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WP.13

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
Workshop: Extension of Family and Child Welfare
Services within Community Development Programmes
Accra (Ghana) 21 November - 3 December 1960

Provisional Agenda Item No. VI

Statement on UNESCO contribution to the field
of family and child welfare and community development in Africa

60-941

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September 1960.

Cameroons

A community development project in the Bakossi area of the Southern Cameroons aims at improving existing road communications in order to facilitate the deliveries of agricultural products.

An adult education expert helped organize the work and co-ordinate the community activities of the villagers. His mission will be extended in 1961 under the UNTAO Programme.

Ethiopia

A project assisted involves a training centre for community school leaders and teachers to prepare teachers for the new community schools which should universalize Amharic and provide basic education for adults with reference to all aspects of community living.

In 1960, two experts, the Director of the training centre and an adult education advisor, complete their missions.

Ghana

Assistance is provided to several activities coming under the heading Adult Education. The Department of Information services provides major films for adult educational campaigns. In addition, there is a visual aids section, including a community development officer, in the Department of Social Welfare and Community Development. Research is being carried out in the visual aids for all forms of adult education campaigns, including agriculture, health, local government, rural housing, etc.

Two experts, an editor and an audio-visual specialist, are attached to the Vernacular Literature Bureau and should terminate in 1960 and 1961 respectively.

Furthermore, an expert is provided as matron-director of the Kaneshie Children's Home, a Government-sponsored institute operated by the Ghana Child Care Society. A fellowship has been awarded to a Ghanaian counterpart of the expert.

In 1961, the expert in audio-visual aids is to continue his work along with a second expert in this field. An expert in Home economics is to be provided.

Guinea

It is proposed to provide an expert in adult education in 1961 to assist with Guinea's adult education activities with specific reference to literacy work.

Liberia

A community school expert began work in 1959 to help establish, develop and implement a training centre for multi-purpose workers. The training will include the techniques of guiding adults and youth out of school, in raising the standard of village life, in terms of literacy, agriculture, housing, health, etc. The expert is expected to continue work in 1961 and 1962.

Libya

Several educational projects are being carried out in Libya: the rural teachers education Institute at Fuchat (Benghazi), the adult education programme and the rural school (for women) in Fezzan, the adult education programme in Tripolitania.

Both the Fuchat Institute and the rural school in the Fezzan are training elementary school teachers who will also be able to work with adults outside the school as community leaders.

Ten experts are working in the following fields: adult education for men and for women, rural education, handicrafts, agricultural education, physical education, and audio-visual aids teaching.

Nine of these experts are expected to continue through 1961.

Morocco

The Government of Morocco is engaged in re-organizing its education programme within the framework of the five-year plan. The Division of Youth and Sport in which an adult education programme is presently attached, is elaborating a coherent programme covering literacy, general and civic education.

One expert in literacy (reading materials) should continue in his mission through 1961.

Nigeria

In 1961, it is proposed to provide experts in the fields of reading materials and women's education.

Somalia

Two experts continued their work at the Somalia-Unesco Fundamental Education Centre (SUPEC) which was set up at Villabruzzi in 1958.

One of these experts completed his work in 1960.

It is proposed to provide expert services in adult education in 1961.

Sudan

A training course for adult education workers at one of the teacher training institutes has been established. An expert assists the Government in directing these courses.

Tunisia

An adult education team consisting of one expert in literacy and another in audio-visual aids has been assisting the Government in its adult literacy programme since 1957. Literacy teachers have been trained, centres opened, and reading materials including a news sheet have been prepared.

It is expected that the experts will terminate their mission in 1960.

Regional projects

ASFEC

The current programme of the Regional Fundamental Education Centre in Egypt (ASFEC) emphasizes the training of supervisory staff for the education for adults and community development, adult literacy methods, experimental studies and the production of educational materials for these fields.

In 1961, this centre will become a Regional Centre for Education for Community Development, with consequent changes in the level and type of trainees accepted in the programme of study and field work, and in their staffing patterns.

Meeting of Experts on Educational Opportunities for Girls at the Primary and Secondary Level in Tropical Africa.

This meeting, organized by Unesco in co-operation with the Government of the Republic of Dahomey, was held in Cotonou from 24 May to 2 June 1960. The purpose of the meeting was to focus

attention on the main problems involved in the provision of primary education and secondary education (general, technical and vocational) for girls in Tropical Africa, and to examine the measures already taken or under consideration in different countries and territories to deal with these problems.

The experts adopted several recommendations dealing inter alia with the status of teachers, their housing, parent information and educational guidance and with future regional action.
