

Interim Progress Report



May 2004 to November 2004

Interim Progress Report May 2004 to November 2004

Table of Contents

1. The ASIST Asia-Pacific Programme	1
2. Results at a Glance	5
3. Accomplishments vis-à-vis Planned Outputs and Activities	12
4. Main Problems Encountered	23
5. Recommendations for the Year Ahead	24
6. Funding and Project Staffing	26
Annex 1: Publications	28
Annex 2: Missions	31
Annex 3: Logframe for ASIST AP (2003-2005)	35

1. The ASIST Asia Pacific Programme



The ASIST AP programme is a regional programme of the ILO based in the ILO's regional office in Bangkok. It is defined technically within the framework of the Employment Intensive Investment Programme (EIIP) of the ILO. The overall objective of the ASIST AP programme is to develop and integrate local resources based strategies for sustainable pro poor infrastructure provision into country investment programmes.

The objectives and outputs of the ASIST AP programme are seen as part of this overall framework of objectives of the EIIP. Naturally, however, the ASIST AP programme has to respond to the particular characteristics of the region in which it operates, the requirements of the ILO constituents and the priorities of its external donors.

Whilst there is serious debate regarding the contribution of infrastructure to poverty reduction, there is little disagreement regarding the potential contribution that infrastructure could make. A more pro poor approach to infrastructure investments provides the opportunity to contribute to several of the Millennium Development Goals. Involving local people in defining and planning their investment priorities, using local skills and local labour to the extent possible, developing local entrepreneurs and the use of imaginative maintenance systems all contribute to poverty reduction. Perhaps the two most important aspects are ensuring that people get the infrastructure that they perceive as being important and providing income into the local communities in the implementation of the works. In both cases the approach of the ASIST AP programme can play an important role. First by using local level planning procedures which reflect the actual needs of the local people and then by ensuring that in implementation the maximum efficient use is made of local labour, local skills, local entrepreneurs and local organizations.

The foundation of the ASIST AP programme is the partnership with the constituents. The role of the programme is to assist our partners in Government to orient public investment towards local resource based infrastructure development. In turn this will create employment and provide income to the people, develop local skills, enhance participation and pro poor targeting, promote local enterprises and develop the capacity of decentralised local government organisations to implement rural infrastructure works.

The programme has continued to work at both the policy level and the implementation level. This provides the possibility of synergy between the two levels so that policy feeds into implementation and vice versa.

Of growing importance has been the issue of decentralization, which is a trend in all countries of the region. The decentralization

of responsibilities and authority, essential for local decision making and the development of good governance is a key factor for the successful implementation of geographically dispersed programmes. Decentralisation provides both opportunities and challenges for the programme and consequently implies that ASIST AP has to have a fuller understanding of the decentralisation process.

From an ILO perspective, the programme is intent on integrating the decent work approach into its work and this in turn implies close collaboration with ILO Specialists working in the region.

At the practical level the programme is still founded on the principle of providing effective tools and procedures for the planning, design, implementation and maintenance of rural infrastructure. This focuses on local level planning, the use of labour based methods, the development of small contractors and the development of effective maintenance systems.

ASIST AP is a long term programme of the ILO and responds to the changing economic and political environment in the region. Within defined objectives, it adjusts its activities in order to achieve those objectives in a changing environment whilst learning from the experience over the years.

The programme is defined within a framework of rural infrastructure provision in which employment creation – a core element of providing decent work, decentralization, the optimum use of local resources, a focus on local participation and the promotion of good governance are key issues. It is at the heart of the ILO Decent Work agenda in that it is concerned with employment creation, the precursor of providing decent work.

GOAL AND OBJECTIVES



The overall goal of the programme is to provide governments in the region with the means to improve the access of the population to employment and income opportunities and to economic and social goods and services through the effective provision of rural infrastructure.

The programme is therefore concerned with key issues of poverty alleviation, employment generation and sustainable livelihoods. The approach to infrastructure being promoted by the EIIP, and therefore the ASIST AP, is one that sees these issues as fundamental. The use of local resources, planning on the basis of people's needs and the development of productive job opportunities through infrastructure development are therefore the foundation of the ASIST AP programme.

The main objective of the programme is to develop and integrate "Local Resources Based Strategies for Sustainable pro poor Infrastructure Provision" into country investment programmes.

Learning from the experience with the programme over the years, the ASIST AP has taken an approach which concentrates on the general framework within which local resource based strategies are applied. By applying more effort to the overall framework within which infrastructure is implemented, the obstacles to the acceptance of local resource based strategies and other initiatives to promote the use of local resources for infrastructure can be overcome.

Local resource based strategies will be best accepted by the people who will directly benefit from their use. These are less likely to be people in central ministries and agencies. Decentralized programme financing, management and implementation provide the best potential for local resource based methods. However to take advantage of this potential requires that our focus is on assistance to the decentralized agencies in the effective use of the resources that they have available. This means understanding and assisting in the planning process, the management structure and the financial administration.



Taking the focus closer to the beneficiaries also means that one has to become much more preoccupied with community involvement. In dealing with community involvement in infrastructure, we need to look in detail at issues of ownership, responsibility, authority, private sector involvement and maintenance arrangements.

The programme seeks to influence policy and implementation of infrastructure works. The aim is to maximise the use of local resources within the constraints of technical and economic viability. Moreover the programme is concerned that the infrastructure implemented is sustained thus ensuring not only short term employment benefits but also long term potential for the improvement of access, sustainable employment opportunities, the development of skills and, hence, the reduction of poverty.

Infrastructure comprises the major portion of government investment. ASIST AP aims to assist Governments to use those investments so that, at no extra cost, they can be more beneficial to the poor.



With a more pro poor strategy in place, it is then very important that the capacity exists to implement and sustain it. It is for this reason that the ASIST AP puts a major emphasis on the development of a knowledge base which will be used to develop such capacity.

The key practical elements of the ASIST AP programme are related to the whole cycle of infrastructure delivery from planning to maintenance. They are:

- Local level participatory planning of infrastructure;
- Developing small-scale private sector enterprises
- Cost-effective use of labour-based technology
- Local level infrastructure maintenance.

ASIST AP started as a regional programme in mid-1998. Since then the core programme has been co-financed by the ILO, Danida, DFID and the Netherlands. Various country specific operations are financed by different donors. This report will summarise project activities and progress over the period May 2004 to November 2004.

2. Results at a Glance

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES



To achieve its objectives, the ASIST AP programme has to have the knowledge base which provides the substance of a local resource based strategy. When governments are convinced of the validity of the approach they will need the tools, procedures and training materials to permit them to put the approach into practice. Certainly the work at the country level serves to demonstrate aspects of the local resource based approach. However the long term sustainability of the ASIST AP approach will, to a large extent, depend on its ability to provide access to the means to implement the approach.

ASIST AP has therefore been placing great emphasis on developing the materials and best practices that can then be applied in the countries of the region. This applies both at the policy level, where governments need to see the benefits of investing in a local resource based approach and at the level of implementation, where the key players need basic guidelines and training materials.

During the period under review ASIST AP has been working on publications which reflect the emphasis on developing a knowledge base. A generic set of labour based training materials is in the process of production. A regional publication on Decent Work in the Construction Sector is also in the final stages of production.

Reflecting the emphasis on building partnerships, ASIST AP has continued to build up its networking arrangements. Staff of ASIST AP has actively participated in the activities of the World Road Federation (PIARC), the International Focus Group on Rural Roads, the International Forum for Rural Transport and Development (IFRTD) and its country national forum groups.

The programme continues to be a member of the ADB peer group reviewing **Netherlands Fund for Poverty Reduction (NFPR) and the DFID Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF)** project proposals. This entails assessing all infrastructure proposals being submitted to the ADB for NFPR and PRF funding.

ASIST AP aims to add value to government infrastructure programmes. For this reason, ASIST AP has participated in review and appraisal missions with the World Bank in Vietnam, Sri Lanka, India and Nepal. In addition it is actively working with the World Bank in India on the major rural roads programme of the Federal Government, the PMGSY.

