65966

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.14/156
15 January 1962

Original: ENGLISH

DOCUMENTS OFFICE
FILE COPY
NO TO BE TAKEN OUT

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
Fourth session
Addis Ababa, February-March 1962
Provisional agenda item 12

INFORMATION PAPER ON THE SPECIAL FUND ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA

(Prepared by the United Nations Special Fund)

62-63

INFORMATION PAPER ON THE SPECIAL FUND ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA

(Prepared by the United Nations Special Fund)

1. The Commission had before it at its third session a paper which described the spheres of activity of the United Nations Special Fund and its operations in Africa (E/CN.14/76). The present paper is in the nature of a follow-up report.

2. From its inception in 1959, the Special Fund has recognized that it could play a particularly strategic role in speeding the development of the new and emerging countries of Africa by participating with these countries in the execution of essential pre-investment projects. It has responded by providing a steadily increasing share of its limited financial resources to such projects in Africa -- training and technical education institutes, resource surveys, and applied research centres. In 1959, the Governing Council of the Special Fund approved the first six projects for Africa which represented 9% of the total allocations authorized by the Council in that year. Nineteen projects for Africa were approved in 1960, accounting for 23% of the total project funds authorized during that year. At its session in May 1961, the Governing Council approved an additional thirteen projects on the African continent, involving one-third of the allocations for the entire programme approved at that session.

3. By May 1961, the Special Fund had accordingly undertaken to participate jointly with seventeen African countries and territories in the execution of thirty-eight pre-investment projects. A list of these projects

and pertinent information relating to each of them is set out in the Annex of this report. Fourteen of the projects are for the execution of resource surveys, eight for the organization of applied research centres and sixteen for the establishment of training and technical education institutes, including four secondary school teacher-training institutes. These approved projects are estimated to cost the equivalent of $64 million, of which $29 million have been allocated by the Special Fund and $35 million are to be contributed by the recipient Governments. In addition, a large number of African countries and territories are participating in the Desert Locust Control Project, an inter-regional undertaking being assisted by the Special Fund.

4. Further, the Managing Director proposes to recommend to the seventh session of the Governing Council, which meets in January 1962, approval of some fifteen additional projects for Africa estimated to cost approximately $36 million [1].

5. Thus, it may be expected that the Special Fund, in less than three years, will have approved over fifty individual projects, costing about $100 million, for nineteen African countries and territories. The recipient Governments will contribute about three-fifths of the total cost of this programme.

6. The implementation of the approved projects in African countries and territories are, on the whole, proceeding well and the results already achieved in several of them are indeed very encouraging. However, the rate of implementation is running behind schedule in a number of projects. This has been due, in part, to the rather long periods taken to conclude the Plans of Operation for certain projects and to the difficulties which are being experienced by Executing Agencies in the appointment of key project personnel. In part, it has also been due to the difficulties which some Governments have encountered in providing the necessary counterpart support -- personnel, buildings and other facilities, in approving experts proposed for projects, and in clearing equipment lists. The Managing Director is most anxious that all projects be started and completed on schedule to assure the most efficient utilization of project funds and is taking all measures

---

1/ Following the conclusion of seventh session of the Governing Council on 15 January 1962, the list of projects for Africa approved at that session will be circulated as an addendum to this document.

necessary to bring each project to prompt, effective execution in collaboration with the Governments and the Executing Agencies concerned.

7. As of 30 November 1961, twenty-three projects had been authorized to start -- eight in 1960, six in the first half of 1961 and nine between July and November of that year. Of these, sixteen are currently under execution in Ethiopia (1), Ghana (2), Libya (2), Morocco (3), Sudan (1), Togo (1), Tunisia (1), Uganda (1), and the United Arab Republic (4); two additional projects have been concluded, the first in Guinea prior to completion, and the second in Nigeria which was successfully completed in March 1961. Examples of the progress achieved in three of these projects which had been started in 1960 are cited in paragraphs 8 - 17 below.

