

REGIONAL FINANCE AND PLANNING PROJECT
(650 - 0012)

MID-TERM EVALUATION

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May 1990

*with extraction of the work
FITA, NGO, which was operating*

Prepared by

*Darfur at the time of the
evaluation*

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List of Abbreviations

ABS	: Agricultural Bank of Sudan
CDC	: Community Development Committee
ELFWOA	: El Fasher Well Owners Association
GOS	: Government of Sudan
HIP	: High Impact Project Area
IES	: Institute of Environmental Studies, (University of Khartoum).
KAEP	:
LOP	: Life of Project Plan
NWC	: National Water Corporation
PP	: Project Plan
PVOs	: Private Voluntary Organization(s)
RC	: Rural Council
RDP	: Rural Development Project
RFPP	: Regional Finance and Planning Project
RTC	: Regional Technical Committee
SREP	: Sudan Renewal Energy Project
SSE/C	: Small Scale Enterprise Credit
TC	: Town Council
VDC	: Village Development Committee

WC : Water Committee
WDC : Women Development Committee
WID : Women-in-Development
WSARP : Western Sudan Agricultural Research Project

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Regional Finance and Planning Project RFFP is currently implemented in Darfur and Kordofan Regions, by 3 PWOs, VITA in Darfur and CARE and SCF in Kordofan. The project is jointly funded by USAID and Sudan Government, and is supervised by two Regional Technical Committees, one for each region. Present project life plan is effective up to August 1991.
2. The purpose of the project is to promote decentralized development, through tapping the potential dynamism of Sudanese tradition of self-help. Its objectives are to promote decentralization, enhance community organization, self-reliance and management capabilities, train leadership and communities to carry out sustainable development. The project operates in 5 main fields of: water development, Agriculture, agro-forestry, business credit and Women-in-Development, through implementing sub-projects in each of these areas.
3. Methods to implement projects include: extension services to beneficiaries, proposal formulation by committees assisted by PWOs, and administration of activities through PWOs.



Each PWO works as an autonomous body, consisting of a number of technical units, led by a core staff of expatriates, and employing a variant number of seconded, loaned or directly hired Sudanese, of different specializations and qualifications.

4. Achievements by the three PWOs are to be measured on physical outputs and on progress in enhancing beneficiaries abilities to: plan, implement and manage sub-projects. Assessment by PWO points out to the following results:

4. VETA: Mid 1989 - May 1990

- i. Executed 12 hand-dug wells out of 16 approved sub-projects, completed the construction works of one dam out of the 7 targeted; has not succeeded to execute the one planned befir, and completed the rehabilitation of 1 rshad, out of 5 proposed.
- ii. So far, no achievements in the area of agriculture. However, preparatory work is underway to implement: (1) Jubraka farm sub-project, (2) Wadi farming sub-projects and to introduce donkey-drawn ploughs.

- iii. Under the agro-forestry programme all 8 approved nursery projects have been completed.
- iv. Within the SBE/C, WITA completed the training of potential business groups in El Fasher town, covering 243 trainees, and is about to start a similar programme of training at Nyala.
- v. Women-in-Development activities are limited to 4 proposed sub-projects in the area of leather-making and handicrafts, with work started in two, to assist women to form production and marketing cooperatives.

CARE Mid 1988 - May 1990

- i. Completed rehabilitation of 2 water-yards, with 3 more under completion, out of 24 targeted water yards in En Nahud and Ghubeish R.Cs. No hafirs and cisterns have been executed of the 1 and 5 respectively proposed.
- ii. No sub-projects implemented in the area of agriculture, and the programmes, so far carried out, concentrated on extension work.

- iii. One nursery, out of the 5 proposed, was completed.
- iv. Sub-projects on live fencing, hashab seedlings, introduction of 'Sonky' tapping tool, and planting trees in Wadis, are still in the preparatory stages.
- v. No achievements under SSE/C.
- vi. Limited achievements in area of Women-in-Development; confined to 1 unsuccessful poultry project out of 6 proposed, with preparatory work being carried out for one Jubraks project.

C. SCF: Mid 1988 - May 1990

- i. In the water area, 35 sub-projects were completed out of 49 proposed, covering the rehabilitation of 8 bore-holes, execution of 17 hand-dug wells and construction of 10 water basins.
- ii. Agricultural achievements covered: Introduction of improved seeds, extension services, vegetable beds in 3 nurseries, preparatory work for the development of 6 school gardens, fruit and vegetable production covering

500 families, training for range sub-projects in 3 villages, development of grass-root veterinary workers in 3 villages, and starting of backyard poultry in 3 villages.

iii. Execution in areas of forestry covered: completion of 3 nurseries combining vegetable beds, with construction going on in 12 more nurseries; good quality hashab seeds were also made available for farmers on sale.

iv. SSK/C achievements covered a loan of Rs.81,000, given to 8 groups of men and 3 groups of women, under livestock marketing and fattening sub-projects.

v. Establishment of 4 women training centres to organize women in areas of agriculture and SSK/C under RFPF, and hygiene and sanitation under other funded projects, parallelly being executed by SCF, outside the RFPF.

5. In area of RFPF operational objectives all 3 PWCs have exerted efforts in organizing and training beneficiaries; with the purpose of carrying out participatory planning, implementation and management of sub-projects. However, the impact of this, on the upgrading of community

abilities, being unresearched and unmonitored, makes it difficult to adequately assess PVO's success in this regard. Despite this discrepancy, judgement could be passed, from the experiences and by some successful examples seen during the evaluation, that the community-based approach of the RFFP is effective in attaining project objectives. The ones that could be mentioned substantiating the above corollary are: The business groups trained under SSE/C in El Fasher and the organization of El Fasher Well-Owners Association, by VITA; the Water Development Committee of Umm El Badri water yard, by CARE; and the community managed water yard of El Goghan, the Shansha SSE/C groups and the women's centres, by SCF.

5. On assessing the 3 PVOs judged on levels of achievements, SCF is the most achieving, followed by VITA and lastly CARE. It is to the credit of SCF that it is working in a whole district (5 R.Cs and 2 T.Cs) with a larger target population; as compared to VITA (3 R.Cs and 2 T.Cs) and CARE (2 R.Cs). Part of the success of SCF as compared to VITA; but not CARE, which has the same advantage, is its previous involvement with its work area, prior to the commencement of the RFFP. The proximity of Umm Ruwaba District to the

centre (Khartoum), may also be an added advantage. A major draw-back of CARE programme is its over emphasis on the organizational and training inputs which are not matched with physical sub-projects outputs. Training in an "execution vacuum" would lead to community frustration; and there are indications that this is happening in CARE RFFP area.

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As to whether project is moving towards attaining its set objectives or not, this may be judged from the following judgements on project progress. On the positive side, there are indications that the project is well received by the districts authorities and the local communities in the areas where it is operating. It is responding to a gap in development inputs short of being departmentally and financially met by the Regions' resources. Also, the project approach is sound, judged from the wide range of communities organized under different types of activities, the numbers of sub-projects formulated, the achievements in community resource mobilization, and the need for the project services, reflected by the number of applicants daily visiting the PWD offices. On the negative side,

the project is frustrated in many regards. Implementation of current plans is obstructed by logistical constraints (fuel and cement); a wide gap between the size of people's conceptualized needs and the RFPF limited means in responding to these needs; generally, weak linkages with the departments, assumedly to take the role of the PWs when they leave, poor working relationships from the side of some of the cooperating agencies, and a felt lack of comprehension of project philosophies, approaches and means. In a final assessment and taking into consideration the above concerns, the 3 PWs could only partially fulfil their set targets, attaining maximum execution in the area of water supply; second to water, in areas of agro-forestry and SSE/C with variant achievements from one PW to the other; and least, in areas of agriculture and Women-in-Development.

Project sustainability under the present state of affairs looks cumbersome. The project targets at achieving a strong decentralization mechanism, whereby local communities, individual beneficiaries, and the private sector, each would attain a level of organization that would enable it to viably combine its own resources with outside on-s, to achieve an improved developmental output. Presently, under the RFPF,

the 3 PVOs are providing this outside source of inputs, on which project sustainability very much depends. In about a year from now, the 3 PVOs' shall phase out. The problem which immediately presents itself is the preparedness of the Regions, and the technical departments there, to play the roles of the PVOs'. There are no indications that this preparatory work is being started. If things go the way they are, by 1991, the RFFP shall end up with a number of sub-projects executed under the 5 areas of activities, and with many motivated communities, groups and individuals seeking betterment of their conditions, without a guarantee of access to a responsive source.

Of the immediate concerns towards project sustainability on the operational side, is a strategy for handling supplies, emphasising purchase and storage of big quantities of materials needed by project, exertion of more effort towards self-reliance in areas of training, organization, extension and linkages, and extension of project life-time. Activities that require special strengthening are: The agronomic component, through promoting basic inputs; the women's' programmes by working closely with


women, widening of jubrake farming and more opportunities for women to benefit from the SSF/C; design of broad-based models for environmental enhancement where integrated plans and extension could be effective; and strengthening of documentation.

9. The organizational concerns towards project sustainability centre around the issue of who will take over after the PVOs' leave, and under what structure. Creating strong linkages between the PVOs and the technical departments in the Regions, forming of technical offices or secretariats that enjoy some autonomy, to guide and coordinate the inputs of the departments to the project, under the TCs, seems to be a practical way out, to ensure project sustainability under its set targets and objectives. The operation of this structure shall very much depend on the appreciation of the regions' departments of the project's philosophy and their abilities in applying its mechanisms. Thus, an overlap period of PVOs' and the departments, operating the project together, is recommended. This could be the one coming year of the project life time - August 1990 to August 1991 - if that is feasible, or an extension for

a period after August 1991. This is believed to be very practical for a smooth phasing out of the FVOs and an assured taking over of the project by capable bodies. A good part of this overlap period is ³suggested to be spent by the FVOs, educating the departments about the project.

11. Other recommendations reached by the evaluation team covered many areas, and by specific FVO; grouped under logistical, planning, organizational and technical issues, and addressing the five fields of activities. Highlighting a few, under each group, reflects the substance of these recommendations. The areas focussed upon, under logistics, includes: revision of project budget, adopting a policy of collective purchases, purchase of vehicles by WITA, etc. Under the planning issues, the recommendations covered: conducting broad-based surveys, formalizing links with the cooperating agencies, documentation of experiences, encouragement of clustering of activities. The organizational issues embraced: strengthening the commitment of staff to FVOs, convening some of the RTCs meetings in Umm Ruwaba and

In Nahud, creation of local coordinating bodies, more training input for women, strengthening of water committees organizational capabilities, etc. The technical recommendations covered: adoption of cost recovery rate in water provision, application of more adequate designs and management systems for wateryards, look into the use of lime in construction as a substitute to cement, strengthening of the RFFF agronomic component, incorporation of water harvesting and spreading activities, and poultry projects should concentrate on indigenous breeds.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Regional Finance and Planning Project

This is a Mid-Term Evaluation Report of the Regional Finance and Planning (RFFP) Project, currently implemented in Darfur and Kordofan Regions. The Project (650-0012) was initiated in 1979, financed jointly by USAID and the Government of Sudan (GOS). The RFFP began with a traditional public sector institution - building approach by providing training, technical assistance and investment capital to planning units at the regional level.

The Project was amended in 1986 and 1987 to emphasize the local initiative component of the project purpose to promote decentralized development. The new project strategy is to tap the potential dynamism of the Sudanese tradition for self-help. The project now directly responds to specific problems at the village level by helping potential beneficiaries to identify and plan projects that they wish to execute, maintain and operate without draining government budgets and technical resources.

Three U.S. private voluntary organizations (PVOs), under cooperative agreements with USAID, are assisting villagers to develop skills in identifying, organizing and managing development activities in three project areas: (WITA) in the Darfur and (CARs) and (SCF) in the Kordofan Regions. CARs and SCF began operation in mid 1988, and WITA in mid 1989. The 3 PVOs are now jointly implementing a variety of sub-projects with villagers.

RFP project has undergone a number of amendments that led to its present shape. Each amendment was built on the preceding one. Amendment 3, under which the project is currently implemented kept the original goal and purpose of the project as valid, and made changes in the implementation strategy; main features of which are:

- i. Authorization of total-life-of project funding of US \$ 8.3 million with corresponding host country contribution of local currency equivalent to US \$ 30,585,536.
- ii. An extension of the life-of-project to August 22, 1990; an expansion of the project area to include Darfur.

- iii. Provision of technical assistance for local project deployment through cooperative agreements to be entered into with 3 PVOs, competitively selected.
- iv. Channelling of host country owned local currency funds through the PVOs directly to the villages following a technical committee review.
- v. The technical committee will consist of representatives from both the central and regional governments, Agricultural Bank of Sudan (ABS) and USAID. Financial and implementation oversight and guidance will be provided by this body.
- vi. Establishment of a permanent revolving loan account at the BS which will serve the target villages and the private sector in Kordofan and Darfur regions.

Based on Project objectives and targets expressed in Amendment 3, the 3 PVOs are currently implementing the project submitted work plans which were approved in October 1988. Five general areas are being identified for project implementation: Water development, agricultural, agro-forestry, business credit,

women-in-development activities. Progress in each of the above areas is attained through the execution of sub-projects, initially proposed by the beneficiaries, communities, groups, or as individuals who are assisted in the project design stage by the PWs; with the implementation of the sub-projects carried out jointly.

This evaluation addresses achievements within life of project work plan; December 1989 through August 1990, and the additional activities to be implemented, should the project be extended through August 1991; since the approval of the additional activities by the Regional Technical Committee (RTC) is pending the outcome of the present evaluation.

1.2. Terms of Reference

The IES (Institute of Environmental Studies), University of Khartoum, was contracted by USAID to carry out the present evaluation. The selection of IES relates to its association with the project, with 2 of its staff members participating in the PP Amendment design team. The IES assembled for the evaluation a team of 5 technical experts, under the direction of a USAID development officer. The team included:

- Mohamed Oamen Elsammani; a regional planning/
community development specialist, and team leader
- Lotfi Wahdan; a water engineer.
- Mohamed El Amin Mukhter; an agriculturist/forester.
- Abbas Shasha; an environmental expert.
- Rose Lisak Paulino; women-in-development specialist.

The task descriptions of each of the team members is given in Annex I.

1.3. Methods and Approaches

Guided by the terms of reference, the team reviewed the project documents. Prior going to the field, the team developed a work plan for the evaluation, and a tentative outline for the report write-up. The team methods included: literature review, interviews, field visits and observations.

The literature review covered all documents furnished by USAID, as background material on the Project, and reports plus information documenting results, provided by the three PWOs. Interviews included PWO technical staff, government officials,

mainly those of collaborating agencies within projects' areas, traditional leadership and newly created leadership by the project, and beneficiaries, as individuals and groups. Field visits were programmed after the arrival of the evaluation team to each project site and in consultation with the PWOs, according to the accessibility of places to be visited and on the basis of clustering of representative activities. Observations were made whenever a site was visited. The team concluded its visit to each project area by debriefing the PWOs staff of its main findings. The teams' itinerary is given as Annex IV.

The mission activities went on smoothly and according to schedule. Contacts from Khartoum with the PWOs' offices, prior to teams' departure, facilitated the execution of the missions programme as scheduled. The team would like to express its appreciation of the cooperation it found from all three PWOs.

1.4. PWOs' Geographic Area

The REEP areas of activities are in Darfur and Kordofan Regions. In the following districts and rural councils: (Figs. 1, 2 and 3):

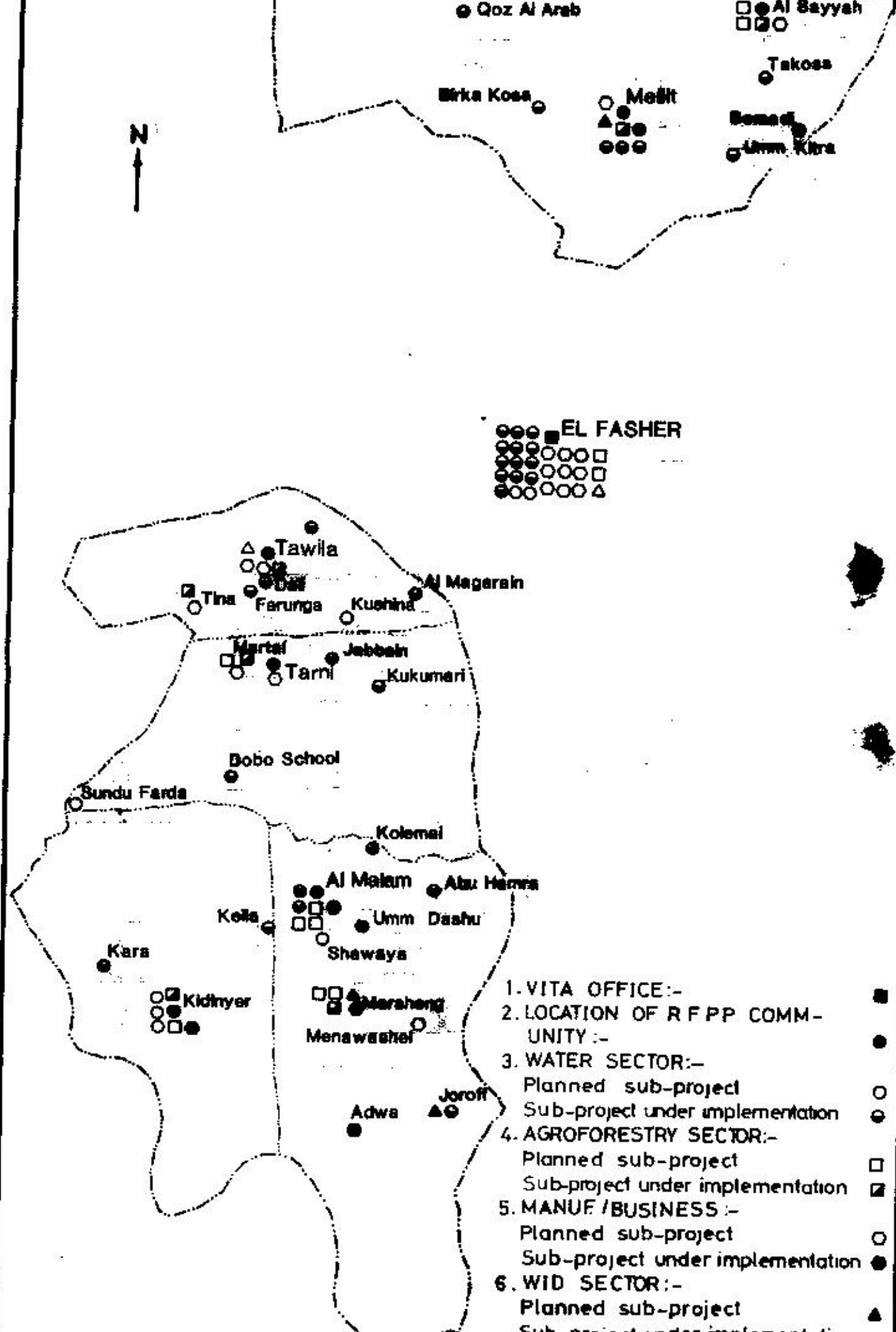
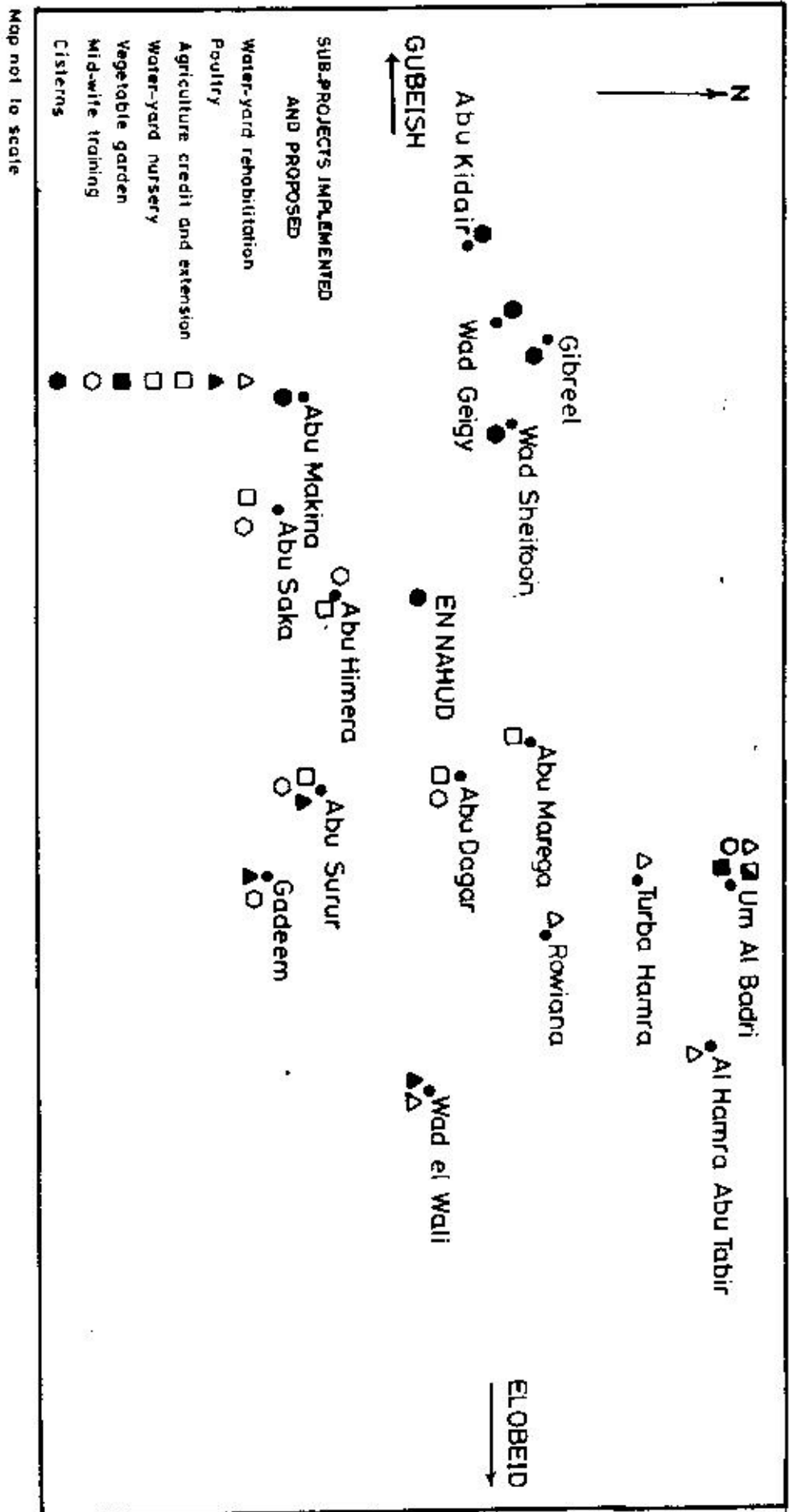