As part of the process of resource mobilisation, presentations were made to JBIC and JICA on the ASIST AP programme. In addition visits were made to the ADB to discuss both with senior

management the overall policy of ASIST AP but also with task managers on how ASIST AP could contribute to projects in their portfolios.

ASIST AP also recognises the need to demonstrate the poverty impact of its approach. For this reason simple base line surveys are now being promoted wherever possible in all the projects with which the programme is involved. So far such surveys have been carried out only in Lao PDR. However coverage is being broadened to cover the Philippines and Indonesia.

ASIST AP is, of course, part of the ILO and efforts have been made to more effectively integrate the activities of the programme with other units of the ILO. This has been particularly evident in the country surveys carried out on decent work in the infrastructure sector. Here there has been close collaboration with the units in the ILO dealing with labour standards and working conditions. Moreover the proposed programmes of work of ASIST AP have been discussed with ILO country offices and integrated into their work programmes. This of course provides better scope for synergies between the work of ASIST AP and that of the other programmes of the ILO in the country concerned.

In November of 2004 a global meeting of the EIIP was held in Geneva. The majority of the staff of ASIST Africa ASIST AP and the technical unit in Geneva responsible for EIIP, EMP/INVEST, attended this meeting. The meeting gave the opportunity to reassert the objectives and goals of the EIIP programme. To discuss recent developments and issues related to EIIP's mandate and to discuss how the EIIP can respond more effectively to the emerging issues of poverty reduction and the infrastructure sector and the promotion of the decent work agenda in the sector.



Strenuous efforts have been made to mobilize resources from donors and the International Finance Institutions (IFIs). Whilst no agreement has yet been signed, Sida have indicated their intention to fund the programme in 2005 and 2006. The increase in funding provided by a new phase of DFID funding has permitted the programme to more effectively elaborate and implement a programme responding to the needs of the key stakeholders in the region. It has resulted in a greater concentration of activities in the countries where ASIST AP is fully operational and has permitted the programme to be more of a partner with both governments and donors. In addition it has resulted in an increased collaboration with international and regional organisations and universities.

COUNTRY ACTIVITIES

The country activities of ASIST serve to practically demonstrate the approach of the programme. In so doing, the programme is able to show that the approach is practical and achievable. In addition the country activities provide the possibility to refine and develop the tools and procedures that form the basis of the programme.

During the period under review, ASIST AP has, within the context of decentralisation, continued to provide technical advisory services, training and information on local level accessibility planning, labour-based technology, small contracting development and rural infrastructure maintenance systems in various countries in the region. The main countries of focus in the period under review were Philippines, Indonesia, East Timor, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Nepal, Sri Lanka and India.

SOUTH EAST ASIA

Indonesia has embarked on a process of decentralization. As a direct result, the Kabupaten (district) Governments have been entrusted with more responsibilities, *inter alia*, in the fields of infrastructure development, human resource development and socio-economic development. The budgets of the Kabupatens have almost doubled. An immediate need has emerged at the Kecamatan (sub-district) and Desa (commune) level for developing a capacity in, particularly, infrastructure planning.

The Gadjah Madah University and ILO/ASIST-AP have taken this opportunity to assist the Government in the decentralization efforts. By strengthening the capacity at local level to identify, design, implement and maintain infrastructure priorities, knowledge will be gained about the structure, functioning and responsibilities of local Governments that will be useful for the replication of IRAP in other parts of Indonesia.

The main objective of this work project has been to demonstrate and test the use of IRAP procedures in several pilot districts. The experiences and outputs have been used to develop guidelines and training materials that are specific for Indonesia.

ASIST AP is providing technical guidance and support to the government in the development of a national rural infrastructure policy. This work is being expedited by the inter-agency Co-ordinating Team for Rural Infrastructure Development (CTRID). This involves several government ministries and the major theme of the work has been to integrate local resource based approaches into the overall policy. The establishment of CTRID, facilitated by the ASIST AP, is considered as a milestone in the development of an Indonesian rural infrastructure strategy and it is demonstrating that different ministries and agencies can work together in the field of infrastructure development.

During the period under review, the Government and ASIST AP have completed the implementation of the Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Demonstration Project (SRIDP). The project worked at two levels. At the local level, the project demonstrated procedures for local level infrastructure planning, implementation and maintenance making an optimum use of local resources. At the national level, it worked with the CTRID to develop policies, strategies and programmes based on the experiences gained. It has developed country specific guidelines and capacity has been

developed for using these guidelines in the province of East Nusa Tenggara.

During the period the programme has continued to work on capacity building for participatory local infrastructure planning tools. Several Kabupatens are now using the technology financed from their own resources.

ASIST AP has continued its support to the Gadjah Madah University and the Bandung Institute of Technology to develop their capacity to provide effective support in dealing with service delivery to the rural poor. Infrastructure “clinics” for decentralised units on the range of ASIST AP activities continue to be implemented.

In the **Philippines**, technical assistance continues to be provided to the Department of Agriculture to integrate local resource based strategies into a major ADB capital investment programme covering 40 Provinces of the country. This \$150 million project will provide farm to market roads, water supply and small scale irrigation through the decentralised local government units (LGUs).

The ASIST AP support is being used to advise the LGUs on the effective application of IRAP in the infrastructure selection and monitoring process and the effective application of labour based equipment supported methods of construction and maintenance.

In the first place the activities are concerned with assisting local government units (LGUs) to identify, prioritize and/or validate sub-projects on water and rural roads. In the period under review, training modules have been incorporated into the overall LGU training programme being implemented by the loan consultants.

Specific training modules have been prepared on rural roads planning and rural water supply.

In the second place the activities have been concerned with the effective application of labour based maintenance of rural roads. A study has been developed which will assess the actual situation in 5 Provinces in relation to rural road maintenance. This is an issue which has nation wide relevance and is being carried out in conjunction with the Department of Local Government which is responsible for policy in relation to rural roads in the country.



Maintenance, of course, has a major potential for long term employment creation. However to ensure that the potential can be achieved it is necessary to understand the overall framework within which rural road maintenance is currently implemented.

In **East Timor**, ASIST AP has provided technical support to develop training programmes on labour based rural road rehabilitation. The objective is to demonstrate how effective labour based methods can be in restoring the country’s rural road network whilst at the same time creating employment and generating local income.

EAST ASIA

In **Cambodia**, the ILO has been sole sourced by the government to implement a local level planning component of an ADB funded rural infrastructure project. Work started on this component in April 2003 and ASIST AP is providing technical support in the implementation. The work is in two parts. At the implementation level the local level infrastructure planning procedures are being used to identify project interventions in the four Provinces covered by the project. At the institutional level, the work is concerned with establishing the use of integrated rural infrastructure planning procedures throughout the Ministry of Rural Development including its provincial offices.

Further work is in progress on how the local level planning procedures can be integrated into the overall planning process at the decentralised levels.

Discussions have also been held with the Government and the ADB on how ILO ASIST AP's expertise can be brought to bear to develop a labour based maintenance capacity with local contractors. This would build upon previous work carried out in Cambodia under a Sida funded project. It is expected that ILO will be asked to implement an ADB funded project on this issue.

In **Lao PDR** ASIST AP has completed its support to the rural road component of the ADB funded Shifting Cultivation Stabilisation Project in Houaphanh Province. ASIST AP supported the local authorities in work supervision, as well as providing technical advice to contractors.

As a parallel activity, a poverty impact study to assess the impact of the local resource based approach adopted for the project on poverty levels in the area of influence is underway and the results of this should be available in 2005.

ILO ASIST AP has been sole sourced by the Government to provide technical assistance for the implementation of the labour based small contractor rehabilitation of roads for another ADB funded project, the Small Holder Development Project in two Provinces in the centre of Lao PDR. The contract documentation relating to ILO's involvement is being finalized.



In **Thailand**, the work with the Ministry of Interior Public Works Department on the potential for the decentralised government administration to integrate local level planning and small scale contracting guidelines has been completed. Two publications have been produced covering both issues.

