



IFAD
INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
Executive Board — Sixty-Sixth Session

Rome, 28-29 April 1999

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IFAD/NGO EXTENDED COOPERATION
PROGRAMME (ECP)**

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its Thirty-First Session in September 1987, the Executive Board approved the establishment of the IFAD/Non-Governmental Organizations Extended Cooperation Programme (IFAD/NGO ECP). Conceived as a mechanism to provide direct grant assistance to NGOs, the programme aims to enhance the participatory process in IFAD's projects and programmes through broad collaboration with NGOs. Within that overall goal, ECP-supported activities focus on three major areas:

- testing new technologies for application to the agro-ecological and socio-economic conditions of poor rural producers;
- testing new institutional approaches/mechanisms in various sectors and subsectors of interest to IFAD to ascertain their relevance, acceptability and sustainability;
- training programmes for beneficiaries and extension personnel in improved resource management through the creation of more effective systems based on viable grass-roots organizations, such as farmers' groups, water users' associations and other forms of grass-roots networks.

2. In these areas, ECP projects are expected to provide prototypes and instruments of intervention for ongoing or forthcoming projects, and lay the groundwork for future IFAD investments.

3. The facility has also been used to fund the Annual IFAD/NGO Consultation and meetings of the IFAD/NGO Advisory Group, established in 1990, to facilitate the preparation of the Consultation by contributing, *inter alia*, to the choice of themes, the selection of participating NGOs, and the preparation of case studies, and discussion and policy papers.

4. To be eligible for a grant, an NGO must provide evidence of its genuineness and capacity, and the government concerned should have no objection to the proposed grant being awarded to that particular NGO. The President has been authorized by the Executive Board to approve individual



ECP grants to eligible NGOs up to a maximum of USD 75 000. The Executive Board also requested the President to present reports on NGO projects approved under the facility during the previous year.

5. Out of IFAD's total Technical Assistance Grants Programme resources over the period 1978-98, 2.6% went to ECP grants. Over the years, there has been a steady increase in the size of the ECP from USD 330 000 in 1988 to USD 1 359 500 in 1998.

6. The effectiveness of the Programme has been subject to periodic internal reviews. However, the most concerted exercises were carried out in 1997 and 1998:

- in 1997, an interactive working group was established with IFAD-wide representation to examine the scope of the ECP and its governing procedures. The Group has completed its work and its recommendations are being reviewed;
- in 1998, an Internal Audit of the ECP was carried out, taking into account the recommendations of the 1997 working group. The Audit Report is now being finalized.

7. It was decided to undertake, in 1999, an assessment of a representative sample of ECP grants, illustrative of various categories. This assessment will be done in consultation with the IFAD/NGO Advisory Group in order to give an opportunity to IFAD's NGO partners to contribute to the Terms of Reference and Methodology. On completion of the assessment, a comprehensive report containing the recommendations and conclusions of all three exercises cited above will be prepared for the Management. The Executive Board will also be informed of these and of their implications for the operational procedures and guidelines relating to the management and implementation of the ECP.

8. In brief, the consolidated recommendations are expected to cover: (a) the scope of the ECP as a whole; (b) the appropriateness of the individual grant ceiling; (c) the eligibility criteria; (d) the internal procedures followed at design stage and during supervision at field level; (e) the degree of compliance by each NGO within the scope of the approved grant; (f) the institutional channels, existing or to be established, for adequate and continuous two-way feedback and communication between IFAD and its NGO partners; and (g) the mechanisms to be put in place for steady and methodical exchange and storage of such feedback.

9. It is important to emphasize that the ECP is only one mechanism of IFAD collaboration with NGOs. Most of IFAD's NGO partners receive IFAD loans. Indeed, of the 378 NGOs which have collaborated with IFAD, only 133 have received ECP grants. Moreover, the collaboration between IFAD and NGOs should be considered within the wider context of the Fund's partnerships with civil society, the boundaries of which have been expanded considerably during recent years. It would be opportune to consider the preparation of a comprehensive report on IFAD and its collaboration/partnerships with civil society.

II. ECP ACTIVITIES IN 1998

10. Apart from the two grants which financed the Ninth Annual IFAD/NGO Consultation and the meetings of the IFAD/NGO Advisory Group, 22 ECP grants were approved for a total of USD 1 359 500, a 10% decrease compared with 1997. NGOs themselves contributed, in cash or kind, an additional amount of USD 1 125 926. The average size of ECP grants in 1998 was USD 62 000 and 70% of all ECP grants went to Southern NGOs. Apart from NGOs, ECP projects in 1998 involved collaboration with a number of intergovernmental and bilateral organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), the World Bank, the African Development Fund, the West African



Rice Development Association (WARDA), the European Union, the Ministry of Agriculture of Liberia, the Canadian Fund for Local Initiatives, the Government of France. In addition, there was some collaboration with the private sector, as in the case of SONATRACH, a private company in Algeria.

11. Sixty-eight per cent of ECP grants in 1998 focused on testing new institutional approaches, 64% on training of beneficiaries and extension personnel, and 41% on the testing and dissemination of appropriate technologies. Two grants were dedicated to direct support for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD). Summaries of all grants are given below, while further details on each grant are provided in the annex.

12. In the context of its efforts to promote the implementation of the CCD, IFAD collaborated with a select number of NGOs, either to increase public awareness of desertification and its global implications or to promote the participation of civil society in CCD-related national or regional efforts. For example, an ECP grant was provided to EarthAction to raise the awareness of the United States public through campaigns involving key NGOs, senators and Senate staff, the business world and the media.

13. A grant to Caucus Africain des Femmes du RIOD in Cameroon is being used to strengthen the capacity of select women's groups in a number of Sahelian countries to act as focal points for the dissemination of information on the CCD. The project will facilitate the involvement of rural women's groups in the planning and implementation of national action plans and implementation of the Convention at grass-roots level.

14. ECP grants were also provided to increase the ability of IFAD's target groups to promote sound and sustainable management of natural resources. This is being pursued both through the promotion of appropriate and effective grass-roots institutions, and through specialized training of beneficiaries and extension personnel.

15. The Participatory Community Rangeland Management Activities Project to be implemented in Jordan by the Queen Alia Fund, for example, includes training of beneficiaries in sustainable rangeland management and formation of local management committees to promote community responsibility and self-reliance. It is expected that the project will set the basis for long-term management of rangeland resources by local Bedouin communities.

16. Testing new institutional approaches to natural resource management is the aim of the Community-Initiated Agriculture and Resource Management Project in Belize, to be implemented by the Kekchi Council. The project will develop a community-initiated indigenous group, the Sarstoon Temash National Park Co-Management Committee (STNPCC), to become a fully operational NGO and assume responsibility for co-management of the Sarstoon Temash National Park with the Government of Belize. The ECP project will also constitute an integral part of the preparatory activities for implementation of a much broader co-management plan submitted by the Kekchi Council to GEF/World Bank. The World Bank has indicated that formal establishment of STNPCC as an NGO is a precondition for approval of a mid-size GEF grant to finance the Kekchi proposal.

17. In Trinidad and Tobago, where IFAD has had no operations to date, an ECP grant will promote local lamb production by small resource-poor farmers in Princess Town, where 50% of all households live below the national poverty line and 40% are headed by women. This pilot project may serve as the basis for an investment project next year.