8. Ghana

The Special Fund is collaborating with the Government of Ghana in conducting field surveys and experimentation to determine the physical and economic feasibility of growing crops on a large scale in the lower Volta Flood Plain. The FAO is serving as Executing Agency for the project.

9. The first of the two phases of the project has been completed ahead of schedule. This consisted of a general reconnaissance survey of the entire project area and included soil surveys, hydraulic engineering and agronomic investigations. On the basis of the information obtained from these surveys, some 45,000 acres of land were selected for detailed investigation and the second phase of the work is now under way. By mid-1961, detailed topographic maps had been prepared for about half the acreage in the selected areas and a preliminary design of the irrigation, drainage and flood control works had been started.

10. Field tests and studies to determine suitability of various soils in the area for the cultivation of different types of crops under irrigation have been in process on experimental plots since the middle of 1960. Preliminary findings indicate that rice is the most promising crop for the area, with sugarcane offering distinct possibilities. Market gardening on an intensive scale also appears to be feasible.

11. Morocco

As an integral part of its 1960-1964 Five Year Plan, the Government of Morocco has undertaken to establish an engineering school in Rabat which will offer a three-year course in practical engineering. The Governing Council approved at its May 1960 session the sum of $751,500 to assist this project and UNESCO was designated to serve as Executing Agency.

12. On 3 November 1960, the Mohammadia School of Engineering was officially opened and it has since made considerable progress. By mid-1961:

- training programmes had been prepared and courses were being offered to forty-one first-year students. Some 100 students are expected to be enrolled in first and second-year courses during the current academic year;
- the new main building was completed and construction of other campus buildings was under way;
- a staff of over thirty officials had been appointed by the Government including a Moroccan Director of the School, eight professors and ten instructors;
- four full-time international specialists have been provided to the School under Special Fund auspices;
- approximately $45,000 worth of equipment and instruments had been requisitioned by UNESCO for the school's new laboratories.

13. Nigeria

The Niger River dam survey was successfully completed in March 1961, one year after its inception, as scheduled. The project formed an integral part of a comprehensive study of the economic and technical aspects of a scheme for the multi-purpose development of the Niger River system within the Federation of Nigeria. As approved by the Governing Council in December 1959, the project was designed to provide the information necessary to determine the desirability of constructing on the Niger a dam for power generation, improvement of navigation, flood control and irrigation. The Special Fund allocated $735,000 towards the cost of the study and designated the IBRD to serve as Executing Agency for its implementation.

14. The final report of the survey, which has been submitted to the Government, established that:

- the most economic method of producing power required by Nigeria is by the development of the hydro-electric potential of the Niger;
- the two dam sites which had been proposed by previous investigations were inadequate to meet the future power demands of the country;
- the most suitable dam site was at Kainji, some 64 miles upstream from Jebba.

15. The study recommends that as a first stage in the overall development scheme, a dam should be built across the Niger at Kainji. The installation would be capable of producing hydro-power at an installed capacity of 860 megawatts, which would satisfy anticipated power requirements of the country until 1982. In addition to the production of electricity, the scheme would provide progressive development of national and international navigation by submerging rapids above the dam, by helping maintain adequate water levels downstream of the dam, and by the inclusion of two locks serving as a passage through the dam.

16. As a further benefit, the scheme would provide full flood control in the Niger Valley as far downstream as the Kaduna river confluence, thus allowing for a great expansion of agriculture in this area. The lake formed by the reservoir would also provide a large increase of protein through fish production.

17. The cost of the initial stage of the Kainji development, including the transmission system and all appurtenant works is estimated to be the equivalent of $190 million.