Thailand is one of the countries where surveys on decent work in the infrastructure sector have been conducted. The survey has been implemented and a report is being finalized.

In **Vietnam**, during the period work with the World Bank on the increased involvement of local contractors in the road sector was completed. This was done in the context of the preparation of a major highway loan. ASIST AP was asked to look at the potential for employing local private contractors for routine and periodic maintenance. Such work has previously been the preserve of the State Owned Enterprises (SOEs). The work involved the refinement of contract procedures and providing proposals to develop the capacity of local private contractors.

The World Bank and the Government have subsequently requested ILO's assistance in the implementation of the project

SOUTH ASIA



ASIST AP's support to the ILO programme in **Afghanistan** has entailed providing technical comment and advice to the ongoing programme. During the period under review support has also been provided by the Afghan support unit based in the ILO office in Delhi.

In **India** work continued on the application of local level planning in Orissa. The work has been expanded to cover the planning of infrastructure in the context of local economic development at the Panchayat Raj levels. ILO has been financing the demonstration and development of the planning techniques and capacity building tools and has now prepared draft guidelines, training materials and manuals. Local expertise to replicate the process has been established both within the pool of local experts implementing activities and in selected Gram Panchayats. A proposal to scale up activities and to strengthen capacity across the districts in Orissa for using the tools as part of local economic development planning has been endorsed by the State Government. The proposal has been discussed with DFID to effect this broadening of the work.

ASIST AP has now completed a detailed rural road maintenance study. This will be followed by a state wide workshop to discuss the results of the survey with the stakeholders. It is also proposed to take up demonstration projects in selected pilot areas in subsequent phases. The idea is to demonstrate the improvements that can be made in relation to planning, working methods, training of staff and local contractors, improved maintenance techniques and work organisation and the introduction of key decent work standards.



In **Nepal**, ASIST AP continued its support to the Ministry of Local Development and in particular the Department of Local Infrastructure Development, Agriculture and Roads (DOLIDAR). Clearly the political situation in the country has affected the development of work as many parts of the country are not under the control of the Government.

The IRAP guidelines have been tested on a broader scale in the Districts. In addition the DFID funded Rural Access Project has

adopted IRAP as the planning tool of preference. It has been agreed with the World Bank and the MLD to include IRAP in the forthcoming Rural Access Infrastructure Project (RAIP).

During the review period ASIST AP in collaboration with DOLIDAR carried out a major Training Needs Assessment in relation to district capacity to deliver rural access infrastructure. This provided the basis for the definition of a capacity building component of the project of the World Bank RAIP project.

Nepal is the second country (with Thailand) of our regional decent work survey on the infrastructure sector. The survey has been completed and the results discussed with the representatives of the Government, Trade Unions and Employers organizations at a workshop in Kathmandu. The final report has now been finalized.



In **Sri Lanka**, ASIST AP, in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Institute of Local Governance, carried out a capacity assessment of the decentralised government agencies to deliver rural road infrastructure. The assessment also looked at the needs of the SLILG to be able to respond to its mandate of providing technical support to the decentralised agencies.

This work was closely coordinated with the World Bank, which is preparing a component on rural road rehabilitation and maintenance as part of a major road loan.

Support has also been given, through another World Bank project, to developing the capacity of selected Pradishya Sabahs and local contractors to effectively implement labour based road works.

As part of the Transitional Recovery Programme in the North and East, ILO will implement both demonstration and training programmes in selected areas on labour based road rehabilitation.

3. Accomplishments vis-à-vis Planned Outputs and Activities

To achieve the programme's objective several outputs have been defined, and are shown below. They can be seen as forming two groups. The first are related to the actual implementation of the programme strategy both in terms of the development of new projects and also in the monitoring of ongoing ones. The second group of outputs is concerned with providing the support framework and Knowledge Base for the operationalisation of the programme approach with our partners in the region.

Output 1: Programme strategy mainstreamed



The foundation of the ASIST AP programme is the partnership with the constituents. The role of the programme is to assist our partners in Government to orient public investment towards local resource based infrastructure development, thus creating employment and providing income to the people, developing local skills, enhancing participation and pro poor targeting, promoting local enterprises and developing the capacity of decentralised local government organisations.

Clearly this is not a time bound output. It is a process which will proceed at different speeds and different levels according to the situation of a particular country. Moreover the mainstreaming of the strategy will depend on a range of factors over which the programme has no control such as the state of the economy, the level of decentralization, the levels of unemployment, local politics, and the emphasis on poverty reduction in the country concerned.

This output will also be reinforced by the effectiveness of the other outputs of the programme. Clearly the more it is demonstrated that projects adopting the local resource based strategy are successful, the more likely it is that a Government or donors will promote the wider application of the strategy. Furthermore, the mainstreaming of the strategy will be supported by the development of appropriate materials, which form part of other outputs of the programme.

Our partners in the development of this output of the programme are the Governments themselves and those who provide a significant portion of the capital investment in public infrastructure, i.e. the donors and financing institutions.

In several countries in the region, the ILO is well known for its work on employment intensive infrastructure investment over the years. There is an appreciation of the objectivity of the advice that the ILO provides.

Initiatives such as the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, PRSP, the Comprehensive Development Framework and the strong political commitment by the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank and the bilateral donors to poverty alleviation

imply the creation of an environment in which the ILO policies and programmes have significant potential.

It is apparent from the work already carried out with the Banks that local resource based strategies promoted by ASIST AP are of considerable interest to these institutions. This is related to the fact that whilst the commitment to poverty alleviation may be there, the means to achieve this goal are less obvious. In addition the donors are looking for more than short-term projects but for institutional change. Project implementation is clearly important in terms of demonstration. However this needs to be accompanied by the provision of advice and assistance on the reforms that are required to effectively implement the local resource based infrastructure development strategy.

In summary we have the following progress under this output during this period in the different countries:

Country	Progress with Government	Progress with Development Banks and other Donor institutions
South East Asia		
Indonesia	Continuing support to the Central Team for Rural Infrastructure Development (CTRID). Integrating ASIST AP elements for poverty alleviation and employment creation at the local level. Developing local capacity for local resource based infrastructure delivery	World Bank funds used for development of local resources based strategies at central and local level
Philippines	IRAP established as local level planning tool. Integrating both IRAP and labour based equipment supported elements into a major infrastructure loan project (INFRES) A local resource based approach to rural road maintenance being developed	ADB agreeing that loan funds should be used for ILO ASIST inputs ADB Mid term review of INFRES commends ILO inputs
East Timor	Government agrees to developing local capacity for implementing labour based programmes	
Solomon Islands	Concept of efficient labour based production of infrastructure accepted	Japanese government express interest to develop upon the current labour based project.
East Asia		
Cambodia	Government is mainstreaming EIIP strategies in the Ministry of Rural Development Discussions initiated on further development of labour based small contractors with the Ministry of Public Works and Transport	WB and ADB agreed to mainstream local resource based elements in one investment programme each

	Discussions on integrating IRAP into local level planning procedures	
Laos	<p>IRAP procedures adopted as a tool for rural road planning</p> <p>ASIST AP working Government to provide support with rural road maintenance</p> <p>Labour based contractor implementation recognized as a viable option</p>	<p>ADB is financing a small contractor labour based component in one province and have sole sourced ILO for a second project in two other Provinces.</p> <p>World Bank working closely with ASIST AP on maintenance.</p>
Thailand	<p>Ministry of Interior have disseminated planning tools and procedures for local infrastructure development to all decentralised government agencies.</p> <p>Government officials engaged in discussion on the results of decent work survey.</p>	
Vietnam	Working closely with the Vietnam Road Authority on development of local contractors.	World Bank support for ASIST AP assessment of contract procedures and project component implementation ADB discussing ASIST AP involvement in a major rural infrastructure project
South Asia		
Afghanistan	Government specifying labour based methods for major infrastructure rehabilitation programme	World Bank funds being used by the ILO to develop local capacity for labour based delivery and local level planning
India	<p>Ministry of Rural Development supporting ILO ASIST AP work on employment intensive maintenance.</p> <p>State Government of Orissa have endorsed IRAP and planning to mainstream it</p>	<p>Discussions ongoing with World Bank in three States and the ADB on rural road maintenance issues and on improving productivity of gang labour in two states.</p> <p>DFID considering funding of mainstreaming IRAP.</p>
Nepal	<p>Government intending to mainstream IRAP procedures.</p> <p>Government requesting ILO ASIST AP to provide support in DOLIDAR and the Districts</p>	World Bank and the ADB ready to sign agreements with ILO for ASIST AP inputs on further support on building support at the local level for infrastructure works
Sri Lanka	Working with Government to develop capacity building programme in three Provinces.	Working closely with World Bank rural road project loan preparation.