18. Institution-building and promotion of appropriate technologies for natural resource management are the main objectives of an ECP grant for a project in Algeria focused on



Strengthening the Capacities of Non-Governmental Organizations in the Context of the Preservation of Biodiversity and the Fight Against Soil Degradation in Arid and Semi-arid Ecosystems. Activities include the construction of a waste-water treatment plant and the establishment of a pilot farm for the extension of agro-sylvopastoral techniques in arid zones to combat salinization and desertification. Following training and workshops, a community-based structure for managing the operations and maintenance of the waste-water treatment plant will be created.

19. An ECP grant to the International Cooperation Development department of the Catholic Institute for International Relations (CIIR) will support the development of sustainable community-based health care services for the Raymah District in Yemen. Activities will complement the IFAD-supported Raymah Area Development Project, a poverty-alleviation project in one of the most disadvantaged parts of the country, with a major participatory community development component.

20. Through the Income Diversification Project in Tamou County, Niger, the Association pour le développement des activités rurales (ADAR) will organize training and information sessions to sensitize the population about environmental issues related to conservation of the adjacent National Park of W to enable them to contribute to its protection. Parallel artisanal training will help the local population diversify sources of income and thus release pressure on the Park's resources. The project will also generate valuable information for IFAD's ongoing and future artisanal training and development projects in Niger.

21. Testing institutional approaches and building viable grass-roots organizations is one of the main objectives of the Artisanal Fisheries Development Project — Phase II in Sao Tome and Principe, being implemented by Aço para o Desenvolvimento de Iniciativas Locais (ZATONA/ADIL). The ECP grant will support the institutional development of the nascent Fishermen's Economic Interest Group (GIEPA) and help it assume responsibility for supplying key services to fishermen, most important among which are distribution and commercialization of inputs, and management of a motor repair garage.

22. In Senegal, a grant to Enterprise Works Worldwide Inc. – formerly Appropriate Technology International (ATI) – will support the testing and introduction of new technology for sesame cultivation and processing, and related income-generation activities, such as the production of equipment, repair and maintenance, and trading. The project will provide guiding principles and technical information for the introduction of sesame cultivation and processing activities in ongoing and future IFAD investment projects. The project is in line with IFAD's country strategy in Senegal which aims to increase food production and rural incomes through two main strategies: a) strengthening human resources; and b) benefiting from opportunities offered by growing and diversified markets.

23. The Income-Generation and Food Security for Poor Rural Households Project in South Lebanon will diversify the income-generation activities of poor rural women who, given the heavy toll of the civil war in the region, are now responsible for the survival of their families. The project will distribute Shami goats on credit (in-kind revolving fund), will train women in goat-keeping and will establish a number of producer cooperatives on a pilot base. If successful, the project will make IFAD visible in South Lebanon and might open up possibilities for future IFAD operations in the region in line with the recently-prepared Country Operations and Strategic Options Paper (COSOP).

24. The overall objective of the Village Association Support Programme for Rural Women in the Taourirt-Taforalt Region in Eastern Morocco is to improve food security and the living standards of rural women and their families through their organized participation in civil society. The approach combines training, technical assistance, community organization and appropriate technology (fuel-saving stoves). The grant will allow the Near East Foundation (NEF) to extend its programme with



the Appropriate Technology Training Centre (created by NEF and largely financed by an ECP grant in 1993) to the Eastern Region of Morocco and link it with IFAD's ongoing Rural Development Project for Taourirt-Taforalt.

25. The overall aim of the Support to Poverty Alleviation Pilot Project in Western Terai in Nepal is to contribute to the implementation of the IFAD-financed Poverty Alleviation Project in Western Terai (PAPWT), one of the main initiatives of the Government of Nepal targeted at the rural poor. The pilot project will: (a) introduce a participatory development methodology and operational targeting mechanisms; (b) initiate social awareness and mobilization programmes; (c) promote sustainable community-based organizations and develop the skills of the target groups through training and extension activities; and (d) strengthen the institutional capacity of government service providers and improve the effectiveness of their delivery to the rural poor in a demand-driven and participatory manner. A very important benefit expected from this project is to help the PAPWT ensure that future project assistance will be targeted at the rural poor on the basis of their demands and aspirations, and their full participation and ownership.

26. A pilot project in the Matale District of Sri Lanka targets unemployed youth, women and existing and potential entrepreneurs. By defining and developing the method of deploying business promoters to enhance micro and small enterprise development, the ECP grant will support the newly-approved IFAD-financed Matale Regional Economic Advancement Project.

27. The Seed Rice Multiplication Project in Liberia aims to achieve two objectives: (a) since IFAD lending operations in the country have been suspended since 1989, the project will enable IFAD to provide some assistance to those hardest hit by the war; and (b) lay the groundwork for the resumption of IFAD activities in the country. Targeting 4 000 families, half of them returnees, internally displaced persons and war-affected farmers, the project will complement ongoing efforts of other donor agencies by providing additional planting materials and improved farm tools and equipment to increase the potential of food production. The seed multiplication and distribution system is expected to lay the foundation for a much broader IFAD intervention in the country.

28. On the Island of Fogo, Cape Verde, a project for Support of Local Artisanal Development through the Transformation of Local Volcanic Materials for use by the construction industry targets unemployed youth and involves testing and dissemination of new technologies for microproject activities. The executing agency, Atelier Mar, will collaborate with a local NGO and build the latter's capacity to work with local communities on microproject initiatives.

29. In Guinea, the Pilot Initiative for Productive Community Investments aims to pave the way for the second phase of the IFAD co-financed Village Communities Support Project (VCSP), designed to assist the Government in implementation of its decentralized rural development strategy to alleviate rural poverty. By the end of the project, it is expected that, in a participatory manner and through the involvement of the rural development community and district councils, autonomous stakeholder groups at the village level will have identified and be fully operating productive community microprojects to be financed by the Local Investment Fund established by IFAD under the first phase of its VCSP.

30. In Albania, the International Development Foundation of the Irish League of Credit Unions will strengthen the rural financial sector which is extremely weak as a result of the financial, economic and political crisis of 1997. Activities will include: (a) training of existing credit unions; (b) formation of new credit unions; and (c) strengthening of the embryonic Albanian Credit Union's apex body. It is expected that the lessons learned from the project will help identify possible means of credit delivery under the IFAD-financed Small-scale Irrigation Rehabilitation Project and, most



importantly, lay the groundwork for the establishment of a national credit union movement capable of offering a sound system for savings and credit for rural Albanians.

31. In the post-disaster situation following Hurricane Mitch, the Honduras National Organization of Indigenous Lencas (ONILH) will be supported by an ECP grant to rehabilitate agricultural production and create community medical funds in 20 communities of the municipalities most affected by the hurricane in the departments of Intibuca and La Paz. ONILH will assist the target groups of two IFAD co-financed projects: the Rural Development Project in the South-Western Region and the Agricultural Development Programme for the Western Region.

32. Through provision of credit and training, Relief International will assist refugees and internally-displaced people in the Shahor District of Azerbaijan to embark on productive agricultural activities and thus make the transition from dependence on humanitarian food aid to greater self-reliance. The project complements IFAD's ongoing Farm Privatization Project (FPP) in Shahor District, which aims to promote credit associations for community development and increased agricultural income. FPP does not address the particular needs of refugees and internally-displaced people and one of the expected outcomes of the ECP project is to provide IFAD with valuable lessons on how to reach these populations.

