

How Do We Choose Projects?

People often ask us how we find and select the projects we support. For most projects, this process begins in the field. Local people meet and exchange ideas with an Oxfam America Program Director or who knows their region and its problems well.

Oxfam America usually works with a grassroots organization that has identified a community need and is developing practical ways to meet it. Our partners in the project may be members of a farmers' union, women's association, village council, or community development group. Formal project proposals grow out of thoughtful give-and-take between an Oxfam America representative and these local leaders.

Grant requests are also referred to us through the network of Oxfams and by

other international agencies. Local groups that are familiar with Oxfam America's work design and submit proposals independently.

Here in the United States, applications are reviewed by our staff in light of Oxfam America's regional policies and overall program goals. Finally, the Overseas Projects Committee—a volunteer group of development professionals including Board members—meets with the staff to assess each proposal.

Project Criteria

We try to ensure that the projects we fund address certain criteria. They should:

- work with low-income groups (the overwhelming majority should be

rural) and give special attention to women and other especially disadvantaged groups;

- build self-reliance by improving long-term food and livelihood security, and by increasing people's capacity to organize for social and economic change;
- increase economic and social equity;
- encourage local participation and self-management in all phases of the project;
- meet an important need of the local community (clear goals should be set at the start);
- relate in a constructive way to other development efforts;
- set an example and put in motion changes that reach beyond the project itself.

Some Current Overseas Projects...

AFRICA

Burkina Faso

Support for association of village savings-and-credit societies.

Cape Verde

Educational materials for adult-literacy program.

Ethiopia

Oxen, seeds, & tools for peasant farmers in Shoa, Hararge, and Eritrea.

Training in improved techniques for cultivating food crops in soils with high clay content.

Gambia

Construction of wells for irrigating women's vegetable gardens.

Mali

Support for food-crop cultivation by peasants displaced by drought.

Mauritania

Community construction of small dikes and dams for irrigation.

Mozambique

Emergency supplies of cloth & utensils, for war-displaced people.

Materials to improve health clinic & water supplies.

Senegal

Training & equipment for mechanics to repair rural irrigation pumps.

Somalia

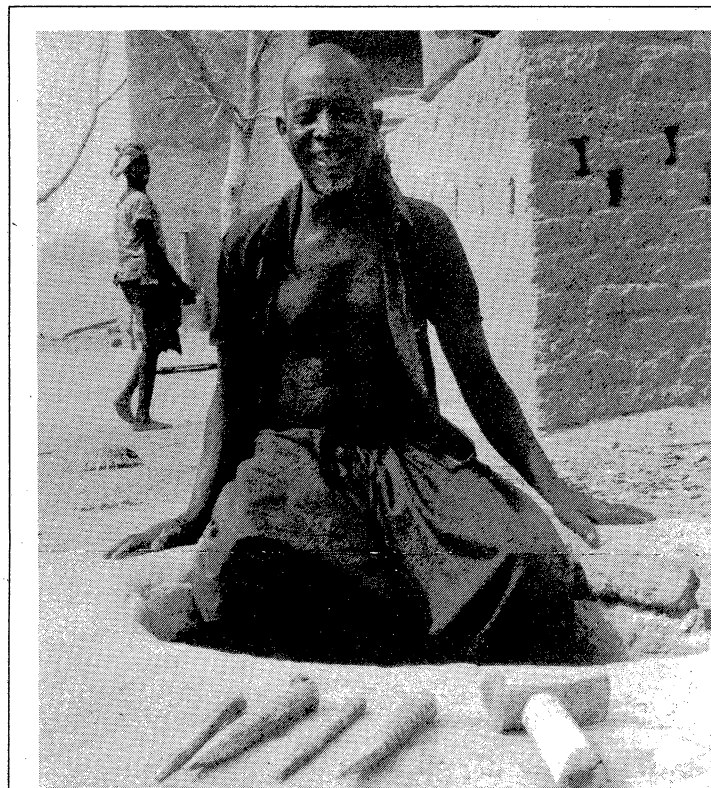
Sand-dune stabilization and afforestation in town of Gelib.

Sudan

Skills-training for Tigrayan TB patients at Sefawa refugee camp.

Zimbabwe

Seeds, livestock, & supplies for food-crop cultivation and pig-raising by group of unemployed youth.



OA photo/Tim Johnson

ASIA

Bangladesh

Continued support for rural women's program which promotes village-level organizing, embroidered quilt-making, and poultry-raising, and makes production loans.

India

Funds to establish a women's credit-and-consumer cooperative, and a fertilizer distribution depot.

Support for village-level organizing,

thrift societies, and income-generating traditional crafts activities.

Kampuchea

Seeds, fertilizer, irrigation pumps for village-level rice production.

Philippines

Small-scale coconut processing unit operated by unemployed sugar workers on Negros Island.

Sri Lanka

Training and community development program among Tamil tea-plantation workers.

LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

Amazon Basin

Support for federation promoting indigenous people's land rights, economic and cultural interests in five countries.

Bolivia

Irrigation, land reclamation, fruit & vegetable production by indigenous peasants in southern Potosi.

Dominica

Agricultural training for small-scale farmers.

Ecuador

Education and agricultural training for indigenous peasant communities in Tungurahua.

El Salvador

Support for health program in rural areas where other medical services are nonexistent.

Grenada

Support for women's co-op marketing dried fruit.

Haiti

Training of community-level teachers and provision of educational materials as part of national literacy campaign.

Honduras

Literacy and agricultural training in six rural communities.

