

## PROGRAM FOR HUMAN RESOURCES TRAINING IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR OF MERCOSUR

(TC-98-10-44-2)

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

<b>Executing agency:</b>	Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Progress - Brazil (OISCA-Brazil).	
<b>Beneficiaries:</b>	OISCA-Brazil, the Colégio Agrícola Cooper-Rural (CACR-R), young agricultural technicians of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.	
<b>Objective:</b>	The purpose of the program is to improve the quality of human resources training in the agricultural sector of MERCOSUR and thereby to contribute to the modernization of agricultural production based on sustainability and preservation of the environment.	
<b>Description:</b>	The program comprises three components: <b>Component I:</b> Training course at the Colégio Agrícola Cooper-Rural (CAC-R), in Jacareí, São Paulo, Brazil); <b>Component II:</b> Training course at the School for Global Cooperation (SGC) of the Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement – International (OISCA-I), in Japan, and <b>Component III:</b> Institutional strengthening of the CAC-R and support activities.	
<b>Financing:</b>	Modality:	Grant under the Human Resources Facility (II)
	Beneficiaries:	US\$2,600,000
	MIF:	<u>US\$3,800,000</u>
	Total:	US\$6,400,000
<b>Execution period:</b>	The execution period has been set at 54 months and the disbursement period at 60 months.	
<b>Special contractual conditions:</b>	The special contractual conditions are those precedent to the first disbursement: (i) formation of the steering committee, (ii) adoption by that committee of the program implementation manual, (iii) presentation of an agreement between OISCA-Brazil and OISCA-I in which they expressly assume joint and several responsibility for all the obligations they incur under the program, and (iv) hiring of a general coordinator of the program (see paragraph 9.1).	

## **I. ELIGIBILITY**

- 1.1 The proposed program is eligible for MIF financing because of its focus on strengthening the quality of human resources training for the agricultural sector of the MERCOSUR countries and its emphasis on the small farm. Also, by developing ties with OISCA-International, and other institutions specializing in the transfer of knowledge and technology that promote sustainability and the preservation of the environment, the program will facilitate exchanges and strengthen the relations of small enterprises with international markets. All the MERCOSUR member countries are eligible for financing from the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF).

## **II. FRAME OF REFERENCE**

### **A. Open trade: Risks and opportunities for the small farmer in MERCOSUR**

- 2.1 In the countries that are full members of MERCOSUR today, small (family) farms account for 60% of the farmers in Argentina, 72% of them in Brazil, 81% in Paraguay and 51% in Uruguay. These small farming units (SFUs) produce about 60% of the food and grains in the four countries and employ almost 75% of the rural labor force. Despite their importance, family farmers make up the poorest segment of the rural population. For example, 60% of these families are below the poverty level in Brazil and Paraguay.
- 2.2 The processes of trade liberalization in the world and of integration in MERCOSUR are having and will continue to have a variety of effects on agriculture in the member countries, which will lead, on the one hand, to employment reduction and, on the other hand, to job creation depending on the subsector, area and region. For example, while viticulture in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, in Brazil, has contracted for lack of competitiveness with the vine-growers in neighboring Argentina, new opportunities have opened up for the small Uruguayan dairy farmers in the form of new and larger markets in Brazil. Nevertheless, it may be said in general terms that the acceleration of trade liberalization processes tends to heighten the differential effects on modern entrepreneurial agriculture producing for export, on the one hand, and traditional small, peasant agriculture producing to replace imports, on the other.
- 2.3 This example in MERCOSUR illustrates not only the risks but also the opportunities for small farming units entrained by an increasingly open economy. Indeed, the success enjoyed by small farmers who have been able to expand their production as tariff and nontariff barriers have come down in MERCOSUR underscores the need to launch a conversion of traditional agriculture in the region. Obviously there are several important factors that will determine the extent and success of this conversion and modernization, such as natural resources, geographic location, and access to credit, technical assistance and information. However, in

face of the challenge of globalization and as a prerequisite for many of those variables, the development of human resources as the purpose and training as the means of accomplishing it are considered of key importance for the future of the SFUs. This aspect applies with particular importance to rural youth, who constitute a major resource for the socioeconomic development of the MERCOSUR countries.

- 2.4 The unpreparedness of young people for entry into the workforce and the lack of opportunities for training in the countryside constitute one of the gravest problems facing the agricultural sector in those countries. In fact, the considerable migration of young people from the countryside to urban centers is a direct reflection of the meager opportunities for employment and economic growth offered by the family farm.