33. Internally-displaced people with previous experience in the agriculture and livestock sectors are the beneficiaries of ECP's Livestock Restocking Project in Georgia. Over a 12-month period, the main activities to be carried out include: (a) identification of target villages and personnel to be trained; (b) training in restocking methodologies; (c) community development; (d) establishment of revolving credit schemes; and (e) creation of a sustainable revolving restocking system. The project will also complement the recent IFAD/World Bank-initiated Agricultural Development Project which did not target internally-displaced persons.

34. In Southern Africa, an ECP grant will finance the preparation of a three-year capacity-building programme to strengthen and promote sustainable networks among farmers' associations and movements, and selected intermediary NGOs, in order to increase the ability of small farmers to position themselves as market players and interlocutors in the context of the ongoing processes of liberalization and privatization in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) region. Focusing on six SADC countries and using a participatory approach, the project will: (a) assess capacity-building needs; (b) identify existing experiences that merit diffusion; and (c) provide a forum for networking among organizations in the countries concerned. The expected outcomes of this project are in line with IFAD's strategy in the region, which places the emphasis on improving market access and market organization of smallholders, and on provision of services that will help them respond to macro and sectoral reforms. Needs assessment and identification of experiences for exchange and diffusion will contribute to more informed and effective implementation of IFAD's regional strategy. Additionally, successful experiences identified could become prototypes for replication or expansion within individual projects in the countries involved.



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Region/Grant Title/Country in alphabetical order	USD	SDR	Beneficiary/Country
AFRICA I			
Support of Local Artisanal Development through the Transformation of Local Volcanic Materials on the Island of Fogo (Cape Verde)	50 000	35 607	Atelier Mar, Cape Verde
Pilot Initiative for Productive Community Investments (Guinea)	75 000	53 216	Association française des volontaires du progrès (AFVP), France
Seed Rice Multiplication Project (Liberia)	75 000	53 470	Action for Greater Harvest (AGRHA), Liberia
Income Diversification Project in Tamou County (Niger)	75 000	53 755	Association pour le Développement des Activités Rurales (ADAR), Niger
Artisanal Fisheries Development Project — Phase II (Sao Tome and Principe)	30 000	22 276	Ação para o Desenvolvimento de Iniciativas Locais (ZATONA/ADIL), Sao Tomé and Principe
Income-Generating Activities Related to Sesame Production and Processing (Senegal)	75 000	75 000	Enterprise Works Worldwide Inc., (formerly Appropriate Technology International (ATI)), Senegal
ASIA			
Support to Poverty Alleviation Pilot Project in Western Terai (Nepal)	71 000	50 888	Centre for Agricultural and Environmental Policy Research Extension and Development (CEAPRED), Nepal
Matale Regional Economic Advancement Project (Sri Lanka)	60 000	42 608	Sarvodaya Economic Enterprises Development Services (SEEDS), Sri Lanka
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN			
Community-Initiated Agriculture and Resource Management (Belize)	20 000	14 308	Kekchi Council for Belize (KCB), Belize
Emergency Assistance Rehabilitation of Agricultural Production for the Lenca Communities Affected by Hurricane Mitch (Honduras)	75 000	53 411	Honduras National Organization of Indigenous Lencas (ONILH), Honduras
Princess Town Project (Trinidad and Tobago)	54 000	38 347	Committee for the Uplifting of the Underprivileged of Princess Town (CUUP), Trinidad and Tobago



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NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA			
Small-Scale Irrigation Rehabilitation Project - Credit Component (Albania)	75 000	53 260	International Development Foundation of the Irish League of Credit Unions (ILCUF), Ireland
Strengthening the Capacities of Non-Governmental Organizations in the Context of the Preservation of Biodiversity and the Fight Against Soil Degradation in Arid and Semi-arid Ecosystems Project (Algeria)	75 000	53 314	Comité National d'ONGs Algériennes du Réseau International des ONGs de Lutte contre la Désertification (CNOA-RIOD), Algeria
Agricultural Credit and Training Scheme Project (Azerbaijan)	75 000	53 314	Relief International (RI), United States
Livestock Restocking Project (Georgia)	75 000	53 314	Relief International (RI), United States
Participatory Community Rangeland Management Activities (Jordan)	65 000	45 699	Queen Alia Fund (QAF), Jordan
Income-Generation and Food Security for Poor Rural Households Project in South Lebanon (Lebanon)	75 000	53 306	Imam Al-Sadder Foundation (ISF), Lebanon
Village Association Support Programme for Rural Women in the Taourirt-Taforalt Region in Eastern Morocco (Morocco)	71 000	50 563	Near East Foundation (NEF), United States
Support to Sustainable Community-based Health Care for the Raymah District Project (Yemen)	75 000	53 411	International Cooperation for Development (ICD - Yemen), Yemen
ECONOMIC POLICY AND RESOURCE STRATEGY DEPARTMENT			
Awareness-Raising and Capacity-Building Project (Cameroon)	30 000	21318	Caucus Africain des Femmes du RIOD, Cameroon
Capacity-Strengthening for Small-scale Farmers' Movements and NGOs in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Region for Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture (Southern Africa)	50 000	35 931	Development Innovations and Networks - East and Southern Africa (IREN-ESA), Zimbabwe



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Strengthening the United States Education and Awareness - Raising Campaign around the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (United States)	33 500	23 805	EarthAction, United States
Ninth IFAD/NGO Consultation in Cairo	100 000	74 451	Meeting, 13 - 16 December 1998
Advisory Group Meeting	18 000	13 401	Meeting, 30 March -1 April 1998



1998 IFAD/NGO ECP GRANTS

Country and Grant Title: **Cape Verde:** Support of Local Artisanal Development through the Transformation of Local Volcanic Materials on the Island of Fogo

Name of NGOs: Atelier Mar - Cape Verde; Associação ABC - Cape Verde

IFAD Grant Amount: USD 50 000

Objectives and Activities:

In order to provide information for future activities, and based on the recommendations of the formulation mission for the IFAD-proposed Rural Poverty Alleviation Programme (PLPR), the project will target unemployed youths on the Island of Fogo, Cape Verde, and will test and disseminate new technologies in connection with the implementation of microproject activities.

Through training in the transformation of local volcanic materials, the project seeks to: (a) reduce youth unemployment ; (b) develop small-scale import substituting activities by producing locally-made goods catering to the Cape Verdian construction industry; (c) build the capacity of a local NGO, the Associação ABC; and (d) build partnerships between the implementing organization and the Associação ABC.

Atelier Mar, one of the largest NGOs in Cape Verde, has been active for more than ten years. It specializes in supporting local artisanal development through research and technical innovation. Atelier Mar and the local NGO will together contribute USD 15 000 to the project.



Country and Grant Title:	Guinea: Pilot Initiative for Productive Community Investments
Name of NGO:	Association française des volontaires du progrès (AFVP) - France
IFAD Grant Amount:	USD 75 000

Objectives and Activities:

The ECP-funded Pilot Initiative for Productive Community Investments (PIPCI) supplements the IFAD co-financed Village Communities Support Project (VCSP), designed to assist the Government of Guinea in implementing its decentralized rural development strategy to alleviate rural poverty.