Output 2: Resources mobilised for core and country level activities



The Programme requires both core funding to support the staff and the operation and maintenance of the core programme and also funds to carry out its country level activities.

Core funding is being provided from the regular budget of the ILO and from DFID. These funds support the five international staff and two administrative support staff, consultants and the attendant logistic and administrative costs.

The programme has reached agreement in principle with Sida regarding core funding to support the programme in four countries – Cambodia, Lao PDR, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. The funding would be for two years starting in 2005.

One test of the efficacy of ASIST AP is its ability to attract funds for the country level activities. Additional country specific funding is being provided and will be provided to the programme by the ILO itself, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and from Governments.

ASIST AP's programme is defined in terms of an ongoing process of achieving its objective. The extent to which the programme can proceed and also develop its activities to that objective is circumscribed by the resources available to it. For this reason ASIST AP will continuously be looking for additional core funding from existing and potential donors in order to be able to:

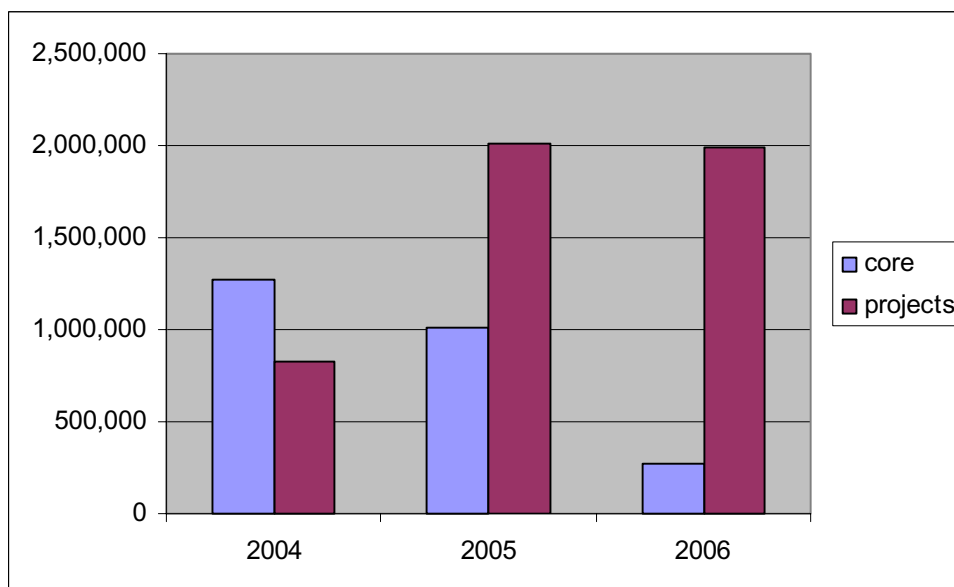
- ◆ Deepen involvement with our existing country partners
- ◆ Broaden involvement with the financing agencies
- ◆ Further develop the support facilities

ASIST AP Projection of funding for the period 2004 – 2006

	Source	2004	2005	2006	Purpose
Core Funding					
ILO Regional	ILO	140,000	140,000	140,000	ASIST AP Coordinator
Regional	DFID	918,276	705,640		Core Funding
Senior Engineer	DFID	130,000	130,000	130,000	Detached Engineer
Infra. Specialist	DFID	81,000	40,000		APOS position
Sub Total Core		1,269,276	1,015,640	270,000	
Current Projects	Cambodia	445,630.8	19,763		ADB NRDP project
	Indonesia	60,000			WB SIRD project
	Philippines	106,885	5,990		ADB INFRES project
	Solomon Isl.	80,000			Japanese
	East Timor	35,000			Cash Surplus
Sub Total Projects		727,515.8	25,753		

Pipeline Projects	Laos ADB	102,000	148,000	199,000	Smallholder development project
	Nepal ADB		188,000	141,000	Institutional capacity building
	Cambodia ADB		733,333.3	733,333	Mainstreaming LBAT
	Vietnam ADB		150,000	150,000	Planning infrastructure works
	Sri Lanka WB		166,666.7	166,666.7	Local Government capacity
	Nepal WB		500,000	500,000	Training for RAIP staff
	Cambodia WB		100,000	100,000	IRAP in PRIP
Sub Total Pipeline		102,000	1,986,000	1,990,000	
Grand Total		2,098,792	3,027,393	2,260,000	

The important issue to be noted here is that the level of funding for country projects is expected to rise considerably over the next two years. On the other hand the level of core funding presently envisaged will drop considerably from the end of 2005. There are clearly key issues that need to be addressed by the ILO in the next period to resolve this disparity.



Output 3: Local Resource Based Infrastructure country projects prepared and approved.

In terms of the practical implementation of the local resource based approach, this output is the most important. It is where ASIST AP can work with partners in government and the donors to influence investments in the direction of a local resource based approach.

The opportunities for influencing investments are numerous, viz:



- ◆ At the planning stage one can ensure that the investments contemplated actually respond to the real needs of the people. This applies at the macro level where public investment can be directed towards employment intensive infrastructure development and at micro level where the participatory planning process pioneered by the ILO provides local planners with a tool which is both simple to use and yet effective in assessing the actual needs of the population.
- ◆ In the implementation of the infrastructure works, there are opportunities to maximize the use of local resources without compromising quality or cost by the use of efficient labour-based methods.
- ◆ In the actual execution of the works there is the potential for promoting the use of local contractors thus developing local skills.
- ◆ To ensure sustainability of the facilities provided, there is the opportunity to develop effective, locally based maintenance systems.
- ◆ Finally, there is the potential for ensuring the application of the relevant labour standards.

Over recent years there has been a move on the part of donors and financing institutions to put poverty alleviation at the forefront of their operations. This implies a concern to direct investments towards the root causes of poverty. In practice this means providing income to those without it and access to basic services and facilities where it is needed most.

The ASIST AP programme is in the privileged position of being able to provide advice and support in areas which are directly related to making investments in infrastructure poverty oriented.

The programme does not have major investment resources of its own. Rather it seeks to work with governments and donors to assist them to maximise the return on investment in relation to employment creation and poverty reduction.

The following table provides an overview of progress made in different countries in the region in the period under review:

Country	Work with Central Government in Mainstreaming Strategies into Public Investment Programmes	Work with Local Governments in Mainstreaming Strategies into Public Investment Programmes	Participate in Developing Donor-funded Infrastructure Projects
South East Asia			
<i>Indonesia</i>	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓
<i>Philippines</i>	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
<i>East Timor</i>	✓	✓	
<i>Solomon Islands</i>			✓
East Asia			
<i>Cambodia</i>	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓✓
<i>Laos</i>	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
<i>Thailand</i>	✓		
<i>Vietnam</i>	✓	✓	✓✓
South Asia			
<i>Afghanistan</i>	✓✓		✓✓
<i>India</i>	✓	✓✓	✓
<i>Nepal</i>	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
<i>Sri Lanka</i>	✓	✓	✓✓

- ✓ = *beginning to develop*
 ✓✓ = *gaining momentum*
 ✓✓✓ = *substantial*

Output 4: Local Resource Based Infrastructure country projects supervised.

ASIST AP will generally provide technical backstopping services to country projects. Clearly its role is to develop programmes and policies in relation to its overall objective. However, some of these projects will be directly implemented by the ILO, whilst in others ASIST AP will provide monitoring and supervision as requested and financed by the financing agency.