**B. Agricultural education and training: availability and requirements**

- 2.5 The agricultural education available in MERCOSUR consists of formal and nonformal education, or training. At the middle level formal education is generally imported in government-run agricultural schools whose courses last two to four years. There are private schools as well, which often receive subsidies from the public sector. This education is typically academic in approach, with a few hours of practical work done in a setting that generally does not reflect field conditions.
- 2.6 Moreover, training has been taken over by the agricultural NGOs,<sup>1</sup> whose work with young people consists chiefly in promoting the organization of youth at the grass-roots level, leadership training, and the start-up of production, sociocultural and other projects. Informal activities include training given as part of rural development programs in support of the operations of those programs and consisting in a wide range of courses, workshops, and seminars of short and medium duration.
- 2.7 There are numerous formal agricultural schools and training courses in MERCOSUR, especially of the kind targeted at young people, but they often do not cover core aspects of a training that meets the requirements of an agricultural sector in process of transformation.
- 2.8 There are three spheres which, though of key importance for modernization of the small farm unit, are considered either marginally or not at all in the curricula of agricultural training in the subregion:

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<sup>1</sup> These include the Centro de Educación y Tecnologías Campesinas (Center for Campesino Education and Technologies, or CECTEC), in Paraguay; the Foro Juvenil and the Centro Cooperativista Uruguayo (Uruguayan Cooperation Center); the Buró de Iniciativas Sociales (Bureau for Social Initiatives), in Argentina, and in Brazil, the Instituto Brasileiro de Análise Social e Econômico.

- a. the need to develop skills that will foster the competitiveness and productivity of agriculture in the context of market liberalization and globalization by introducing subjects such as marketing and finance;
  - b. the imperative of promoting sustainable farming practices that are also sensitive to the need to preserve the environment, and
  - c. the challenge of modernizing technology in the new context of a knowledge-driven society, introducing scientific research techniques in the field.
- 2.9 The proposed program is intended to fill the gap between technical training (at the intermediate/secondary level) and the nonformal courses offered by rural NGOs on the one hand and, on the other hand, by university education, beyond the reach of most rural youth. Hence the project is designed to modernize the agricultural sector by developing a specialized course that will: (i) strengthen entrepreneurial spirit and enhance capacities for personal initiative; (ii) complement the basic elements that young farmers have been able to obtain from their formal education by introducing matter on technology and business management, and (iii) inform on new opportunities for agroindustrial development by introducing sustainable production practices that are compatible with the environment.

### **III. THE PROGRAM**

#### **A. Purpose**

- 3.1 The purpose of the program is to improve the quality of human resources training in the MERCOSUR agricultural sector and thereby to contribute to the modernization of agricultural production based on the sustainability and preservation of the environment.
- 3.2 The training will be given to young agricultural technicians of the MERCOSUR member countries who come from or intend to work on small farms in the subregion. It will consist in an intensive one-year course rated as nonuniversity tertiary education, which will complement the education imparted in the agricultural schools and at the same time present material designed specifically to foster capacities and competence for: (i) the establishment and/or management of micro- or small agroindustrial enterprises; (ii) the identification of market niches, especially with a view to the new demand for organic farm products, and (iii) the accessing of information on, among other subjects, technology, marketing and credit, needed to expand a small agricultural enterprise, including information on technology, marketing and credit.

## **B. Description**

- 3.3 The program will have three components: **Component I:** Training course at the Colégio Agrícola Cooper-Rural (CAC-R), in Jacareí (São Paulo, Brazil); **Component II:** Training course at the School for Global Cooperation (SGC) of the Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement - International (OISCA-I), in Japan, and **Component III:** Institutional strengthening of the CAC-R and activities in support of nearby communities.