PIPCI will pave the way for the second phase of VCSP, which will introduce, on a larger scale, community investments to be funded under the VCSP's Local Investment Fund (FIL). During the first phase of VCSP, FIL financed only social infrastructure, but it is expected that, during the second phase, it will cover productive and income-generating community investments. PIPCI will develop complete operational procedures for such investments. More specifically, these procedures will include: (a) a list of productive investments eligible for funding under the FIL; (b) detailed eligibility criteria for each type of investment; (c) specific financing plans for such investments; and (d) detailed implementation procedures for the establishment of infrastructures, and their operation, financial management and maintenance. The initiative, including a complementary African Development Foundation test operation, will build on ongoing pilots implemented as part of VCSP's preparatory process.

By the end of the project, it is expected that, in a participatory manner and through the involvement of the rural development community and district councils, autonomous stakeholder groups at the village level will have identified and will be fully operating productive community microprojects. PIPCI will provide these groups with literacy, technical and management training including back-up support. Clear guidelines for eligibility and the scope of responsibilities of the diverse stakeholders in the design, implementation, operation and maintenance of productive investments will also be prepared and integrated into the VCSP Operations Manual.

Association française des volontaires du progrès (AFVP), a French NGO, has acquired considerable experience in Guinea. It was founded in 1963, and operates in more than 20 countries.



ANNEX

Country and Grant Title:	Liberia: Seed Rice Multiplication Project
Name of NGO:	Action for Greater Harvest (AGRHA) - Liberia
IFAD Grant Amount:	USD 75 000

Objectives and Activities:

The project takes into account Liberia's difficult circumstances in the aftermath of a civil war which has destroyed the agricultural production base and infrastructure, and has led to massive displacements of people in rural areas. The project aims to achieve two objectives simultaneously: (a) with IFAD lending operations suspended since 1989, enable IFAD to provide some assistance to those who have been hardest hit by the war; and (b) lay the groundwork for the resumption of IFAD activities in the country. The project has been developed in close collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP), FAO, the West African Rice Development Association (WARDA) and the Ministry of Agriculture of Liberia.

The ultimate goal is to contribute to reduction of poverty and food insecurity among rural households in the Zorzor district of Lofa County, through increased paddy production. Targeting 4 000 families, of whom 2 000 are returnees, internally-displaced persons and other war-affected farmers, the project will complement ongoing efforts of other donor agencies by providing required additional planting materials, and improved farm tools and equipment, to local farmers in order to increase their food production potential. The seed multiplication and distribution system is expected to lay the foundation for a much broader IFAD intervention in the country. Specifically, the objectives are to: (a) multiply seed rice to attain 275 tonnes for both upland and swamp cultivation within 15 months; and (b) distribute about 275 tonnes of seed rice to approximately 4 000 local farmers in Lofa by December 2000. Activities include: (a) selection and multiplication of seed rice; (b) distribution of multiplied seed rice; and (c) establishment of one village bank for seed rice.

In view of the limited capacity of existing public institutions to assume meaningful leadership in organizing participatory recovery programmes, attention will be focused on the existing and potential capacity of NGOs and other civil society groups to provide the necessary implementation support.

Action for Greater Harvest (AGRHA), legally registered in 1996, works to encourage local farmers to become more productive and food self-sufficient. Through collaboration with the United Nations Humanitarian Assistance Coordination Office (UN/HACO), and the Family Planning Association of Liberia (FPAL), it has been involved in mobilizing, sensitizing and training local farmers in the region. It has also conducted an assessment of cash crops farms with the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), and is currently managing small rice demonstration plots in other districts in Lofa County. AGRHA is contributing USD 15 685 to the project.



Country and Grant Title: Niger: Income Diversification Project in Tamou County

Name of NGO: Association pour le Développement des Activités Rurales (ADAR) - Niger

IFAD Grant Amount: USD 75 000

Objectives and Activities:

The objective of the project is to generate knowledge and detailed information for IFAD's ongoing and future projects in Niger on artisanal training and development. More specifically, the aims are to: (a) increase and diversify the income of the population in the district of Tamou; (b) contribute to the protection of the National Park (Parc du W situated along the Niger Valley); and (c) strengthen the capacities of a local southern NGO, Association pour le Développement des Activités Rurales (ADAR), and the partnership between ADAR and a northern NGO, the Italy-based Comitato di Coordinamento delle Organizzazioni per il Servizio Volontario (COSV).

Activities are to: (a) organize information sessions on conservation (wildlife, biodiversity, etc.) of the National Park and the potential impact in terms of environmental protection and income-generation (tourism), as well as on conflict resolution between park managers and the local population; (b) provide artisanal training for the local population (mainly youths and the unemployed) to increase/diversify their incomes and alleviate pressure on the park's natural resources (grazing, hunting, fishing, etc.); and (c) provide credit for women to undertake small-scale income-generating activities and handicrafts. A study on the potential for artisanal development will be prepared.

COSV will cofinance the project with USD 43 764, and ADAR will contribute USD 2 062.



ANNEX

Country and Grant Title:	Sao Tome and Principe: Artisanal Fisheries Development Project — Phase II
Name of NGO:	Ação para o Desenvolvimento de Iniciativas Locais (ZATONA/ADIL) - Sao Tome and Principe
IFAD Grant Amount:	USD 30 000

Objectives and Activities:

Artisanal fisheries in Sao Tome is an important means of livelihood for a significant number of IFAD's target groups. The Fund has financed two phases of an artisanal fisheries project in the country: the first focused on increasing production, which rose by 300%; the second provided support for the creation of artisanal fishermen's organizations and the development of a self-financing mechanism to foster sustainability and provide for the eventual transfer of project management activities to the beneficiaries. These activities were entrusted to Ação para o Desenvolvimento de Iniciativas Locais (ZATONA/ADIL) which, although successful in mobilizing and forming fishermen groups, could not adequately build the capacity of these groups to sustain their activities in the long run, due to poor overall management of the project (two project directors removed, project suspended for more than a year). By the end of the project, extended by six months to 31 December 1997, the Fishermen's Economic Interest Group (GIEPA), born under the guidance of ZATONA/ADIL, was still very young, represented only about 25% of the artisanal fishermen on the island, and was not ready to carry out the functions it had been expected to assume: a) distribution and commercialization of inputs; and (b) management of a motor repair garage.

While IFAD is reviewing policy alternatives for small island states and evaluating past experiences in fisheries development, it is essential that ZATONA/ADIL continues to support the institutional development of GIEPA in order to consolidate the results achieved under the previous project and enable it to work independently.

The project, which is also supported by a cooperating institution, the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), aims to build capacity and develop the institutional framework of the fishermen's group for independent and sustainable activities. Targeting 2 000 artisanal fishermen and *palaye* women, project activities are: a) training and support for GIEPA's economic activities, primarily training of commercial and administrative directors in a number of fields ranging from market analysis, price and sales policies, selection of goods and identification of suppliers to financial management and establishment of accounting procedures; b) support for expanding GIEPA's economic activities, especially the sale of inputs and management of a motor repair garage; c) organization and implementation of the sale of petrol to fishing communities within the sphere of GIEPA; and d) support for *palaye* women through improved management of economic activities, provision of improved technologies for product transformation and improved product commercialization. It is expected that after 12 months of continued support, this project will bring long-term sustainability to fishermen's groups and economic activities.