ASIST AP attempts to pursue a balanced approach in which a limited number of directly supported ILO projects are seen as part of an overall implementation strategy. In general ASIST AP strives to obtain directly implemented projects where it is clear that this allows a major contribution to be made to the overall strategy of sustainable infrastructure development. This also provides the opportunity for feedback from practical projects, the collection and analysis of data from these projects, empirical testing of new approaches and the further development of practical approaches to achieve the overall policy objective.

Specifically therefore the main activities under this output are:

- ◆ technical backstopping
- ◆ providing monitoring and supervision facilities during implementation

- ◆ where appropriate providing technical assistance in the implementation of projects
- ◆ initiating poverty impact studies

The following table provides an overview of the projects technically backstopped by ASIST AP during the period under review:

	Project	Funding	Status
South East Asia			
Indonesia	SRIDP	GOI/World Bank	Completed (2003 – 2004)
Philippines	INFRES	GOP/ADB	Ongoing (2003 – 2007)
East Timor	LB Demonstration	ILO	Ongoing (2004-2006)
East Asia			
Cambodia	NRDP	RCG/ADB	Ongoing (2003 – 2006)
Laos	Houaphanh road project	ADB	Ongoing (2002 – 2004)

Output 5: Managers, engineers, contractors and planners trained

Within this output there are several functions of training specific to the activities of ASIST AP:

- ◆ awareness training on sustainable infrastructure

This would generally comprise short - one or two day - courses to introduce the concepts and to discuss their application.

- ◆ additional training to support country project activities

ASIST AP already has several projects in the region both on labour-based technology, small contractor development and on local level planning. Within these projects there are training components. ASIST AP provides additional training to these projects to augment specific areas of their work.

- ◆ Tailor made courses to support the development of programmes

In many cases ASIST AP is working in partnership with donor and financing agencies in the development and eventual implementation of projects. This often requires specific training to build up the capacity of the staff involved in the countries concerned.

- ◆ Experience and information sharing workshops

Much of the practical work of ASIST AP is related to the demonstration of the principles that underlie the programme.



However at selected times and in relation to specific aspects of the work, it is constructive to bring our partners together to share information and experience of their work in this area. Not only does this provide the potential for cross fertilisation, it also puts the country specific work in a regional context.

Of particular note has been the training on local level planning in Indonesia, the Philippines, Cambodia, India and Nepal, the training of both local contractors and local government officials on small scale contracting in Lao PDR, Sri Lanka and Nepal.

The following table shows progress made under this output during the period under review:

Country	Awareness	Programme Support	Information Dissemination
Philippines		✓	
Indonesia	✓	✓	✓
East Timor		✓	
Thailand			✓
Laos		✓	✓
Cambodia		✓	✓
Vietnam	✓	✓	✓
India	✓	✓	✓
Nepal		✓	✓
Sri Lanka	✓	✓	

✓ Shows work progressing on the period under review

Output 6: Strategy documents, training materials, technical manuals, university courses prepared.

Influencing policy in relation to public investment in infrastructure implies that the relevant tools and the capacity to use the tools are available to effect the changes proposed. ASIST AP assists countries in developing guidelines which set out how to mainstream local-resource based strategies and also include the implications of the strategy in terms of institutional change, management responsibilities and financial allocations.

The actual implementation of the overall strategy will require that the basic technical documentation exist. Fortunately the ILO has a significant amount of material already available. However much of this is generic and needs to be tailored to specific country situations. Furthermore additional materials need to be developed particularly in the area of small contracting and accessibility planning. To develop and strengthen capacity within the countries requires the development of country specific training curricula.

Clearly, it is important that there is a cadre of staff in the countries familiarizing themselves with the processes and procedures

involved in a local resource based infrastructure development strategy. This will require training and hence the development of appropriate training materials. Again, much of these materials exist but will require adaptation to the particular country circumstances



It has often been suggested that one of the main reasons that alternative, more local resource based approaches to infrastructure development have not been adopted is the lack of specific educational training of those responsible for implementation. The ILO over the years has attempted to address this problem in conjunction with Universities and colleges by providing them with appropriate material for curricula development. The intention is that students who learn about alternative approaches to infrastructure planning and implementation during their training, will be more likely to accept these approaches when faced with the actual application of what they have learned.

The following table shows progress made under this output during the period under review. The table shows ongoing activities as to country strategy development, training materials and the development of university courses.

	Developing Strategies	Training Materials	University Course Development
South East Asia			
Indonesia	✓	✓	✓
Philippines	✓	✓	
East Asia			
Cambodia	✓	✓	✓
Laos	✓	✓	
Vietnam	✓		
South Asia			
India	✓		
Nepal	✓	✓	

✓ shows work done in the period under review

Output 7: Research papers produced

Action oriented research provides the opportunity to consistently revitalise the key elements of the ASIST AP programme. Moreover, by involving the academic community in the programme, it provides both a sound intellectual basis for the work and channel for the promotion of the concepts within academic institutions and also with economic and social policy units within central and local governments.

One of the key issues that came out from the internal review carried out by Professor Howe¹ was the need for a solid research programme which would not only draw together existing source

¹ Professor John Howe: Independent Review of the ASIST AP Programme: 1998-2001. Bangkok 2001.

material but would investigate key relationships in the delivery of pro poor infrastructure services

A progress report on the poverty impact study on rural roads in Lao PDR has been produced.

The draft report of the research work on decent work in the infrastructure sector in both Thailand and Nepal has been completed.

Output 8: Information services established and operational

A technical enquiry service already exists for ASIST in Harare under the ASIST AF programme and there is no intention to duplicate this in Bangkok.

Nevertheless, due to an increased demand in the region, there is room for a simple system of library and dissemination, which can respond quickly to the demands of the regional partners.

A basic library of materials now exists in the ASIST AP office in Bangkok.

In addition, the ASIST AP technical team responds by e-mail to technical inquiries coming from interested individuals. Technical enquiries to ASIST AP are registered and are currently at the level of some 25 per month.

Information on new events, progress, current activities and publications is also disseminated through the internet.

The ASIST AP web site, which will be eventually integrated into the overall EIIP site, has been periodically updated and we understand from comments received that it is much appreciated and visited.

Output 9: University Network operational

Initially with Danida funding and subsequently under the first phase of DFID support to the programme, work started to develop a network between the regional universities in relation to the key issues being addressed by ASIST AP. The basis of this network has been established at Gadjah Madah University in Yogyakarta. The network was intended as an attempt to bring universities together to collaborate on curricula development, research and developing technical expertise. Partly due to limited funding the Network has been relatively limited in its development. ASIST AP is looking to find more effective ways – perhaps in collaboration with other regional networks to promote collaboration between the regional universities.

4. Main Problems Encountered

This chapter is intended to identify the main problems and issues in relation to project activities for the period from May 1st, 2004 to November 30th 2004.

Resources and Sustainability



ASIST AP's core resources have remained stable during the reporting period. The potential of the programme and demand for its services has grown. The number of "active" countries and country activities has increased. In addition to the core team in Bangkok, there is now a need in a number of countries for developing local in-country teams to work full time on demonstrating, developing and mainstreaming the local resource-based infrastructure development strategies. Teams are presently established in Indonesia, the Philippines, Cambodia, Afghanistan, Nepal and India. As additional resources become available they will be allocated to develop teams in other countries, promote the approach at the policy level, implement demonstration projects and increase possibilities of the core team to backstop country activities.

Despite this significant progress, the fact remains that the ASIST AP has assured funding until the end of 2005 only. Some progress has been made with Sida who have in principle agreed to provide funds for ASIST AP activities focused on four countries; Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Indonesia.

As shown in the bar chart under Output 2, the lack of core funding after 2005 present the ILO with a real dilemma. ASIST AP is being asked to execute several ADB and World Bank projects. All of these project run past the year 2005. At that time the capacity to technically support these projects will be severely curtailed. This issue is presently under discussion with the ILO management.

Political Instability / Unrest

Planned activities had to be adjusted in Nepal due to political instability during the period under review.