Fig. 2a CARE R.F.P.P. VILLAGES IN EN NAHUD RURAL COUNCIL.



CARE Project Activities
 Fig:2b (CARE RFPP Villages in Gubeish R.C.)

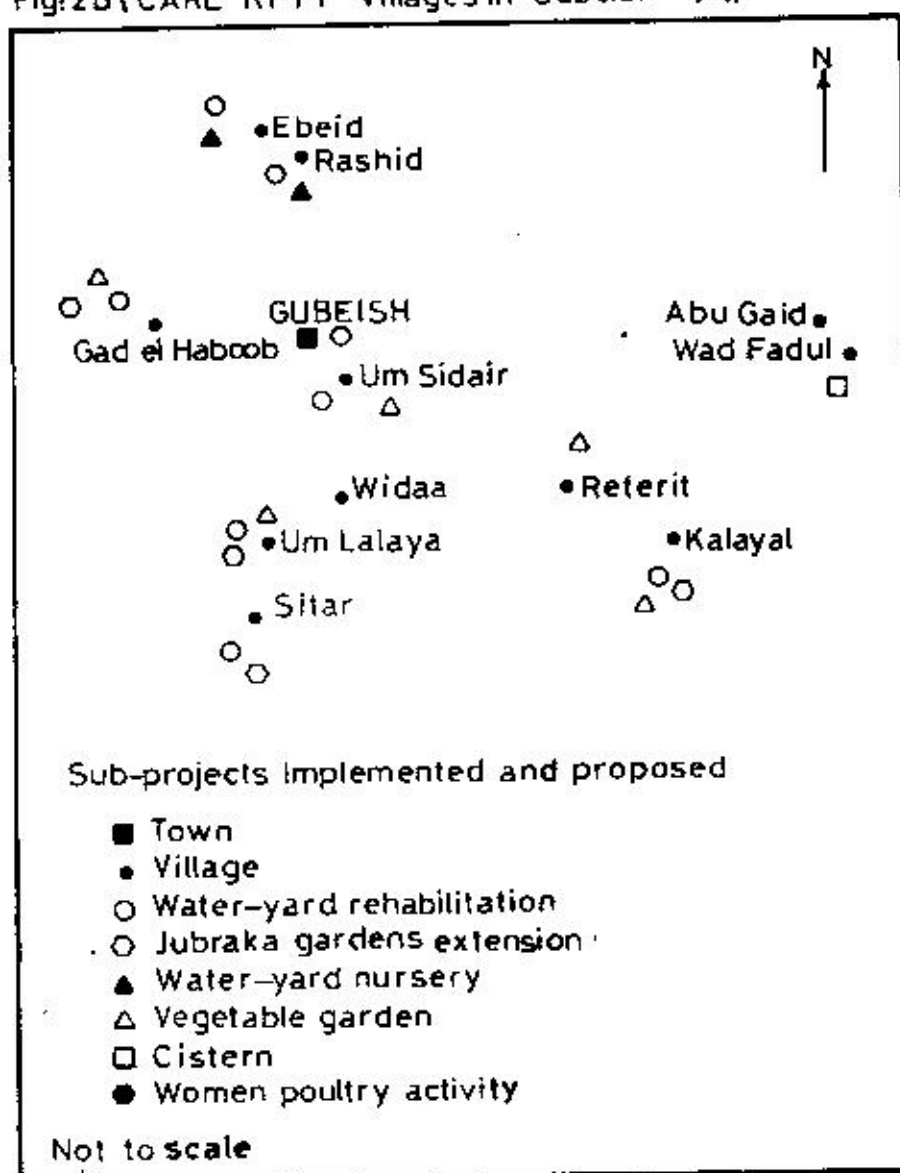
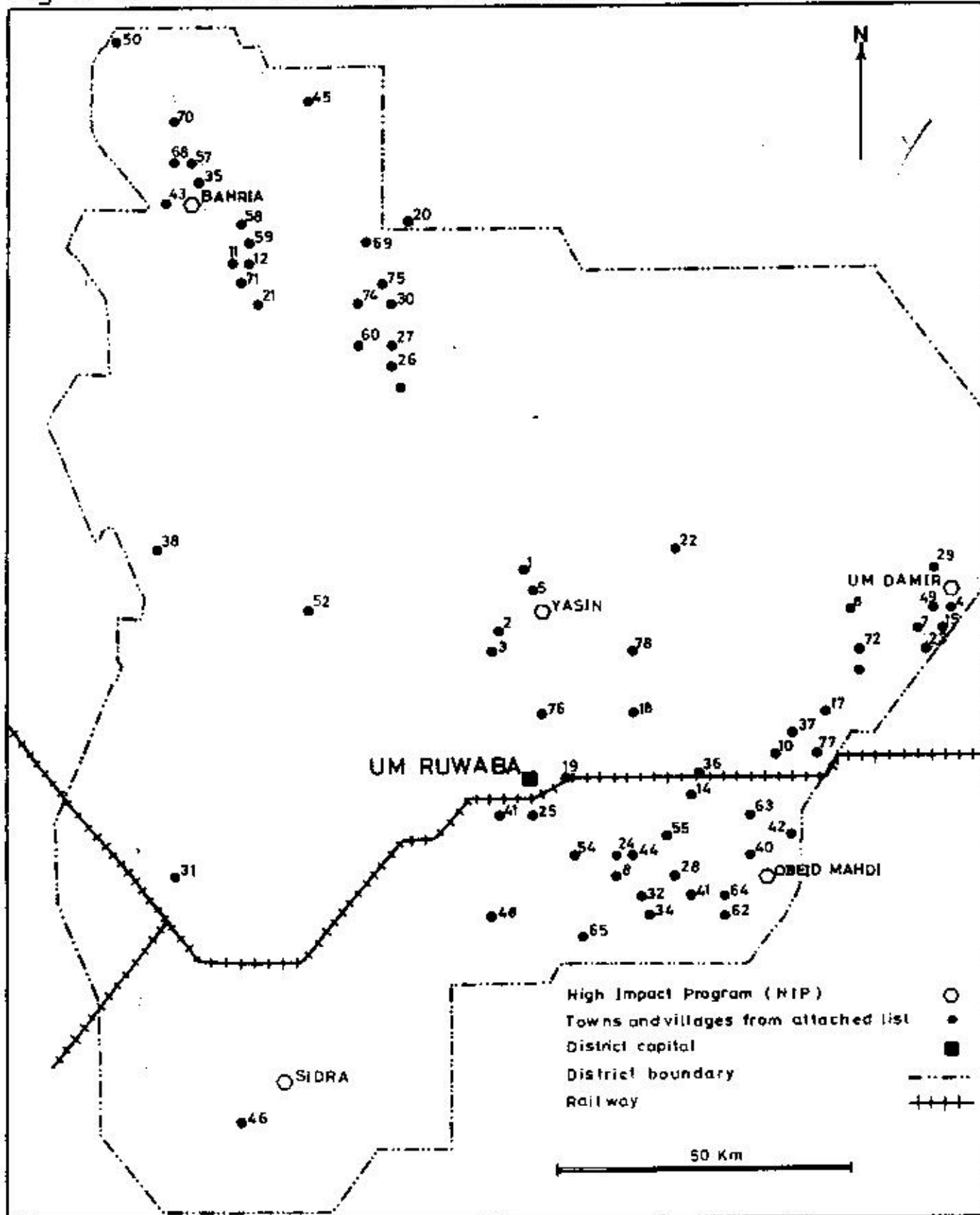


Fig: 3 SAVE THE CHILDREN FEDERATION RFPP PROJECT ACTIVITIES



Note: For details of projects see accompanying list

a. Darfur Region: 3 R.Cs, 2 T.Cs under VITA.

- Tawilla R.C. (El Fasher District)
- Millit R.C. (Mellit District)
- Malan R.C. (Nyala District)
- El Fasher T.C. (El Fasher Town)
- Nyala T.C. (Nyala Town).

b. Kordofan Region: 2 R.Cs and 1 District under CARS and SGP respectively.

Under CARS

- El Keshud R.C. }
- Ghubrish R.C. } El Keshud District.

Under SGP

- All of Umm Ruwab District, comprised of 5 R.Cs and 2 T.Cs.

Table 2 gives background information about the R.Cs, T.Cs, and the Districts in which the RFFP operates.

Table 1. Geographical information on Project areas

Region	D.Us and R.Cs.	Popula- tion	Area (km ²)	Pop./ km ²	Water sources of income	Water supply sources	Ecological zone	Town and Rural councils within project
Darfur	Al Fasher D.C.	261,500	20,000	13.1	Agrio	C.S. wells	Semi-desert	El Fasher T.C.
					L			
					T		Desert	Tawila R.C.
	Meilit D.C.	121,000	48,500	2.5	L	C.S. wells	Semi-desert	Meilit R.C.
					T			
					Agrio	D		
					Agrio	O.S. wells		
	Nyala	433,750	33,500	13.0	L	Hafirs	L.R.S.	El Medani R.C.
					T			Nyala T.C.
Kordofan	Ba Mahud R.C.	90,000	-	-	Agrio	B.H.	L.R.S.	Ba Mahud R.C.
					L	W. basins		
	Ghubelish R.C.	80,000	-	-	Agrio	B.H.	L.R.S.	Ghubelish R.C.
					L			
	Uma Ruweba D.C.	400,000	-	-	Agrio	B.H. C.S. wells W. system	L.R.S.	Uma Dam, Wed Ashana Uma Ruweba, Sherkelle F. Rahad R.Cs. and Uma Ruweba and F. Rahad T.Cs.
					L			
P.O. District council	O.S.W. open shaft wells				L.R.S.	Cow rain fall savannah		
L.O. Town council	H. hafir				Agrio.	gr. culture		
R.C. Rural council	D. dam				L	livestock		
					T	or de		

Sources: El Sammani (1985, Kordofan Resource Inventory and Development Prospective by Rural Councils, and Information from life of Project Work Plans: WTA, C. E. SCF, 1989).

1.5. Project Organization

1.5.1. Objectives under which PVOs work

The 3 PVO's working in the RFPP, among others, responded to an advertisement to work in development projects in Western Sudan in August, 1985, and attended in January 1986 a workshop held in El Obeid, Kordofan Region, and El Fasher, Darfur Region, to specify geographical and technical areas of interest.

The 3 PVOs have rich experiences in developmental work. Both CARE and SCT worked in Sudan before; the former in the fields of water supply, forestry, energy conservation and alleviation of drought impacts; while the latter, worked in relief and developmental operations.

The objectives of the RFPP under which the 3 PVOs presented their work plan are:

- i. To promote decentralization in the fields of provision of services.
- ii. Enhance communities organizations to be more autonomous and self-reliant, making use of the traditional self-help characteristics of

the population. Projects have to be self-managed without relying on Government funds.

iii. Train Community Development Committees, CDCs, in all phases of activities, and lead them to gain and acquire skills in management and organization; so as to have confidence in their abilities and to carry out sustainable development processes.

iv. Develop the private sector and improve on its expansion and services.

1.5.2. PVOs credibility to effect projects

The credibility of the PVOs is reflected in the skills they have so far shown in assisting communities to identify projects, as perceived needs by the people, and to set objectives and purposes targeted to be achieved by these projects, to conclude positive results. The revised and modified work plan originally submitted in 1988 was meant to cater for the different approaches, that would be adopted according to experiences gained; with the intention of effectively responding to set targets. e.g.

sustainability, cost effectiveness and to solving constraints, as dictated by external circumstances.

1.5.3. Approaches to achieve objectives

The 3 PWDs are adopting the organization of the people, as a main community development approach. They all generally agree in principles of organization, emphasizing the following concepts:

- i. Tribalism is the primary social and political network and native administration plays a powerful and effective institutional role, hence close collaboration with Nazirs, Omdas and Sheikhs, is accorded a high priority.
- ii. Full participation and involvement of the people by working with all segments of the community.
- iii. Factual assessment of the points of views of the beneficiaries.
- iv. Creation of linkages within components of the

project, and with outside agencies and inputs, that relate to the project.

1.5.4. Methods to implement programmes

The methods derived, to achieve the programme objectives, are based on the wise use and management of local resources of man, water, soils, forests, livestock, etc., with communities to be trained for each purpose. These methods are:

- i. Extension services through extension packages forwarded to individuals, communities, their CDCs, encouragers and agents, by trained extensionists of both sexes.
- ii. Proposals formulation: based on the work plans, subprojects perceived by the communities and the individuals, are processed and prepared, with the assistance of PVOs technical departments, for approval and implementation.
- iii. Administration of activities: The PVOs have administrations to implement, coordinate and link the various components of sub-projects, according to set goals and objectives. Implementation

is performed according to plans and designs already studied and approved by the RTC, and for which people are organized and trained.

1.5.5. PWOs organizational structure

The organizational structure of the three PWOs', displaying their institutional layout, staffing, staff qualifications, and employment status, is exhibited in the following three charts: 1, 2 and 3.

1.6. Regional Technical Committees, RTCs

The project is supervised, in the three areas, by two RTCs, one for Darfur and another for Kordofan. The latter is in charge of the two projects (CARE and SCF) implemented in this Region. The two committees are chaired by the Director of Regional Development Administration, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Planning.

The composition of the committees changes slightly from one region to the other, as to the agency directors drawn into its memberships guided in that by the fields of operation emphasized by the project activities.

Chart 1. WTA Organizational Structure

Chief of Party

Office Manager
-Translator
-Drivers
-Guards

Water Coordinator

Hydrogeologist
logist Engineer

Agro-forester

El Fisher Office
Community Development (CD) extension agents coordinator

Small scale enterprise credit S&C coordinator

Nyala Office
Office Manager
Agro-forester

6 field agents

Works jointly in co) - Mechanical Training
Departments } Engineer Supervisor

Post	Number	Qualifications	Employment status
1 Chief of party/expatriate	1	Graduate	WTA hired
2 Office Manager	1	Graduate	Seconded
3 Water coordinator/expatriate	1	Graduate	WTA hired
4 Hydrogeologist	1	Graduate	Seconded
5 Civil engineer	1	Graduate	Licensed
6 Agroforesters	2 (El Fisher/Nyala)	Graduates	Seconded
7 CD extension agents coordinator	1	Secondary	Seconded
8. Field agents	2	Graduates	WTA hired
9. Women-in-Development Coordinator	4	Secondary	WTA hired
10. Office manager/Nyala	1	Graduate	Seconded
	1	Secondary	WTA hired

Chart 2. CARE Organizational Structure

Technical Manager				Financial Manager		
Training	agro	women's	Agri-cultural	Water	Administration	Baseline
Coordinator	forester	coordinator	coordinator	coordinator	(same, financial manager)	(same, financial manager)
						Government
						Relation Officer
						(presently vacant)
Extensionists (10 persons)				12 persons		
				- administrator		
				- procurement officer		
				- secretaries		
				- drivers		
				- etc.		
						Enumerators
Extension is organized to serve all project components				Also gets inputs from CARE administration for three projects: EWSAP, Displaced Population, RPP. RPP contributes to budget of the unit.		
Post				Qualifications	Employment status	
1. Technical manager/expatriate			1	Postgraduate		CARE hired
2. Training coordinator			1	Graduate		CARE hired
3. Extensionists			10	1 Graduate		2 seconded
				9 Secondary school		8 CARE hired
4. Agroforester			1	Graduate		CARE hired
5. Women's coordinator			1	Secondary school		CARE hired
6. Agricultural coordinator			1	Graduate		CARE hired
7. Water coordinator			1	Graduate		CARE hired
8. District engineer			1	Graduate		CARE hired
9. Financial manager/expatriate			1	KTI		Seconded NMC (part time)
				Postgraduate		CARE hired.

here is SW Organizational Structure

[illegible]

The RTC for VITA project in Darfur Region is composed of:

- Director Regional Development, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Khartoum, Chairman.
- Coopted member, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Khartoum.
- Secretary General, Darfur Regional Government
- Director of Agriculture, Darfur Region
- Director of Housing, Darfur Region
- Director RWC, Darfur Region.
- The Administrative Directors, total 3, of Mellit, El Fasher and Nyala Districts.
- Project Officer, USAID
- Director ABS Nyala
- Project Regional Coordinator.

VITA Chief of Party attends meetings, with his assisting staff, representing his project.

The RTC for Kordofan Region is composed of:

- Director, Regional Development, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Khartoum. Chairman

- Coopted member, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning,
Khartoum.

- Director of Agriculture, Kordofan Region.

Director NWC, Kordofan Region

- The Administrative Directors, total 2, of En Nahud and
Umm Ruwaba Districts

- Womens' extensionist, Ministry of Agriculture, Kordofan

- Project Officer, USAID

- Director ABS, on call

- Regional Project Coordinator

- CARE, SCF, Chiefs of party attend meetings with assisting
staff to represent their projects.