Country and Grant Title: **Senegal:** Income-Generating Activities Related to Sesame Production and Processing

Name of NGO: Enterprise Works Worldwide Inc. (former ATI) - Senegal

IFAD Grant Amount: USD 75 000

Objectives and Activities:

IFAD's country strategy for Senegal aims to increase food production and rural incomes through two main channels: a) strengthening human resources; and b) benefiting from opportunities offered by growing and diversified markets. The grant, which will support sesame production and processing, through the testing, introduction and dissemination of new technology, is in line with IFAD's strategy in the country by providing a basis for future income increases of IFAD's target group, by concentrating on a hitherto neglected product and by addressing the requirements of a new segment of the market for agricultural products.

Farmers appreciate sesame as a crop that needs little attention and input, can be intercropped with millet and does not interfere with the agricultural calendar. It is consumed in local dishes, either pounded or as oil, while the remaining paste is used as animal feed or processed into flour.

More specifically, the objectives of this project are to: (a) test and introduce appropriate technology, the ram press, to promote village self-sufficiency in sesame oil production; and (b) test and promote income-generating activities related to sesame production and processing. It will provide guiding principles and technical information for the introduction of sesame cultivation and processing activities in ongoing and future IFAD investment projects. Such activities could also serve as a basis for other related macroenterprise activities, such as the production of equipment, repair and maintenance, and trading.

The activities supported by the grant include: (a) local production and marketing of a manual sesame oil press; (b) promotion of sesame cultivation through the dissemination of technical information, seeds and oil presses; and (c) adaptation and field testing of a motorized sesame press.

The Senegalese branch of the United States non-profit making organization Enterprise Works Worldwide Inc., formerly Appropriate Technology International (ATI), has long-standing experience with treadle pumps, improved stoves and oil presses. It has already carried out some minor testing activities in the field of sesame oil production and now proposes to expand and consolidate the promising results achieved.



ANNEX

Country and Grant Title: **Nepal:** Support to Poverty Alleviation Pilot Project in Western Terai

Name of NGO: Centre for Agricultural and Environmental Policy Research Extension and Development (CEAPRED) - Nepal

IFAD Grant Amount: USD 71 000

Objectives and Activities:

The overall aim of this co-financed pilot project is to contribute towards improving the implementation of the IFAD-financed Poverty Alleviation Project in Western Terai (PAPWT), one of the major initiatives of the Government of Nepal targeted at the rural poor.

The objectives are to: (a) introduce a participatory development methodology and operational targeting mechanisms; (b) initiate social awareness and mobilization programmes; (c) promote sustainable community-based organizations and develop the skills of target groups through training and extension activities; and (d) strengthen the institutional capacity of government service providers and improve the effectiveness of delivery of their services to the rural poor in a demand-driven and participatory manner.

A major benefit expected from this project is to help the PAPWT ensure that future project assistance will be targeted at the rural poor, based on the demands and aspirations of beneficiaries, and their full participation and ownership. Outcomes are expected to identify the characteristics of the poor, their existing resources and income, and their strategies to cope with poverty. Capacity-building of 20 social mobilizers and empowerment of local communities are also expected to play an important role in future development.

The Centre for Agricultural and Environmental Policy Research Extension and Development (CEAPRED), established in 1990, has wide experience in mobilizing groups, and developing and institutionalizing the concept of participatory development in all five development regions of Nepal. CEAPRED is contributing USD 14 500 from its own resources.



Country and Grant Title: **Sri Lanka:** Matale Regional Economic Advancement Project

Name of NGO: Sarvodaya Economic Enterprises Development Services (SEEDS) - Sri Lanka

IFAD Grant Amount: USD 60 000

Objectives and Activities:

The project supports the newly-approved IFAD-funded Matale Regional Economic Advancement Project in Sri Lanka by defining and developing the concept of deploying business promoters to enhance micro and small enterprises in Matale District. The project targets unemployed youth and women and existing and/or potential entrepreneurs in the district.

The aim is to deploy a business promoter in each of the four Divisional Secretariats in Matale District, and establish marketing services. Activities are to: (a) identify business opportunities through economic participatory rural appraisals; (b) initiate and manage enterprises through entrepreneurship training, group formation, feasibility testing and information dissemination; (c) provide technology and business management training to entrepreneurs; (d) establish enterprise information centres in order to collect, process and disseminate detailed business information; (e) link credit facilities; and (f) test technologies.

The project will be implemented by Sarvodaya Economic Enterprises Development Services (SEEDS), in collaboration with two smaller NGOs. SEEDS, established in 1987 to foster economic development in the poorer communities of Sri Lanka, has worked in Matale District since it was set up. It has over 10 800 members (66 % women). SEEDS has a successful track record in establishing village banks, societies, and micro and small businesses in Sri Lanka. In the Matale district, SEEDS has created 15 village banks and established over 1 400 businesses (62 % non-farm).



ANNEX

Country and Grant Title: **Belize:** Community-Initiated Agriculture and Resource Management

Name of NGO: Kekchi Council for Belize (KCB) - Belize

IFAD Grant Amount: USD 20 000

Objectives and Activities:

The nine-month project aims to test a new institutional approach by developing a community-initiated indigenous NGO, the Sarstoon Temash National Park Co-Management Committee (STNPCC), that will become responsible for co-management of the Sarstoon Temash National Park together with the Government of Belize. Co-management of protected areas is a strategy that seeks to promote shared authority and responsibility for natural resource protection between governments and local users. Co-management of the Sarstoon Temash National Park will be the first such initiative between the indigenous communities living next to a protected area and the Government of Belize. It is expected that the project will generate important information for the IFAD/Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)-supported Community-Initiated Agriculture and Resource Management Project in the Toledo District of Belize.

The specific objectives of the ECP project are to: (a) assist the registered Sarstoon Temash National Park Co-management Committee (STNPCC) in becoming a fully operational NGO responsible for co-management of the Sarstoon Temash National Park in collaboration with the Government of Belize; (b) set up appropriate administrative and financial systems to facilitate the management of the STNPCC; and (c) provide adequate training for staff of those systems.

It is envisaged that the project will constitute an integral part of preparatory activities for implementation of a much broader co-management plan submitted by the Kekchi Council to GEF/World Bank. The World Bank has indicated that formal establishment of STNPCC as an NGO will be a precondition for approval of a mid-size GEF grant to finance the Kekchi proposal.

The Kekchi Council of Belize (KCB), formally legalized in 1992, was first formed as a community group in 1986. It has actively advocated for the Kekchi Maya of Belize by participating in the Indigenous People's Training Programme, and by forming alliances with the Belize Indigenous Training Institute, Saskatchewan Indian Federated College, Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC Canada), and other Central American organizations dedicated to development issues facing indigenous populations.



