

Science and Technology Program

MEXICO

SECTOR: Science and Technology

PROJECT NAME: Science and Technology Program
(804/OC-ME; 001/SPQ-ME)

TOTAL COST: \$300.0 million

FINANCING:

| | |
|-------|-----------------|
| IDB | \$180.0 million |
| LOCAL | \$120.0 million |

DATE OF APPROVAL: December 16, 1993

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The fundamental purpose of this program is to raise Mexico's capabilities in science and technology and to expand and improve training in these areas in an attempt to meet the country's social and economic development needs in a new era marked by economic liberalization and competitive markets.

Specifically, the program seeks to: (a) promote technological innovation in producer companies through pilot research and development (R&D) projects; and (b) improve the quality and effectiveness of teaching at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), the country's largest university, and to expand its R&D capabilities in engineering, the pure and natural sciences, agriculture and health. Forming part of the government of Mexico's science and technology policy, the program includes: (a) a subprogram for modernization of industrial technology and training (PROMTEC), which will be carried out by Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (CONACYT); this subprogram is designed to provide loans directly to microenterprise and small

business in the private sector

2

for R&D projects; and (b) a human resources training subprogram consisting of a UNAM education project for the development of science and technology in Mexico.

- CIVIL WORKS: The training component calls for 150,000 m2 in construction and remodelling works in different departments and branches of the UNAM (laboratories, workshops, libraries and a computer and information center).
- GOODS AND EQUIPMENT: Equipment and instruments for the laboratories in the pure and natural sciences, health, engineering, and technology will be procured and installed as part of the UNAM training component.
- CONSULTANTS: Consultants will be used to provide specialized academic advisory services in the physical sciences and mathematics.
- EXECUTING AGENCY:
- (1) Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología
(CONACYT)
Unidad Coordinadora del PROMTEC
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