

# Agricultural Services Strengthening Program

NICARAGUA

SECTOR: Agriculture

PROJECT NAME: Agricultural Services Strengthening Program  
(801/OC-NI; 921/SF-NI)

TOTAL COST:\$20 million

FINANCING:

IDB \$16 million  
LOCAL \$ 4 million

DATE OF APPROVAL:December 16, 1993

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:The purpose of this program is to modernize agricultural services in order to increase production of the main farm products for domestic consumption and export, through plant and animal health protection, supply of high-quality certified seeds and dissemination of price and market data.

The program comprises the following components: (a) strengthening of the agricultural health and seed certification services, including construction of four animal-health laboratories, eight units for plant-health services, five livestock quarantine stations, one seed-analysis laboratory; equipment for these facilities and for two animal-health laboratories and four existing quarantine stations; institutional strengthening of the Ministry of Agriculture's (MAG) Agricultural Protection and Health Secretariat; sanitary supervision; seed inspection and improvement; technical assistance; training; and creation of national and regional agricultural health and seed councils; and (b) strengthening of producer information and support services, including development of the MAG Producer Information and Support Secretariat (DGIAP); equipment, technical assistance and training for statistical, geographical, price and market information and its dissemination.

**CIVIL WORKS:** Execution of the program calls for construction of buildings to house the plant and animal health and seed laboratories, and construction of quarantine stations for which contracts will be awarded through international public bidding. Specific procurement notices will be published for hiring the services needed to prepare the plans for construction of the laboratories and quarantine stations during the first quarter of 1994, and for construction of the laboratory buildings during the second quarter of 1994.

**GOODS AND EQUIPMENT:** The following items will be procured through international public bidding (the estimated dates of publication of the specific procurement notices are supplied): office supplies and equipment, vehicles for field operations (first quarter of 1994) and laboratory equipment (first quarter of 1995).

**CONSULTANTS:** Consultants will be hired to administer the training and technical-assistance program, through a specific notice published during the first quarter of 1994.

**EXECUTING AGENCY:** Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería [Ministry of Agriculture] (MAG)

**ADDRESS:** Unidad Ejecutora, FOSEMAG  
Managua, Nicaragua  
Teléfono: (505-2) 674-325  
Fax: (505-2) 678-344  
Contacto: Mr. Roberto Rondon  
Director