Country and Grant Title: **Honduras:** Emergency Assistance Rehabilitation of Agricultural Production for the Lenca Communities Affected by Hurricane Mitch

Name of NGO: Honduras National Organization of Indigenous Lencas (ONILH) - Honduras

IFAD Grant Amount: USD 75 000

Objectives and Activities:

In the post-disaster situation following Hurricane Mitch, the grant will be used for the rehabilitation of agricultural production and the creation of Community Medical Funds in 20 communities of the municipalities most affected by the hurricane in the departments of Intibucá and La Paz, where about 1 500 families have lost their homes, production, agricultural tools and implements. The project will assist the target groups of two IFAD co-financed projects: the Rural Development Project in the South-Western Region (PROSOC) and the Agricultural Development Programme for the Western Region (PLANDERO).

The grant to ONILH aims to support Rural Savings and Loans Organizations (CRACs) which are essentially based on mobilization of savings. The purpose is to re-capitalize the CRACs at a time when, due to the hurricane, families are having to withdraw savings for immediate emergency and reconstruction needs. Furthermore, in the present situation, the CRACs in the hurricane-stricken communities are unlikely to be able to recover a large part of their loans. Apart from providing loans for production, the grant would also enable the CRACs to set up community rotating funds for the purchase and distribution of medical supplies.

ONILH is the apex body of 2 000 grass-roots organizations, over 1 000 local indigenous councils, 60 municipal indigenous councils, and six departmental indigenous councils. In the target area of the project, it has organized about 800 rural savings and loan associations. It operates at the national level (Honduras) and was created with contributions of the local indigenous councils to channel resources to the CRACs for financing productive activities of members and clients.



ANNEX

Country and Grant Title: **Trinidad and Tobago: Princess Town Project**

Name of NGO: Committee for the Uplifting of the Underprivileged of Princess Town (CUUP) - Trinidad and Tobago

IFAD Grant Amount: USD 54 000

Objectives and Activities:

Considering that annual imports of sheep and goat meat total 1.5 million kg, that only 5% of total demand for small ruminant meat is satisfied by local production, that demand for local lamb is strong and bound to increase through tourism development, and that local lamb compares favourably with frozen imports from New Zealand and Australia, the project aims to increase the local lamb production levels of small resource-poor farmers in Princess Town, where 50% of all households live below the national poverty line and where 40% of households are headed by women.

Given that the inadequate and inconsistent level of lamb supply has been attributed to a limited production base and poor husbandry methods, the project will set up a cooperative of 20 families (five of them woman-headed). The cooperative will provide five breeding ewes per family and all inputs needed, and will buy and sell the sheep produced at market prices. It is envisaged that production will be of 200 weaners per annum and that 3.2 tons of lamb will be produced each year after stabilization in the second year.

The project will also be a pilot project in a country which has had no IFAD operations, and will serve as the basis for developing an investment project strategy for the year 2000.



Country and Grant Title:	Albania: Small-Scale Irrigation Rehabilitation Project - Credit Component
Name of NGO:	International Development Foundation of the Irish League of Credit Unions (ILCUF) - Ireland
IFAD Grant Amount:	USD 75 000

Objectives and Activities:

Following the financial, economic and political crisis of 1997, Albania's financial sector is very weak. There is a lack of adequate banking, financial services and intermediation, especially in agricultural credit. Only a very small portion of existing credit systems is designed for the disadvantaged rural poor and small-scale entrepreneurs who have a crucial need for secure savings and low-cost loan schemes.

The project will complement the IFAD-financed Small-Scale Irrigation Rehabilitation Project (SSIRP), which aims to increase the food security and incomes of rural households through rehabilitation of small-scale farmer-managed irrigation schemes. With the collapse of the institution originally chosen to implement the credit component of SSIRP (the Rural Commercial Bank), it was decided to reformulate the credit component by exploring alternative options for credit delivery through the Albanian Credit Union Development Project (ACUDP), currently funded by the Irish League of Credit Unions (ILCU) through its International Development Foundation (ILCUF) and co-financed by Catholic Relief Service Albania and the European Union Partnership Programme.

The ACUDP began activities in January 1996 with a pilot three-year project. ACUDP has developed a four-year work plan for the 1999-2002 period. The ECP grant will cover the first 12 months of the project, starting in March 1999. The project will be co-funded by ILCUF, the Government of Ireland and the apex body of the Irish Credit Union Movement.

The activities to be undertaken with the support of the ECP grant will build on the results obtained during the pilot project and will include: (a) training of existing credit unions; (b) formation of new credit unions; and (c) strengthening of the embryonic Albanian Credit Union's apex body. All appropriate services, including monitoring, bookkeeping, loan servicing and administration will be provided. Follow-up training programmes will be carried out for field officers and credit union directors by local and international experts. This will be implemented by ILCUF-ACUDP and financed by ILCUF (62%), IFAD (33%) and other donors including the Government of Ireland (5%). The total cost of the project is USD 226 640 over a 12-month period.

It is expected that the lessons learned from the project will help identify possible means of credit delivery under the SSIRP and, most importantly, lay the groundwork for the establishment of a national credit union movement in Albania, resulting in a sound mechanism for savings and credit for rural Albanians. The establishment of a national apex body will improve coordination of credit union activities and communication with parallel development initiatives in Albania. The legislative environment within which Albanian credit unions operate will be further strengthened by the project.

Since its creation in 1989, the ILCUF has supported projects in over 70 countries to promote credit unions at local level, through support for the unions themselves and for regional associations. In Albania, ILCUF's aim is to develop projects organized on a cooperative basis and involving some form of savings and loan schemes. The foundation's status as an NGO has allowed it to access cofinancing from the European Union (EU) for three major credit union development projects in Albania, The Gambia and the Russian Federation.



ANNEX

Country and Grant Title:	Algeria: Strengthening the Capacities of Non-Governmental Organizations in the Context of the Preservation of Biodiversity and the Fight Against Soil Degradation in Arid and Semi-arid Ecosystems Project
Name of NGO:	Comité National d'ONGs Algériennes du Réseau International des ONGs de Lutte contre la Désertification (CNOA-RIOD) - Algeria
IFAD Grant Amount:	USD 75 000

Objectives and Activities:

The project will address major problems affecting the oasis of Taghit, the most urgent of which are: a) salinization; b) loss of biodiversity due to groundwater pollution; c) low land fertility; and d) serious hygienic problems due to inappropriate waste-water use for date plantations, causing damage to the inhabitants and the quality of dates. Cofinancing institutions are the Global Environmental Facility, the Fonds Canadien pour les Initiatives Locales (FCIL), the Government of France, Algeria's national oil company (SONATRACH) and local public authorities.

The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the capacities of NGOs and community-based organizations to help communities embark on more-sustainable use of natural resources through testing of new technologies and training of the local population and extension personnel in sustainable resource management. Activities proposed include the construction of a water-waste treatment plant and the establishment of a pilot farm for the extension of agro and sylvo-pastoral techniques in arid zones to combat salinization and desertification. Following specific training and workshops, a community-based structure for managing the operations and maintenance of the waste-water treatment plant will be created. The project, although not directly linked to specific ongoing IFAD projects in the country, is expected to provide valuable information that will help lay the groundwork for future investments.



Country and Grant Title: **Azerbaijan:** Agricultural Credit and Training Scheme Project

Name of NGO: Relief International (RI) - United States

IFAD Grant Amount: USD 75 000

Objectives and Activities:

The one-year project complements IFAD's ongoing Farm Privatization Project (FPP) in the Shahor District in Nakhichevan territory, which aims to promote credit associations for community development and increase agricultural incomes.