The RTCs meet quarterly at El Fasher and El Obeid,
to review project progress, resolve constraints, examine
and review sub-projects. Each RTC has an appointed coordinator who reports committee meetings and acts in liaison capacity, with the Regions' Government and the cooperating agencies.

The RTC for Darfur project convened 3 meetings
between May 1989 and January 1990, while the Kordofan Committee convened 7 meetings.

VITA is suggesting adding the Director of the Regional Planning Unit, Darfur Region to the membership of the committee; while CARE is suggesting adding the Director of Forestry, Kordofan Region. Their reasoning is that, both additions shall facilitate implementing the activities of the two organizations. Both suggestions merit being considered by the RTCs.

1.7. Project Finance

The RFPP is financed by Sudan Government and U.S.A.I.D. The project has two budgets, a U.S.A.I.D. dollar budget and a local currency budget, each comprised of two components. The dollar budget is made of a contractual component, to cover the expenses of the services of the PVOs, employed by the project and a dollar purchase budget.

The local currency budget is again comprised of two finances, from USAID and Sudan Government. Table (2 and 3) display the local currency components, specifying budgetted and released amounts, 1989 - 1991, as furnished by Regional Development Administration.

Expenditure on the two local currency components is

Table 2. RPPP budget, 1989-1991 and released amounts up to
May 1990

Budget	ABs	CARE	SCF	WTA	Totals
Proposed budget (Ls. millions)	3.0	9.0	9.0	8.309	29.309
Expenditure - actual (Ls. millions)	1.0	1.3	4.0	1.900	8.200
Balance	2.0	7.7	5.0	6.409	21.109
Released up to 12. 5. 1990	-	2.3	5.6	3.9	11.8
Budget for July 19/90 - Aug 19/91	1.0	4.0	6.0	6.3	17.3

Source: Ministry of Finance and National Economic Planning,
Planning, Regional Development and Administration.

Table 3. Contribution of different institutions in the budgets and expenses of the sub-projects of the 3 FVOs in Is.

	REPP	Community participation:		U.O.B.	ABS loans		Total	
	Sum spent or budgeted Is.	% of total	Sum spent or budgeted Is.	% of total	Sum spent or budgeted Is.	% of total	Sum spent or budgeted Is.	% of total
SCF	3,830,050.72	72.51	592,500	11.22	287,482	5.44	571,753	10.83
QARS	6,970,034	93.72	195,005	2.63	271,565	3.65	00.000	00.00
WTA	6,346,000	74.50	2,094,077	24.60	21,978	0.30	55,000	00.6
							8,517,953	100.00

1. SCF figures represent expenses summary, April 1988 through April 1990.
2. QARS figures represent sub-project budget up to March 1990
3. WTA figures represent sub-projects budget up to 13 May 1990
4. ABS loans are substantial in SCF projects, negligible in WTA's sub-projects and completely lacking in QARS sub-projects
5. Community participation is high in WTA's sub-projects who aims to make it 50% and very low in QARS sub-projects
6. REPP contribution is about the same in SCF (72.51%) and WTA (74.5%) but much higher in QARS (93.72%).

2. ACHIEVEMENTS WITHIN SET OBJECTIVES

2.1. An Overview of the Three PVOs

Annex II, Tables A.1 and A.2, B.1 and B.2 and C.1 and C.2, are presented to furnish a summary picture of the achievements of the three PVOs by area of activity, as related to sub-project formulation and implementation. Based on this data, discussion of activities by PVO, covering as well achievements in the areas of organization and training, shall be attempted in the forthcoming sections:

2.2. VITA

2.2.1. Water supply

VITAs' subprojects, in the area of water supply, include:-

- Hand-dug wells
- Hafirs
- Dams
- Rahads.

a. Hand-dug wells

Under this sub-project, the implementation of the programme is preceded by settlement of the well sub-project with the beneficiary population, through their village and water development committees; completion of the preparatory work e.g. securing of materials like cement, and the other local materials like sand and gravel, which is contributed by the community, and selection of the villagers who would assist in the excavation and construction work. Included in this, is the formation of 4 man teams to be trained in well construction works, usually chosen by the villagers; with the objective of forming in future well-digging enterprises, with loans given by the ABS to purchase construction equipment, and with NWC providing the technical know-how.

Achievements by VITA cover 12 hand-dug wells out of 16 approved sub-projects in Tawilla, Mellit and al Malam RCs. The aim is to improve the water supply for humans and animals.

The hand-dug wells programme also covered El Fasher town, where 15 privately owned hand-dug wells were approved for rehabilitation. Of these, 8 were rehabilitated; with

the rest awaiting the availability of cement. One of the important outcomes of this activity is the organization of El Fasher Well Owners' Association (ELFWOA).

The idea of rehabilitating these wells, came from the Regions' Ministry of Health, to reduce water contamination hazards. The work was supervised by a technical committee, with membership drawn from Ministry of Health, NWC, VITA, Sudanese Red Crescent, and the Regions' Government. Some of the costs of the rehabilitation were met by the well owners. In a meeting with the owners, they expressed their appreciation of VITA's assistance, and have shown interest in joining hands with VITA for further improvements.

b. Dams

The target for dams construction was raised from 6 to 7 dams. Major construction works have been completed in two dam sites, with earth moving awaiting access to NWC machinery. The volumes of earth to be moved from these dams sites is huge for manual labour engagement; also costs are not manageable compared to the use of machinery. The rest of the dams programme is delayed due to lack of cement and shortage of fuel needed for NWC earth moving machinery.

c. Hafirs

The number targeted was 2 hafirs, scaled down to 1. NMC was contracted to design and construct the hafir, with the IDGs contributing in material and labour. Besides, WTA will assist by availing construction materials. So far, the civil work was completed for this hafir, but still awaiting earth movement.

d. Rahads

Five rahads are targeted for execution, with one completed.

2.2.2. Agriculture

WTA has limited activities in the area of agricultural development, as could be judged from the list of approved sub-projects. Planned activities are confined to one jubraka farming sub-project, and 2 wadi-farming sub-projects, in el Tina and Sayyeh, which will start this rainy season. Improved seeds have been received for the two projects.

Home gardens and animal traction, using donkey-drawn

Implementation, and in the pre-project stage of project identification and mobilization. A model of a donkey-drawn plough, imported from Jebel Mera Rural Development Project, is proposed by WTA for propagation in the project area. 250 farmers from Tawilla R.C. have already listed themselves for acquiring the plough, and paid the first installment of Ls. 100.

The ploughs shall be manufactured by the Al Fasher black smiths group, trained by WTA under the SSE/C programme. WTA is targeting this activity to serve the project goal of creation of rural-urban linkages.

2.2.3. Agro-forestry

WTA is working in R.Cs which have been severely affected by desertification and drought, especially the two northern ones. Natural regeneration of trees is not easy to attain under the uncertainty of rainfall and the open range and woods land uses. Production of seedlings to be planted at the right time and in fields owned by the farmer, is more feasible in bringing good results. Nursery development is therefore suggested to serve improving the ecology and as a source of income, for community based activities, from the sales of seedlings.

WTA forestry programme is in the start stage, partly due to expatriate agro-forester terminating his contract. The

Two agriculturalists working presently for the project, have managed to complete the development of three nurseries, at El Fasher, Mellit and Marsbang, and three school nurseries in Nyala, with the training of communities and supervisors at schools completed. The 6 nurseries are targeted to operate as of this season. Seedlings to be produced shall cover natural trees, fruit trees, and ornamental plants. As for the proposed forege preserves, these are still in the idea stage.

2.2.4. SSE/Credit

In preparation for small scale enterprises credit (SSE/C), VITA has completed the training of the potential business groups in el Fasher town (October, 1989) - (January, 1990). The training covered:

- metal workshop owners, 72
- carpenters, 102
- 'Marskeeb' makers, 56
- blacksmiths and tinsmiths, 13

The training of similar groups in Nyala would start in May 1990.

The training was preceded by a preliminary survey, to assess the training needs and to arrive at the potential size of trainees, under different occupations. A training coordinator from El Fasher Commercial Secondary School was drawn in for the activity, under the supervision of the SSF/C Project Manager.

A training manual was prepared (in Arabic) for the purpose. The substance of training centres around business management, accounts, and book-keeping.

One of the impacts of the training is that the trainees have started organizing themselves into business groups. Preparatory committees have been formed, or in the process of formation by the groups, to register into business co-operatives. However, registration is obstructed by the bureaucratic procedures of the Cooperation Department.

VITA established urban-rural links between Olack-smiths group and Tawila farmers for the production of donkey-drawn ploughs. Other areas showing prospects for SSF/C financing, as indicated by the 10 approved projects, are:

- brick kilns
- livestock restocking

- poultry
- flour mills
- oil mills.

2.2.5. Women-in-Development

The total number of sub-projects targeted for execution is 4, mainly in the area of leather-making and handicrafts. The objectives of these projects, is to organize women groups into viable production units, in the form of cooperatives.

Achievements cover:

- Briefing on cooperative formation, procedures and management.
- Preparation of cooperative by-laws.
- Acquiring buildings on rent in El Asher and Mellit to be used by the cooperatives, and also plots of land from the government for the same purpose.
- Funds are available for the purchase of tools, equipment and payment of incentives, salaries and loans.

Following the formation of the cooperatives, WITs is planning to organize training courses in cooperative principles

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and also in technical matters related to improvement of production quality. In the past 9 months, VITA has put efforts, to improve the organizational capabilities of the women committees, of the leather and handicrafts groups.

X 2.3. CARE

2.3.1. Water supply

X a. Water-yards rehabilitation

The original LOP workplan set a target for the rehabilitation of 15 water-yard sites. Achievements to date cover: 2 completed water-yards, 2 water-yards under completion and 1 water yard to be completed by June 1990; all of which are in En Nahud R.C. 12 bore-holes are proposed as sub-projects for rehabilitation at Ghubeish R.C., with the work scheduled to be started after the completion of the rehabilitation activities at En Nahud R.C. 9 wateryards are targeted to be completed in Ghubeish R.C. before this rainy season.

b. Hafirs

Only one hafir at Rahad As Silik is included under the water programme. Execution is delayed because of technical problems.

c. Cisterns

5 cisterns are planned to be constructed in 5 villages. The non-availability of cement is delaying the starting of these sub-projects.

No -hand-dug wells and no dams are included, under CARE water supply programme.

2.3.2. Agriculture

CARE has carried out intensive extension work, in the area of agricultural improvement, and in response to the drought impact, which lowered the productivity of farmers' crops: millet, sorghum and groundnuts. The work of the extension and women departments, through encouragers, village development committees, and women sub-committees, has succeeded in assessing farmers needs. However, no sub-projects have yet been formulated in the agricultural sector.

CARE has some ideas for the upgrading of jubraka farming, through improving practices and availing inputs, especially distribution of improved seeds, to increase production. Work on jubraka farming shall be started this

rainy season. The main objective is to strengthen jubraka vegetable production to improve household diet, generate income for women from the sales of surplus production and help bulking jubraka seeds, lost during the drought time. X

2.3.3. Agro-forestry

a. Nurseries

The original LOP work plan sets the target for development of 5 water-yard nurseries. One nursery has already been completed at Umm Al Badri, with seedlings produced, and planned to be planted this rainy season. The remaining 4 nurseries shall be developed in Ghubeish R.C. in conjunction with the water-yards rehabilitation programme. +

b. Live fencing

Targeted for the rehabilitated water-yards, with preparatory work among communities for participation in this activity, already been carried out.

c. Hashab seedlings

Work on the selection of high quality seeds, from good hashab mothers, for use by the farmers to seed their

fields; and for the production of seedlings in nurseries, is targeted to be started this season. A contract is finalized with a hashab specialist from WSARP to promote the activity.

d. Sonky tapping tool

This gum tapping tool was tried earlier with the farmer, by the Gum Research Administration; and proved its efficiency, compared to the traditional axe in use. CARE is working on the dissimulation of this tool, by producing it locally, distributing it to the farmers and monitoring the results obtained.

e. Planting trees in wadis

Sub-projects are developed, with the communities, to plant local trees in wadis, to act as wind-breaks and to provide livestock with fodders.

2.3.4. Small scale enterprises/credit

CARE started some work on this component, developing 5 agricultural credit cooperatives, which it continued to

monitor up to the time of this evaluation. No activities have been carried out under small scale Enterprise Credit. CARE reports that it does not have the expertise in administering this kind of credit, however, it is planning to seek the advice of a consultant for its operation..

2.3.5. Women-in-Development

CARE has done elaborate work in the area of women organization and training, which is well described in Annex 2.2., CARE.

In terms of project achievements, there is the jubraka farming, under consideration. The other activity is womens' poultry sub-projects. The original LOP work plan envisaged 6 sub-projects. The objective is to improve on traditional production, through women training in poultry, distribution of better quality cocks and chicken vaccination. One poultry sub-project has been started with vaccination carried out and improved cocks distributed. However, a high mortality rate among the distributed cocks was experienced.

2.4. SCF

2.4.1. Water Supply

On the side of water resources development and water systems rehabilitation. SCF was met with some difficulties, on the management side, with NWC and DW, which caused delays in achieving some of the water sub-projects. Of the 49 sub-projects perceived, 35 sub-projects were implemented; covering 8 drilled and erected wells, 17 hand-dug wells and 10 water basins. The implementation activities of these water sub-projects, incorporated the training of 10 villagers from each site, in well digging, as well as, in the construction of water basins.

2.4.2. Agriculture

Achievements in the fields of agriculture covered the following sub-projects:

- a. Introduction of improved seeds of Ugandi millet and Sodiri groundnuts, last season; and their distribution to a number of farmers.
- b. Village level extension services to villagers

and encouragers in the fields of organization of village committees, need assessment, plus provision of agricultural inputs.

- c. Layout of vegetable beds in nurseries; started in 3 nurseries. X
- d. From among the on-going sub-projects since 1989, 6 schools have been selected in the HIP areas, for the development of school gardens.
- e. In the area of fruit production and vegetable gardens, 500 families have started this activity. X
- f. Range rehabilitation sub-projects have been started in 3 villages, which have received training.
- g. The grass roots veterinary workers have begun work in 3 villages.
- h. Backyard poultry has also been started in 3 villages.

2.4.3. Forestry

In the field of agro-forestry, a nursery was completed in Idd El Halouf, for the production of 5600 Hashab seedlings, plus a variety of vegetables. In the village of Umm Ish El Suk, a nursery is presently under construction where the fence and the water tank have been completed, with the construction of seedlings beds going on. The nursery of Goghan village is now completed and planted this season with 10,500 seedlings of hashab fruit and shade trees.

In all these nurseries, irrigation is based on the use of waste water from the water-yard, by collecting the run-off water into sunken basins located inside the nurseries.

The nurseries sub-projects are envisaged to be turned into private enterprises, where vegetables will be grown in the nursery, particularly during seedlings off-season. Currently, the nurseries' headmen are encouraged to boost production by being given $\frac{1}{2}$ the returns from the sales of seedlings and vegetables, instead of fixed salaries.

SCF purchased good quality hashab seeds and sold an amount of 10 260 pounds to farmers, who either broadcasted the seeds, or mixed and sowed them with their crops. Presently, construction work is carried out in 12 nurseries.

2.4.4. Small scale enterprises

In the case of small enterprises sub-projects, for livestock marketing and fattening, a loan in the magnitude of Ls.81,000 was given to 8 groups of men and 3 groups of women. Ls.3000 is the maximum amount given per person. Besides, other businesses loans of diverse types, were given too.

2.4.5. Women-in-Development

The main activities of the WID section under SCF emphasize the training and organization of women. 4 training centres have been established, in 4 out of the 5 HIP areas. The centres are constructed of local materials contributed by the CDCs.

The activities of the centres cover: adult education, sewing, nutrition and gardening, which are supported in terms of training by specialized trainers from GOS

departments based at Umm Ruwaba, namely, adult education, nutrition and youth training centres.

Besides the above activities, SCF is using the same centres to organize women, to participate in sub- projects, in the areas of agriculture, SSE/C, hygiene and sanitation.

3. EVALUATION OF FVOs ACTIVITIES

3.1. Project Nature and Philosophy

The nature of the RFPF emphasises the participation of people, both men and women, in the activities and services rendered by the project to promote production, people's income and community well-being. The project stresses the Sudanese tradition of self-help to achieve a high degree of participation.

All three FVOs are adhering to the project philosophy, as outlined above. Achievements in community organization, training and sub-project initiation and implementation, Annex II, reflect clearly the development of project activities along this philosophy.

The currently implemented sub-projects, under the 5 general areas of action serve the project objectives of :

1. Engaging people to participate in developmental inputs and services that used to be rendered by the government in the past. All executed projects reflect beneficiaries' participation at various degrees.

ii. Such participation will promote decentralized development, where people will work out and implement as far as possible, their own conceived projects, with the least dependence on government services. Again, this could be attested from the range of approved sub-projects, people's resource contribution, cooperation in organization and training, etc.

iii. People have to learn and practice planning procedures, which is being promoted by the three PVOs, evidenced by the organization of the various types of village-based institutions; which have been trained in extension and in the different fields of activities: water, agriculture, agro-forestry, small scale enterprise credit and women-in-development.

3.2. The methods applied by the three PVOs to effect the RFFP adopt the following processes:

Project administration and staff

Each PVO has its autonomous structure, led by experienced staff and employing a number of national personnel. The projects are comprised of technicians and sub-technicians

of qualifications ranging from high secondary to post graduate, and holding posts such as hydrogeologists, engineers, agricultural and forestry extensionists, agricultural coordinators, agro-foresters, women coordinators, etc.

Examining the staff situation, would reveal that most activities are run by young Sudanese who had little previous field training. Except for VITA, which is engaging at present 7 Sudanese, on secondment basis, constituting 41.2% of their total staff, the other two PVOs show a low level of seconded staff. SCF seconded staff of 4 persons represents 10.3% of their total technical staff, while CARE seconded staff of 3 persons represents 16.7% of their total staff; see Charts 1, 2 and 3.

The future of the Sudanese staff after project completion under the PVOs is uncertain. Probably, they will face a hard situation, if their absorption in permanent government service, after the PVOs' leave is not settled as early as it deserves. The lack for a permanent job, may motivate young technical staff to quit soon, despite the relatively high pay they now enjoy.

Non-adherence to specialization qualities, by putting

an agriculturist in the place of a forester, as is the case now with VITA, will affect standards of execution and limit the prospects of acquiring the right specialized staff.

3.2.2. Training

a. Beneficiaries training

The training of the PVOs staff in the fields of extension and organization, and the transfer of the relevant technology to the people is progressing well.

As for beneficiaries, communities are subjected to several packages of extension in the various fields, to cover in particular the handling of sub-projects conceived by the people.

Extension and training packages also aim at creating fundamental changes in the behaviour and outlook of the participants, towards the new and modified methods of land use and environmental protection; aided by the organizational skills they acquired and the technologies they gained.

b. RFPP training

The RFPP has developed a comprehensive staff training programme, which was started in 1989 with the earlier RPP-Regional Planning Project. The programme aims at upgrading the capabilities of the centre (Khartoum) and Regions' staff of the ministries that have linkages with the RFP project; namely Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Planning, Ministry of Local Government, and to a lesser degree National Transport. The programme was operative prior to the involvement of the PVOs, and continued afterwards. Details of the training achievements under the programme are given in Annex III.

Though it is difficult to measure the direct impact of the training, given under this RFPP component, and the degree it has served the project objectives, it can be broadly stated that a large cader of government officials have benefited from this training. As such, there are prospects of utilizing those trained in promoting project programmes if the proper linkages are created between the RFPP

and those ministries that have been targeted to benefit from the training; being the most concerned with the project goals.

3.2.3. Coordination and links

Coordination and links with GOS institutions are unformalized e.g. National Forestry Corporation; Departments of Agriculture, Department of Cooperatives, NWC, etc. More efforts are needed to develop these links, in order to promote the departments responsibilities, and involvement in the project activities. Working together would add to the efforts rendered by the PVOs', and would strengthen programme execution.

