

Annual Progress Report



May 2003 to April 2004

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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	13
4. Main Problems Encountered	25
5. Recommendations for the Year Ahead	26
6. Funding and Project Staffing	27
Annex 1: Financial Report	30
Annex 2: Publications	32
Annex 3: Missions	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 closer collaboration with ILO specialist 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 and whilst learning from the experience over the years.

The programme is defined within a framework of rural infrastructure provision in which issues such as employment creation, decentralization, the optimum use of local resources, a focus on local participation and the promotion of good governance are the 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 a more 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 provides the best potential for labour-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 will seek 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 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 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 2003 to April 2004.

During the period under review the programme has had to deal with the loss of Danida funding. Strenuous efforts have been made to replace this funding from other sources. On a more positive note the new phase of DFID funding coming on stream in early 2003 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.

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 three key publications which reflect the emphasis on developing a knowledge base. Bringing together best practices from the countries where it is operational, a generic guideline on the use of the Integrated Rural Accessibility Planning has been produced.

The use of local resources is particularly appropriate at the level of local government. However often local governments lack capacity. ASIST AP has therefore produced a guideline on the building of capacity for the planning, implementation and maintenance of rural infrastructure works. This has been well received and served as a background document to the regional meeting on decentralisation and the delivery of rural infrastructure services held in Bangkok in November.

At the policy level it is important to demonstrate the benefits of a more employment oriented approach to construction. For this reason a detailed comparison of the costs of building roads by labour based methods with the costs by equipment based methods in Cambodia has been published.

Building the knowledge base is vitally important. However it is also important to create awareness of the wealth of knowledge and information with a network of institutions and individuals. An example of this is the regional workshop on IRAP which brought together several key staff from the region working with IRAP to both refine and develop the process based on their experience.

The programme held a regional workshop on the delivery of infrastructure services in a decentralised system in November 2003 which was attended by senior staff from several countries of the region. Decentralisation is a key issue in most of the countries of the region and presents both an opportunity and a challenge for the pro poor delivery of services.

Reflecting the emphasis on building partnerships, ASIST AP has continued to build up its networking arrangements. Staff of ASIST AP have 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. ASIST AP participates regularly in both the regional and international meetings of the IFRTD.

ASIST AP has developed a good working relationship with several department of the ADB. Moreover ASIST AP has been contracted by the ADB for the implementation of work in three loan projects.

The programme continues to be a member of the 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, Lao PDR 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.



Several donors are providing support to rural infrastructure programmes in the region. To develop awareness of the ASIST AP and how collaboration could be improved, the ASIST AP Programme Coordinator visited Stockholm and London with **SIDA and DFID** respectively.

Presentations were made to several donors on the ASIST AP programme. In addition several 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 three 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.

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, the Solomon Islands, 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 Gadjadara 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 two pilot districts, Bantul in Yogyakarta (Central Java) and Kutai in East Kalimantan (Borneo). 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 been implementing the Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Demonstration Project (SRIDP). The project works at two levels. At the local level, the project is demonstrating procedures for local level infrastructure planning, implementation and maintenance making an optimum use of local resources. At the national level, it has been working with the CTRID to develop policies, strategies and programmes based on the experiences gained. It has developed country specific guidelines and is building capacity for using these guidelines in the province of East Nusa Tenggara.

Funding comes from ASIST AP, the central and local governments and the World Bank. A national team of 5 consultants is implementing activities in the technical fields of IRAP, labour-based technology, small-scale contracting, rural infrastructure maintenance and local economic development. ASIST AP is providing technical backstopping to this initiative.

During the period, the programme has continued to work on the demonstration of, and capacity building for, participatory local infrastructure planning tools. The demonstration is already bearing fruit in the sense that several Kabupaten (Districts) have requested similar programmes in their locality.

ASIST AP has continued its support to the Gadjah Mada University and the Bandung Institute of Technology to develop their capacity to provide effective support in dealing with service delivery to the rural poor. Amongst other work, they have implemented a series of infrastructure clinics for decentralised units on the range of ASIST AP activities.

