

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA)

**THE MASTER PLAN STUDY
ON
SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT
FOR THE REDUCTION OF POVERTY
IN
THE CENTRAL HIGHLAND REGION
OF
THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA**

VOLUME-I : MAIN REPORT

JULY 2001

Nippon Koei Co., Ltd.

Asia Air Survey Co., Ltd.

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CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS

US \$1 =Quetzales 7.70 = Japanese Yen 119.35 (Q.1 = Yen15.50)
as of June 2001

PREFACE

In response to a request from the Government of the Republic of Guatemala, the Government of Japan decided to conduct a Master Plan Study on Sustainable Rural Development for the Reduction of Poverty in the Central Highland Region of the Republic of Guatemala and entrusted the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) with the Study.

JICA selected and dispatched a study team headed by Mr. Kenjiro Onaka of Nippon Koei Co., Ltd. consisting of Nippon Koei Co., Ltd. and Asia Air Survey Co., Ltd. to the Republic of Guatemala between January 2000 and July 2001.

The team held discussions with officials concerned of the Government of Guatemala, and conducted field surveys at the study area. Upon returning to Japan, the team conducted further studies and prepared this final report.

I hope that this report will contribute to the promotion of this project and to the enhancement of friendly relationship between our two countries.

Finally, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the officials concerned of the Government of Guatemala for their close cooperation extended to the study.

July, 2001



Kunihiko Saito

President

Japan International Cooperation Agency

July 2001

Mr. Kunihiko Saito
The President of
Japan International Cooperation Agency
Tokyo, Japan

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Dear Sir,

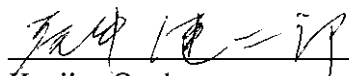
We have the pleasure of submitting herewith the study report on Master Plan Study on Sustainable Rural Development for the Reduction of Poverty in the Central Highland Region of the Republic of Guatemala.

The study was carried out by Nippon Koei Co., Ltd., in association with Asia Air Survey Co., Ltd., under contract to JICA, for a total period of 19 months from January 2000 to July 2001. In the survey the participatory approaches were introduced. Problems, needs and potential in the communities was extracted among the community peoples and the bottom-up type sustainable rural development projects for the reduction of poverty of the people were formulated from three aspects of improvement of income level, upgrading living environment, and conservation and effective use of natural resources. Also the participatory development methodology for the rural development project was formulated. Furthermore, some pilot projects were selected from the formulated rural development projects and their detail execution programs were prepared in order to verify (1) technical soundness of the projects, (2) organizational soundness for executing body, management of projects, support system, etc, and (3) improvement of farmers' capability through the execution of the projects. The results of verification will give future smooth execution of the sustainable rural development a lesson. We proposed that an early implementation of the pilot projects should be conducted and the projects on the sustainable rural development should be performed based on the lesson learned in the pilot projects.

We do hope this report will be helpful for promoting reduction of poverty in the Central Highland Region as well as regional socio-economic development plans conceived by the Guatemalan Government and be of any services to prosper the cordial relations and good-will between Japan and the Dominican Republic.

We wish to express our deep appreciation and gratitude to the personnel concerned of your Agency, your Office in the Republic of Guatemala, the Embassy of Japan in the Republic of Guatemala and Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food for the courtesies and cooperation extended to us during our field surveys and studies.

Very truly yours,



Kenjiro Onaka

Team Leader

The Study Team of the Master Plan
Study on Sustainable Rural
Development for the Reduction of
Poverty in the Central Highland
Region of the Republic of
Guatemala



LOCATION MAP OF MODEL MICRO BASINS