3.3. Water Supply

3.3.1. Nature of the water supply projects

The water resource and water systems development in the 3 PVOs areas are essentially engineering, hydrogeological and hydrological works comprising the following sub-projects.

- Rehabilitation of existing wateryards and hand-dug wells.
- Construction of open-shaft wells
- Construction of dams.
- Construction of hafirs
- Rehabilitation of rehads
- Construction of water basins/khazans.

The task of each PWU is governed by the prevailing geological and hydrogeological conditions in its project areas. Hence where the Basement Complex rocks dominate, no water yards exist, as is the case with WTA activities in Darfur; while where deep sedimentary rocks of water bearing nature prevail, water yards have been erected (CARB and SCF project areas).

3.3.2. Programme operation

The operation of the water supply component is a three partners activity: PWUs, NWU and the local communities. In evaluating the water sector, the major achievements are:

- a. Creation of technical capabilities in the PWUs, through direct recruitment and secondment of staff of engineers, geologists and hydrogeologists to carry out the water programmes.

fosters further, the derive for funding sustainable water sources.

The above operational achievements fall within RFFP planning philosophies and procedures, explored at the opening of this section on evaluation. The real progress in this concern is not the number of water systems provided or rehabilitated, but more important is the merging of the resources of the three partners, to improve on the water supply situation in the project area. This is believed to have been started and has proven to work; however, it requires strengthening in certain areas, namely:

- a. Committees legal status: as to officialization of the role of the committees responsible for the water activities, as they are charged with administrative and financial functions, which entail accountability.
- b. Management capabilities: strengthening the bookkeeping abilities of the water committees, through more training and continuous monitoring.
- c. Conflict between PVOs/NWC; resolving the outstanding conflict between PVOs' and NWC, regarding the policy

- b. Preparation and implementation of training programmes in the fields of water provision, rehabilitation of water sources and water use; covering: encouragers, extensionists, villagers, communities, school children, etc. in all relevant aspects that lead to more improved water supplies.
- c. Encouragement of villagers to have a role in the provision and management of their water sources, through the various types of institutions created; which provides good grounds for formalizing this role to attain sustainable systems in future. Villagers' role could be enhanced in areas of fund raising to contribute to maintenance requirements, purchase of small and handy spare-parts, etc. With regard to waterworks major repairs and replacement of heavy and expensive mechanical parts, villagers have a limited role to play, and should continue to be the responsibility of NWC.
- d. Enabling villagers to acquire planning skills, through their involvement in the sub-projects preparation phase, and their participation in the procurement of essential materials, tools and equipment for the construction and rehabilitation of water systems. This

fosters further, the derive for funding sustainable water sources.

The above operational achievements fell within RFFP planning philosophies and procedures, explored at the opening of this section on evaluation. The real progress in this concern is not the number of water systems provided or rehabilitated, but more important is the merging of the resources of the three partners, to improve on the water supply situation in the project area. This is believed to have been started and has proven to work; however, it requires strengthening in certain areas, namely:

- a. Committees legal status: as to officialization of the role of the committees responsible for the water activities, as they are charged with administrative and financial functions, which entail accountability.
- b. Management capabilities: strengthening the bookkeeping abilities of the water committees, through more training and continuous monitoring.
- c. Conflict between FWCs/NWC; resolving the outstanding conflict between FWCs' and NWC, regarding the policy

of management of water sources. While the RREP holds the philosophy that communities are capable of running their water sources, and that the project could be used as a vehicle, to lead communities to attain this goal, NWC still sees the role of communities to be limited to their contribution to the provisions required by the rehabilitation of a water system and not to shoulder the direct responsibility of management.

- d. Addressing constraints: achievement within targetted goals is hampered by constraints of shortage of fuel, cement and timely availability of earth-moving machinery.
- e. Sustainability unassured: the sustainability of hand-dug wells, that are provided by the communities, seems to have better prospects than the rehabilitated water-yards, under the prevailing low maintenance capabilities of NWC, and the non-existence in the rehabilitation programme for an operational maintenance phase, to keep these water-yards efficiently operating. There shall be a gap between communities assuming full responsibilities of running their water-yards and NWC.

catering for the efficient maintenance of the rehabilitated water-yards.

The evaluation team is convinced that the national staff of the water sector, employed by the PWOs, and in their respective fields, have shown efficiency in working closely with NWC, in the formulation of sub-project plans, implementing the plans with the communities, and supervising both NWC and the communities inputs. This aspect of project planning and supervision is further strengthened by the monthly self-evaluation carried out by the PWOs working teams, covering all activities; pointing out strengths, weaknesses, constraints, opportunities and strategies for improvement. This self-evaluation promotes staff confidence in the progress of the work plans and invites modifications when dictated by the circumstances.

However, there are still these conceptual and operational gaps between the RFEF and NWC, regarding the limits to the role of communities in the management of water sources, more particularly water-yards. At the centre level (Khartoum), and judged from the participation of NWC in a number of conferences, convened to promote community-based management

philosophy, MWC shows preparedness for the promotion of policies leading to that, yet when viewed at the Region's level such preparedness seems not to exist. This conflict has not been resolved; centre, Regions-wise within MWC, and between the MWC and RFFP.

3.4. Agriculture

3.4.1 Farmers' organization

The organization of the farmers into ODPs and cooperatives is one of the important achievements. This provides the start for intersectoral linkages between the various sources of water, and land and the various land use activities, which may lead in future to improvements in areas of crop farming, agro-forestry, and agro-pastoralism.

3.4.2 Prospects of improving cropping patterns

The single field cropping has the prospects of being changed into mixed cropping; where trees, fruit trees, vegetables and improved range could be practiced, as exemplified, for example, by the concepts adopted in Wadi farming (under WITA) sub-projects. This will contribute to the improvement

of the agricultural production systems in these semi-arid lands, by enriching the soil, increasing yields and improving farmers incomes.

3.4.3. Procurement of improved seeds

All three organizations have programmes for the distribution of improved seeds; however, the coverage has been inadequate; in some cases due to limited supplies from the seed sources. The following characteristics need to be considered when preparing for the improved seed package: resistance to drought, resistance to agricultural pests and high yielding characteristics.

3.4.4. Crop protection

Little is being done by the three projects in this regard, limited to the distribution of some seed-dressing chemicals. Farmers in the three project areas complain of disasters caused yearly by agricultural pests. Sub-projects in this respect, need to be promoted, and people have to be trained to fight pests. Links with crop and plant protection institutions merit also being created.

3.4.7. Agricultural credit

The RFPP is carrying out elaborate extension programmes aiming at the upgrading of community organization, participatory planning, environmental enhancement and agricultural development. ABS is providing agricultural credit to farmers in a number of districts where the RFPP is operating; Umm Ruwaba, En Nahud and Nyala. In many cases farmers within the RFPP areas have not heard of the ABS agricultural credit. It is seen as fostering project targets, that RFPP informs farmers about the ABS credit possibilities.

3.4.8. Animal drawn ploughs

The development of this sub-project by VITA will help farmers in cultivating more land, reducing the cost of labour, improving soil texture, and subsequent increases in crop yields and farmers' incomes. The plough could be an element in a larger animal-drawn implements package, to be funded under the SSE/C. CARE and SCF may consider examining the prospects of animal drawn implements, and benefit from VITA's experience in this area; drawing on the same credit component.

3.5. Agro-forestry

3.5.1. Village nurseries

Introduction of village nurseries for the production of tree seedlings, using the waste water from water-yards, and the production of vegetables during the seedlings off-season, is a helping activity; in augmenting forestry development, improving nutrition and raising farmer's income. The little available quantity of waste water, however, is a limiting factor to expanding this activity.

Establishment of some nurseries, coupled with extension and training in agro-forestry, shall help in educating people about causes of desertification, and the importance of trees for the local environment. The participation of the people in the nursery sub-projects is encouraging; attested in their procurement of local materials, construction and establishment of the nurseries, and their involvement in nursery management and protection.

3.5.2. Selection of tree species

Agro-forestry technical service require further investigation. in the fields of tree selection for various

purposes and needs, to satisfy demands in food, fodder, fibres and many other forest products. Species to be selected should be in relevance to economic, social, environmental and ecological conditions of the project area. Local trees of Hashab, Kitter, Babanus, Subagh, Sider, Tabeldi, Hejleig and Aradeib are of many benefits to the people. Exotic trees such as Mesquite, Ailanthus and Leucea may prove useful to introduce, for the supply of wood and fodder, and for providing cover for the eroded areas.

3.5.3. Live fences

Fences are established by the people, to protect their crop lands and gardens. Excessive cutting of trees is going on, to use their thorny branches for fences, which is aiding desertification. Live fencing will reduce cutting of trees. Some research needs to be done to select suitable species from local and exotic trees for fencing purposes. Kitter is a good live fence, where rain or irrigation water is adequate. Mesquite can grow on very dry areas. Ingil is another suggested local species. Both Mesquite and Luecina species may prove to be suitable in fencing home gardens, and also in providing free fodder to household livestock.

3.5.4. Extension and training

Forestry sub-projects are rather new in the PRA areas, particularly nursery development and introduction of new tree species in agricultural activities. The current programmes need to be strengthened in many aspects. Extension and training should be more elaborated and concentrating on:

- collection, treatment and storage of tree seeds,
- establishment of more village nurseries and raising of tree with little costs,
- transplanting of seedlings and protection of growing young trees in the field, and
- application of effective methods of tree harvesting including thinning, pollarding and felling, and regeneration methods, including coppicing, sowing and seedling planting.

3.5.5. Hashab management

Hashab management on the farms is not new to villagers in the project area. People know how to select good

seeds from their healthy trees and sow them with their crops. The practice of growing Hashab through seedlings is less known and farmers need to be trained on it. The use of improved gum tapping tool (the sonky), developed during the sixties and presently included for propagation under CARE agro-forestry programme, deserves being considered by VITA and SCF; with appropriate modifications if required. The use of the sonky will facilitate the tappers' job and will lessen damages to the trees.

3.6. Small scale enterprise credit

3.6.1. Status by PWO

Apart from the principle of increasing people's capacity to improve on their living standards through raising their incomes, there is practically no consensus between the 3 PWO's on the sub-projects to be formulated and financed through the SSE/C. The two PWOs, VITA and SCF who started some activities on this credit have different areas of emphasis at this stage of project implementation.

CARE, because of not addressing the project in their original work plan proposal, has only worked on agricultural

credit. So far it has not built up a trained cadre of their staff to handle sub-projects under the SSG/C. It is now considering to do so in the extension period of the project.

CARE's change of attitude is the result of being convinced of the prospects of handling commodity surplus for sale, by the villagers and farmers, to augment their incomes, besides the potential of businesses in small industrial activities.

WTA is viewing SSG/C, from the existing variations in the economical set ups of North and South Darfur, and also from the premises of linkages between the urban and rural sectors of the economy. On the urban side, including the big towns of Nyala and El Fasher, WTA is working on the development of sub-projects conceived by tradesmen and workshop owners: Carpenters, blacksmiths, tin smiths, metal workers, 'merkoub'-makers, etc. In the rural areas, WTA is targeting to develop such sub-projects including animal-drawn ploughs, oil mills, grain grinding mills, etc. The possible links between sub-projects in urban and rural areas are viewed by WTA as serving project developmental goals, where improved artisan technology, shall help promoting newly introduced technologies in rural areas.

✓ SCF is approaching this goal by facilitating access to

*Indigenous Sudanese shoe.

credit from SSE and to improving people's skills in business management, through appropriate extension work and training.

While VITA is concentrating at present on business groups, with other activities as well considered, SCF is more in the area of small trade businesses. The two fields of activities are complementary to each other, in any of the three project areas. The sub-projects developed by VITA and SCF reflect the following characteristics:

- they meet and answer potential needs perceived by villagers and the town groups.
- there are high prospects of possible and practical sub-projects to be developed to receive SSE/C.

The storming of the offices of VITA in El Fasher, and SCF in Um Riweh by applicants, at the time of this evaluation, seeking SSE/C, confirms the above two findings.

3.6.2. Prospects of SSE/C

The sub-projects developed under the SSE/C by VITA and SCF are being^{held} to generate the following benefits:

- raising local productivity,
- broadening of local economic opportunities,

- ~~improving~~ income levels,
- enhancing local supply of goods and services,
- processing of goods to increase their value,
- strengthening of village self-reliance, experiences and knowledge, and
- upgrading of women's skills.

It is already felt, in those areas, where SSE/C has been granted, that the flow^{of} goods and services has been stimulated and the existing activities are expanding and giving profit. The number of individuals and households that benefited from SSE/C, through the help of SCF, are in the range of a 100 in 3 sub-projects. The applications submitted for new loans, indicate clearly, that the number of beneficiaries shall immensely increase in future.

SCF, in order to enable farmers and villagers to fully acquire the procedure of SSE/C, is adopting an approach of integrating the training activities into the procedure of loan-giving. For SCF the training is very important, and is designed to lead to initiation of activities, upgrading of organizational capabilities and encouragement of accumulation of small trader's resources.

Project formulation is done jointly by beneficiaries and the SCFs' credit staff. Following the application put by the beneficiary, the SCF staff conducts a feasibility study of the sub-project, on basis of the information supplied by the applicant, and presents the study to the ABS, which decides on the loan and complete the contractual forms to be signed by the applicant. Accordingly, a cheque to the amount of the credit is issued, to be cashed by the beneficiary from a local bank. This is usually done in presence of the Chairman of the VDC, credit staff of SCF and a representative of ABS. The same group follows the borrower to the village to witness the distribution of the loan to the beneficiaries, in case the borrower is a guarantor to a group of applicants. The purpose of these elaborate procedures is educational, especially at this starting stage of the administration of the loan.

Repayment is 100% and ABS is satisfied with managing the SSF/C, since it is easier to administer compared to agricultural credit, because borrowers are organized in groups under guarantors. Also the SSF/C is availing an opportunity for ABS to experiment with credit activities outside agriculture, an area which ABS may promote in the future.

As for the administration fee of 19%, which is of the same level of interest for agricultural credit, there are issues arising from that, which are not yet resolved. These need to be studied to find out the real costs of:

- fuel and field allowances for ABS staff,
- PWG's incurred costs,
- interest on capital, and
- any other costs.

The 19% return to the bank is now kept in a separate account, awaiting settlement of the above questions.

3.6.3. Evaluation of ABS role

From interviews and discussions held with ABS staff at En Nahud, Umm Ruweba and H.Q. (Khartoum) it appears that there is no clarity from the side of ABS on the RFFP credit policy. This could be gathered from the following points:

- ABS credit emphasis is still towards co-lateral forms of lending.
- ABS involvement within the rain-fed traditional agriculture e.g. Umm Ruweba, En Nahud, etc. has

been founded on the cooperation which is believed by the bank, as the most suited forum for credit management.

- Even within above forum, ABS is still skeptical about its success due to ecological, production, and marketing weaknesses of this type of farming.
- ABS has not ventured very much outside crop farming into agrarian related fields, like the ones falling within the SSF/C.
- As a result of all above, though ABS accepted administering the SSF/C, it has not so far developed concrete plans for its promotion. This is reflected in: no specialized institution has been set up within the bank to look after this type of credit, also in uncertainty about the rate of interest to be applied, and further to that as to how to develop and operate the projected revolving fund, to be founded on this credit component.

It seems that ABS accepted administering the SSF/C without making the necessary adjustments in its policies to
 ... philosophy; a matter which needs to be

straightened with ABS to ensure the operational and institutional sustainability of this form of credit.

3.7. Women-in-Development

3.7.1. Difficulty of measuring progress:

The indicators featured in the technical proposal, for measuring the impact of the three projects on women could not be adequately applied. For instance, it is difficult to measure income resources prior and after project implementation, which is also true for changes in nutrition, upgrading of management skills, enhancement of organizational capabilities, and interaction with outside systems.

The difficulty of measuring progress according to these yard-sticks, stems from the fact that, the project implementation period is too short, to effect such basic changes. It is also due to the weak documentation of the sub-projects results where achievements have been attained.

In the preceding section on achievements, the current situation of women programmes was adequately covered. From these dispositions, it is clear that the emphasis in women's

~~Problems vary considerably among the three PVOs.~~ The problems encountered, are too of variant nature. In what follows, the status of women's programmes shall be discussed under each PVO.

3.7.2. VITA

VITA, has a limited range of women sub-projects. The ones identified include, two women leather-making sub-projects; one handicrafts sub-project and one jubraks farming sub-project. The leather and handicrafts sub-projects are targeted to organize women participants into cooperatives; the registration of one of them has been completed.

These three sub-projects are actually founded on women who are already in business, practising the production and marketing of leather and handicrafts articles. Cooperatives development is aimed at organising women into production units, assisting them in acquiring premises for their activities and supplying them with sewing machines to increase production.

Two issues are worthy of investigation, in relation to the leather and handicrafts sub-projects, namely marketability of their products and the prospects of replicability of these


models. The market side has not been studied. Limited marketing possibilities may undermine cooperatives flourishing, especially that El Fasher and Nyala are already saturated with home-made leather and handicrafts articles. As for Khartoum, the proposed cooperatives have not so far succeeded in establishing marketing channels there. The prospects of the three cooperatives, to develop viable businesses, depend on improving production quality, a matter which is hard to attain, within the life-time of the project.

Jubrake improvement is a minor activity for VITA at present, since it is limited to one project idea. This component needs to be addressed more strongly, for the fact that crop farming is the main activity of rural communities in Darfur; also because women play a major role in farming. VITA could benefit from CARE built-in experience (ENSAP project) in Jubrake farming, especially on the organizational side of the activity.

Considering training, VITA has a limited input in the training of women in villages. Women's organization is entrusted to the community extension (male) agent; with women's represented by three members; an area which needs some strengthening.

3.7.3. CARE

The potential areas of women sub-projects under CARE are juteka farming, poultry and nurseries. CARE has adequate extension services (Chart No. 2), which has enabled the woman's section to carry out extension training activities at various levels. The approach is based on selection of villages through the informed opinion of key heads of departments, plus some community figures. Villages are then approached by the extension teams, who would explain about the project, and encourage women to form their WDCs.




Each WDC would choose an encourager, who would be sent to En Nehal for training at CARE office. After training is completed, the encouragers return to their villages.

The WDC section and extension agents visit the villages to strengthen the encouragers' training input and the WDCs' organization. The stage of need identification and sub-project formulation then follows:

However, it is observed that, these long processes of women organization and training, which equally apply to the male segment of the population are causing frustration to villagers and undermining their interest in the project, because people do not see real developmental activities being implemented


following this intensive training. This observation is shared by CARE staff, En Nahud.

Rectifying the above situation, would require of CARE responding to villagers priorities more substantially, by implementing the approved sub-projects. Jubraka farming is one area that offers high prospects of application. The SSA/C component, which has not yet been started by CARE, is another important area that needs to be immediately organized, to avail opportunities for men and women in villages, to generate businesses. CARE could be enlightened in this respect by the experiences built by VITA and SCF.




3.7.4. SCF

SCF is in a more advantageous position than VITA and CARE, due to its long presence in Umm Ruwaba District, and its merging of RFFP resources, with other funds. This has availed for SCF the opportunity to work in conjunction with an infrastructure of activities, implemented under other projects' components. Moreover, the diversity of projects is offering SCF a flexibility of interaction between the RFFP components, and the RFFP and the other on-going activities, enriching thus SCF experience in approaching women-in-development activities



more elaborately, as could be grasped from the types and numbers of women's sub-projects; covering women training centres, home gardens, SSE/C activities; a total of 33 sub-projects.

In the area of women training and organization, SCF has adopted an approach similar to the one of CARE; through women's workers and extensionists, meeting with villagers organizing them to choose their committees; training of encouragers, followed by identification of need priorities and preparation of sub-projects.



4. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

4.1. Background

The environment, in Darfur and Kordofan Regions, has been greatly affected by the 1983 - 1984 drought and the preceding prolonged misuses of land. Removal of wood cover, overgrazing and uncontrolled fires, overexploitation of marginal (fragile) lands, have severely denuded the land and soil, resulting in high rates of desertification. On the other hand, the post-drought period has witnessed good rains which helped the regeneration of the natural vegetation.

4.2. The RFFP Environmental Guidelines

Although RFF Amendment No. 3 Regional Finance and Planning Project 650-0012, June 1987, pp. 51 emphasized that, the PWDs will avail general environmental guidelines for both the workplans and in the sub-projects design, this is not explicit in the three PWDs workplans.

The environmental guidelines as spelt out by the above-mentioned project document, relate to the general areas of activities: agriculture, forestry, water, energy, rural roads and small scale industry. Of these, energy and rural roads are not

considered by the RFFP. While women-in-development area, was not mentioned in the first draft of the project document, but now is included as an integral part of the three FVOs' workplans.

According to the sub-projects prioritization assessment, Annex II, the water and agriculture components interchange logically, with each other, assuming a first or a second priority, in the lists of sub-projects finalized by the three FVOs; vari-
 antly followed in order, by the other components: Women-in-development, forestry, credit and extension.

The environmental guidelines may be implicitly incorporated in the different project ideas, however, not fully explored in the sub-projects proposals. In what follows, some exploration of the environmental considerations, in relation to the various areas of activities of the project, shall be attempted.

4.3. The water component

It was pointed out, in project document (No. 5) that water points would be selected according to environmentally sound criteria. It is realized, however, that this condition cannot be fulfilled, especially in relation to the rehabilitation of water-yards, which is carried out on existing water-points. It is therefore clear, that the project has very little influence on changing

the environmental conditions, if they turn to be unacceptable. This means that criteria 1 and 2 of the project document (No. 3) can hardly be met.

Concerning community awareness of environmental conditions, criterion 3 of same project document, pp. 51 it is apparent that, village communities are well aware of the devastation caused by the drought. They are thus very enthusiastic to participate in efforts to stop further degradation. This is further ascertained, by the integrated approach of the PVOs, which has been firmly adopted by village communities, materializing in the development of nurseries and horticultural sub-projects. Community willingness to participate in these activities has its roots in the long established tradition of self-help and communal (nsfir) work, and is reflected in the preparedness to share the costs of and the management of the water facilities.

Due to the short period of project implementation (13 - 15 months), very little data has been collected, to warrant a fair evaluation of the environmental impacts of improved water sources. Aside from the data shortage, the delays caused by the poor logistics, lack of cooperation at the beginning from the side of NRC, and in some instances non-availability of equipment and the right personnel, have led to limited achievements in the

The Water Component

El Fasher wells supply the town with about 70% of its water needs. The wells suffer contamination from their muddy surroundings, where the spill water from the filling of containers, mixed with animal dung, enter into the wells and finds way by hand dipping into the storage tanks. The project objective is to reduce the risks of contamination; by providing a closed water distribution system, through raising the well neck, constructing an elevated apron around the well and raising and improving the water tank. These improvements would minimize the incidence of water-borne diseases, e.g. typhoid, dysentery, etc. and generally improve the quality of the water.

Table 4 gives the water test results of El Fasher well improvement programs, before and after rehabilitation. These results testify the effectiveness of the methods used. Of the eight wells sampled, after improvement, the total bacterial and coliform contents have been reduced to the normal WHO standards. Rehabilitation of the rest of the wells stopped due to shortage of cement.

Under VITA programs, a few rehads and dams improvements have been implemented. Their present status does not warrant evaluation; however, it is envisaged that large quantities of water can be stored. On the positive side, large bodies of water

Table 4. El Fasher well improvement programme - water test results

Well owners name	B-P No.	Location	Before Improvement (sample from tap)		after improvements (sample from tap)	
			Total bact.	Coliform	Total bact.	Coliform
1. Ali Bedin	PF-01-WA	Awlad El Raf	1990	0		
2. Meimoud Mohammed	PF-02-WA	El Radeef	1200	0	165	0
3. Ismail Saleh	PF-03-WA	El Fizan	3000	0	240	0
4. Youssef Abdul Aziz	PF-04-WA	El Radeef	2600	10	180	0
5. Abdul Rahman Ali	PF-05-WA	El Fizan	3400	10	520	0
6. Abdul Aziz Saleh	PF-17-WA	El Fizan	3000	10	660	0
7. Iassen Mohammed Ali	PF-18-WA	El Fizan	920	0	210	0
8. W/Rahman el Beyyah	PF-19-WA	El Wikels	1400	0		
9. Malik Rahme Mahmoud	PF-20-WA	Awlad El Raf	1040	10		
10. Jofel Jaber	PF-21-WA	Awlad El Raf	1040	0	160	0
11. Ali Mohammed Youssef	PF-22-WA	El Radeef	700	10	260	0
12. Mohammed Salih Ali	PF-37-WA	El Fizan	2400	10		
13. el-Mgant Omar Ali	PF-38-WA	Awlad El Raf	2160	10		
14. Said Mohamed el-Zaki	PF-39-WA	El Radeef				
15. Ibrahim Zelen	PF-40-WA	Awlad El Raf	1200			

El Fasher Civil Hospital recommends:

Total bacteria count, less than 100
Faecal coliform contamination, less than 10

would swell adequate supplies, cut on travelling distances for water, increase livestock numbers and raise producers' income. Also the storage of water in large dams may lead to ground water conservation and encourage irrigation of crops e.g. tobacco such as in the case of Tawilla dam if rehabilitated. On the negative side adverse environmental effects are expected from the creation of big water sources, which will invite large numbers of animals and users, causing damage to the environment, through overgrazing, and increasing the rate of the on-going desertification.

To protect water sources from contamination, the hafir or dam will be fenced by barbed wire and guarded. Villagers will be trained in hygiene and sanitation, to raise their awareness, about the benefits derived from using good quality water. Coupled with ^{hygiene} and sanitation training which is extensively carried out by CARE, and prepared for under SDF, the water-supply situation shall be further improved. Besides, the use of spill water from the rehabilitated bore-holes, for nursery and vegetable gardens development, shall enhance the environmental quality in and around villages.

There is also the macro-effect of the rehabilitated water yards, as an added environmental benefit, creating new balances in the distribution of humans and livestock over an area, reducing

thus, the effects of over concentration around a few number of operating water-yards, as it is presently the situation.

Basin development under GARR and SCF serves alleviating water shortages by increasing the quantities of the water consumed by the household, in places suffering deficient water supply, and presently obtaining their needs at high prices.

The above improvements need to be strengthened further, by re-examining the currently applied designs of water-yards, and by devoting more efforts to monitoring the impact of hygiene/sanitation training on communities.

4.4. Agriculture and agro-forestry

Being small scale sub-projects, widely dispersed, their environmental impact is difficult to assess at this stage of the life of the project. General comments on the anticipated environmental benefits of the on-going activities shall be attempted.

On the positive side, the agricultural activities are targeted to increase production, secure more food, improve the income of the farmer and stabilize the rural population. They are traditionally practiced in the form of rain-fed farming, wadi farming, jubrakes, home gardens, vegetable gardens, etc.

Expansion of these activities under project support and without rational planning, may lead to negative impacts that have to be guarded against. Clearing of trees, extensive use of ploughs and increasing the cultivated acreage, on wadi banks, may disturb the ecological balance, by devastating vegetation, trampling of loose soils and causing erosion, which would add to the on going processes of desertification.

The challenge is thus, how to bring about these benefits without further land degradation. Only more imaginative land use and agricultural planning, coupled with strong agricultural extension services, could make the project attain this goal. Thinking comprehensively, at both farm and area level, and drawing on outside expertise to assist in agricultural planning, would enable meeting some of these environmental goals.

As for agro-forestry, the objectives to be served, should also be viewed in a macro-context. Certain practices all over western Sudan, have adversely affected the environment; expansion of cultivated lands, increase in livestock numbers, extensive cutting of woods for various purposes, etc., have led to the depletion of natural resources (soils, trees, range and pasture).

The village nurseries and the direct sowing of trees, e.g. *Acacia senegal*, by villagers, serve many purposes in relation to the above factors of decay. They will have a primary impact on checking the rate of desertification in and around projects sites. If properly managed, these forestry efforts would lead to land stabilization, reduction of soil erosion and improved soil fertility. Besides, serving the above general goals, hashab trees would provide gum, fodder, fuel wood and help in nitrogen fixation.

The three PVOs' work plans, in the area of agro-forestry, are inclined towards planting indigenous species, besides, imported fruit and shade trees e.g. lemon, neem, etc., which have proven to be well adapted to the area.

Although the different sub-projects, carried out in the fields of agriculture, forestry, water provision and women, help in the betterment of the environment, there seems to be no specific sub-projects dealing directly with the environmental issues. For instance, no effort is devoted for the establishment of wind-breaks and shelter-belts.

4.5. Women-in-Development and SSE/C

Women-in-development activities would enhance the

environment, from economic and social angles, by increasing production, improving nutrition, providing employment and raising incomes, also, if expanded upon, could check the long practiced out migration from the area, leading to population stability. Though, so far little has been achieved in the women area, there are positive indications from the sub-projects that have been implemented, that such goals are feasible to attain.

Small scale enterprises credit sub-projects have also socio-economic prospects in enhancing the local environment, by availing capital for investment in various businesses, increasing money circulation in the community at large, improving household income and stabilizing the rural population.

5. CONSTRAINTS

5.1 Logistical


1. There has been a slow start of the project, due to some organizational changes and logistical shortages, more specific of WITA and CARE
2. WITA operates from three offices: El Fasher, Nyala and Khartoum, without a radio communication system. WITA applied for the radio facility in July 1989, and till now has not been approved. WITA has been depending on UNDP project in communicating with Khartoum; and since the UNDP office in El Fasher shall be closed down next month, WITA would end up having no communication facility.
3. WITA suffers shortage of transport. It has at present 4 vehicles, for use between El Fasher and Nyala, with a high field demand, to meet the activities of their 4 technical sectors.
4. All three FVOs suffer a fuel shortage; sometimes ending with no fuel at all, for field operations.
5. All three organizations live a shortage of cement, needed for construction, especially in the field of water

supply, which delays the progress of sub-projects in this area. Approved quotes from Rebak cement factory, are far behind scheduled delivery. SCF is managing, by purchasing from duty free market from its dollar account. WITA lacks also the steel needed for the manufacturing of donkey-drawn ploughs.

5.2. A general constraint

6. There is a wide gap between people's perceived needs and the project means to fulfill these needs. People's frustration about delays in project implementation was highly felt during this evaluation. In fact, there is a growing pressure on the three PWOs to respond to perceived sub-projects, and it is most probable that this pressure shall further grow in future. As people get more trained, more progressive and gain new experiences, they shall tend to work-out more sub-projects. A mounting gap between conceptualization and implementation, without being matched with the essential resources to execute, may present a real constraint to the work of the PWOs.

5.3. Water supply

7. The long process of reaching agreements with NWC, on the rehabilitation of water-yards, has caused considerable delays in starting the water programme.
 8. The agreements reached with NWC are on physical rehabilitation. The side of management and people's role is still unsettled.
 9. Sustainability of the rehabilitated water-yards is un-guaranteed, for there is no assured flow of spare-parts after the current rehabilitation phase is over; taking into consideration that NWC maintenance capabilities, would presumably remain at the same level of efficiency.
 10. Shortage of cement, mentioned under logistical problems, is constraining the execution of the hand-dug wells, hafirs, dams and khazan/basin programmes.
 11. The limited number of earth moving units, and the high work demand on these units, is causing serious delays to the hafirs and dams execution activities.
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12. The hygiene and water sanitation component is difficult to realize, under an acute water shortage situation like in En Nahud district.

5.4. Agriculture and agro-forestry

13. Agricultural pests, particularly locust and to a lesser degree rats, are causing annually a great damage to crops. People have no means to fight these pests, and communities' links with the Plant Protection Department are weak.
14. There are limited sources of improved seeds. The quantities produced by the Seeds Propagation Administration are short of meeting the annual demand, countrywide. The PVOs (CARE and SCF) end up distributing limited amounts of seeds. Monitoring of the improved seeds grown by farmers and obtained through the project is weak. Farmers' harvest, if well monitored, could be bulked and distributed to more farmers in the next season.
15. Farmers face a pricing problem. At harvest time, prices are low, and most farmers being pressed for cash would sell at depressed prices. There are no farmers' marketing groups to advance cash to those who are needy, so as

to secure the best returns from crop sales, when prices are favourable.

16. Under the precarious rainfall of the project areas, there is no guarantee that farmers would not end up with grain shortage, in any one year. In fact this is annually experienced by the poor segment of households in the three areas, selling part of their labour during the cultivation season to raise cash to meet buying grain and other necessities. SCF is carrying out some grain storage activity; an area that needs to be addressed by the RFFP.
17. Labour cost is continually rising due to inflation, rising cost of living and competition for labour within and outside the agricultural sector. The weeding operation is the most labour demanding, and bringing down its cost, shall have a multiplier effect in reducing the cost of production. The donkey-drawn plough could make a breakthrough in this area. Only WITA is developing a programme of donkey-drawn ploughs.
18. No efforts are shown in the area of water-harvesting and spreading. Rain-fed vegetables are traditionally produced, with a ready market in the towns and small

centres of the projects' areas. Except for WIL, devoting some attention to Wadi cultivation, overlooking this activity is a constraint to realizing the potential of arid land ecosystems.

19. The project objective of improving forestry within the project life-time is superficially conceived. The most fast growing forest trees, would need between 4 - 6 years, before they can be harvested. Hence, revision of project life-time, to achieve tangible results in the forestry field, is the first step towards putting this component in a developmental context.
20. The agro-forestry activity, in the three project areas is poorly coordinated with the on-going local and national efforts of forestry improvements. Equally, it lacks officialized linkages with the forestry offices in the districts. Whatever being worked out in this concern, is in most cases, a result of self-initiation, and cooperation, from the side of FVOs and the local forestry staff. If proper links are not developed and formalized, the sustainability of the agro-forestry component is not assured.

21. There are factors which are difficult to manipulate, to guarantee the success of agro-forestry activities; such as rain failure causing a high death rate of seedlings after being planted in the fields; the rat hazards, which is difficult to control, and the grass-coppers eating seedlings at nurseries.

5.5. Small scale enterprise credit

22. The delay from the side of CARE in moving this component, due to a lack of expertise in CARE, to implement sub-projects in this field, is obstructing people in El Jahud area to benefit from the available finances under this component.
23. Groups that form under this credit, into cooperatives, face the problem of registration, being experienced by women and business groups in El Fasher.


5.6. Women-in-development

24. Attributes of women low status in the society, and their limited exposure to outside systems, have resulted in a gap between male and female potential for organization

and initiation. This leg is evident in all three areas, and is causing a planning problem in moving women targeted objectives.

25. There is a general weakness in expertise and staff in the women technical sector, which is reflected in the number, qualifications and experiences of the women workers in the three areas (Charts 1, 2 and 3).
26. WITA women programme has poor linkages with local women activities and institutions.
27. Ineffective follow-up of training input, need assessment and project formulation, by actual project implementation; pronounced in the case of CARE.
28. There are risks in extending unassured packages to beneficiaries. A good example in this concern, is the distribution by CARE and SCF, of improved cocks to serve poultry farms, which turned to be ineffective, due to a high mortality rate.
29. Non-availability of water for micro-irrigation activities due to the limited number and diversity of sources,

coupled by a high domestic need, more pronounced in Mahabadi district, puts CARE in an unfavourable situation of developing women vegetable gardens.

30. The limited scope of the REFP to the 5 technical sectors, restricts women's initiation in areas like health (mid-wife training) and education (adult education), which often emerge as women priorities. SCF is in a better position in this regard, because of the other projects' funds available to SCF, to carry out these activities. Such areas are integral components, of the rural development efforts, in most programmes.
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6. LESSONS LEARNED

6. 1. Introduction

These are some of the lessons learned from the evaluation exercise. They are presented to furnish the grounds for the next section of the report, on recommendations. The two sections are overlapping, with concepts presented in this section, detailed in the next. The lessons are subtitled as follows:

6.2. Project sustainability

1. Infra-structural problems: The two Regions are faced with such problems; exemplified in shortages of essential materials needed for the execution of the project, especially in the area of fuel and cement. Equally, there is lack of equipment, such as earthmoving machinery for hafir and dam construction, and trucks for the transportation of materials and water-yard maintenance crews. Some of the organizations, because of the distance factor like, WFA, are in a less favourable position. Projection of the present conditions of shortages into the future by the RTCs, as to whether the situation would improve or not, seems

essential to come with a strategy for handling the supply and equipment issues. VITA in Darfur should receive special attention within this strategy.

2. Self-reliance in place of relief attitudes: The recent involvement of foreign organizations in the relief efforts, that followed the drought of 1984, is over-shadowing the images of the PVO undertaking the REFP. Despite the work of the PVO agents among villagers correcting this attitude, it still has its reflections. This attitude could only be changed, by exerting more efforts towards self-reliance; best realized, through availing adequate time for the project to share experiences with the local communities and build new values.
3. Gaps in project organizations: There are gaps in the project organization that need to be addressed, otherwise project sustainability is unassured. These are most felt in two areas: Project linkages with the technical departments working in the two regions and the staffing of the PVOs. Under the present condition, of weak linkages between the project and the technical departments, and the reliance of the PVOs' on the direct hiring of staff, it is most probable that with the termination of the project, little shall be left behind; as it is most probable

that the national staff hired by the PVOs, shall disintegrate, and those seconded, assumedly, would go back to their departments. The RTCs should look into the project sustainability from three angles: project life-time, creation of more viable links with the technical departments and the PVOs staffing situation.

4. Prospects of working with NGOs: There are few Sudanese NGOs operating in the two regions. Sudanese Red Crescent is the most pronounced one, with a developmental orientation, working in Darfur Region. VITA cooperated with the Red Crescent in the rehabilitation activity of El Fasher town walls. The demand by the project of the PVOs to cooperate with the local NGOs and build their capabilities, for a possible take-over from the PVOs, should be re-examined as a project strategy. The proposal needs to be thoroughly assessed by the RTCs, as to the capabilities of the NGOs in shouldering developmental responsibilities, of the type presently carried out by the PVOs. Further to that NGOs might not be interested in entering into joint ventures with the PVOs.

6.3. Need to extend project

1. Expressed interest by local authorities: In discussions

with the local authorities; the Darfur Region Governor, the district councils executive officers at En Nahud and Umm Ruweba, and the Nazir of the Hamar tribe, En Nasmad, it was clearly emphasised that the activities of the project are serving an important developmental role, with which the local government infrastructure can not cope. Interest in the continuity of this role, beyond the life of project plans, through August 1991, was highly expressed.

2. High need response: The project operational period has not exceeded 15 months. During this time the number of approved sub-projects is tremendous, sieved out of numerous proposals, signifying that the magnitude of unmet developmental needs is large. This clearly indicates that, the RFFP is at the start of a development process, that has a high potential.
3. Project objectives are sound: Communities have positively responded to the project philosophy, judged from their cooperation in the training programmes, formation of village based institutions, the number of sub-projects perceived, contributions to realizing projects, expressed interest in project activities by communities outside designated

project areas, etc., which are good indicators that the project objectives are sound and matching local conditions.

4. Risks to be guarded against: There is a risk of communities losing faith in project credibility, due to a time lag between the phase of community organization, need identification, and that of actual mobilization of project resources for sub-project implementation. CARE is facing this problem. Communities have been so intensively approached without substantial benefits accruing to them, to the degree that they started doubting the projects' worthiness. Timely adjustment of the community preparatory phase and the actual project implementation one, would minimize such havoc.
5. Communities could complement government resources: Communities if well organized would not only address their own needs, but could also help in sparing government scarce finances, one of the project objectives. In the rehabilitation of water yards, committees are offering lodging, hospitality and paying the allowances of the maintenance crews.