In the **Philippines**, technical assistance has been 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 prepared and have been field tested in several LGUs. These will be 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 rehabilitation and maintenance of rural roads. Whilst several LGUs expressed their interest in using labour based methods, contractual issues regarding the ADB loan have hampered implementation of the work. The works are to be carried out by contractors and the training budget of the loan prohibits the use of funds for training of private contractors. Considering these limitations that the parties face, both have agreed that it would not be productive to pursue activities on the introduction of LBES for construction and rehabilitation of rural roads in the project for the time being. In the meantime, ILO will assist in the delivery and conduct of training programmes on rural roads maintenance and planning.

Efforts were made to integrate the labour based approach in the contract documents. However the executing agency, on the advice of their loan consultants, have difficulty with these proposals.

In the **Solomon Islands**, ASIST AP has provided technical support to a Japanese Government funded project to provide employment through rural infrastructure works. The ILO, through the UNDP, is executing the technical assistance to this project which commenced in Mid 2003.

The main objective of the project is to contribute to the peace building process in the country through community rural infrastructure works.



In **East Timor**, ASIST AP has contributed to a the development of a labour based component in a project proposal being submitted to the EU by the Government. Further work has been done to identify training needs at the district level for the effective implementation of labour based road works. It is intended to demonstrate this work in the next reporting period. In addition the training materials have been translated into Bahasa.

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

A study on the relative costs of labour based and equipment based road rehabilitation has been completed. This has looked both at the technology choice and the mode of implementation, whether through the private sector or by force account. The study provides a solid basis for policy decisions on the use of labour based methods in the rural roads sector.

ASIST AP staff have also contributed to the implementation of the infrastructure components of the PRSP.



In **Lao PDR** ASIST AP has continued its support to the rural road component of the ADB funded Shifting Cultivation Stabilisation Project in Houaphan Province. ASIST AP is supporting the local authorities in work supervision, as well as providing technical advice to contractors. As a parallel activity, a poverty impact study has been initiated.

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 under preparation.

ASIST AP staff have been contributing to the work of the Ministry of Communications, Transport, Posts and Construction on rural road maintenance. The review of current practices on rural road maintenance financed by the ASIST AP has started and will be completed during the next reporting period. The work is being carried out in collaboration with the World Bank.

In **Thailand**, following the seminar organised by the Ministry of Interior Public Works Department and supported by ASIST AP on the potential for the decentralised government administration to integrate local level planning and small scale contracting technical guidelines, further work on local level participatory planning is now underway.

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 final report is under preparation.

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.

SOUTH ASIA



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. It is now proposed to scale up activities and to strengthen capacity across the districts in Orissa for using the tools as part of local economic development planning. Proposals have been discussed with DFID to effect this broadening of the work.

The Government is implementing a massive road programme covering the whole country with the attention of providing better access to villages. The programme, the PMGSY, is coordinated by the Ministry of Rural Development. Implementation is the responsibility of the State Governments. ASIST AP had previously participated in a nationwide workshop on the PMGSY and in collaboration with MRD and with support from the World Bank identified maintenance as being both a fundamental issue for the Programme but also a means of providing long term gainful employment in the rural areas.

ASIST AP has had several discussions with the MRD on the ways in which ASIST AP can assist the Ministry. Subsequent to discussions with officials in Madhya Pradesh it has been agreed that as an initial phase, ASIST AP will carry out 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, training of staff and local contractors, improved maintenance techniques and work organisation.

Discussions have also progressed with both the World Bank and the ADB on how ASIST AP can enhance and add value to the programmes of the two financing agencies in the area of maintenance. Initial discussions have been completed in both Himachal Pradesh and Assam in relation to major World Bank projects in these two states. The development of this work will take place in the next reporting period.



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).

IRAP guidelines in Nepali and English have been well received. They are now being 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 has provided inputs to the preparation of the RAIP. This input has focused on the need for capacity building at the District level. In early 2004 ASIST AP in collaboration with DOLIDAR initiated a major Training Needs Assessment in relation to district capacity to deliver rural access infrastructure. This will provide the basis for the definition of a capacity building component of the project

Discussions were initiated with NORAD regarding funding for a capacity building programme in the Districts in relation to the delivery of rural infrastructure services. Unfortunately whilst generally supporting the proposal NORAD decided that funds were no longer available

ASIST-AP supported the recent UN Needs Assessment Team to identify the needs of crisis affected districts in western Nepal. Employment intensive infrastructure has become an important component in the follow-up project.