### **1. Component I: Training course in the CAC-R**

- 3.4 The specific purpose of this component is to implement an innovative course of instruction for 120 agricultural technicians based on the requirements for sustainable rural development in the MERCOSUR countries to enable the participants to work on their own in their own sociocultural settings, and thereby to contribute to attainment of the economic and social goals that are part of the national agricultural development of each of those countries.
- 3.5 The course will have a duration of 11 months and comprises the following modules:
- a. *Languages (160 hours):* All students will have to learn English and Spanish or Portuguese, depending on their countries of origin.
  - b. *Core subjects (150 hours):* The core subjects will update the knowledge of the participants and at the same time supply them with new concepts not covered in the traditional curricula of the agricultural schools and essential to accomplish the specific purposes of the program, as noted in paragraph 3.2 (financial mathematics and statistics, applied information processing, and associations and cooperation).
  - c. *Technical subjects (880 hours):* The general purpose of these technical subjects is to impart to the participant solid, current technological knowledge that will foster sustainable agriculture and the maximization of natural and financial resources. Thus this module comprises: (i) theory and practice in agrotechnological subjects (e.g., biotechnology); (ii) aspects of agribusiness (e.g., business management, marketing and agricultural policy), and (iii) preservation of the ecosystem, with special emphasis on agricultural production in harmony with the environment.
  - d. *Practical exercise classes and internships:* In keeping with the “learning by doing” teaching methods of the CAC-R, the agrotechnological subjects include ongoing practical work both in the field and in the Colégio’s laboratories. In addition, the student will pass through two internships aggregating 14 weeks in production units or agroindustrial enterprises.

- 3.6 Two persons will be engaged to teach the course, with funds from the MIF contribution. At the beginning of the academic year (January) they will be given a two-week orientation course that will inform them on the features of the course, its philosophy, and the CAC-R's teaching system.
- 3.7 **Selection process.** The 11-month course will be conducted four times during the program's execution period. Each class will have about 30 students, of whom not more than 20 may be from any single country. The selection process will be conducted by a commission whose members will be: (i) the program steering committee (see Annex I-1 - Organizational structure, in the program's technical files), (ii) the general coordinator, and (iii) the instruction coordinator.
- 3.8 In addition to the requirements for application (see Annex IV-1 in the technical files), the commission will apply the following criteria for the selection and award of fellowships: (i) technical and academic training, (ii) leadership qualities and/or experience in the management of a small farm, (iii) motivation to apply to a program with a heavy emphasis on organic farming, and (iv) the financial situation of the applicant and his/ her family.

## **2. Component II: International training course**

- 3.9 The purpose of this component is to enable the 12 best students in each course during the first three years of the program to acquire complementary knowledge on sustainable agriculture and the development of small farming units in Japan.
- 3.10 Of the approximately 120 students to undergo training in the CAC-R during the program execution period, up to 36 will be offered the opportunity to continue and deepen their studies in the SGC and other educational facilities maintained by OISCA-International in Shizuoka, Japan. The students will be selected by the commission, which on this occasion also includes the regional coordinator. The main criteria for admission to the course in Japan will be the grades earned during the year of studies in the CAC-R and an evaluation of the applicant's personality, which will provide further assurances that the young person will be able to complete successfully a year of instruction in a sociocultural environment very different from that of South America.
- 3.11 The course in the SGC will have a duration of 11 months, including a short period of training in the Japanese language and an introduction to Japanese culture and agricultural traditions. Like the training in the CAC-R, the course in the SGC will place special emphasis on the aspects of sustainable agriculture, practical work on teaching farms and agricultural management (for the details on the curriculum, see Annex IV-1 in the technical files).
- 3.12 Through the program's regional adviser the SGC will closely coordinate the course in Japan with the CAC-R and make sure that the former complements and amplifies

the material imparted in the latter. In addition, the regional adviser will be with the students on their journey and for the first month of their stay in Japan.

- 3.13 For the year of study in Japan the student will receive a complete fellowship covering the same items as the fellowship for the CAC-R course.

### **3. Component III: Institutional strengthening**

- 3.14 The purpose of this component is to put the MERCOSUR Regional Center into operation, contribute to its sustainability, and support the local development of the nearby community.

- 3.15 **Special activities.** The program will provide a one-month specialized consultancy to assist in designing the strategy and promotional materials. Also, to adapt and increase the equipment on hand at the CAC-R and equip it to carry out the program activities, provision is made for investments in teaching equipment for plant, animal and forest crops and for laboratories.

- 3.16 To ensure equitable participation by women at all stages of program execution, either as students, instructors or members of its directorial staff, a consultancy will be commissioned which in the initial stage of the program will: (i) review the content of the curriculum to ensure that the language is used in an equitable manner; (ii) prepare and conduct a brief workshop to alert those in charge of executing the project to the importance of women's participation, and (iii) coordinate work in the Colégio and the community to build awareness of the importance of women's work in production on farms, in trade, in production operations and in conversion to an agroindustrial basis.

- 3.17 **Regional coordination.** A regional adviser will be engaged whose principal functions will relate to publicizing the program and the funding of fellowships, the recruitment of applicants in MERCOSUR countries, and ensuring that the course in Japan complements the SGC course.