The project targets refugees and internally-displaced people living in the vicinity of the area covered by the FPP, but who do not benefit from it. Its aim is to help them start agricultural activities that will improve their livelihoods and help them make the transition from dependence on humanitarian food aid to greater self-reliance. The project will also have a conflict-mediation role by utilizing a community-based decision-making approach.. If successful, the project will also provide valuable lessons to IFAD on how best to reach refugees and internally-displaced people, who are often the poorest of the poor.

Activities supported by the ECP grant include: (a) provision of credit facilities through a combination of grants and loans, including reinvestment plans; (b) identification of contact farmers who are attempting to diversify and/or adopt new technologies and have the potential to become demonstration farmers; (c) identification of technical training needs and preparation of training schedules; (d) training in, and advisory and technical support for, among others, farm enterprise management, basic accounts and business skills.

Relief International (RI) has been continuously active in Azerbaijan since 1993. It has a highly-trained and dedicated staff and a well-developed organizational and managerial structure. In Azerbaijan, RI has developed an effective methodology of integrated rural development programming which has been successful in supporting the transition from reliance on state economic initiatives in the aftermath of the collapse of the Soviet Union to the creation and empowerment of feasible and sustainable systems of accountability and responsibility at community level. RI has worked with FAO and UNHCR in Azerbaijan since 1995. It has built relationships with local *kolkhoz* and *sovkhos* officials, and with the Ministry of Health, and maintains partnerships with a variety of national NGOs. In 1998, RI collaborated with IFAD on rural restocking programmes in Burundi and Rwanda.



ANNEX

Country and Grant Title: Georgia: Livestock Restocking Project

Name of NGO: Relief International (RI) - United States

IFAD Grant Amount: USD 75 000

Objectives and Activities:

The project will complement the recent IFAD and World Bank-initiated Agricultural Development Project (ADP) by targeting internally-displaced persons (IDPs) who have not been covered by the ADP.

The project aims to improve, through the provision of livestock, the household income and nutritional status of IDP populations who had previously worked in agriculture or livestock breeding and who have no stable income due to war and displacement. Restocking is a viable means of diversification of the rural economy in Georgia, increasing food security and alleviating poverty at the rural household level. Moreover, as a World Bank Country Study indicates, there is a significant need to develop livestock production systems and technologies. However, without large subsidies, this effort must start from the current smallholder agriculture and cottage industry base, through testing new technologies and institutional approaches, organizing training programmes and establishing private extension, veterinary, marketing and financial services, targeting the most vulnerable populations, among whom IDPs are very prominent.

Over a 12-month period, activities covered by ECP will include: (a) identification of target villages and personnel to be trained; (b) training in restocking methodologies; (c) community development; (d) establishment of revolving credit schemes; and (e) creation of a sustainable revolving restocking system. Drawing on field experience, the project will be based on an in-kind repayment, rather than cash, basis since the latter requires complicated banking and financial arrangements.

Apart from generating economic and financial benefits, it is expected that the project will also have a conflict mediation role by utilizing a community-based decision-making approach.



Country and Grant Title: **Jordan:** Participatory Community Rangeland Management Activities

Name of NGO: Queen Alia Fund (QAF) - Jordan

IFAD Grant Amount: USD 65 000

Objectives and Activities:

The project supplements the IFAD-financed Phase I of the National Programme for Rangeland Rehabilitation and Development (NPRRD I) by introducing the NPRRD's participatory approach to the local community. Participatory approaches in community development in Jordan are still relatively new, as is people's understanding of NGOs as implementors of sustainable development.

The project aims to demonstrate an innovative and sustainable participatory approach to local community development through the implementation of training programmes that provide beneficiaries with the skills and principles of sustainable rangeland management and community self-reliance. The project will pave the way for long-term management of rangelands resources by the local Bedouin community.

The activities will be to: (a) form local management committees; (b) formally launch the activities in the community; (c) identify the target group; (d) finalize the training curricula; (e) conduct Participatory Rural Appraisal workshops at field level; and (f) conduct training workshops on Rangeland Rehabilitation and Development for community members.

The Queen Alia Fund (QAF), the largest Jordanian NGO, has wide experience in similar activities throughout the country. The organization, established in 1977, has almost 50 community development centres, mainly in remote rural areas in Jordan. In June 1994, QAF opened the Queen Zein Al Sharaf Training Complex for Development, which offers specialized training for trainers in community development, communication, business skills, pre-school education, and vocational skills. The complex also includes a community development centre which deals with the practical application of training and serves the needs of the surrounding community.



Country and Grant Title:	Lebanon: Income-Generation and Food Security for Poor Rural Households in South Lebanon Project
Name of NGO:	Imam Al-Sadder Foundation (ISF) - Lebanon
IFAD Grant Amount:	USD 75 000

Objectives and Activities:

If successfully implemented, the project has the potential to provide an entry point for IFAD in South Lebanon. The grant will not only help the poorest of the poor rural women in the region, but will also make IFAD visible in South Lebanon for future project activities, as envisaged in the Country Opportunities and Strategic Options Paper (COSOP). Beside IFAD support, the project will be co-financed by the Imam Al-Sadder Foundation (ISF), with an amount of USD 107 000, and by the beneficiaries, who will contribute the equivalent of USD 47 000 in kind.

Targeting 220 rural women living in poor villages in South Lebanon, who head households as a result of the recent civil war, the project will distribute Shami dairy goats on a grant basis. Each woman will raise one goat and will give back to ISF one female kid to be distributed to other beneficiaries. Outreach and coverage of rural women will take place through an in-kind revolving fund. The first 140 Shami goats provided by the project will be the nucleus for the revolving fund. New-born male kids will be recuperated by ISF, fattened and sold. Sale revenue will be used to purchase additional female goats.

Prior to distribution of the goats, the project will train rural women in basic raising and feeding techniques and requirements. Training will cover proper quantitative and qualitative feeding; prevention and treatment of goat diseases; milking and milk handling. Because of lack of marketing outlets in the area, the NGO will also assist, on a pilot basis, rural women to establish very few small producer cooperatives. If successful, the initiative will be expanded. ISF will purchase any excess milk not consumed or sold locally by the women and use this surplus as raw material for a pastry-producing unit.

Lack of security in South Lebanon as a result of war has made it very difficult, if not impossible, for donors to operate except through NGOs. The Imam Al Sadder Foundation is well placed to cost-effectively implement the proposed project. ISF grass-roots projects focus on the basic needs of local communities, such as agricultural development, community development, empowerment of women, child survival, nutrition and health, environment and population issues. It has been satisfactorily implementing several community-oriented activities in collaboration with other donors operating in Lebanon, such as the Norwegian Aid Committee (NORWAC), the Islamic Development Bank, UNICEF and Save the Children Fund.



Country and Grant Title: **Morocco:** Village Association Support Programme for Rural Women in the Taourirt-Taforalt Region in Eastern Morocco

Name of NGO: Near East Foundation (NEF) - United States

IFAD Grant Amount: USD 71 000

Objectives and Activities:

The project builds on the experience and lessons learned from the Appropriate Technology Training Centre (ATTC), created by the Near East Foundation (NEF) and largely financed by an ECP grant in 1993.

