

Memorandum Of Understanding
MRSTD/IRRI

Madagascar-IRRI Rice Research Project

PHASE III

December, 18, 1989

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY
DEVELOPMENT
AND
THE INTERNATIONAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE
FOR
THE MADAGASCAR - IRRI RICE RESEARCH PROJECT
PHASE III

Project Description

The goal of the Madagascar-IRRI Rice Research Project, Phase III is to improve rice production on farms in Madagascar.

The purpose of the Phase III is to strengthen GRDM's capabilities to carry out effective rice research in the context of a rice-based farming system and to develop appropriate farmer technologies.

The expected outputs of the Project's Phase III are:

1. Strengthening of rice research using a farming systems approach to identify 1) more profitable cropping systems; 2) higher yielding and better adapted varieties; 3) low cost, farmer-acceptable soil fertility management and pest management practices as well as cultural practices, and 4) appropriate machinery to facilitate production operations, reduce drudgery and reduce production costs.
2. Identification of improved varieties for irrigated, rainfed and upland ecologies by:
 - a) introduction of germplasm for irrigated, rainfed and upland ecologies;
 - b) a hybridization program targeted for irrigated and rainfed ecologies;
 - c) purification and characterization of Malagasy varieties within the existing collection of germplasm material adaptable to irrigated, rainfed and upland conditions.
3. Trained personnel for the rice research program.

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4. Implementation and review of national rice research strategies and activities for the long term development of the rice program and the Department of Rice Research (DRR).
5. Continued exchange of information between IRRI, other organizations that work on rice, and GRDM rice research program.
6. Improved capacity of MRSTD to undertake research through up-graded physical facilities and transport.

A formal Cooperative Agreement between MRSTD and IRRI was signed on September 09, 1987 with the view of increasing the national research capability on rice and rice-based farming systems.

The Phase III is designed to further support this agreement and to strengthen the relationship between MRSTD and IRRI.

The project inputs to be provided by IRRI and the MRSTD to support achievement of the above outputs, and the responsibilities of each party, are detailed in the attached project document entitled Madagascar-IRRI Rice Research Project, Phase III.

Project Responsibilities

In furtherance of the above purpose and objectives, the MRSTD and IRRI do hereby covenant and agree as follows:

1. In order to facilitate the extension of rice research results and the availability of improved seed varieties to farmers, the MRSTD will:
 - a) Strengthen and institutionalize the research-development linkages by the creation for each target region of a regional rice program team under the inter-ministerial regional research-development committee.

This team will meet at least one time per year at the end of each rice season. Its role is:

1. to define the research priorities considering farmers' constraints and resources;
2. to identify among FOFIFA's research accomplishments those most promising for pre-production evaluation, and to determine practical methods for their on-farm testing by farmers.

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- b) Regularly provide to development programs and farmers information on rice production through the publication of:
- o a "Rice Newsletter" at least two times a year;
 - o brochures or technical bulletins or manuals describing newly recommended varieties or technical packages as often as required.
 - o an annual report of activities and scientific results.
- c) At the appropriate time, distribute to at least 30 farmers per region seed samples of varieties to be recommended and promoted. Varietal performance and evaluation will be undertaken by farmers in collaboration with FOFIFA's regional research teams.
- d) Organize field day visits to research and demonstration plots one time per year in each rice production region. FOFIFA will also train extension agents and farmers.
- e) Organize at the appropriate time an official ceremony marking the transfer of MRSTD's research results to the Ministere de la Production Agricole et du Patrimoine Foncier (MINAGRI) or development organizations.
- f) Provide to MINAGRI the list of varieties for the Center for Seed Multiplication (CMS) to multiply for each region following the national seed plan that is in the process of being established and assure the supply of M_1 seeds according to the estimated needs as confirmed by orders to FOFIFA.
- g) Contribute to the realization of the National Plan for Agricultural Extension (PNVA) by participating in the training of MINAGRI trainers.

Additional actions to facilitate the dissemination of research results will be the subject of no less than quarterly consultations between IRRI, MRSTD and USAID. IRRI shall propose dates for said consultations.

2. To allow sufficient time for application and completion of university admission requirements, participants for long-term overseas training will be identified by MRSTD and their names conveyed to IRRI no less than 8 months before the

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scheduled training is to begin. Intended PhD or troisieme cycle scholars must be identified by November 1990 and MS scholars by November 1992 to ensure completion of studies before the project terminates.

IRRI shall advise MRSTD/FOFIFA of scheduled long-term and short-term training programs, conferences, workshops, etc. as early as possible.

3. MRSTD will assure that local currency requirements for the project, as set forth in the schedule below, are provided for, in a timely manner, within the government's annual budget.

GRDM Budget Year 1990/91	FMG 1.363.000.000
GRDM Budget Year 1991/92	FMG 3.521.000.000
GRDM Budget Year 1992/93	FMG 1.388.000.000
GRDM Budget Year 1993/94	FMG 998.500.000
GRDM Budget Year 1994/95	FMG 859.000.000
TOTAL	FMG 8.129.500.000

4. In order to facilitate the sustainability of project activities and to enhance the sharing of scientific and managerial skills, the following are identified as principal counterparts for the below designated IRRI long-term resident scientists:

IRRI Team Leader: head of Department of Rice Research.

IRRI Agricultural Economist: the heads of Research-Development programs in each target area.

IRRI Soils Scientist: the pedologist or assistant in charge of implementing soils research in each target area.

IRRI Cropping Systems Agronomist: the agronomists responsible for research in each target area.

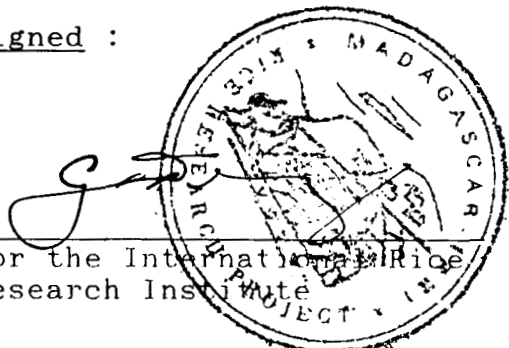
IRRI Rice Breeder: the breeders responsible for implementing the research program in each target area.

MRSTD encourages IRRI resident scientists to develop professional contacts with scientists undertaking research related to the improvement of rice-based farming systems.

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Each IRRI resident scientists will discuss the outline of research programs and activities with the heads of the respective division of DRR and DRD. These discussions should take place during the annual planning workshop. The programs will be budgeted before each rice campaign commences.

Signed :



For the International Rice Research Institute

Date : 18 DEC. 1989

Dr. Glenn Leslie DENNING



For the Ministry of Scientific Research and Technology Development

Date : Dr Charles RAZAFINDRAKOTO

18 DEC, 1989.