CIAD) at the Beijing University.

Under financial support from the Ford Foundation, CORD has by definition four integral functions: teaching, research, training, and consultancy, and will enroll undergraduate students for Rural Development and Management and Rural Extension and Innovation Management.

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