Slow Project Approval Process

The approval and fund release for sub-projects or project components has proven to be time consuming and tedious. This risks affecting our credibility with our partners. This is particularly true in relation to ADB contracts. Because there is no standard agreement between the ILO and the ADB, each contract has to be negotiated as unique. This involves a major waste of time and resources.

5. Recommendations for the Year Ahead

At the end of the period under review, the programme was evaluated by external consultants funded by DFID. Whilst the final report was not available at the end of the period under review, the draft report was very positive. In particular it stated that the programme was the most impressive example of technical cooperation that either consultant had evaluated.

They concluded that the general factors accounting for this include:

- a **clear policy message** that is well understood by its country and regional partners: that infrastructure can be used as a means of reducing poverty and as a window for decent work;
 - an **opportunistic approach**, based on being able to respond quickly and flexibly to government and IFI requests for assistance in four well defined areas of competence;
 - a **mutually beneficial relationship with ADB** where ADB receive a unique package of services from a reputed international provider and ASIST-AP gains entry to new policy environments and is often sole sourced to provide services as part of the loan;
 - **high quality staff or consultants at country** level that have a good understanding of country, technical and institutional issues;
- an experienced staff group in Bangkok** with an effective and experienced manager;
- an ability to maintain **a long term vision on policy change** in all their countries of operation, despite uncertain financing.

This chapter will recommend some general directions for the next year's ASIST AP work-programme. Based on the present activities and taking into account the recommendations of the evaluation report, the priorities for next year's work-plan will include:

Resource Mobilisation

1. Finalise funding from Sida for work in four countries
2. Secure the potential offered by World Bank and ADB for funding of ASIST AP services.
3. Continue efforts to interest other donors, e.g. JBIC, in funding ASIST AP

Advisory Services

1. Continue the technical support to the on-going external funded country projects in **Philippines, East Timor, Afghanistan, Nepal, India, Sri Lanka, Lao PDR** and **Cambodia**.
2. Concentrate on the development of both policy and implementation work in **Nepal, India, Cambodia and Lao PDR** and **Indonesia** with special reference to the PRSs.



3. Develop an overall programme in **Sri Lanka**
4. Further develop the ASIST technical tools -labour-based technology, small contractor development, local level planning and infrastructure maintenance systems within the context of the decentralised delivery of infrastructure services.
5. Work collaboratively with DFID and Sida country offices in the development of advisory services
6. Contribute to ADB and World Bank review, appraisal and evaluation activities.
7. Support the operationalisation of the PRSs in the infrastructure sector

Information

1. Continue to disseminate technical information throughout the region.
2. Further develop the internet based information services thus improving access to information for our partners.
3. Continue research related to the four main ASIST technical areas and initiate research on the poverty impact of the programme's approach.
4. Produce manuals on LBT, IRAP and maintenance planning
5. Produce technical briefs both on the key areas of work and on country specific activities

Training

1. Develop generic and country specific training materials related to labour-based technology, local level planning and small contractor development.
2. Provide project related training.

6. Funding and Project Staffing



The overall funding situation has remained stable during the period under review. However predictable future funding remains uncertain.

The present ASIST team presently consists of one Programme Coordinator, one Senior Development Planner, one Senior Rural Infrastructure Management Specialist, A DFID Senior Engineering Adviser and one Infrastructure Specialist. ASIST AP also has support staff of one office manager and one administrative secretary.

In addition, ASIST AP has established in-country teams to support the ASIST AP activities.

ASIST AP core staff

Position	Name/Nationality	Source of Funds	Main Responsibility
Programme Coordinator	Geoff Edmonds (UK)	ILO	Project management, donor relations, technical issues, country responsibilities
Senior Development Planner	Chris Donnges (Netherlands)	DFID	Local level planning, accessibility and rural transport, country responsibilities
DFID Senior Engineering Adviser	Martin Sergeant (UK)	DFID	Resource Mobilisation, marketing and country support
Senior Rural Infrastructure Management Specialist	Bjorn Johannessen (Norway)	DFID	Small contractor development, Labour based technology, maintenance, country responsibilities
Infrastructure Specialist	Chloe Pearse (UK)	DFID	IRAP, Decent Work, Poverty & Infrastructure
Office Manager	Supaporn Runtasevee (Thailand)	DFID	Office management, admin. and finance
Administrative secretary	Chayanin Veerapong (Thailand)	DFID	Filing, Travel, Contracts

ASIST AP in country staff

Position	Name/Institution/Nationality	Source of Funds	Main Responsibility
Indonesia – Collaboration with GMU	Gadja Madah University (Indonesian)	WB	Demonstrate IRAP procedures in Indonesia and develop country specific materials and guidelines
Indonesia – LBT programme development	Krishna Pribathi (Indonesian)	WB	Main local consultant for LBT programme development project
Indonesia – IRAP Coordinator	Roberto Akyuwen (Indonesian)	WB	Responsible for IRAP demonstration project
Philippines ILO-INRES Coordinator	Martha Espano (Filipina)	ADB/GOP	
Lao PDR – LBT Engineer	Pen Sonath (Cambodian)	ADB	Responsible for Houaphan LBT project
Lao PDR – Senior LBT coordinator	Pisit Tusanasorn (Thailand)	DFID	
India – Collaboration with OFRTD	Orissa Forum for Rural Transport and Development (Indian)	DFID	Demonstrate IRAP procedures in Orissa and develop Indian specific materials and guidelines
Sri Lanka	S. Dayaratne, National coordinator	ILO/DFID	Coordinating employment intensive works programme
India – National Consultant Coordinator	D.P. Gupta	DFID	Representing ASIST AP in India

Annex 1: Publications

■ ASIST Programme

ASIST-AP Programme Document.

Independent Review of ASIST-AP Programme 1998-2001, John Howe.

Intermediate Progress Report 2002.

Intermediate Progress Report 2003.

Annual Progress Report, May 2003 to April 2004.

■ DECENTRALISATION

Forum on the Pro-poor delivery of rural infrastructure services: the challenge of decentralization. Report of the regional meeting held in Bangkok 4-6th November 2003.

Building local government capacity for rural infrastructure works. Geoff Edmonds and Bjorn Johannessen. ILO Bangkok 2003.

■ Planning

Rural Transport and Local Government Units, How to improve rural transport for the rural poor, Chris Donnges, published in United Nations Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific N0 71, p27-38. UN/ESCAP 2001.

Meeting the Accessibility Needs of Rural Poor by Ashoke K. Sarker and Dipak Ghosh, IASSI Quarterly, Vol 18, No.4, 2000.

■ Maintenance

Rural Road Investment, Maintenance and Stability: Battambang Case Study. ILO Upstream Project Cambodia, May 2002.

■ Cambodia

Jobs or Machines: Comparative Analysis of Rural Road Work in Cambodia, ILO, 2003.

Socio Economic Series No 1, Traffic Characteristics around Puok Market, Bas Rozemuller, Sovithea Khun and Samrith Yan, International Labour Organisation.

Socio Economic Series No 2, Employment in ILO supported Road Construction and Maintenance, Judith Zweers and Alebachew Kassie, International Labour Organisation.

Socio Economic Series No 3, Household Travel and Transport Analysis, Bas Rozemuller, Panha Thou and Samrith Yan, International Labour Organisation.

Socio Economic Series No 4, Rural Inland Water Transport, Damien Vella, International Labour Organisation.

Socio Economic Series No 5. Evaluation of Farm Level Impact of Barai Irrigation System, Alebachew Kassie, International Labour Organisation.

Socio Economic Series No 6. Outcomes of ILO support to the Bovel and Barai Irrigation Systems, Warren Hoye, International Labour Organisation.

Socio Economic Series No 7. Labour Contractors Progress Survey, Chhieu Veyara and Dara Johnston, International Labour Organisation.

Socio Economic Series No 8. Rural Transport Studies, Three Baseline Surveys in Cambodia, Bas Rozemuller, Panha Thou and Samrith Yan, International Labour Organisation.