Nepal is the third country (with Thailand and the Philippines) 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 is now under preparation.



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 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). Assisting CTRID with the establishment of a national rural infrastructure policy. 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	ADB agreeing that loan funds should be used for ILO ASIST inputs
East Timor	Government agrees to developing local capacity for implementing labour based programmes	Labour based approach written into an EU supported ILO executed project
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 EIP 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

Laos	IRAP procedures adopted as a tool for rural road planning ASIST AP working Government to provide support with rural road maintenance	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. World Bank working closely with ASIST AP on maintenance.
Thailand	Ministry of Interior have disseminated planning tools and procedures for local infrastructure development to all decentralised government agencies. Government officials engaged in decent work survey.	Discussions with JICA regarding collaboration on local level planning tools
Vietnam	Working closely with the Vietnam Road Authority on development of local contractors.	World Bank requesting ASIST AP support for assessment of contract procedures ADB requesting 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	Ministry of Rural Development requesting assistance on employment intensive maintenance. State Government of Orissa planning to mainstream IRAP	Working with World Bank in three States and the ADB on rural road maintenance issues and on improving productivity of gang labour in two states. DFID considering funding of mainstreaming IRAP.
Nepal	Government intending to mainstream IRAP procedures.	World Bank and the ADB asking for 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. Demonstrating labour based methods in the North and East	Working closely with World Bank rural road project loan preparation. Funding from Danida

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 has been provided from the regular budget of the ILO, from Danida, from the Dutch Government and from DFID. These funds support the five international staff (including one associate expert) and three administrative support staff, consultants and the attendant logistic and administrative costs.

Danida funding has been provided from a block grant to the employment sector of the ILO. This funding was terminated by Danida in early 2003. Dutch funding for the associate experts working with the programme ended at the end of 2003.

The programme is in consultation with SIDA regarding core funding to support the programme in four countries – Cambodia, Lao PDR, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. There is a high probability that these discussions will result in funds for this work.

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 and the Asian Development Bank. Currently the country specific operational funds allocated to ASIST AP represents some 30% of the total budget.

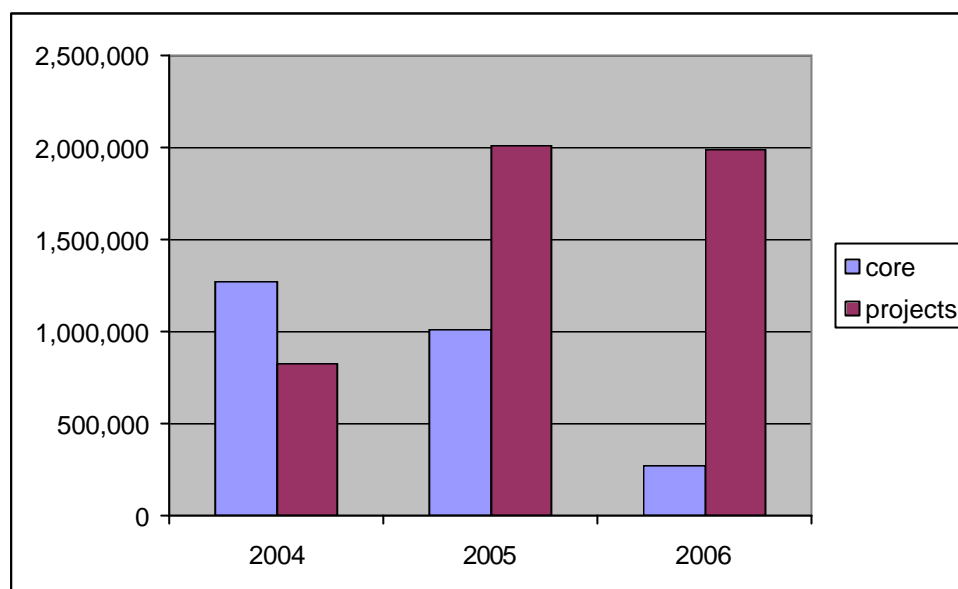
ASIST AP's programme is defined in terms of an ongoing process of achieving its objective. The extent to which the programme can proceed and also develop its activities to that objective is circumscribed by the resources available to it. For this reason ASIST AP will continuously be looking for additional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

- ◆ Expand geographical coverage
- ◆ 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 2003 – 2005

