

39 Paraguay

Project for Improvement of Earth Stations for Telecommunication via Satellite



Parabola antennae installed by this project

Outline of Loan Agreement

Loan Amount / Disbursed Amount	3,234 million yen / 3,234 million yen
Loan Agreement	February 1994
Terms & Conditions	Interest rate 3.0% p.a. Repayment period 30 years (Grace period 10 years)
Final Disbursement Date	October 2000

Project Outline

Eliminated the demand-supply gap in international communications, and improved the international communication service, as well as upgrading satellite communication technologies to respond to the evolving international standards of satellite communication technologies.

Results and Evaluation

The project have included: construction of 2 satellite communication earth stations; construction of fiber optic transit relay systems and digital microwave relay system for its back up; and improvement and expansion of the international transit switch (INTS-2) and the installation of international transit switch (INTS-2A).

Through the project, 608 lines was achieved in terms of the international satellite lines, compared with the target of 511 lines; 1,260 lines for international transit switch capacity, compared with the target of 833 lines; and 104 million calls for the volume of international telephone traffic, compared to the target call-rate of 85 million. Consequently the targets of this project were fully achieved. Moreover, in the interview survey to multi-national companies who are the users of international calls, there were responses that after the project, the communication conditions have improved and the project has contributed to improve business efficiency.

There is a concern that profitability would decrease due to vulnerability of the domestic telephone service, and the intensified competition of the communication field such as up-taking of mobile phones. On the other hand, the number of staff and the technical skills of Compania Paraguaya de Comunicaciones (COPACO), which is in charge of operation and maintenance, maintain satisfactory level.