

43 Dominican Rep. AGLIPO Agricultural Development Project (2)

Contributing to an increase in rice production and to the strengthening of the system for self-sufficiency in rice by installing irrigation and drainage facilities

Loan Amount/Disbursed Amount	9.013 billion yen/8.765 billion yen
Loan Agreement	March 1994
Terms & Conditions	Interest rate 3.0%, Repayment period 30 year (grace period 10 years), General untied
Final Disbursement Date	December 2003
Executing Agency	Instituto Nacional de Recursos Hidráulicos (http://www.indrhi.gov.do)

* A joint evaluation was conducted on this project with the Instituto Nacional de Recursos Hidráulico (INDRHI).

Project Objectives

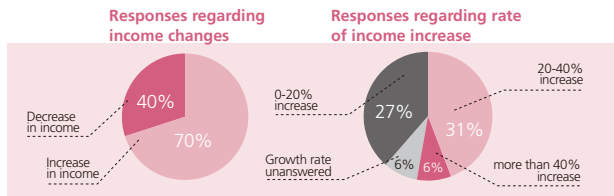
The objective of this project was to install irrigation and drainage facilities in the districts of Aguacate and Guajabo in the northeast of the Dominican Republic, increasing rice production and strengthening the system for self-sufficiency in rice, and thereby contributing to improving the income of farmers and creating employment opportunities.

Effectiveness & Impact

Rating **a**

Through the implementation of this project, the total area of rice cultivation, which was initially planned at 4,482ha in the first year after project completion and 7,113ha in the second year, was 8,619ha and 7,620ha in the first and second years respectively, values exceeding initial plans. Reasons for the decrease in the area of rice cultivation were due to rice blight and a period of continued rain. The yield of rice, which was planned at 26,890 tons in the first year after project completion and 42,680 tons in the second year, was 48,130 tons and 24,674 tons respectively.

Similar to the area of rice cultivation, rice blight can also be cited as a cause of the slight decrease in the yield of rice. However, the executing agency has conducted duties such as constructing drainage countermeasures and has been observed to be working to produce project results. In a beneficiary survey, 70% of responding farmers indicated an increase in income. The implementation of this project is evaluated as having attained a strengthening of the system of self-sufficiency in rice and as having a foreign exchange saving effect of US\$11.2 million for FY2003–04. Therefore, this project has largely achieved its objectives, and effectiveness is highly satisfactory.



Source: Beneficiary Survey



Image of Beneficiary Survey

Relevance

Rating **a**

Both at the time of appraisal and of ex-post evaluation, the implementation of this project has been highly relevant with national policies.

Efficiency

Rating **b**

The evaluation for efficiency is moderate, because, although project expenses were lower than planned (approximately 81% of planned expenses), the project period greatly exceeded the planned period (approximately 169% of planned period). Causes of project delays included delays in the consultant selection process and the time required for deliberations on bidding qualifications for contractors.

Sustainability

Rating **b**

Operation and maintenance training for members of irrigation association has been implemented, and no major problem has been observed for capacity of the executing agency. At the time of ex-post evaluation, there was room for improvement in the regular maintenance duties of the executing agency and the irrigation associations. It is hoped that a manual-based system for operation and maintenance will be created and reinforced. However, sustainability of this project is moderate.

Conclusion, Lessons Learned, Recommendation

In light of the above, the rating for this project can be said to be high. At the time of ex-post evaluation, the maintenance systems for facilities covered by this project were observed to be no more than stopgap measures. Regular maintenance should be carried out in future and it is hoped that maintenance system creation and improvement will be attained.

Third-Party Opinion

This project promoted the increase of rice production and contributed to the strengthening of the country's system for self-sufficiency in rice. By developing irrigation facilities, the project also had the effects of increasing residents' standard of living and improving income, as well as improving access to public services.

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