6.4. Components to be strengthened

1. The agronomic component: The agronomic component is not strongly developed in the three project areas, though activities along this line are variably carried out. Since crop farming is the mainstay of the population in the three areas, and is the one ^{on} which the rural economy is founded, this component needs to be strengthened by providing the basic inputs.

2. Support of technical departments to women programmes: There was not a strong tradition of working with women in rural areas, prior to the implementation of this project. The three PVOs have managed to draw young women workers for this purpose, the majority of whom are not basically trained in woman-in-development fields. There is limited expertise outside the projects in the three regions, that can be resorted to, to enhance the situation. It seems that the most practical way of resolving this problem, is by looking at the women issue, as more of a long term goal, where sustainable results are difficult to attain within the short life of the project; and that experiences gained by women workers through the project are to be held as

added achievements. Since, there is nothing special about designing projects for women by who is ever technically capable, more support is needed of the technical departments under the three organizations, by working closely on the women's issues, through pushing the various project components. The start could be a small workshop for the staff of each organization, to assess the current women's programmes, and to identify new inputs to be rendered by the various departments and define linkages.

3. Jubraka farming is to be upgraded: Jubraka farming is a specific women activity practiced in all three areas. CARE is working on that, and again SCF, on home gardens. The indicated weaknesses of the agronomic component previously mentioned, equally apply to Jubraka farming and home gardens, which have a high potential for upgrading. The project has to emphasize this area.
4. Promoting the SSE/C for women: Women programmes are operating within the confinement of women workers, working with women, with little, or no exposure to outside systems. Unless this boundary is crossed, no substantial progress could be attained. The SSE/C component presents high prospects of maximizing women's need identification, creation

of involvement, and connection to the marketing system. Together with women group work, womens' programmes should aim more, at releasing individuals' vitality, in economic pursuits to create exposed figures, potentially equipped to assume leadership roles among fellow-women.

5. Models for environmental enhancement: The environmental considerations outlined for the project are conceptually valid, and are valued in project design, however, they are difficult to attain within the life of the project plans. Addressing the magnitude of environmental decay in the two regions is beyond the capacities of the three PVOs. For example, none of the nurseries established by the project has succeeded in getting out seedlings to the farmer, and only a few shall be able to obtain this result this year. Environmental enhancement is a long term goal, hence, the present educational role of the project should be emphasized, through a limited number of selected models in each of the three areas, demonstrating the concept of rational landuse, targeted for replication in future.
6. Strengthening documentation: The programme philosophy is founded on working with the people. One yardstick of judgement of achievement is how well the programme managed to

develop viable organizational capabilities, through operating the various input components. Presently, the operational processes are not adequately documented, partly due to the short-life-time of projects, and partly to the little emphasis given in the project workplans to this area.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1. Introduction

The team reached the following recommendations while at projects' sites; presented and discussed them with the PVOs in the debriefing sessions. Comments and clarifications made by the PVOs were taken into consideration, in finalizing the recommendations.

A good number of the recommendations apply to all PVOs programmes, while some specifically to certain PVOs activities. Thus, in presenting the recommendations, this distinction of applicability across all three PVOs, and specificity to one PVO, is indicated against each recommendation. The recommendations are grouped by the 5 general activities of the project, and organized topically under logistical, planning, organizational and technical recommendations.

7.2. Logistical issues

1. Revision of projects budgets:

Due to high inflation rates, non-availability of material supplies in the market and that the first budgets have not

taken into consideration the inflation rate, a look into the budget of each project is recommended.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

2. Collective purchases:

Since the availability of materials for project implementation is unguaranteed in Khartoum and the local markets, a policy of purchasing ahead of execution and storing adequate quantities to minimize delays caused by shortages in supply should be adopted. This could be facilitated by lumping finances of each round of approved sub-projects, to enable collective purchases and expenditure within approved budgets; resulting in saving and effective use of resources.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

3. SCF to purchase on dollar budget:

Look into the possibility of permitting SCF to purchase on dollar budget, materials such as cement from duty free, plus other accessible commodities, and be re-imbursed at official dollar exchange rate.

4. Enable VITA to acquire and operate radio communication system:

More support by RTC would be appreciated, to enable VITA to acquire and operate a radio communication system. The readiness of the Darfur Governor to assist in this matter, when raised by the evaluation team, could be used to finalize the approval.

5. Purchase of more vehicles for VITA:

VITA suffers shortage of vehicles for running its activities. Plans are to be worked out to enable VITA to acquire adequate number of vehicles needed.

7.3. Planning issues

1. Conducting broad based survey:

Conducting of broad based surveys on different issues related to projects, and detailed surveys to illuminate specific issues, are to be encouraged. This shall avail background data which is essential for enhancing the prioritization of activities, the selection process of sub-projects, and projects design. Sub-projects identified within more comprehensive contexts shall effectively serve

the broader objectives of the project.

(VITA, CARE, SCR).

2. Training and familiarization with department systems:

More input by project in training of local groups to identify needs and formulate proposals; add-on to that familiarization of beneficiaries with the departmental systems and procedures should be strengthened. The potential of spatially diffused experiences of communities that worked within project, to neighbouring communities, is to be held as one of the criteria in the selection of projects sites.

(VITA, CARE, SCR).


3. Formalizing community-managed water systems:

There are wide conceptual differences between the FVOs and NWC regarding water sources rehabilitation philosophy, specifically on the issue of communities' role in the management of water-yards. Some meeting ground is between NWC, the three organizations, and the RTC, have to be reached, on the issue of management. It is suggested that three regional workshops be held, one in each of the project areas, bringing together NWC, the PVOs, local

government and the beneficiaries, to deliberate about the best approach to resolve the management questions; with the ideas reached at these workshops to be used by a technically chosen committee, to work out a plan that satisfies all parties.
(VITA, CARE, SOP).

4. Drawing on experiences of other community managed water projects:

Further to what the above suggested workshops would yield, it is recommended that the proposed committee would explore the successes achieved under current community managed water systems e.g. the UNICEF experience in South Kordofan and the WUSC programme in Darfur, to benefit from these experiences.

The type of water project i.e. being a water-yard, a hand-pump tube well, or a hand-dug well is very determinant of the kind of management system to be adopted, and also of its acceptance by the NWC. This is verified by the fact that, the same NWC which is accepting the philosophy in the UNICEF assisted project in South Kordofan is rejecting it under the RFFP case. The basic criterion of assessment by the NWC looks to be how the water source mode is close or in harmony with people's technology and capabilities to run and manage it. Because of this consideration communities' success with the hand pumps is very high as compared to water-yards, which are more of complicated systems, with financial and technical inputs to be provided from outside the community. A further proof to that, communities are drawing the line at what they can supply themselves and what should be supplied by NWC.

Besides, the time dimension is crucial, UNICEF and NWC have been running their activities in South Kordofan for more than 5 years. The legal aspects too, should not be overlooked. In the WUSC case NWC does not see how communities could legally raise and manage funds generated from the running of water-yards without a jurisdiction for that. Finally, NWC staff does not comprehend the sociological need for the promotion of this form of management and are not trained to appreciate that.

5. Follow-up of preceding organizations' work

Since there were some organizations which preceded the FVOs working in same project areas, prior to the present involvement of the FVOs, pushing certain inputs with local communities e.g. improved seeds, it is worthy of investigating the impacts of such past activities, and utilizing the results achieved, if proved conducive, to promoting project objectives.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

6. Documentation of experiences

Documentation of experiences attained through testing project approaches, and aimed at verifying results should be accorded high priority in project activities. In many instances, well attained results, are narrated verbally without supporting documentation. Systematization of reporting and strengthening of the follow-up of project implementation through various stages, will avail essential data for assessment of achievements and enhancement of planning capabilities.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

8. Designs according to specifications:

Designs according to technical specifications e.g. nursery sheds, and seedbeds, open shaft wells as well as in other areas, should be realized in sub-projects implementation. Simple explanatory brochures or guidelines would be prepared, to be used by the field staff and the local communities. Early project prototypes should be fully supervised by project technical staff, and not be left wholly to trained agents.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

8. CARE should limit itself to its mandate

CARE should limit its activities to its mandate. Follow-up surveys and extension in the area of agricultural credit cooperatives should be stopped, and left to the concerned agencies: ABS and the Cooperation Department.

9. Water precedes other priorities in need of identification:

Though water supply for communities, emerged as the number one priority in most project sites visited, most pronounced in CARE, En Nahal. Rural communities are psychologically strained in this area, and until this problem is reasonably

solved, other project components shall rate second in community priorities. Satisfying the water need stands a good indicator that communities are ready to indulge in other project activities.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

10. Encouragement of clustering of activities:

More attention should be given to clustering of activities at specific project sites, that are well selected and highly integrated, to yield environmentally and socio-economically broader impacts, to serve the overall project objectives. Such centres would be targeted to perform as transmitter sites to accessibly recipient communities.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

11. Filling gaps between HIP areas:

In case of SCF, there is need to bridge the gap between the HIP areas and the villages in the rest of the district, by creating nuclei links through the clustering of activities in some of the intervening villages.

Another alternative is, to create two more HLP areas in the middle and north western parts of the district.

11. A fresh look at the WID programmes:

A fresh look at WID programmes is needed, for more precision, leading to the formulation of a plan that will build on acquired experiences of working with women, with emphasis on strengthening of packages in which the three FVOs have achieved success, e.g. poultry, home gardens, jubrega farming, communal farming, small business credit, agronomic inputs, etc.

(VITA CARE, SCF).

7.4. Organizational issues:

1. Bridging the gap in understanding of project activities:

Though the local agencies, leadership, and beneficiary groups are appreciative of the FVOs work, there is a lack of understanding of the real project objectives. Perception of project goals is plurred by the past relief activities. Few government agencies know of the project as a shared programme between USAID and Sudan Government. This gap has to be bridged by disseminating information

about the project through seminars, workshops, joint technical work, reporting, etc.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

2. Links with technical departments:

Links need to be strengthened between beneficiary communities, among which the project is working, and the technical government agencies, present in the project area, to facilitate for communities benefiting from the services and inputs rendered by these agencies. This could be best activated through projects' extension programmes, and by developing an organizational and working relationship between the three PVOs and these agencies. Special services and inputs in this regard are: agricultural credit, Plant protection, and WSARP research results.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

3. Secondment of staff to be strengthened:

The departmental structure and the present autonomy of the three PVOs should be kept as it is. However, each organization should look into its staff calibre to upgrade capabilities. Since these organizations shall phase out at the

end of the project, priority should be given in staff employment to seconded experienced personnel, from the technical departments in the region. This shall facilitate lining projects with the departments, resulting in effective feed back, and also in enhancing the technical capabilities of departments, through the training received by working in the project.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

4. Summaries of work plans in arabic to be disseminated:

It is suggested that summaries of work plans are to be prepared in arabic, and to be distributed to technically cooperating departments to disseminate as widely as possible, information about the objectives and strategies of the project. The same could also apply to progress reports, after being approved by the RTCs.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

5. Convene some of RTC's meetings at Umm Ruwaba and Ah Nahud:

Efforts are to be made to have some of the RTCs meeting at Ah Nahud and Umm Ruwaba.

(CARE, SCF).

6. Creation of local coordinating bodies:

A local coordinating body to be drawn from the technical departments, that have linkages with the project and with PVOs' representation, is to be created at each of the three towns, from which the projects are operating. The first executive officer, who is a member of the RTC, is to chair this body, to strengthen the link between the RTCs, the cooperating departments, and the project.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

7. A legal status for committees:

The newly formed committees under various sub-projects have no legal status. There existed an array of committees before the coming of the project. New salvation committees are in the process of being formed by the present government. The native administration has been reinstated with its hierarchical set up of sheikhs, Qmdes and Nazirs. The status of the newly formed committees is not legally defined within the present diffused situation. Committees are carrying out financial and organizational functions, assumedly shall be more consolidated in future. e.g. management of revolving funds. The RTCs would look into

10. Operation sustainability phase:

In case the programme is extended for more years through August 1991, as this evaluation is suggesting, the project plan should cater for an operation sustainability phase, by availing spare-parts for the rehabilitated wateryards, as an integral component of the rehabilitation strategy. This should have been catered for under the current plans, as is now needed to guarantee the results of the rehabilitation. The NWC and the communities are short of meeting this requirement. Community raised funds, from water price increases, could be feasibly transformed into a revolving fund, as recommended in the work plan. Spare-part stores could be established in communities and would purchase from the stores at cost price.

(CARA, SCF).

11. Strengthening of committees organizational capabilities:

Communities are actually involved in the day-to-day management of water yards, being rehabilitated or unrehabilitated. Their view of water yards, is that, it is their water, and if the source stops supplying them, they are the ones to

suffer. Communities work closely with the water yard clerk to solve the problems of operation: buying fuel, purchasing fast moving spare-parts, and chasing maintenance teams. They set their own prices for water, with increases over the official price, and use the difference in meeting the above obligations. This positive attitude of communities should be encouraged and enhanced, through strengthening their organizational capabilities, and by giving them effective training in bookkeeping and the other related matters.

(CARE, SCF).

7.5. Technical issues:

1. Technical issues to be addressed in future:

If the project is to be extended into a second phase through August 1991, the rehabilitation of water yards should rather be approached from the angle of the actual water need in an area, rather than on making a well functioning, as it is presently carried out. Pumping capacities could be increased in most wells, to provide more

water; a matter that needs to be given consideration in future.

(CARE , SCF).

2. Prospects of applying cost recovery rate

Communities are paying more than the cost recovery rate to obtain water (up to 25 pt. per 4 American gallons of water). This encourages, hastening the working out of plans that organize the relationship between NWC and the communities, leading to defining the responsibilities of each in the management of water yards; an essential step towards, applying a cost recovery rate by NWC.

(CARE , SCF).

3. Need for more adequate design and management systems:

The design of wateryards and the present management system have to be re-examined, with the objective of reaching a more viable design and a management system, that cater for users' needs. The division of water yards into two compounds, one for animals and another for humans, is proving to be inadequate for improved hygiene. Animals are

entering both, and watering troughs are floating in filth. The water yard clerk assisted by the guard, are short of managing the system. Water committee members can not avail themselves all the time for the day-to-day management. A special task group is to be assigned to look into the issue and come with a more adequate design and management system.

(CARE , SCF).

4. Technical training of water yard mechanics:

For SCF, technical training of water yard mechanics should be immediately started, to guarantee efficient operation of the rehabilitated water yards.

5. Looking into possibility of rectifying 18 bore-holes:

For SCF, RTC may look into the possibility of rectification of some of the 18 bore-holes drilled in Umm Ruwaba District, for which there is no budget under the present work plan. In case this is not feasible, it is suggested that these bore-holes be given priority, if the project is extended into a second phase, through August 1991.

6. Use of lime as an alternative:

Procurement of cement in adequate amounts, and according to schedule, is a major obstacle, to timely implementation of projects. Lime, mixed with sand, was extensively used in construction and well lining in the ^{two} regions, during the colonial period, and even up to the late Fifties. The project may look into the possibilities of using lime, as an alternative to cement, definitely, after obtaining expert opinion, on technicalities and costs.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

7. Use of manual labour:

Rehabilitation of hafirs and dams projects is faced with an acute shortage of NWC earth-moving machinery, low efficiency of such machinery, and high demand on the available equipment by NWC direct programmes. It is also faced with shortage of fuel, which reduces the prospects of timely execution of the REPP programmes. Shift to manual wage labour, wherever size of work, technically and cost wise permits, may be considered as an alternative. ILO surface water projects, in the White Nile area and around El Obeid, are fully executed through paid manual labour,

drawn from the beneficiary communities. Besides, being a practical solution, it adds substantially to the income sources of the rural population.

(VITA , CARE).

8. Joining efforts of project and regions:

PWCs may join efforts with the regions in carrying out activities seen as of priority by the regions. For VITA, maintenance of Tawilla dam, El Fasher R.C., is to be accorded some priority in project activities, due to its importance in recharging the well fields and for agricultural purposes, especially of the proximity of Tawilla to El Fasher and the prospects of supplying El Fasher town with horticultural crops. Carrying out the maintenance, requires joining efforts of project, NWC and the Regions' government. The possibility of contributing funds by the three agencies could be investigated.

9. A fresh look at Cistern/basin development:

Cistern/basin development merits a fresh look that would take into consideration the water needs of the population in an area, and not to be limited to that of a specific

village or a beneficiary. Hence, the capacity of tanks is to be decided according to expressed need. Proper surveys of areas targeted for tank development, would be undertaken, to collect basic data prior entering into the implementation phase. The surveys would aim at, furnishing information, on size of population to be served, spatial considerations in locating the tank, size of water need, community contribution to the project, water prices, etc. The possibility of entering into contracts with commercial lorry owners to transport certain consignments of water, to tank sites, during the season, would also be explored.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

10. Strengthening of the agronomic component:

The agronomic component of projects needs to be strengthened. It offers a good potential for improving the conditions of the majority of the population, whose main occupation is farming. Basic inputs of seeds, pesticides, seedlings, etc. if availed in adequate amounts and at the right time, could result in substantial increases in production, even under the present farming practices.

Linking farmers to technical departments, and assisting the departments to avail inputs should be one of the project strategies.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

11. Involvement of experts in programmes:

Expert opinion is needed, in designing and implementing agronomic packages. WSARP could be used in this regard as a back stop service, by drawing on its staff, through consultancy contracts and through scientific interest. Capable agronomists outside WSARP, could also be reached, and their services used under similar arrangements. Achievements of other organizations working in the country could also be researched for guidance.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

12. Piloting with supplementary irrigation from borehole water

Nurseries plots annexed to water yards could be extended into vegetable farms, using rain water supplemented by pumped water from bore holes, during the rainy season slack period. This possibility would be looked into as

a piloting activity that would be carried out in a selected number of water yards; incorporating a strong research component, to assess its socio-economic and technical viability. Executing the piloting would require increasing the tank capacity, land allocation for small gardens that would be allotted to women, organization of the activity, provision of inputs, and application of a water rate.

(GARE, SCF).

13. Carts for transport of water to home gardens:

For SCF, provision of carts, to be drawn by donkeys, owned by villagers, is suggested to assist women to transport rain water from pools during rainy season, to irrigate their home gardens.

14. School gardens to be managed by workers:

For SCF, management of school gardens, during school vacations, would be the responsibility of school workers, who are to be trained for this purpose.

15. Incorporate water harvesting and spreading activities:

Water harvesting and spreading activities in geomorpho-

logically suited sites are suggested for exploration, to increase agricultural production, incomes and stabilize local communities. Project is to look into acquired experiences in western and eastern Sudan in these fields, and the possibility of entering into joint programmes with the government agencies practicing such activities. Emphasis is to be given to manually implemented projects, through the full involvement and contribution of beneficiary communities.

(VITA , SCF).

16. Forestry component is to be agro-ecologically based:

Revision of the agro-forestry component so as to be agro-ecologically based, to serve multi-purposes, is to be considered. The emphasis here is on selection of species that are ecologically suited to local conditions. Some broad survey work on local species is suggested in this regard, incorporating peoples' perception and their species planting preferences.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

17. Ecological rehabilitation through vegetation rejuvenation:

Ecological rehabilitation through indigenous species rejuvenation is to be encouraged, through project organizing communities, assisting in fence construction, and with communities availing land for this purpose and protecting the enclosures.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

18. Clarification of CARE, KAEF Roles:

For CARE, clarification of the role of CARE, KAEF and STREP would be worked out, through a written plan, specifying their forestry programmes in En Nahud district, to avoid overlap and wastage of resources. In case KAEF shall not work in En Nahud R.C., CARE would implement the same agro-forestry package targeted for Ghubeish in En Nahud R.C. The forestry commission is to be drawn in to this programme.