Socio Economic Series No 9. Rural Transporters, A Survey of Transport Business in Rural Cambodia Title, Bas Rozemuller, Panha Thou and Samrith Yan, International Labour Organisation.

■ India

Integrated Rural Accessibility Planning: Application in Rajasthan, India (RATP 12), Ashoke K. Sarkar, International Labour Organisation, 2004

Strategy Document for a Labour-Based Programme in Jabalpur District, Madhya Pradesh, Kirit Vaidya, International Labour Organisation, 2002.

■ Indonesia

Poverty Strategy Document Indonesia, ASIST AP 2001.

Perspectives on Rural Infrastructure Development: Workshop findings, Identifying the Needs and Priorities of Local Governments. Danang Parikesit, ILO Consultant, January 2002.

Perspectives on Rural Infrastructure Development: Workshop findings, Role of the Central Government in the decentralization process of rural infrastructure development. Mary Braithwaite, ILO Consultant, December 2001.

The Yogyakarta Initiative: The Role of Rural Transport in Supporting Local Social and Economic Development, Danang Parikesit, ILO Consultant, January 2002.

■ Lao PDR

Use of Labour-based works Technology in the Smallholder Development Project, Feasibility Study, Bjorn Johannessen, International Labour Organisation.

■ Nepal

Progress Report IRAP Piloting and other activities in Nepal, Period: January - March 2002, Ganesh K. Ghimire, IRAP Co-ordinator Nepal, ILO, 2002.

■ Philippines

History of Labour-based and Labour-based Technology in the Philippines and Implementation of LBES, P. A. Leoncio, ILO, September 2000.

Technical Audit for Labour-based/Equipment Supported Infrastructure Projects in the Philippines, P. A. Leoncio, ILO, January 2000.

■ Thailand

Small Scale Contracting, Strengthening Local Capacity for Sustainable Rural Infrastructure in Thailand (CTP 167), ILO, 2004.

Planning and Implementing Local Infrastructure Works: Guidelines for Tambon Administrations (CTP 168), ILO, 2004

Advisory Report on Further Involvement ASIST AP, Dr. Aniruth Thongchai, 2002.

TAO Guidelines for Local Planning and Appropriate Technology, Paul Munters 2001.

■ Vietnam

Private Sector Participation in the Road Network Improvement Project, Mission Report, Bjorn Johannessen, November 2002.

Small-Scale Contracting for Infrastructure Works in Vietnam, Peter Bentall, December 2001.

Local Resource-Based Infrastructure Planning in Vietnam, Nori T. Palarca, 2001.

Annex 2: Missions

May – November 2004

Month	Name	Duration	Country	Objectives
May 2004				
	Chris Donnges	24-27 May 2004	Nepal	To participate in a workshop at DDC level and technical inputs in developing manuals and guideline.
	Bjorn Johannessen	4-11 May 2004	India	To investigate scope for collaboration with State Government of Assem in regards to technical assistance to World Bank funded rural infrastructure works.
		18-27 May 2004	Nepal	To participate in the preparation of the World Bank financed Rural Access Improvement Project.
	Chloe Pearse	26-27 May 2004	Nepal	To participate in a workshop at DDC level and technical inputs in developing manuals and guideline.
	Martin Sergeant	4-11 May 2004	India	To investigate scope for collaboration with State Government of Assem in regards to technical assistance to World Bank funded rural infrastructure works.
June 2004				
	Geoff Edmonds	21-26 Jun. 2004	Japan	To contact Japanese government agencies responsible for international development to familiarize them with the work of ILO ASIST-AP and to seek funding from them for subsequent phases of the programme.
	Chris Donnges	2-6 Jun. 2004	India	To discuss the project activities with the local team and monitor progress.
		15-18 Jun. 2004	Indonesia	To supervise project activities, meet with consultant team and participate in a workshop.
	Bjorn Johannessen	9-11 Jun. 2004	Laos	To initiate discussion with the Government of Lao PDR for ILO technical assistance to the Small Holder Development Project.

		28 Jun.-1 Jul. 2004	Nepal	To supervise work o Training Needs Assessment consultants
	Chloe Pearse	2-6 Jun. 2004	India	To discuss the project activities with the local team and monitor progress.
		8-11 Jun. 2004	Vietnam	To meet and discuss the future work wit DFID and World Bank.
		17-22 Jun. 2004	Nepal	To attend the T2 training. It is part of the capacity building component of IRAP.
	Martin Sergeant	8-11 Jun. 2004	Vietnam	To meet and discuss the future work wit DFID and World Bank.
		21-25 Jun. 2004	Japan	To contact Japanese government agencies responsible for international development to familiarize them with the work of ILO ASIST-AP and to seek funding from them for subsequent phases of the programme.
July 2004				
	Geoff Edmonds	7-13 Jul. 2004	Switzerland and UK	London: To discuss ASIST-AP activities with DFID staff. Geneva: For briefing with ILO staff.
	Martin Sergeant	6-22 Jul. 2004	Switzerland and UK	Geneva: To consultation with ILO. London: To meet with DFID staff.
August 2004				
	Geoff Edmonds	8-13 Aug. 2004	Sri Lanka and India	Sri Lanka: To review and develop the ILO programme on Cash Surplus with partners, the Government and the World Bank. India: To discuss with the Ministry of Rural Development, the World Bank and DFID on ASIST-AP programme in Madhya, Pradesh, Assem, Himachal Pradesh and Orissa.
	Chris Donnges	8-14 Aug. 2004	Philippines	Davao: To conduct part of training course on local level planning and follow-up on INFRES project activities. Manila: To work with INFRES project on finalizing the IRAO training materials and course.

		17-21 Aug. 2004	Indonesia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To participate in the IFRTD Asian Regional Meeting. To follow-up on SRIDP (Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Demonstration Project) activities and consultant reports.
	Chloe Pearse	18-23 Aug. 2004	India	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To attend the T2 IRAP training in Local Economic Development for GP officials by National Partner. To meet with National Partner to discuss workplan and timetable for donor funding opportunities and prepare for forthcoming State Workshop in September.
	Martin Sergeant	8-13 Aug. 2004	Sri Lanka and India	<p>Sri Lanka: To review and develop the ILO programme on Cash Surplus with partners, the Government, the World Bank and DFID.</p> <p>India: To discuss with the Ministry of Rural Development, the World Bank and DFID on ASIST-AP programme in Madhya, Pradesh, Assem, Himachal Pradesh and Orissa.</p>
September 2004				
	Geoff Edmonds	7-11 Sep. 2004	Philippines	To finalize following six months work plan with the Department of Agriculture staff for the INFRES project.
		21-23 Sep. 2004	Vietnam	To discuss with government officials the schedule of work activities of ASIST in Vietnam.
	Chloe Pearse	21-28 Sep. 2004	India	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To attend a two day seminar organized by our counterparts in Orissa to present the work of IRAP to various District Officials and State MPs. To travel to Delhi to give a presentation to the Ministry of Rural Development on the work of ASIST-AP and specifically on the work on IRAP we have been developing in Orissa. To meet with DFID in Delhi to discuss further our SPROUT.
	Martin Sergeant	21-24 Sep. 2004	Vietnam	To discuss with government officials the schedule of work activities of ASIST in Vietnam.

October 2004					
	Geoff Edmonds	25-30 Oct. 2004	Germany	To attend the DAC Network on Poverty Reduction (POVNET) Task Team on Infrastructure for Poverty Reduction (InfraPoor) in Berlin.	
	Chris Donnges	10-13 Oct. 2004	Indonesia	To join the DFID evaluation team to discuss with counterparts on status of activities.	
		27-28 Oct. 2004	Vietnam	To conduct workshop with ADB to integrate ASIST procedures in new project for MARD in Vietnam.	
	Bjorn Johannessen	4-14 Oct. 2004	Nepal	1. To review and discuss training needs assessment with DoLIDAR. 2. To finalize training programme. 3. To prepare technical assistance requirements. 4. To finalize costs of training programme for the preparation and implementation of the World Bank funded Rural Access Improvement Project.	
November 2004					
	Chris Donnges	21 Nov.-1 Dec. 2004	Italy and Switzerland	Turin: To assist in conduct EIP workshop in/with ILO Turin Centre. Geneva: To participate in Global EIP Meeting.	
	Bjorn Johannessen	29 Nov.-1 Dec. 2004	Switzerland	To participate in Global EIP Meeting.	
	Chloe Pearse	29 Nov.-4 Dec. 2004	India	1. To attend the ILO ASIST-AP State Seminar in Orissa. 2. To discuss further donor support for application of IRAP in Orissa.	
	Martin Sergeant	27 Nov.-1 Dec. 2004	Switzerland	To participate in Global EIP Meeting.	