- 3.18 **Regional Education Fund.** In the course of program execution efforts will be made, chiefly by the regional adviser, to conclude agreements with regional institutions to enable continuation of the program, at no cost to the participants, after the MIF financing has ended. These agreements will be for the financing of fellowships at a rate per student that has been calculated at US\$12,850 a year. The resources will be deposited as obtained in a special United States dollar account and commence to be used in the fifth academic year. The minimum targets to be met during execution of the program are as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> year, 3 students; 2<sup>nd</sup> year, 8 students; 3<sup>rd</sup> year, 15 students, and 4<sup>th</sup> year, 23 students.

#### IV. EXECUTION

##### A. The executing agency and other entities participating in the program

- 4.1 The program will be executed by OISCA-Brazil, which was established as a nonprofit civil association on January 20, 1999, with head offices in the city of São Paulo. Though formally established only recently, OISCA-Brazil began operating as a voluntary institution in 1993, in the wake of the world meeting on the environment in Rio de Janeiro the previous year. The primary mission of OISCA-Brazil is to promote the protection and preservation of the environment, encourage sustained agriculture, cultural and social exchanges, technical and professional training, and everything relating to the preservation of nature. OISCA-Brazil recently entered into joint activities with the Aliança Cultural Brasil-Japão, in which context it became the administrator of the Casa de Cultura Japonesa, on the campus of São Paulo University.

##### B. Organizational structure

- 4.2 **Executing unit.** To ensure that the program functions properly, an executing unit will be set up under a **general coordinator** as technical and administrative supervisor of the entire program. He will be the senior executive officer of the executing unit and serve as its institutional representative and its principal liaison with the Bank.
- 4.3 **Steering committee.** This will be the highest ranking body for the conduct of the program. It will consist of a representative from each of the following institutions: OISCA-International, OISCA-Brazil, and Fundação Coopercotia de Educação e Tecnologia (Cooper-Rural).
- 4.4 **Advisory committee.** Its members will be representatives of public and private institutions in the region that are involved in the lines of activity that constitute the content of the program and are qualified to issue opinions that will make constructive contributions to it. Its initial members will represent OISCA-Paraguay, OISCA-Uruguay, the Cooperativa de Colonización Argentina Ltda., and the Central Cooperativa Nikkei Agrícola Ltda., of Paraguay. These entities will collaborate in the selection of applicants from their respective countries. The committee will meet yearly on the campus of the CAC-R.
- 4.5 The program will be carried out on the premises of the Colégio Agrícola Cooper-Rural (CAC-R) that the Fundação Coopercotia de Educação e Tecnologia (Cooper-Rural) maintains in Jacareí, in the state of São Paulo, Brazil. This Foundation was established in 1994 as a nonprofit legal entity, and one year later the Colégio was certified by the State Secretariat of Education to award secondary-school diplomas of occupational qualification for agricultural technicians.



- 4.6 The purposes of the foundation are: (i) to educate and prepare young people in the technical, cultural and economic aspects of rural life; (ii) to conduct regular courses at the basic, secondary and higher levels, and of special, open, training and retraining courses; (iii) to disseminate rural technology, and (iv) to develop cooperativism.
- 4.7 The present student body of the CAC-R consists of 30 boarders, 28 day students, and 13 module students. The latter are enrolled in special, nonpermanent, training modules. Instruction is conducted under the management and supervision of a director, who is supported by an instruction coordinator, a secretary and an administrative clerk. The CAC-R has about 60 hectares of grounds on which practical exercises are carried out in the areas of crop, fruit, milk and poultry production, and afforestation. The facilities and teaching equipment is adequate to the present work of the institution but not to admit a group of students that would double the boarder population. Hence OISCA-BR has undertaken to invest about US\$350,000 in improvements in the Colégio's infrastructure.
- 4.8 Despite the small number of students and the limitations of the installations and equipment, the CAC-R is recognized in the state of São Paulo as an agricultural school that demands a high level of discipline and dedication to the profession and has a curriculum that gives special attention to the practical side of the work and the environmental aspects of farm production.
- 4.9 OISCA-International, which will be responsible for the program's training operations abroad, is a voluntary, nonprofit NGO that was founded on October 6, 1961. Its head offices are in Tokyo and it has international chapters in 21 countries, including, in the MERCOSUR region, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.
- 4.10 This NGO enjoys worldwide recognition for its work on behalf of development, and its principal lines of activity include: (i) training courses in agriculture, afforestation, and environmental preservation; (ii) technical assistance in agricultural subjects for developing countries, and (iii) research.