19. Matching production of seedlings with planting season:

Production of seedlings in nurseries should be well programmed, to match the sowing season. Late or early

sowing of seeds in nurseries does not lead to optimum results.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

20. Pricing of seedlings should be realistic:

Pricing of seedlings should be realistic to be within peoples' financial ability, and at the same time to cater as much as possible, for the running cost of nurseries. If the proposal of expanding vegetable production (discussed under agronomy) on supplemented bore hole water during the rainy season, proves to be technically and economically feasible, seedling prices could be subsidized from a rate on vegetable sales.

(CARE, SCF).

21. Live fencing plans to be reconsidered:

Plans of live fencing of water yards should be revised, to cater for optimum size of compounds, once trees have fully grown. This matter falls within the issue of revision of water yards design. Trees used for fencing should be ecologically suited, and communities ecological perception would give guidance in this area.

(CARE, SCF).

22. Use of wood poles for nursery beds:

In nursery development, wood poles could be used instead of cement to strengthen the edges of seedlings beds.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

23. A pump for Marsheng nursery well:

For VITA, the nursery well in Marsheng is to be supplied with a pump. Many of the horticultural farms, 93, in the area have pumps; some even have more than one pump. Since already pump use is widely practiced, and that the nursery shall serve numerous farms, application of manual extraction of water shall not facilitate the development of the nursery to full capacity.

24. Follow-up of entered agreements with communities:

For VITA, support is needed for the nursery committee at Marsheng in transporting bricks produced by the committee, to the nursery site. Committees may run into similar problems of entering into commitment of providing a specific project input, but fail to do so, because of practical limitations. Close field follow-up by project staff of entered agreements with communities, facilitates project execution.

25. Poultry projects should concentrate on indigenous breeds:

Poultry projects activities should concentrate, at this stage, on the formation of more production units, based on indigenous breeds, and effective vaccination. Improved cocks should not be distributed until the mortality problem is resolved. It is suggested that cock extension centres, be established in the towns where the PVOs are operating, under the close supervision of animal production experts. When survival is assured then cocks could be distributed. Production of improved feeds, using locally available ingredients and utilizing the mills already acquired, would be promoted, with feeds sold at cost price.

(VITA, CARE, SCF).

26. Veterinary care programmes are to be directed to livestock villages:

For SCF, direction of the veterinary care programmes to livestock intensive areas would be the strategy to be adopted. It should be viewed as one component of a comprehensive package, linked to the creation of a drug revolving fund, range improvement activities, etc.

27. Promotion of hay production:

For SCF, promote hay production, especially in villages with livestock, and around centres with prospects of hay marketing; through the encouragement of farmers to bulk and plant indigenous grass species. Project could organize this activity, by availing funds, to support a few days of wage labour, to cast grass seeds, during the planting season in some selected villages.

28. Revision of business loans by ABS:

A re-examination of SSF/C by RTC and ABC is required from many aspects. The loan is still unofficialized by ABS as regards its administration cost i.e. 19% interest, plus or minus, also as to the section of ABS under which the loan is to be managed. The revision should also look into the possibility of increasing the loan amount over the present ceiling of Rs. 3000 to cater for the inflation effect; equally important to look into the approval procedures to minimize any unnecessary delays.

29. Survey of small business potential, En Nahud area:

CARE is not yet settled on working on small scale enterprise credit. It does not have the expertise in this area,

and is planning to draw in a consultant to advice on this component. Till that consultant is availed, it is suggested that CARE would undertake a survey, to assess the prospects of this component in Ba Nahud area, and furnish basic data that would be utilized later on by the consultant. CARE could be enlightened in this regard by the accomplishments of VITA and SCF under the same component.

30. Environmental focus:

The PVOs should contribute in the national drive to conserve and protect soil cover and natural vegetation, through forest preserves, range protection and extension, to illicit cutting of trees, harmful farming practices and uncontrolled grazing. Also incorporation of specialists opinion in the field of environment, in project planning and implementation, would help translating project objectives into environmentally sound programme.

Annex I: Terms of Reference

Task description of team members

Following is a task description for each of these positions:

1. Regional Planning/Community Development Specialist

This individual is responsible for examining the regional development approach and overall project structure. In addition, he is responsible for the compilation of the analyses and recommendations and the initial review and drafting of the team report and for writing the evaluation report in final form with the USAID project development officer.

Tasks:

- Review work plans developed by PVOs and determine, in light of projected outputs, if the plans, including PVOs technical inputs (staff, etc.), are adequate and optimal for achieving project objectives.
- Examine the objective of decentralized development. What factors have inhibited the achievement of local development and to what extent is the project successful in moving towards attainment of this issue?
- Examine the issue of grass-roots or bottom-up, planning

process. To what extent does the project demonstrate planning from the bottom-up, i.e., the degree of involvement of the beneficiaries (especially women) in the sub-project activities, and the extent of utilization of the self-help tradition in project implementation and local infrastructure investment and maintenance.

- Assess the role of each PVO and how each one conceptualized and implemented the project's self-help approach and the effectiveness of the approach in demonstrating the project's objectives. What are the major variations? What specific lessons can be learned?
- Examine the training component of the project in order to determine its sufficiency and effectiveness.
- Examine the project's credit component in light of actual or planned sub-projects, constraints to implementation; funding levels; structure.
- Examine the sustainability of sub-projects and their relation to user charges.
- Assess project structure in terms of it facilitating local participation, decentralized planning, use and monitoring of resources.

- Submit in writing findings and recommendations to be included in the overall evaluation report.

2. Water Engineer

This individual will serve as an expert who will be responsible for evaluating to what degree the water sub-projects are meeting the overall project objectives, ie, has the water project made major progress in solving the essential problem of village water supply in rural Sudan and addressed problems of long term sustainability of rural water systems.

Tasks:

- Review the water project implementation/procurement work plan, examine and refer to the wateryards selection set of criteria (priority areas).
- Monitor the water project work progress with relevance to the overall project implementation time schedule. Establish a cost estimate for rehabilitating a wateryard for the purpose of development and planning.
- Assess how successful the water project is in developing the community participation concept and utilizing commun-

ity potentials to operate/sustain rehabilitated water systems, and establish cost recovery strategy that would support long-term policy goals.

- Determine, in consultation with the environmental specialist, if the water project has negative environmental impacts in the project area.
- Assess how sustainable water supply systems support and affect other rural communities development activities.
- Submit in writing findings and recommendations to be included in the overall evaluation report.

3. Agriculturalist/Forester

This individual will serve as an agriculturalist with forestry specialization and will have the responsibility of appraising forestry as well as any agrobusiness related sub-projects.

Tasks:

- Assess appropriateness of PVO technical resources (staff, etc.) for achieving workplan outputs.
- Scope and target of forestry and agricultural sub-projects.

Do they seem to deal with priority areas? How do they link with other projects, e.g., water?

- Is the project meeting its objectives vis-a-vis each PVO workplan?
- In conjunction with the team leader, examine appropriateness of small-scale private sector sub-projects in terms of use of local agricultural resources, sustainability and priorities established by the project for agricultural credit.
- Submit in writing findings and recommendations to be included in the overall evaluation report.

4. Environmental specialist

This individual will be responsible for identifying and examining environmental issues for all the village sub-projects, in conjunction with the other team members.

Tasks:

- Assess whether project (USAID/GOS) environmental guidelines were adequately followed in sub-project identification, design and implementation.

- Identify specific environmental issues and possible impacts which were not and should have been considered in sub-project design, development and modification.
- Submit in writing findings and recommendations to be included in the overall evaluation report.

5. Women-in-development specialist:

This individual will be responsible for examining and making recommendations on the degree and quality of women's participation in village sub-projects and the impact or potential impact of sub-projects on women's traditional labour roles and standard of living.

Tasks:

- Assess the type of women's sub-projects in terms of contribution to increased income earning, improved nutrition, improved management skills and the facilitation of women's work.
- Identify and assess the approaches to encouraging women's participation and women's role in sub-project development, design, and implementation.

- Assess women's participation in training programmes at the sub-project level and at the decision-making level.
- Submit in writing findings and recommendations to be included in the overall evaluation report.

Annex II:

4.1. VITA achievements in area of projects formulation and implementation

Area and activity	No. of sub-projects completed	No. of sub-projects targeted for completion	No. of approved sub-projects	Remarks
1.0. Water supply				
1.1. Water yard rehabilitation	0	0	0	Initially CARE/SCF programme
1.2. Haffirs	0	1	1	Scaled down from 2 to 1
1.3. Dams	1	3	4	Awaits cement
1.4. Rehads	0	1	1	Awaits fuel
1.5. Hand-dug wells	9	21	30	Under construction or awaiting cement
1.6. Basin/khazan	0	0	0	Initially CARE/SCF programme
2.0. Agriculture (crops)				
2.1. Wadi farming	0	2	2	Execution starts this Kharif
2.2. Jubrake farming	0	0	0	(See under WTD)

Area and activity	No. of sub-projects completed	No. of sub-projects targeted for completion	No. of approved sub-projects	Remarks
2.3. Home gardens	0	0	0	Initially SCF programme
2.4. School gardens	0	5	5	
2.5. Vegetable gardens linked to water yard nursery	0	0	0	(See nurseries)
2.6. Distribution of inputs (seeds, pesticides)	1	0	1	
2.7. Small scale irrigated horticulture agriculture (livestock)	0	0	0	Initially SCF programme
2.8. Poultry farms	0	0	0	(See under (WTD))
2.9. Veterinary	0	0	0	Under study
2.10. Range improvement	0	0	0	Initially SCF programme
2.11. Fire lines	0	0	0	Initially SCF programme

Area and activity	No. of sub-projects completed	No. of sub-projects targeted for completion	No. of approved sub-projects proposals	Remarks
3.0. Agro-forestry				
3.1. Village nurseries	2	2	3	
3.2. School nurseries (with or without vegetable production)	0	5	5	
3.3. Forage tree preserves	0	0	0	Under study
3.4. Distribution of hashab seeds	0	0	0	Initially CARE and SCF Programme
3.5. Seedlings produced	0	0	0	
3.6. Areas seeded by hashab (Feddens)	0	0	0	Initially CARE Programme
3.7. Improvement of gum tapping techniques	0	0	0	Initially CARE Programme

Area and activity	No. of sub-projects completed	No. of sub-projects targeted for completion	No. of approved sub-projects	Remarks
4.0. Small scale enterprise credit				
4.1. Livestock fattening/marketing	0	0	0	Initial SCF programme
4.2. A wide variety of trade businesses (tailors, petty traders, oil mills, butcheries, metal workers, blacksmiths, tinsmiths, markoub-makers, carpenters, flour mills, etc.	8	4	12	All in El Fasher town
5.0. Women-in-Development				
5.1. Jubraks farming	0	0	0	Proposal only
5.2. Home gardens	0	0	0	Initially SCF programme
5.3. Vegetable gardens	0	0	0	(See under nurseries)
5.4. Poultry farms	0	0	0	Initially SCF and CARE programmes

Area and activity	No. of sub-projects completed	No. of sub-projects targeted for completion	No. of approved sub-projects	Remarks
5.5. Credit, livestock fattening	0	0	0	Initially SCF programme
5.6. Credit, trade business	0	0	0	Initially SCF programme
5.7. Credit, leather/handicraft	0	1	1	
5.8. Women centres	0	0	0	Initially SCF programme
5.9. Production groups	0	0	0	Initially SCF programme

Annex II:

A.2. VITA achievements in the area of training and organization

1.6. Village Development Activities:

- 1.1. Preparatory work to select project villages by signing applications (65 approved in El Fasher, Mellit and Nyala District Councils).
- 1.2. Organization of village development committees, women sub-committees and other committees.
- 1.3. Selection of members for the different project activities for training, management and operation of wells, nurseries, etc.
- 1.4. Village development committees (VDCs):
These are the committees through which VITA work in villages, trained to identify sub-projects which can fill the gap in development process.
- 1.5. Community development supervisor (CDS):
This person follows up and supports the work of the community development extension agents by making monthly supervisory visits. He is trained for 6 days at VITA (El Fasher) about Darfur RFP projects concept. He encourage local development initiatives.

1.6. Community development extension agents, CDEAs:

These are selected members of the community in the target areas of the project to follow-up on-going and planned RFP sub-projects. They are trained to work with VDCs to identify priority activities and possibilities for more sub-projects.

2.0. Water Supply:

2.1. Village water committee, VWC:

A sub-committee of the VDC in charge of water supply activities e.g. fund raising, procurement of local materials and labour. They ^{are} trained to construct hand-dug wells.

2.2. Rural well construction enterprises:

VITA recruits 4 person teams from each of the target areas to be trained to start and run well construction businesses. VITA helps in securing loans from ABS for equipment. They can serve as contractors on future RFP well sub-projects.

2.3. El Fasher well operators, association (ELFWOP):

This is a private well owners association in El Fasher. They work with RFP to improve water quality in open shaft wells. The members are trained on water hygiene and health education by Sudanese Red Crescent. VITA will assist in the improvement of 20 well sites.

3.0. Agriculture:

3.1. Improved wadi farming:

Sub-projects in this area are designed to provide practical training to farmer's for introducing improved wadi farming techniques (cash crops on wadi banks). The RFFP, the CDC and the farmer will help promote this technique the farmer's satisfaction.

3.2. Improved live fencing techniques:

RFFP sub-projects educate farmer's in improved live fencing techniques depending on local tree spacing. This helps in the protection of the farmer's agricultural investment.

^{shall}
VITA implements one sub-project with 20 participants to set up live fencing.

3.3. Rural community self-help:

Introduced donkey ploughs and irrigation rehabilitation
Marshang and Malam

4.0. Agro-forestry:

4.1. Formation of village nursery committees, VNG:

4.2. Village nursery committee:

A sub-committee of the VDC working with VITA to establish agroforestry nurseries to produce seedlings for local use.

They will be trained to run and manage the nurseries, also in plant husbandry techniques.

4.3. Nursery foremen:

These are selected members of VDC trained to manage and operate the nurseries under the direct supervision of the village development committee. Already started at Tewilla.

5.0. Small scale enterprises credit:

5.1. Formation of groups of small scale enterprises trained for the promotion of skills and bookkeeping of simple business accounts; training was conducted in El Fasher, to be replicated in Nyala and Mellit.

5.2. Committee for black smiths and tinsmiths association:

VITA completed training and procured funds to produce donkey ploughs (13 trained).

5.3. The various groups have developed interest in the creation of business cooperatives or small companies. Delay in registration of cooperatives is hindering their progress.

5.4. Mellit Rug factory:

Women small scale manufacturing business. RFFP is willing to promote this since their concept and objectives are the same.

6.0. Women-in-development:

6.1. Women-in-development advisor:

Participates in the recruitment of the project CDEAs.

Depends on these agents to facilitate her work with women, explains RFFP project to women and gather data on on-going activities.

6.2. Leather workers association:

To establish production workshops and improve their mechanism for marketing. They are registered officially with the Regional Labour Office (60 leather workers in El Fasher, 208 in Mellit, 176 basket weavers in Joroff and 200 basket weavers in Marsheng).

Annex II

B.1. CARE achievements in area of projects formulation and implementation

Area and activity	No. of sub-projects completed	No. of sub-projects targeted for completion	No. of approved sub-projects	Remarks
1.0. Water supply:				
1.1. Water yard rehabilitation	2	2	6	2 sites under construction
1.2. Hafirs	0	0	0	
1.3. Dams	0	0	0	Initially VITA programme
1.4. Rehads	0	0	0	Initially VITA programme
1.5. Hand-dug wells	0	0	0	
1.6. Basin, khazan	0	0	5	
2.0. Agriculture (crops)				
2.1. Medi farming	0	0	0	Initially VITA programme
2.2. Jubbake farming	0	0	0	See under women
2.3. Home gardens	0	0	0	Initially SCF programme

Area and activity	No. of sub-projects completed	No. of sub-projects targeted for completion	No. of approved sub-projects	Remarks
2.4. School Gardens	0	0	0	Initially SCF programme
2.5. Vegetable gardens (linked to water yard nursery)	0	0	0	see under nurseries
2.6. Distribution of inputs (seed pesticides)	5	0	0	Seeds distributed to 5 villages last season.
2.7. Small scale irrigated horticulture	0	0	0	Initially SCF programme
2.8. Poultry farms	-	-	-	See under women
2.9. Veterinary care	-	-	-	Initially SCF/VITA program.
2.10. Range improvement	-	-	-	Initially SCF programme
2.11. Fire lines	-	-	-	Initially SCF programme
3.0. Agro-forestry:				
3.1. Village nurseries	1	-	5	

Area and activity	No. of sub-projects completed	No. of sub-projects targeted for completion	No. of approved sub-projects	Remarks
3.2. School nurseries with or without vegetable production	-	-	-	Initially SCF/VITA program.
3.3. Boraga tree preserves	-	-	-	Initially VITA programme
3.4. Distribution of hashab seeds	-	-	-	Initially SCF programme
3.5. Seedlings produced	-	-	-	1.8 million seedlings
3.6. Area seeded by hashab in feddans	-	-	-	
3.7. Improvement of gum tapping tools	-	-	-	Under test
4.0. Small scale enterprise credit:				
4.1. Livestock fattening market	0	0	0	Initially SCF programme
4.2. A wide variety of trade businesses (tailors)	0	0	0	Initially VITA programme
	0	0	0	Initially VITA programme

Area and activity	No. of sub-projects completed	No. of sub-projects targeted for completion	No. of approved sub-projects proposals	Remarks
4.3. Petty traders, oil mills, butcheries, metal works, blacksmiths, etc.	0	0	0	
5.0. Women-in-development:				
5.1. Jubreka farming	-	-	-	5 in process
5.2. Home gardens	-	-	-	
5.3. Vegetable gardens	-	-	-	See under nurseries
5.4. Poultry farms	1	2	3	
5.5. Credit livestock	-	-	-	Initially SCF programme
5.6. Credit, trade business	-	-	-	Initially VITA programme
5.7. Credit, leather/handicrafts	-	-	-	Initially VITA programme
5.8. Women cencies	-	-	-	Initially SCF programme
5.9. Animal husbandry	-	-	-	Initially SCF programme

Annex II:

B.2. CARE achievements in the area of organization and training:

1. Village development activity:

1.1. Preparatory work to select villages, total 24 in En Nahud and Ghubeish R.Cs.

1.2. Organization of village development committees, women sub-committees and other committees.

1.3. Selection of encouragers, male and female.

1.4. Training course for encouragers:

Selected and trained: total 72 men, and 66 women, trained in CARE office, En Nahud and in the villages.

1.5. Village development committees, VDCs:

These are the committees through which CARE works in villages; trained to identify sub-projects which can fill the gap in development process. Number trained: 22 persons.

1.6. Village development committees and women committees work together to find solutions for village needs.

1.7. R.T.A.T., Regional Technical Advisory Team:

Called upon from CARE Nairobi and CARE Cairo offices, to train encouragers on project evaluation and design and in implementing extension programmes.

2.0. Water supply:

2.1. Water management training:

Training of extensionists in activities related to water rehabilitation, e.g. fence material, bookkeeping, collection of funds, procurement of material, etc.

2.2. Village water committees:

A sub-committee of village development committee, training in management, design, construction, repair, maintenance and supervision, with training carried out by sub-committees with villagers.

2.3. Training of installers and maintenance staff:

Training to look after installation of water yards and maintenance of engine and pump.

2.4. Village water committee and villagers:

Training in hygiene and sanitation for communities of rehabilitated water yards.

2.5. Water cistern committees:

Train villagers to design and construct water cisterns (khezans) covering organization of beneficiaries in work groups, contribution by villagers of local material, with CARE supplying technician and cement.

3.0. Agriculture:

3.1. Organization of jubraka women farmers, identification of jubraka needs in terms of inputs, and training of women to improve jubraka farming.