Annex 3: Logframe for ASIST AP (2003-2005)

Super Goal – Poverty reduced

Narrative Summary	OVIs	MOVs	Assumptions and Associated Risks
<p>Goal</p> <p>To improve the access of the population to decent employment opportunities and to economic and social goods and services through the effective provision of infrastructure.</p>	<p>Poverty reduced</p>	<p>Impact studies</p>	<p>Improved access and new income through infrastructure projects result in improved sustainable livelihoods</p>
<p>Objective</p> <p>Local resource based strategies for sustainable pro-poor rural infrastructure provision integrated into country investment programmes</p>	<p>Mainstream investment programmes funded by governments, donors and development banks based on local resource-based strategies</p>	<p>Programme documents</p>	<p>More decent jobs taken up by otherwise unemployed poor people Money earned is used to access services previously denied through poverty.</p>
<p>Outputs</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Programme strategy mainstreamed at regional and country level 2. Resources mobilised for core and country level activities 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1) One or more of the 4 fields of ASIST AP operations incorporated into infrastructure policies, and strategies in Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and India (state level). 2.1) USD 5.9 million mobilized for core and country level activities 	<p>National policies, strategy documents and programme documents</p> <p>Project budgets controlled by ASIST AP</p>	<p>Government commitment</p> <p>Appropriate enabling environment for implementing local resource-based strategies leads to increased decent employment.</p> <p>ASIST AP is adequately financed.</p>

	Country programme overviews produced and updated for each of the 11 focus countries	Country briefs	
<p>3. Local resource based infrastructure country programmes prepared, approved and supervised</p>	<p>3.1) Country programme overviews produced and updated for each of the 11 focus countries</p> <p>3.2) 12 projects prepared and approved in high and medium priority countries</p> <p>3.3) 8 new and 4 current country projects backstopped by ASIST AP</p>	<p>Approved project documents</p> <p>Mission and progress reports</p>	<p>Governments and donors approve and implement local resource based infrastructure projects.</p> <p>Governments committed.</p>
<p>4. Decent Work issues promoted and integrated into country projects and programmes</p>	<p>4.1) Labour standards promoted in all 11 focus countries</p> <p>4.2) Guidelines on labour standards and conditions widely disseminated in all 11 focus countries</p> <p>4.3) 3 sub-regional workshops on DW issues conducted</p> <p>4.4) Decent work issues integrated into 12 infrastructure projects and programmes</p>	<p>Mission reports</p> <p>Library reports</p> <p>Workshop reports</p> <p>Programme and project documents</p>	<p>Governments, employers and workers committed to adopt labour standards.</p> <p>Tri-partite structure (government, employers and workers) committed to address decent work gaps.</p> <p>Decent work gaps and issues identified through research activities and studies</p> <p>Governments committed</p>
<p>5. Managers, planners, engineers and contractors trained</p>	<p>5.1) 4 sets of training materials prepared</p> <p>5.1) 600 people trained in 12 countries</p>	<p>Training materials</p> <p>Training/workshop reports</p>	<p>Trained personnel use new skills to do their jobs.</p> <p>Materials used by those implementing infrastructure projects</p>
<p>6. Strategy documents, technical manuals and technical reports prepared</p>	<p>6.1) 4 strategy documents, and 4 technical manuals prepared</p>	<p>Technical documents</p>	<p>Reports and publications used on infrastructure projects</p>

<p>7. Research papers produced</p>	<p>6.2) 20 technical reports and publications produced</p> <p>7.1) ASIST AP research priorities established by February 2003</p> <p>7.2) Studies on Decent Work practices completed in 8 additional countries</p> <p>7.3) 4 comprehensive research studies on local resource based infrastructure and best practices completed</p>	<p>Reports and publications (documents)</p> <p>Research strategy</p> <p>Country reports</p> <p>Research studies</p>	<p>Tripartite structure (Governments, employers and workers) willing to participate in research on decent work issues.</p> <p>Research is relevant + focussed on “client” problems and provides answers that are used.</p>
<p>8. Information services established and operational</p>	<p>8.1) ASIST AP website upgraded every three months</p> <p>8.2) 15 requests per months for filed documents responded to</p> <p>8.3) ASIST AP staff responding to 20 enquiries monthly for information and technical assistance</p>	<p>ASIST AP website</p> <p>Library in place, updated and used</p> <p>Number of publications requested</p> <p>e-mails summary of monthly enquiries</p>	<p>Enquiry service responds to serious requests for information from organisations involved in implementing infrastructure construction.</p>
<p>9. University network operational</p>	<p>9.1) 10 universities engaged in promoting and developing ASIST AP activities in research and curricula development</p> <p>9.2) 10 contributions per month to list-server</p>	<p>course materials, advisory reports, research documents and theses</p> <p>RUN-AP website updated</p>	<p>Universities can influence key decision makers and governments</p> <p>Students who receive LB training use it when they start work</p>

Indicators of Achievement

Outputs	Indicators	Remarks
1. Programme strategy mainstreamed at regional and country level	1.2) One or more of the 4 fields of ASIST AP operations incorporated into infrastructure policies, and strategies in Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and India (state level).	Progressing well
2. Resources mobilised for core and country level activities	2.1) USD 5.9 million mobilized for core and country level activities	Discussions ongoing with Sida
3. Local resource based infrastructure country programmes prepared, approved and supervised	3.1) Country programme overviews produced and updated for each of the 11 focus countries	Periodically updated for the web site
	3.2) 12 projects prepared and approved	Several prepared, 4 approved
	3.3) 8 new and 4 current country projects backstopped by ASIST AP	4 new projects backstopped
4. Decent Work issues promoted and integrated into country projects and programmes	4.1) Labour standards promoted in all 11 focus countries	Developing gradually
	4.2) Guidelines on labour standards and conditions widely disseminated in all 11 focus countries	Being developed
	4.3) 3 sub-regional workshops on DW issues conducted	One Workshop conducted
	4.4) Decent work issues integrated into 12 infrastructure projects and programmes	Ongoing
5. Managers, planners, engineers and contractors trained	5.1) 4 sets of training materials prepared	Two prepared, two being prepared
	5.2) 600 people trained in 12 countries	60% complete
6. Strategy documents, technical manuals and technical reports prepared	6.1) 4 strategy documents, and 4 technical manuals prepared	One SD prepared, three TMs produced
	6.2) 20 technical reports and publications produced	40% complete
7. Research papers produced	7.1) ASIST AP research priorities established by February 2003	Completed
	7.2) Studies on Decent Work practices completed in 8 additional countries	No progress Completed
	7.3) 4 comprehensive research studies on local resource based infrastructure and best practices completed	One initiated

<p>8. Information services established and operational</p>	<p>8.1) ASIST AP website upgraded every three months 8.2) 15 requests per months for filed documents responded to 8.3) ASIST AP staff responding to 20 enquiries monthly for information and technical assistance</p>	<p>Ongoing Fulfilled to date Fulfilled to date</p>
<p>9. University network operational</p>	<p>9.1) 10 universities engaged in promoting and developing ASIST AP activities in research and curricula development 9.2) 10 contributions per month to list-server</p>	<p>Very limited progress Very limited progress</p>

**International Labour Organization
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific**



**P.O. Box 2-349
Bangkok 10200
Thailand
Tel: (66 2) 288 2303
Fax: (66 2) 288 1062
www.iloasist.org**