Nicaragua

Tools and supplies for a network of cooperatively managed peasant stores.

Peru

Pilot fish-farming projects carried out by two communities of Indians in Amazon Basin.

St. Vincent

Support for housing materials production co-op in rural area.

What is Oxfam America?

OXFAM AMERICA is an international agency that funds self-help development projects and disaster relief in poor countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean, and also prepares and distributes educational materials on issues of development and hunger for people in the United States.

Overseas, our grants support small projects that reach into villages and rural areas where local groups are working to increase their own food production or economic self-reliance. In the U.S., we conduct educational campaigns and speak out about public policies that hinder our grassroots development work abroad.

The name "Oxfam" comes from the Oxford Committee on Famine Relief, founded in England in 1942. Over the past four decades, Oxfam has gained a global reputation for innovative yet realistic aid to some of the poorest people in the world.

Oxfam America, based in Boston, was established in 1970, and is one of seven autonomous Oxfams around the world (in Great Britain, Montreal, Ottawa, Australia, Belgium, Hong Kong, and the United States). Oxfam America sometimes collaborates with other Oxfams and other international voluntary agencies by funding specific parts of comprehensive development programs.

In its most recent fiscal year, Oxfam America received more than \$10 million



KAMPUCHEA: Repair of irrigation systems has meant better rice harvests.

OXFAM photo

in contributions. Most came from individuals and private religious, civic, and school groups. (The charts below detail Oxfam America's income and expenditures for that fiscal year. A certified audit statement of the agency's financial condition is available upon request.) Oxfam America neither seeks nor accepts funds from any government agency.

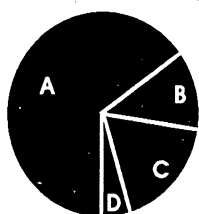
At Oxfam America, we look for projects where a few dollars go a long way—projects that set an example or create changes reaching beyond the project itself. Our funds go directly to people overseas; we work with them to get the best results. We continually look for

ways to keep fundraising and operational costs down. That is why we have an international reputation for economy and efficiency.

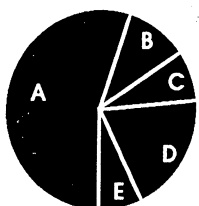
Although Oxfam America concentrates on funding self-help projects, we also provide aid when disaster strikes—as in Kampuchea (Cambodia), Ethiopia and Mozambique. Then we follow up with programs designed to promote self-reliance. In 1984-85, for example, we sent desperately needed food, blankets, and other emergency supplies to Ethiopians. In 1986, we focused on agricultural recovery, providing seeds, tools, and livestock to help farmers restore production. In Kampuchea, we are one of only a handful of agencies still providing development assistance. When a disaster is over, Oxfam America is still there working.

Oxfam America is a nonprofit corporation and all contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

Financial Figures For Fiscal Year 1986*



DONATIONS & OTHER REVENUES			
A	Families & Individuals	\$7,226,370	65.1%
B	Groups	1,369,706	12.3%
C	Foundations & Corporations	2,001,833	18.0%
D	Miscellaneous	508,127	4.6%
		\$11,106,036	100%

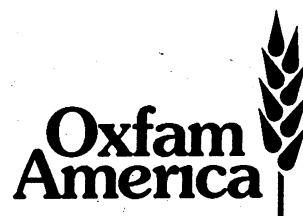


PROGRAM EXPENDITURES			
A	Project Grants	\$6,226,917	54.9%
B	Project Services	1,211,154	10.7%
C	Development Education	898,301	7.9%

SUPPORTING SERVICES EXPENDITURES			
D	Fundraising	2,176,937	19.2%
E	General Administration	823,268	7.3%
		\$11,336,577	100.0%

Note: Expenditures exceeded income by \$230,541.

* November 1, 1985 - October 31, 1986



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94110
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RECEIVED BY
CAMBRIDGE CITY CLERK

May 28 1987

To the Honorable, the City Council of the
City of Cambridge:

CAMBRIDGE MA.

The undersigned respectfully pray
that we can use the Cambridge Common on September 26-27 for a special event to
benefit Oxfam America.

The event that we wish to have is an international harvest fair, and would
consist of booths where food would be purchased and a stage area where entertainment
would take place. The food and entertainment would relate to Oxfam America's work
in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Oxfam America would raise money at this fair by charging vendors a flat fee for
booth space, and by selling Oxfam crafts, fair souvenirs, etc.

We have enclosed information about Oxfam America's work in building self-reliance
and food production in poor countries.

We are flexible about the date and other things and would welcome the chance
to appear before the council to more fully explain our project and our feelings
about why Cambridge Common would be the perfect place for it to happen.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Maureen Koopman
Oxfam Special Events Coordinator



Paul Shone
Oxfam Special Events Committee

Oxfam America Special Events Committee: De Ama Battle, Steve Berkowitz,
Robin Carter, Steve Cummings, Christopher Donohue, Catherine Henn,,
Maureen Koopman, Phillip Martin, Ellen O'Connor, Christine Recchia,
Tomas Rice, Carlos Salamanca, Norm Saunders, Chris Savage, Paul Shone,
and Leonard Sollitto.

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H-94

PETITION

of Oxfam America

for International Harvest Fair
Cambridge Common

No. _____

May 28, 19 87

In City Council, June 8, 19 87

Referred to the Committee on

Attest:

C. WOLF

City Clerk.

Referred to the
City Manager
✓/✓ 9

copy sent to the City Manager
6/10/87 mth