	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 SIRDP project
	Philippines	106,885	5,990		ADB INFRES project
	Solomon Isl.	80,000			Japanese funded project
	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, especially 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	Ongoing (2003 – 2005)
Philippines	INFRES	GOP/ADB	Ongoing (2003 – 2007)
East Timor	LB Demonstration	ILO	Ongoing (2004-2006)
Solomon Islands	CIRP	Japan	Ongoing (2003 – 2004)
East Asia			
Cambodia	NRDP PRIP	RCG/ADB RCG/World Bank	Ongoing (2003 – 2006) Completed
Laos	Houaphan road project	ADB	Ongoing (2002 – 2004)

Output 5: 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.

During the period under review, special emphasis has been placed on the development of generic documentation such as the IRAP Guidelines and the book on decentralised capacity building.

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	✓	✓	
Thailand		✓	
Vietnam	✓		
South Asia			
India	✓		
Nepal	✓	✓	

✓ shows work done in the period under review

Output 6: 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

The EIIP 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 bcal 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 and the Regional workshop on local level planning procedures organised by ASIST AP in Bangkok.

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 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.

Clearly the activities under this output are linked to those under Output 10. Moreover we intend to work closely with other key partners such as the International Forum for Rural Transport and Development (IFRTD).



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

Various elements of a research programme were implemented during the period under review.

The cost comparison study in Cambodia was finalized and published.

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

A document on building local government capacity for rural infrastructure works was prepared bringing together a series of previous research work and published in preparation for the regional workshop on decentralisation and the delivery of rural infrastructure held in Bangkok in November of 2004.

A poverty impact study on rural roads has been initiated in Lao PDR.

The survey component of the research work on decent work in the infrastructure sector was completed.

Output 8 and 9: 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. This however needs to be made more accessible.

In addition, the ASIST AP technical team responds by email to technical inquiries coming from interested individuals. Technical enquiries to ASIST AP are registered and are currently at the level of some 30 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 10: 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 Mada 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 May1, 2003 to April 30th 2004.

Resources and Sustainability



ASIST AP's core resources have increased during the reporting period. The potential of the programme and demand for its services have also grown. The number of "active" countries and country activities have 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 Solomon Islands the Philippines, Cambodia, Afghanistan, Nepal and India. Additional resources will be allocated to develop teams in other countries, 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 expressed interest in providing funds for ASIST AP activities focused on four countries, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Cambodia and Lao PDR.

As shown in the bar chart under Output 2, the lack of core funding after 2005 presents the ILO with a real dilemma. ASIST AP is being asked to execute several ADB and World Bank projects. All of these projects 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 and the Solomon Islands due to political instability during the period under review.

The election process has also slowed down the work in the Philippines, Indonesia, India and Sri Lanka.

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 to affect our credibility with our partners.

5. Recommendations for the Year Ahead

This chapter will recommend some general directions for the next year's ASIST AP work-programme. Based on the present activities, 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
4. The joint ILO/DFID mid term evaluation of ASIST AP.

Advisory Services

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

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.
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 improved during the period under review with the approval of the second phase of DFID funding. On the other hand Danida has been withdrawn and support from the Netherlands in the shape of associate experts has also stopped.

With the new phase of DFID funding coming on stream in early 2003, ASIST AP has been able to effectively elaborate and implement a programme responding to the needs of the key stakeholders in the region.

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, one administrative secretary and one librarian/admin assistant.

In addition, ASIST AP is developing in-country teams to support the ASIST AP activities.

The following table summarizes the details.

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	Mike McCarthy (UK) Replaced by Martin Sergeant in March 2004	DFID	Decent Work Issues, Urban development, HIV/AIDS Resource Mobilisation, marketing and country support
Senior Rural Infrastructure Management Specialist	Bjorn Johannessen (Norway)	Danida/DFID	Small contractor development, Labour based technology, maintenance, country responsibilities
Infrastructure Specialist	Chloe Pearse (UK)	DFID	IRAP, Decent Work
Technical Expert	John van Rijn (Netherlands)	Netherlands	Labour based technology, maintenance, decent work. Based in Kathmandu
Office Manager	Supaporn Runtasevee (Thailand)	Danida/DFID	Office management, admin. and finance
Librarian/admin assistant	Thanida Voraurai (Thailand)	DFID	Library, Technical enquiries
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
India – National Consultant Coordinator	D.P. Gupta	DFID	Representing ASIST AP in India