STATUS OF SPECIAL FUND PROJECTS IN AFRICA
AS AT 30 NOVEMBER 1961

Country and Project	Executing Agency	Approved by Governing Council	Cost of Project: Total	Special Fund Allocation 1/	Government Counterpart Contribution	Plan of Operation Signed	Authorization to Commence Execution
			(..... US $ equivalents .....)				
CAMEROUN							
Secondary School Teacher Training Institute, Yaoundé	UNESCO	May 1961	$2,692,800	$1,174,800	$1,518,000	2 Nov. 61	2 Nov. 61
ETHIOPIA							
Awash River Basin Development Survey	FAO	May 1960	1,257,100	930,100	327,000	7 Feb. 61	21 Feb. 61
School for Veterinary Assistants	FAO	Dec.1960	722,700	432,700	290,000		
GHANA							
Volta River Flood Plain Survey	FAO	May 1959	540,000	385,000	155,000	9 Dec. 59	8 Jan. 60
Institute of Public Administration, Accra	UN	May 1961	1,845,700	523,700	1,322,000	18 July 61	27 July 61
GUINEA							
General Development Survey 2/	UN	May 1959	425,000	425,000	-	7 Jan. 60	25 Feb. 60 2/

1/ As authorized by the Governing Council. Gross project costs, i.e. including the recipient Governments' cash payments for local operating costs, representing 15% of the gross expert cost of the project.

2/ Project concluded in March 1961.

untry and Project	Execut-ing Agency	Approved by Governing Council	Cost of Project: Total	Special Fund Allocation 1/	Government Counterpart Contribution	Plan of Operation Signed	Authorization to Commence Execution
			(..... US $ equivalents	.....)			
ORY COAST							
Secondary School Teacher Training Institute, Abijan	UNESCO	May 1961	$3,150,400	$1,034,800	$2,115,600	2 Nov. 61	
BERIA							
Agricultural Training and Research	FAO	Dec.1960	1,756,900	1,006,900	750,000	18 Sept.61	25 Oct. 61
BYA							
nstitute for igher Technology	UNESCO	Dec.1959	3,063,950	1,116,000	1,947,950	16 Sept.60	3 Oct. 60
adio and Telecommuni-ations School	ITU	Dec.1960	1,183,600	523,600	660,000	5 July 61	14 July 61
OCCO							
ngineering School	UNESCO	May 1960	2,751,500	751,500	2,000,000	8 Oct. 60	1 Dec. 60
ivil Aviation School	ICAO	Dec.1960	1,772,200	624,200	1,148,000	29 June 61	28 July 61
if Region Develop-ent Survey	FAO	May 1960	1,882,800	702,800	1,180,000	1 Nov. 60	2 Jan. 61

1/ As authorized by the Governing Council. Gross project costs, i.e. including the recipient Governments' cash payments for local operating costs, representing 15% of the gross expert cost of the project.

Country and Project	Executing Agency	Approved by Governing Council	Cost of Project: Total	Special Fund Allocation 1/	Government Counterpart Contribution	Plan of Operation Signed	Authorization to Commence Execution
			(..... US $ equivalents	.....)			
NIGERIA							
Niger River Dam Survey 2/	IBRD	Dec.1959	2,425,000	735,000	1,690,000	7 Mar. 60	10 Mar. 60 2/
Soil and Water Resources Survey of the Sokoto Valley	FAO	May 1961	2,272,300	1,552,300	720,000		
Training of Teachers for Secondary Schools	UNESCO	Dec.1960	2,852,200	1,052,200	1,800,000		
Vocational Training Programme	ILO	May 1961	1,507,500	1,002,600	504,900		
Fisheries Survey in the Western Region	FAO	May 1961	829,000	564,000	265,000		
SENEGAL							
Instructor and Foremen Training Centre	ILO	May 1961	1,625,500	486,600	1,138,900		
SOMALIA							
Agricultural and Water Surveys	FAO	Dec.1960	1,218,800	928,800	290,000	30 Sept.61	3 Nov. 61

1/ As authorized by the Governing Council. Gross project costs, i.e. including the recipient Governments' cash payments for local operating costs, representing 15% of the gross expert cost of the project.