3.2. Agriculture credit cooperatives:

Organized and monitored by CARE.

4.0. Agro-forestry:

4.1. Formation of village nurseries committees, VNC:

4.2. Village nursery committee:

A sub-committee of the VDC, trained in building nurseries, selection of tree species to be propagated, planting and maintenance of seedlings, distribution of seedlings and management of records and fund use.

4.3. Nursery workers:

Selected by VNC, and trained in all above activities.

4.4. Hashab improvement:

Targeted for Ghubeish R.C., to generate hashab seeds from good mothers for planting by farmers and for production of seedlings.

4.5. 'Sonkey' tapping tool:

Train villagers to use this tool and monitor results to improve on tool.

5. Small scale enterprise credit, SSE/C:

This component is not yet moved. CARE is planning to recruit a consultant to advice on operationalization.

6.0. Women-in-development6.1. Women development committees: WDCs

Formation of WDCs as part of VDCs

6.2. Women encouragers:

Training of women encouragers, selected by WDCs.

6.3. Need identification:

Carried out by women extensionists working out with encouragers and women in villages to identify sub-projects.

6.4. Training in water yard rehabilitation:

Geared towards maintenance, management activities and hygiene sanitation.

6.5. Consultant Addis Ababa University, Omdurman:

Assist in training of extensionists and women in design of poultry and home-gardens sub-projects.

6.6. Proposed training:

In areas of chicken vaccination and tailoring.

Annex II:

C.1. SCF achievements in area of projects formulation and implementation

Area and activity	No. of sub- Projects completed	No. of sub- projects targeted for completion	No. of approv- ed sub-projects proposals	Sept. 1990 Aug. 1991	Remarks
1.0. Water supply					
1.1. Water yard rehabili- tation	8	7	15	8	Delay in rehabili- tation
1.2. Heffirs	0	0	0	0	Initially CACE/VITA programme
1.3. Dams	0	0	0	0	Initially VITA prog.
1.4. Rehabs	0	0	0	0	Initially VITA prog.
1.5. Hand dug wells	24	0	24	16	
1.6. Basin/khezan	10	0	10	17	
2.0. Agriculture (crops)					
2.1. Wadi farming	0	0	0	0	Initially VITA prog.
2.2. Jubreke farming	0	0	0	0	See under women
2.3. Home gardens	5	5	10	8	
2.4. School gardens	0	6	6	6	

Area and activity	No. of sub-projects completed	No. of sub-projects targeted for completion	No. of approved sub-projects	Sept. 1990 Aug. 1991	Remarks
2.5. Vegetable garden linked to water yard	0	0	0	0	See under nurseries
2.6. Distribution of inputs	10	0	10	12	Distribution to villages
2.7. Small scale irrigated horticulture	0	2	2	2	
2.8. Poultry farms	3	0	3	3	
2.9. Veterinary care	4	3	7	17	
2.10. Range improvement	3	0	3	3	
3.0. Agro-forestry					
3.1. Village nurseries	1	15	16	5	
3.2. School nurseries with or without vegetable produc.	0	0	0	0	
3.3. Forage tree preserves	0	0	0	0	Initially VITA programme
3.4. Distribution of Hash-ab seeds	10,160	0	10,160	0	Seeds distributed to farmers

Area of activity	No. of sub-projects completed	No. of sub-projects targeted for completion	No. of approved sub-projects for proposals	Sept. 1990 Aug. 1991	Remaining
3.5. Seedlings produced	2,000	140,000	160,000	160,000	
3.6. Area seeded with hashab (feddens)	10,000	0	10,000	10,000	
3.7. Improvement of gum tapping tool (sonky)					Initially CARE programme
4.0. Small scale interprices:					
4.1. Livestock fattening, marketing	0	0	0	0	See 4.2.
4.2. A wide variety of: trade business: tailors, petty traders, oil mills, butchers, metal workers, black smiths, tin-smiths, markoub makers, carpenters, flour mills, etc.					These are geographical areas.
5.0. Women-in-development:					
5.1. Jubreke training	0	0	0	0	
5.2. Home gardens	0	0	0	0	See 2.3 above
5.3. Vegetable gardens	0	0	0	0	See 3.1 above

Area of activity	No. of sub-projects	No. of sub-projects targeted for completion	No. of approved sub-projects	Sept. 1990 Aug. 1991	
5.4. Poultry farms	0	0	0	3	
5.5. Credit/livestock fattening	0	0	0	0	See 4.2 above
5.6. Credit/trade business	0	0	0	0	See 4.2 above
5.7. Credit/leather handicrafts	0	0	0	0	See 4.2 above
5.8. Women centers	3	3	6	6	
5.9. Production groups	0	0	0	15	Collective women work.

Annex II:

C.2. SCF achievements in the area of organization and training:

1.0. Village development activities

- 1.1. In the five HIP area, identified in previous SCF programme activities, prior to launching of RFP, with addition of villages in-between HIP areas.
- 1.2. Selection and organization of community development committees, C.D.Cs.
- 1.3. Train C.D.Cs in all phases of project planning, project design project implementation and project evaluation.
- 1.4. C.D.Cs to acquire skills in management and organization so as to be able to form strong indigenous community organizations to solve their problems through their own means, become independent of outside assistance, and gain greater control over their lives.

2.0. Water supply:

- 2.1. Formation of water development committees, WDCs, as sub-committees of CDCs.
- 2.2. Training of WDCs, to upgrade their skills in problem identification, needs assessment and proposal development.

- 2.3. WDCs make use of the technical information provided by SCF and NWC staff on: well or water basin construction; maintenance techniques and water hygiene and sanitation.
- 2.4. In water yard rehabilitation, WDCs trained to look after: water yard administration, purchasing and installing of spare parts, keeping records of: pump usage, diesel consumption, income and expenses and amount of water distributed.
- 3.0. Agriculture:
 - 3.1. Formation of village agricultural development committees (VADCs), 20 committees have been formed.
 - 3.2. VADCs have been trained to serve farmers in the fields of: extension services to villagers, extension packages to farmers and to collaborate with V.L.D.A.
 - 3.3. Village level development agents, V.L.D.A.: formed in three villages and trained to cooperate with V.A.D.Cs, select farmers who will receive the extension packages, solve constraints, carry out needs assessment, assess agricultural inputs requirements, prepare sub-projects proposals, carry out technical follow-up, and explore agronomic matters of major field crops.

3.4. Village level extension workers, VLEW: 20 persons have been trained to carry out extension services in agriculture and forestry to villagers and farmers and to help in selection of farmers for SSE/C.

3.5. Grass roots veterinary assistants workers, GRVA: 9 persons have been trained in vaccination of livestock, selling and application of drugs.

4.0. Agro-forestry:

4.1. Village forestry committees, VFCs:

Village forestry committees are formed to be integrated with SCF water yard rehabilitation sub-projects.

Training covers importance of forestry to the ecological balance, tree seedlings production, direct sowing of hashab seeds, collection of tree seeds, formulation of sub-projects proposals, selection of nursery workers (N.W), organization of villages to task work, selection of tree species and up-keeping of records.

4.2. Nursery workers:

Nursery workers have been selected and trained on: nursery establishment, nursery management, collection of available

raw materials for sheds, beds and fences, protection of seedlings, tree planting techniques and vegetable production.

5.0. Small scale enterprises credit, SSE/C:

VADC and VLDA work among farmers and villagers in 8 areas of the project. They carry out extension and training in the following fields: survey and needs analysis, feasibility studies, management and planning, production and marketing, credit use/borrowers' training, monitoring and evaluation of projects and cost effectiveness and cost benefit.

6.0. Women-in-development:

6.1. Women sub-committees:

Being formed as part of CDCs, in villages where project is operating.

6.2. Women centers:

Three women training centres have been constructed to train women on: adult literacy, nutrition education, savings, marketing, organizational skills, technical skills, cost of construction of centers.

6.3. Water sanitation:

Training in hygiene and sanitation, carried out in 15 water yards.

6.4. Training of trainers:

Conducted in 3 women training centers.

Annex III. Training achievements under the RFPF training programme

Fields of training	Training abroad MSc. Cert.	Total	Local training MSc. Dip. Cert	total	Grand total	Notes			
A. Economics and economics plann.	9	8	17	1	8	0	9	26	1. All the training is funded by the RFPF budget
B. Public administration. Govern. organization, management	0	5	5	0	1	3	4	9	2. All training abroad took place in USA except for attending some conferences in other countries
C. Business, investment & security	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3. Training is confined to seven fields (A to G)
D. Agricultural development	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	4. 3 ministries were involved in the training
E. Women-in-development	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	3	5. Training started 10/2/89
F. English language	0	0	0	0	0	13	13	13	6. Short trainings were of 2 - 9 months awarding a certificate
G. Clerical training	0	0	0	0	0	25	25	25	7. Long training for 1-3 years awarding a Diploma or MSc.
Total	9	18	27	1	9	41	51	78	8. Local training is conducted in the Develop. Studies and Res. Cent Sudan Academy for Administration
Distribution among regions									
1. Kordofan	0	7	7	0	2	9	11	18	American Center and through seminars & workshops held in the Regions.
2. Darfur	1	1	2	1	3	3	7	9	9. Trained personnel is requested to coordinate between Government institutions & PVOs in all field of economic planning & Development
3. Khartoum	6	15	21	0	4	24	28	49	
4. Other regions	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	
Total	9	23	32	1	9	36	46	78	
Ministries involved:									
1. Ministry of Finance & Econ. Plan.	8	18	27	1	9	36	46	73	
2. Ministry of Local Government	1	3	4	0	0	0	0	4	
3. National Transport Unit	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	
Total	9	22	22	1	9	36	46	78	

- *to local people and widens their appreciation to their development.
12. Women training helps in women-in-development programmes conducted by PVOs.
13. 93.6% of the training facilities are given to MF&EP, 5.1% to local Government & 2.3% to National transport
14. Local training budget: a) 15.834500 spent up to 1989. b) 47055 is the proposed budget for 1990/91.

10. Training helps in creating a base of knowledge of resource development in the region.
11. The presence of the trained persons in the areas of PVOs and in the ministries of local government and Finance and Regional Development helps in the extension services.

Annex IV: Team's Itinerary

1. VITA - El Fasher, 12 to 15th. May, 1990

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Programme</u>
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12.5. - Arrived El Fasher, 10.30 a.m.

- Meeting at VITA office to set programme, 11.30 - 2.00 p.m.
- Evening meeting with VITA staff and project technical co-ordinator, on project issues, 7 - 10 p.m.

13.5. - Morning meeting with VITA staff, continuing discussion on project issues, 7 - 12 a.m., attended by 3 team members.

- Two of team members left early to Melam R.C.
- Meeting at Melam village: Project extension agent, Omda, chairman of village development committee (VDC) and an audience of 6 persons.
- Meeting at Marsheng village: Project extension agent, Omda, chairman of VDC, horticultural farm, nursery, and womens committee of handicraft cooperative society.
- Three of team members visited Tawilla village.
- Meeting at Tawilla village with extension agent, discussion of project with 40 participant villagers, and visiting Dali open well, plus nearby-well.

- Team divided into three groups and held meetings in the evening with open well owners association, tradesmen groups, women leather group, a total of 60 participants attended the three meetings.

14.5. - Meeting with VITA staff to review updated life of project work plan, 8.00 - 11.00 a.m.

- Meeting with Governor Darfur Region, accompanied by VITA staff, 12.30 - 1.00 p.m.

- Field visit to Mellit, where team met with Birke Kosse dam project committee, with meeting attended by 200 persons.

- Visit to one open well site provided by the project.
- Visit Mellit rug-factory and meeting factory manager.
- Evening meeting at El Fasher with two staff members of Finance and Planning, Darfur Region.

15.5. - Debriefing meeting with VITA staff, 8.00 - 9.30 a.m.

- Departure El Fasher, to En Nahud.

2. CARE, En Nahud, 15 - 17th. May

15.5. - Arrival En Nahud from El Fasher, 11.30 a.m.

- Reception by CARE staff.
- Meeting at CARE office: Introduction of CARE activities

by project manager, and setting of team programme,

11.30 - 12.30 a.m.

- Meeting first executive officer, En Nahud District and the Nazir of Homer tribe, 11.00 - 2.00 p.m.
- Evening meeting with CARE staff and heads of some collaborating technical departments (NWC, Forestry Administration, Agriculture Extension, Plant Protection and ABS).

16.5. - Team divided into two groups and carried out visits to:

- Umm Al Badri village, one of the water yards rehabilitated sites, and held meetings with water yard clerk, water development committee (WDC) and visited village nursery.
- Turba Hamra village, meeting with the (WDC).
- Wed El Wali village, meeting (WDC), committee of womens poultry project and visiting KAEP nursery presently under CARE.
- Abu Humeira village, meeting chairman of VDC and farmers on agricultural credit issue.
- Evening meeting with CARE staff for discussion of project issues and review of updated life of project workplan, 7.00 - 10.30 p.m.

- 17.5. + Debrief^{ing}/of CARE staff by evaluation team, 8.00 - 10.00 a.m.
 - Departure En Nahud/El Obeid, 10.15 a.m.

3. SCF, Umm Ruwaba, 17 - 20th. May

- 17.5. - Departure El Obeid, 3.30 p.m. by car, arrival Umm Ruwaba
 5.30 p.m.

- Reception by SCF manager and agreement on set programme
 by SCF.

- 18.5. - Meeting at SCF office for general briefing about project,
 7.30 - 8.30 a.m.

- Meeting Shansha small scale enterprises credit group
 SSE/C, in outskirts of town, about 20 beneficiaries.

- Meeting VDC Ghogen village, involved in the rehabilitation
 of a water yard, and visiting nursery.

- Meeting at Debeiba village with an open well committee,
 including chairman of committee, plus some villagers who
 participated in the well project.

- Meeting at El Harefa EL Halouf village, with VDC, particip-
 ating in rehabilitation of the water yard project, visiting
 a nursery project, with 20 villagers participating in the
 discussion.

- Meeting at Umm Ish El Suk, with the VDC engaged in the rehabilitation of the water yard, in presence of 60 participants and a nursery under construction.
- Meeting the VDC of Umm Ish Sheikh Selih with 20 persons audience, discussing village development issues.
- Meeting at Obeid Mahdi, the centre of one of the 5 High Impact Project (HIP) areas, to discuss with staff of centre, project approaches and activities.
- Visit of El Harafa Women Centre.

19.5. Individual meeting by team members with the directors of government departments at Umm Ruwaba including:

first executive officer, Umm Ruwaba District, three ABS staff persons, Director of Agricultural Extension, animal production staff of Department of Animal Resources, Assistant conservator of Forests, Director, NWC, and Director of adult education: 8.00 am. to 2.00 p.m.

- Joint meeting in the evening of all above persons, with SCF staff at the district council premises, chaired by the first executive officer, Umm Ruwaba District, to discuss project plans, progress, achievements and role of collaborating agencies: 7.00 to 9.30 p.m.

20.5. - Discussion of life-of-project updated workplan,
8.30 - 10.30 a.m.

- Debriefing by evaluation team.
- Departure Umm Ruwaba, 6.00 p.m.
- Arrival El Obeid, 8.00 p.m.

3. Report writing (with visits to El Obeid) carried out at
Khor Taqqat Secondary School (near El Obeid), 20 - 25th May

20.5. - Report writing

21.5. - Report writing

22.5. - Visit to El Obeid and meeting Secretary General of
Kordofan Region Government, Senior Mechanical Engineer
MWC, and Director Women Programmes, Ministry of Agri-
culture.

- Report writing

23 - 25.5. - Report writing.

26.5. - Departure to Khartoum.

List of SCF projects accompanying Fig. 3: Standard report

<u>No.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Village</u>
1	B. Poultry	Abu Arsish
	VLDA	Abu Arsish
2	B. Poultry	Abu Gren
	Nursery	Abu Gren
	Sch. Garden	Abu Gren
	WED T.C.	Abu Gren
	Water yard	Abu Gren
3	Home garden	Abu Gren Sileman
	VLDA	Abu Gren Sileman
4	Basic vet	Abu Kindi
	Range Rehab	Abu Kindi
5	Water basin	Al Asel
6	HD well	Al Benia
7	VLDA	Al Busata
8	Nursery	Al Danga
	Water yard	Al Danga
9	HD well	Al Dibeba
10	Nursery	Al Difena
	Water yard	Al Difena
11	HD well	Al Farajab Al Feshid
12	HD well	Al Farajab Markh

<u>No.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Village</u>
13	Nursery	Al Fuwela
	WID T.C.	Al Fuwela
	Water yard	Al Fuwela
14	Water yard	Al Ghabsha El Mahata
15	V.L.D.A	Al Hamdania
16	Water yard	Al Higene Jalaba
17	Nursery	Al Ibedab
	Water yard	Al Ibedab
18	HD well	Al Ifena Ali Jalled
19	Nursery	Al Joghna
	Water yard	Al Joghna
20	HD well	Al Kadob
21	HD well	Al Kheshem
22	Water basin	Al Kubur al Rakhi
23	Nursery	Al Maia
	Water yard	Al Maia
24	Water basin	Al Rimta El Khanjan
25	Water basin	Al Rishaid
26	HD well	Al Rokab Adam
27	HD well	Al Rokab Masri
28	Water yard	Al Sarhia
29	Basic wet	Al Tirefia
30	HD well	Al Zariba

<u>No.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Village</u>
31	Home garden	Aradebs + El Niges
	VLDA	Aradebs + El Niges
32	Water basin	Arch el Yoi
	Basic vet	Bahria
	Home Garden	Bahria
34	HD well	Berskie
35	WID T.C.	Daresalam
	Basic vet	Daresalam
36	Nursery	El Ghabsha Badeen
37	Nursery	El Higene
38	HD well	Goz El Suwebs
39	Basic vet	Habene
	HD well	Habene
40	WID T.C.	Harafa Beni Umran
41	Water yard	Id El Halluf
42	Home garden	Id El Hejlij
	VLDA	Id El Hejlij
	Nursery	Idd El Halluf
43	HD well	Jawa
44	Water basin	Jenjer
45	HD well	Kerkadia
46	Home garden	Kimle

<u>No.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Village</u>
	VLDA	Kimle
	WID T.C.	Kimle
47	Water basin	Kuhul El Gharbia
48	Water basin	Mkahais
49	Basic vet	Mekhezine
	Range Rehab	Mekhezine
50	Basic vet	Meless
	Home garden	Obeid Mehedi
	School garden	Obeid Mehedi
52	School garden	Shabula
53	Credit	Sidra
	Home garden	Sidra
	Nursery	Sidra
	Water yard	Sidra
54	Nursery	Taiba
55	HD well	Tallib
56	Range Rehab	Tamalekha
57	Basic vet	Tamia
	HD well	Tamia
58	HD well	Tandar Araiash
59	VLDA	Tandar El Suk
60	HD well	Tiwene

<u>No.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Village</u>
61	Water yard	Um Aish Al Suk
62	Home Garden	Um Aish El Sheikh
	VLDA	Um Aish El Sheikh
63	Nursery	Um Aish Jereginma
	Water yard	Um Aish Jereginma
64	Nursery	Um Aish Al Suk
65	Water basin	Um Bai Bekhit
66	HD well	Um Beere Arabi
	Basic vet	Um Damir
	Home garden	Um Damir
	School garden	Um Damir
68	HD well	Um Diso
69	HD well	Um Golman
70	VLDA	Um Jennah
71	HD well	Um Jurban
72	Nursery	Um Nels
	Water yard	Um Nels
	Credit	Um Ruwebe town
74	HD well	Um Seneng
75	HD well	Um Sheba el Madress
76	Nursery	Um Siders
	Water yard	Um Siders

<u>No.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Village</u>
77	School garden	Wed Ashane
78	School garden	Wed Sebil
	WED T.C.	Wed Sebil
	B. poultry	Yasin
	Credit	Yasin
	Home garden	Yasin
	Water basin	Yasin