The overall objective of the grant is to improve the food security and living standards of rural women and their families through the organized participation of women in civil society by using an approach which combines training, technical assistance, community organizing and appropriate technology. The ECP grant will allow NEF to extend its programme to the Eastern Region of Morocco and, by replicating and adapting modules for organizing and training women for income-generation, and through the production and distribution of fuel-saving stoves, link it with IFAD's ongoing Rural Development Project for Taourirt-Taforalt.

The project will: (a) enhance women's ability to organize groups and associations to receive training and implement income-generating activities; (b) enhance business skills by implementing training workshops and community microprojects; and (c) introduce fuel-saving stoves to make more time available for income-generation, and to reduce depletion of forest resources. It is also expected that the groups will develop into legally-constituted associations.

Since the beginning of its operations in Morocco in 1987, NEF's approach to socio-economic development has moved beyond technical assistance to develop into a holistic programme to help families through the use of appropriate technology as a catalyst for social change. In Morocco, it has a long track record of collaboration with Moroccan authorities at all levels. In collaboration with several Moroccan Government agencies and donor organizations, the ATTC has recently launched a campaign to expand its activities to 100 more villages over a five-year period.



ANNEX

Country and Grant Title: **Yemen:** Support to Sustainable Community-based Health Care for the Raymah District

Name of NGO: International Cooperation for Development (ICD - Yemen) - Yemen

IFAD Grant Amount: USD 75 000

Objectives and Activities:

The grant aims to improve access to health services for the poor who cannot afford to leave the area to access such services, and will complement the IFAD-supported Raymah Area Development Project, a poverty alleviation project in one of the most disadvantaged areas of Yemen with a major participatory community development component.

More specifically, the ECP grant will finance activities to: (a) improve road access to the Rural District Hospital in Jebin; (b) provide training for women primary health care workers where training has so far been minimal; (c) improve safe access to potable water; and (d) support local initiatives towards environmental health. To implement these activities, the project will strengthen the District Health Council (DHC), a community institution which operates in the context of a new decentralized health system aimed at greater efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

The DHC is the prototype of a participatory institution that can be replicated not only in Raymah but in other parts of Yemen, as well as elsewhere. It is envisaged that the success of such an institution can help increase the confidence and self-reliance of the local community as it strives to play a more active role. It is expected that the project will successfully help turn DHC into a local NGO that can work independently to generate its own resources and independently access donor funds for well-conceived and prepared plans.

International Cooperation for Development (ICD) is a department of the Catholic Institute for International Relations (CIIR). Since its creation in 1975, ICD - Yemen has achieved a proven track record in Raymah area and enjoys a good reputation with the Government of Yemen, the donor community in Yemen and, most importantly, the inhabitants of Raymah. ICD aims to pilot community-based health care systems to include cost-sharing elements for access to services in order to promote financial sustainability, decentralization of services and ownership. ICD is providing USD 662 768 to the project.



Country and Grant Title:	Cameroon: Awareness-Raising and Capacity-Building Project
Name of NGO:	Caucus Africain des Femmes du RIOD - Cameroon
IFAD Grant Amount:	USD 30 000

Objectives and Activities:

The grant extended to the Cameroonian chapter of the Caucus Africain des Femmes du RIOD will support an annual programme of awareness and capacity-building among women's groups in ten countries (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Sudan and Zimbabwe). The programme will include: (a) identification of active women's associations in each country to act as the focal points for dissemination of information material on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD) and desertification; (b) preparation of such material in all national languages; (c) organization of meetings of women's groups for exchange of information and experiences; and (d) formation of women's leaders to contribute to building the institutional capacity of women's groups and thus facilitate their involvement in the implementation of the Convention in the countries covered by the project.

Caucus Africain des Femmes du RIOD is a regional sub-network of the International NGO Network on Desertification (RIOD) created in November 1994 by the NGOs involved in the negotiations on the CCD. The establishment of RIOD was based on the view that, through exchange of information, experiences and ideas, NGOs and community-based organizations will be more effective in their efforts to fight desertification. The NGOs organized in RIOD have developed an NGO Action Plan to Combat Desertification which aims to facilitate community participation in the planning and implementation of National Action Plans (NAPs) by, among others, organizing NGO fora in each country, awareness-raising campaigns and community consultations. The work of the network is facilitated by focal points at the national, sub-regional and global levels. The main objective of the Caucus Africain des Femmes du RIOD is to facilitate the participation of rural women, particularly from Sahelian countries, in implementation of the CCD at grass-roots levels.



ANNEX

Region and Grant Title:	Southern Africa: Capacity-Strengthening for Small-scale Farmers' Movements and NGOs in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Region for Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture
Name of NGO:	Development Innovations and Networks (East and Southern Africa) (IRED - ESA) - Zimbabwe
IFAD Grant Amount:	USD 50 000

Objectives and Activities:

The grant will finance the preparation of a three-year capacity-building programme to strengthen and promote sustainable networks among farmers' associations and movements, and selected intermediary NGOs, in order to increase small farmers' ability to position themselves as market players and interlocutors in the context of the ongoing process of liberalization and privatization in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) region.

Focusing on six countries and using a participatory approach, the project will: (a) assess capacity-building needs; (b) identify existing experiences that merit diffusion; and (c) provide a forum for networking among organizations in the countries concerned. The project will enable target groups to define their own strategies and strengthen their ability to defend themselves in policy discussions and participate in action programmes.

The expected outcome of the project is in line with IFAD's strategy in the region, which places emphasis on improving the market access and market organization of smallholders, and the provision of services to help them respond to macro and sectoral reforms and thus improve income-generation opportunities and food security status. Needs assessment and identification of experiences for exchange and diffusion will contribute to a more informed and effective implementation of IFAD's regional strategy. Successful experiences could become prototypes for replication or expansion within individual projects in the countries concerned.

The project will be implemented in collaboration with FAO and CROCEVIA, an Italian NGO, with contributions of USD 47 000 and USD 15 000 respectively.

IRED is a global network with regional offices in Latin America, Asia, Africa and Europe which facilitates exchanges of experience and communication, and organizes technical support and institutional capacity-building with its partners. In East and Southern Africa, IRED works with over 100 organizations in 15 countries. These partners are either local associations formed by marginalized people to meet their common needs, or support organizations working directly with the grass roots. In addition to its Regional Development Support Service based in Harare, IRED has a sub-regional office in Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa.



Country and Grant Title: **United States:** Strengthening the United States Education and Awareness - Raising Campaign around the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD)

Name of NGO: EarthAction - United States

IFAD Grant Amount: USD 33 500

Objectives and Activities:

The project aims to: (a) raise awareness of the United States public about the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD); (b) broaden the base of NGO support for the CCD, particularly among NGOs with networks in key states of senators on the Foreign Relations Committee; (c) increase business support for the CCD, particularly in the same key states; and (d) launch a significant media outreach effort, both nationally and locally within key states.

The activities supported by the grant focus on the preparation of tailored publications and educational materials about the CCD and its importance to the United States for three diverse audiences: (a) environmental groups in key states; (b) senators and Senate staff; (c) the business community (as a potential ally and strategic link to members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee); and (d) media services.

EarthAction played a very active role in the negotiations for the CCD and has mounted a strong advocacy campaign in order to build a critical mass of support for the CCD within the United States and for ratification of the treaty by the US Senate.