## **V. COSTS AND FINANCING**

- 5.1 The total cost of the program is estimated at US\$6.4 million, of which US\$3.8 million will be financed by a nonreimbursable contribution from the MIF, and the balance by resources of the coexecuting entities. The itemized budget of the program is presented in Annex V-1, which is available in the technical files. The consolidated budget by components is as follows:

**Table V-1**  
**In US\$**

<b>Component/Category</b>	<b>MIF</b>	<b>Local contrib.</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>I. Training in CAC-R</b>	<b>1,600,670</b>	<b>403,550</b>	<b>2,004,220</b>	<b>31</b>
1. Consulting services (teachers)	1,248,820		1,248,820	
2. Teacher training & orientation	64,000	2,100	66,100	
3. Teaching materials	179,850	84,650	264,500	
4. Travel (students)	48,000		48,000	
5. Lodging, food & insurance (students)	60,000	316,800	376,800	
<b>II. Training abroad</b>	<b>390,000</b>	<b>1,230,000</b>	<b>1,640,000</b>	<b>25</b>
1. Curriculum development and enrollment	240,530	761,710	1,002,240	
2. Teaching materials	33,000	99,000	132,000	
3. Travel (students)	14,000	44,800	58,800	
4. Lodging, food & insurance (students)	102,470	324,490	426,960	
<b>III. Institutional strengthening and local development</b>	<b>995,760</b>	<b>656,040</b>	<b>1,651,800</b>	<b>26</b>
1. Consulting services	338,960	198,600	537,560	
2. Teaching materials	565,800	407,440	973,240	
3. Promotion and dissemination	91,000	50,000	141,000	
<b>IV. Coordinating unit and administration</b>	<b>600,250</b>	<b>145,800</b>	<b>746,050</b>	<b>12</b>
1. Consulting services	580,150		580,150	
2. Advisory committee	21,100		20,100	
3. General support		145,800	145,800	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3,586,680</b>	<b>2,435,390</b>	<b>6,022,070</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>V. Evaluation</b>	<b>67,000</b>		<b>67,000</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>VI. External auditing</b>	<b>40,000</b>		<b>40,000</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>VII. Contingencies</b>	<b>106,320</b>	<b>164,610</b>	<b>270,930</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,800,000</b>	<b>2,600,000</b>	<b>6,400,000</b>	

- 5.2 It is deemed useful to set up a revolving fund in an amount of about 10% of the total resources of the MIF financing.

## **VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

- 6.1 Through the executing unit, OISCA-Brazil will present to the Bank for approval the following reports:
- (i) An initial report, which will contain the plan of action for the program, including a timetable for the contracting of consultants, a description of the activities, their expected results and a timetable for their execution, to be presented within 30 days following the first disbursement.

- (ii) Progress reports, to be presented within 30 days from the end of each six-month period. They shall cover, among other matters, the attainment (in quantities and qualities) of the agreed targets, the identification and analysis of unforeseen problems, the justification of activities carried out, and verification of compliance with timetables, but must also serve as a management tool for the corrective control of the progress of the program.
  - (iii) Financial reports, which will be presented 90 days after the end of each year of program execution and will describe its financial execution in detail. They will have been audited by an independent auditing firm which must be cleared with the Bank in advance.
  - (iv) A final report, to be presented 60 days following expiration of the program execution period and to contain a detailed account of the activities completed, the products obtained by the program, and the results achieved relative to those targeted.
- 6.2 Two evaluations must be performed, one at month 10 and the other at month 34 counting from the first disbursement. The final evaluation will be done when all the activities under the program have been completed.
- 6.3 A consulting specialist will be hired for one month to design the evaluation methodology. The terms of reference will be framed by the executing unit and submitted to the Bank for approval. The evaluation work will be done by an evaluating team of two professionals, one specialist in training programs for rural areas, and one education specialist (see Annex IV-1 in the technical files).

## **VII. RISKS**

- 7.1 Like every innovative training program, which necessarily depends on the demand for its services, the sustainability of the program poses a major risk. And since this is a high-level training program, it has been designed to exempt its participants from all costs, including enrollment and tuition, and room and board.
- 7.2 The project proposes two measures to support continuation of the program beyond the end of its period of execution: First, the executing agent must set up a Regional Education Fund to be fed with contributions from public and private sources, for example, regional institutions in the participants' countries of origin, especially those interested in the program's sectoral promotion aspect (see paragraph 3.18).
- 7.3 Secondly, the program includes a consultancy for the design of fund-raising strategies in the first 12 months of execution to support the institutional and financial consolidation of OISCA-Brazil and the CAC-R. Similarly, the initial investment in the technical equipment required for the courses, which obviously

will not be used up in the four academic years of the program, will facilitate its sustainability.