Annex 1: Financial Report

ASIST Asia Pacific

Financial Report - 2003

DFID Contribution (Phase II) – RAS/02/M14/UKM (M.270.03.300.886)

BL	Description	Allocations 2003	Commitment Amount	Expenditure	Commitment Balance	Allocation Balance
11.01	Rural Infrastructure Engineer	123,900	101,606	101,606	0	22,294
11.02	Sr. Development Planner	130,000	94,059	94,059	0	35,941
11.03	Development Planner	25,000	20,456	20,456	0	4,544
11.50	International Consultants	50,000	17,276	17,262	14	32,724
13.01	Administrative Support	15,154	11,139	11,130	9	4,015
13.02	Support Staff	9,866	9,850	9,808	42	16
15.01	Travel on official business	63,000	34,890	17,793	17,097	28,110
15.02	Official missions	12,000	12,000	7,842	4,158	0
17.01	National Professional Staff	50,000	41,897	33,479	8,418	8,103
17.02	Local Consultants	90,000	46,766	44,022	2,744	43,234
31	Fellowships	68,650	33,438	26,703	6,735	35,212
32	Meeting/Seminars	125,000	52,255	36,220	16,035	72,745
33.01	In-service Training	71,000	0	0	0	71,000
33.02	In-service Training	4,000	0	0	0	4,000
41	Equipment	10,000	8,000	6,238	1,762	2,000
51.01	Operation & Maintenance of EQ	18,000	0	0	0	18,000
51.02	O & M of Equipment	2,000	0	0	0	2,000
53.01	Office Sundries	6,800	6,783	6,783	0	17
53.02	Sundries	3,000	1,000	841	159	2,000
	TOTAL	877,370	491,415	434,242	57,173	385,955
	Programme Support Cost	56,446		56,446		
	Provision for cost increase	0		0		
	GRAND TOTAL	933,816		490,688		385,955

ASIST Asia Pacific						
Financial Report - 2004						
DFID Contribution (Phase II) – RAS/02/M14/UKM (M.270.03.300.886)						
BL	Description	Allocations 2004	Commitment Amount	Expenditure	Commitment Balance	Allocation Balance
11.01	Senior Development Planner	165,000	161,952	107,978	53,974	3,048
11.02	Rural Infrastructure Management Specialist	165,000	152,099	99,608	52,491	12,901
11.03	Development Planner	28,200	28,120	28,120	0	80
11.50	International Consultants	142,738	98,944	31,566	67,378	43,794
13.01	Administrative Support	30,000	22,400	14,021	8,379	7,600
13.02	Support Staff	27,250	21,800	12,875	8,925	5,450
15.01	Travel on official business	80,000	59,050	48,332	10,718	20,950
15.02	Official Missions	26,158	15,000	8,403	6,597	11,158
17.01	National Professional Staff	66,521	64,966	12,744	52,222	1,555
17.02	Local Consultants	82,562	81,009	32,967	48,042	1,553
31	Fellowships	91,947	8,327	2,411	5,916	83,620
32	Meeting/Seminars	98,780	26,850	17,603	9,247	71,930
33.01	In-service Training	80,435	0	0	0	80,435
33.02	In-service Training	10,000	0	0	0	10,000
41	Equipment	10,765	7,530	6,432	1,098	3,235
51.01	Operation & Maintenance of EQ	30,000	1,000	173	827	29,000
51.02	O & M of Equipment	5,000	690	666	24	4,310
53.01	Office Sundries	35,900	8,000	4,441	3,559	27,900
53.02	Sundries	6,158	4,300	4,247	53	1,858
53.03	Office Rental	17,400	17,400	8,700	8,700	0
	TOTAL	1,199,814	779,437	441,287	338,150	420,377
	Programme Support Cost	155,976		155,976		
	Provision for cost increase	92,719				
	GRAND TOTAL	1,448,509				

Annex 2: Publications

■ ASIST Programme

ASIST-AP Programme Document.

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

Intermediate Progress Report November 2002.

Annual Progress Report May 2003.

Intermediate Progress Report November 2003.

■ 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.