2/ Project completed in April 1961.

Country and Project	Executing Agency	Approved by Governing Council	Cost of Project: Total	Cost of Project: Special Fund Allocation 1/	Cost of Project: Government Counterpart Contribution	Plan of Operation Signed	Authorization to Commence Execution
			(..... US $ equivalents	.....)			
SUDAN							
- Animal Health Institute	FAO	Dec.1960	$ 459,900	$ 264,900	$ 195,000		
- Hides, Skins and Leather: Development and Training Project	FAO	Dec.1960	868,600	521,000	347,600	3 May 61	14 June 61
- Forestry Research and Education Centre, Khartoum	FAO	May 1961	1,222,600	832,600	390,000		
- Land Water Use Survey of Kordofan Province	FAO	May 1961	1,389,900	889,900	500,000	10 Oct. 61	20 Nov. 61
- Secondary School Teacher Training Institute, Khartoum	UNESCO	May 1961	3,015,400	1,074,400	1,941,000		
TOGO							
- Land and Water Use Survey	FAO	May 1960	963,000	700,000	263,000	23 Dec. 60	11 Jan. 61
TUNISIA							
- Agricultural Research Central Tunisia	FAO	May 1960	2,457,200	897,200	1,560,000	13 Sept.60	23 Sept.60
- Civil Aviation School	ICAO	Dec.1960	1,787,500	640,500	1,147,000	19 Sept.61	27 Sept.61

1/ As authorized by the Governing Council. Gross project costs, i.e. including the recipient Governments' cash payments for local operating costs, representing 15% of the gross expert cost of the project.

Country and Project	Executing Agency	Approved by Governing Council	Cost of Project: Total	Special Fund Allocation 1/	Government Counterpart Contribution	Plan of Operation Signed	Authorization to Commence Execution
			(..... US $ equivalents	.....)			
NITED ARAB REPUBLIC							
Drainage of Irrigated Land	FAO	May 1959	$1,365,000	$ 365,000	$1,000,000	27 Dec. 60	21 Feb. 61
Soil Survey from Aerial Photographs	FAO	May 1959	827,500	327,500	500,000	10 Mar. 60	24 May 60
Civil Aviation Training School	ICAO	May 1960	1,860,500	1,063,400	797,100	17 Apr. 61	18 May 61
Cotton Research Laboratory	FAO	Dec.1960	1,465,300	687,300	778,000		
Animal Health Institute	FAO	Dec.1960	1,005,000	668,000	337,000		
Vocational Instructor Training Institute	ILO	Dec.1960	1,447,100	888,100	559,000	20 Aug. 61	5 Oct. 61
National Institute of Standards	UNESCO	May 1961	4,973,700	973,700	4,000,000		
Central Agricultural Pesticides Lab. Cairo	FAO	May 1961	986,000	616,000	370,000		
ITED KINGDOM: FED. OF ODESIA AND NYASALAND							
Multipurpose Survey of the Ka'ue River Basin	FAO	May 1961	1,375,100	786,100	589,000		

1/ As authorized by the Governing Council. Gross project costs, i.e. including the recipient Governments' cash payments for local operating costs, representing 15% of the gross expert cost of the project.

Country and Project	Executing Agency	Approved by Governing Council	Cost of Project: Total	Cost of Project: Special Fund Allocation 1/	Cost of Project: Government Counterpart Contribution	Plan of Operation Signed	Authorization to Commence Execution
			(..... US $ equivalents .....)				
UNITED KINGDOM: UGANDA							
- Aerial Geophysical Survey	UN	May 1960	$ 453,500	$ 313,500	$ 140,000	30 Nov. 60	15 Dec. 60
Total for 38 projects in 17 countries and territories:			$63,697,750	$28,461,700	$35,236,050		

1/ As authorized by the Governing Council. Gross project costs, i.e., including the recipient Governments' cash payments for local operating costs, representing 15% of the gross expert cost of the project.