## **VIII. EXCEPTION TO POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

- 8.1 No exception to the Bank's policies and procedures is envisaged.

## **IX. SPECIAL CONTRACTUAL CONDITIONS**

- 9.1 The special contractual conditions are those precedent to the first disbursement: (i) the formation of the steering committee, (ii) adoption of the program implementation manual by that Committee once it has been cleared by the Bank, and (iii) presentation of an agreement between OISCA-Brazil and OISCA-I in which they assume joint and several responsibility for all the obligations they incur under the program,<sup>2</sup> and (iv) the hiring of the general coordinator of the program.

## **X. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT**

- 10.1 The abstract of this operation and its Memorandum of Eligibility were considered by the Committee on the Environment and Social Impact (CESI) on June 8, 1999, which recommended: (i) to extend the curriculum innovation to include the subjects of occupational health, tillage practices, selection, storage and availability of agricultural chemicals, and environmental management for reforestation, and (ii) the adoption of a an approach of nondiscrimination against and accessibility for indigenous communities and, wherever possible, the inclusion of activities compatible with traditional production methods.

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<sup>2</sup> The project team collaborated with the coexecuting entities in the preparation of a draft of this agreement on joint and several responsibility and mutual support.

## LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Objectives	Indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
<p>the agricultural production on sustainability and preservation of the</p>	<p>Farms of program participants are more sustainable, combining organic production methods with modern management and marketing techniques.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final report</li> <li>Final evaluation</li> </ul>	<p>Agricultural policies of MERCOSUR countries, the hemisphere and the growth of agriculture in the subregion.</p>
<p>ity of agricultural human resources in MERCOSUR subregion.</p>	<p>Region training program for small farmers in Mercosur established and its continuity guaranteed by agreements with public and private entities for the provision of fellowships and other kinds of financial support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Semiannual reports</li> <li>Midterm evaluations (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year of execution).</li> </ul>	<p>Access for trained small farmers to assistance and credit.</p> <p>Public (government) encouragement of organic farming.</p> <p>Consumer demand for organic products.</p>
<p>ovative course of instruction for agricultural technicians based on sustainable rural development</p> <p>of students selected from the opportunity to acquire knowledge on sustainable development of small farming</p> <p>of MERCOSUR Regional</p>	<p><b>Component I:</b></p> <p>(a) Personnel engaged to develop curriculum for training course in sustainable development of MERCOSUR in accordance with paragraphs 4.4-4.33, and 4.37 of implementation manual.</p> <p>(b) 120 small farmers trained in CAC-R over 4 years.</p> <p><b>Component II:</b></p> <p>(a) Teaching staff assembled.</p> <p>(b) 36 agricultural technicians from the course in CAC-R trained in SGC.</p> <p><b>Component III:</b></p> <p>(a) Adequate facilities equipped to meet the academic requirements of the program.</p> <p>(b) Promotional strategy established and materials for it published.</p> <p>(c) Regional Education Fund established in accordance with paragraph 6.19 of implementation manual.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documentation on justification of revolving fund.</li> <li>Audited annual financial reports</li> <li>Files of executing unit in CAC-R</li> </ul>	<p>Legislation in MERCOSUR countries for accreditation of the program.</p> <p>Interest on part of public and private supporting the program, thereby ensuring sustainability.</p>

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

REGIONAL. NONREIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL COOPERATION FOR THE PROGRAM  
OF HUMAN RESOURCES TRAINING FOR THE AGRICULTURAL  
SECTOR IN MERCOSUR

The Donors Committee of the Multilateral Investment Fund

RESOLVES:

1. That the President of the Inter-American Development Bank or such representative as he shall designate is authorized, in the name and on behalf of the Multilateral Investment Fund, to enter into such agreements as may be necessary with the Organización para el Progreso Industrial, Espiritual y Cultural of Brazil, and to take such additional measures as may be pertinent for the execution of the project proposal contained in the Donors Memorandum MIF/AT- with respect to a nonreimbursable technical cooperation for the Program of Human Resources Training for the Agricultural Sector in Mercosur.
2. That up to the sum of US\$3,800,000 or its equivalent in other convertible currencies is authorized for the purpose of this resolution, chargeable to resources of the Human Resources Facility of the Multilateral Investment Fund.
3. That the above-mentioned sum is to be provided on a nonreimbursable basis.