

IAA QUARTERLY REPORT

U.S.G. Agency: Department of Commerce
Country: Guatemala
Report Period: July 1, 2000 through September 30, 2000
Agency Lead: Curtis Barrett

The following discusses Department of Commerce (DOC) activities and accomplishments for the referenced reporting period. The report is organized by county and further broken down by the problem areas identified in the DOC Implementation Plan (*U.S. Department of Commerce's Implementation Plan for Reconstruction Work in Central America*, July 1999). In addition, Result Indicators in this report are the Intermediate Results (IRs) referenced in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Hurricane Mitch Reconstruction Program Tracking System for the Department of Commerce and the Performance Indicators referenced in the DOC Implementation Plan. Where applicable, Mission SpO indicators are provided for reference.

A. DOC Problem Area: Base Infrastructure Reconstruction

Problem Area Objectives:

- Provide a foundation for ongoing reconstruction efforts
- Reconstruct and improve weather forecast and early warning networks
- Promote safe and efficient air and marine transportation
- Provide for a geo-spatial data and water level reference framework
- Ensure that capacity exists to maintain and expand new base infrastructure

B. DOC Activities:

- Reconstruct and improve geodetic networks
- Reconstruct and improve hydrometeorological data collection networks
- Reconstruct and improve tide stations

C. Results/Impact Indicators

OMB Intermediate Result

IR-1: The restoration and development of base geodetic and environmental monitoring infrastructure in Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala, and El Salvador

DOC Measures of Progress (Ref: DOC Implementation Plan)	Intermediate Result	Accomplished Previous Reporting Period	Accomplished This Reporting Period
Reconstruct and Improve Geodetic Networks	<p>IR-1.1 Number of continuously operating reference stations (CORS) that are installed</p> <p>IR-1.2 “Train the trainer” sessions held for US private contractors and US and Central America academic institutions</p> <p>IR-1.4 Training sessions held for in-country government agencies responsible for surveys</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p><i>Future activity. On schedule.</i></p> <p><i>Future activity. On schedule</i></p> <p><i>Future activity. On schedule</i></p>
Reconstruct and Improve Hydrometeorological Data Collection Platform/Telecommunications Networks	<p>IR-1.5 The number of data collection platforms (DCPs) that are installed</p> <p>IR-1.6 The percentage of telecommunications network installed</p> <p>IR-1.7 The number of connections to other sensors, such as tide gauges, that are established</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>	

Reconstruct and Improve Tide Gauge Stations	IR-1.8 The number of tide stations installed	N/A	<i>Future activity. On schedule</i>
	IR-1.9 Training sessions held for in-country government agencies responsible for operating water level stations, assuring data quality, and providing sea level data.	N/A	<i>Future activity. On schedule.</i>

Cumulative accomplishments to date are not applicable at this time and will be provided with future quarterly reports.

Guatemala Mission Intermediate Results Framework

Mission Intermediate Result	NOAA Activity		
	Geodetic Networks	Hydrometeorological Data Collection Platform/ Telecommunications Networks	Tide Stations
IR 1.1 Mapping, Data Collection, and Targeting of Most Vulnerable Communities			
IR 1.3 CONRED Network Strengthened			
IR 2.1 River, Land, and Small-scale Irrigation System Rehabilitation			
IR 2.5 Rural Road Repair			

Note: Matrix cells marked “ ” indicate a supporting relationship with Mission IRs. Blank cells indicate no relationship. In no case does a NOAA activity conflict or interfere with a mission IR.

D. Narrative Report

The key accomplishments during this reporting period include

- Bidding process on tidal gauges and meteorological stations executed
- Regional Coordinating Agency determined
- Institutional baseline report

They are described below in more detail.

Key Accomplishments

Tidal Gauge/Meteorological Station Bidding Process Executed

During this period, the procurement process for the purchase of one digital ground station and seventeen state-of-the-art sea-level and meteorological monitoring and data dissemination systems was initiated. RONMAC staff conducted an extensive analysis of many manufacturers. It was determined that two companies, (Sutron and Vitel) have the capability of delivering a system that can monitor meteorological parameters under the World Meteorological Organization (“WMO”) Standards and also process both meteorological and sea-level data under NOS/NOAA Standards. Prior to requesting proposals from Vitel and Sutron, a RONMAC staff member made site visits to both firms and discussed the project with representatives of each firm. Subsequently, he discussed the technical merits of both firms with the NOS/NOAA technical staff, and then prepared a request for proposal, which was sent to each firm. Based on the proposals received, evaluation by RONMAC staff, , the lower price offered by Vitel for the equipment, and Organization of American States’ previous satisfactory experience with Vitel, Inc. and the CPACC project in 1997, the contract was awarded to Vitel, Inc. for the purchase of seventeen (17) state-of-the-art sea-level and meteorological monitoring and data dissemination systems and one (1) digital ground station. Vitel is currently in the process of assembling the equipment.

Regional Coordinating Agency

The Comité Regional de Recursos Hidráulicos (CRRH) was officially designated as the Regional Coordinating Agency for the RONMAC project. The Organization of American States and CRRH signed a Memorandum of Understanding regarding this designation. It details the responsibilities of both organizations. In particular, CRRH is responsible for 1) Analysis and Recommendations of Appropriate Institutions; 2)Coordinate Two Regional Coordination Meetings; 3) Coordinate Two Steering Committee Meetings; and 4) Assist the GS/OAS with communication and with supervision of field work.. *See attached (unsigned) MOU. A signed copy is available upon request.*

Institutional Baseline Report

The Regional Committee for Water Resources (CRRH), in its role as the Regional Coordinating Agency for the RONMAC project, researched and presented an institutional baseline report. This consisted of a consultant visiting the four RONMAC participating countries and conducting meeting and interviews with the key stakeholders and potential participating agencies. The report serves as a valuable guide for participation of various institutions and organizations. In addition, it made important suggestions regarding the execution of the RONMAC project and its related activities. *See attached report synopsis.*

Constraints and Problems

Reconstruct and Improve Tide Stations

None to report.

Implementation and Effectiveness of Environmental/Disaster Mitigation Measures

At this stage of the Mitch reconstruction program, we have no comments on the mission's environmental/disaster mitigation measures.

E. Success stories/Vignettes