■ Maintenance

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

■ Cambodia

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, Allebachew 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

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

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

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

■ 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 3: Missions

Missions: May 2003 – April 2004

Month	Name	Duration	Country	Objectives
May 2003				
	Geoff Edmonds	18-23 May 2003	Myanmar	Appraisal of a pilot project on labour-based road works to be executed by the ILO
	Geoff Edmonds and Bjorn Johannessen	26 May – 4 Jun. 2003	India	To discuss with state government officials in Madhya Pradesh and donor agencies in Delhi the development of the ASIST-AP programme
	Chris Donnges	25-28 May 2003	Indonesia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To discuss with the team of local consultants the implementation of the CTRID project 2. To monitor ongoing IRAP activities 3. To participate in a workshop
	Bjorn Johannessen	18-23 May 2003	Myanmar	Appraisal of a pilot project on labour-based road works to be executed by the ILO
June 2002				
	Geoff Edmonds	18-21 Jun. 2003	Sri Lanka	To participate in the third meeting of the International Focus Group on Rural Road Engineering and the PIARC C20 committee meeting
	Geoff Edmonds	29 Jun. – 2 Jul. 2003	Philippines	To define and plan work activities with Government staff for the INFRES project
	Chris Donnges	16-19 Jun. 2003	Nepal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To follow up on ASIST-AP Nepal work 2. To meet with donors 3. To assist the new ASIST country coordinator
	Mike McCarthy	8-26 Jun. 2002	Sri Lanka	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To develop an Infrastructure-related Training Programme 2. To develop a Demonstration Programme for Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Repair in Conflict affected areas

				3. To help improve the WFP's Quality o Work in the Food for Work programme
	Bjorn Johannessen	16-21 Jun. 2003	Sri Lanka	To participate in the third meeting of the International Focus Group on Rural Road Engineering and the PIARC C20 committee meeting
July 2003				
	Geoff Edmonds	27-28 Jul. 2003	Philippines	To attend the ADB workshop on infrastructure and poverty alleviation
	Bjorn Johannessen	28-31 Jul. 2003	Indonesia	Technical back stopping of project consultant and monitoring of project progress
	Mike McCarthy	14-18 Jul. 2003	UK	To participate the APOS and IUDG Conference
August 2003				
	Geoff Edmonds	27-29 Aug. 2003	Philippines	To discuss work programme for INFRES project with the Department of Agriculture
	Chris Donnges	18-22 Aug. 2003	Indonesia	To attend the SDIRP workshop
	Bjorn Johannessen	13-22 Aug. 2003	Vietnam	Assisting the World Bank and Government in studying options for facilitating greater involvement of the private construction industry in road maintenance
September 2003				
	Geoff Edmonds	10-11 Sep. 2003	Philippines	To discuss implementation of ILO assistance to the Department of Agriculture
	Geoff Edmonds	15-23 Sep. 2003	India	To discuss with government officials the ILO-ASIST-AP programme
	Geoff Edmonds	24-29 Sep. 2003	Philippines	To work with INFERS project and set up training activities
	Chris Donnges	21-25 Sep. 2003	Bangladesh	To participate the regional IFRTD meeting
	Bjorn Johannessen	15-25 Sep. 2003	Nepal	To prepare and define the training component for the proposed Nepal Access Improvement Project

October 2003				
	Geoff Edmonds	6-8 Oct. 2003	Sweden	To discuss SIDA collaboration with ASIST AP
	Chris Donnges	6-11 Oct. 2003	Vietnam	1. To start IRAP demonstration activities 2. Meeting with Government, DFID and World Bank
	Bjorn Johannessen	8-18 Oct. 2003	Lao PDR	1. To continue formulation of technical support to ADB funded Small Holder Development Project 2. Explore further collaboration between ILO, Government of Lao and World Bank on rural road maintenance
November 2003				
	Geoff Edmonds	16-22 Nov. 2003	Italy and Switzerland	1. To participate in the Inter-regional workshop on Employment-Intensive Investment Policies and Programme (Turin, Italy) 2. To discuss on ASIST-AP programme with EIIP staff (Geneva, Switzerland)
	Geoff Edmonds	25-27 Nov. 2003	Philippines	To discuss ASIST-AP work plans for the INFRES project with Department of Agriculture staff
	Chris Donnges	26-29 Nov. 2003	Nepal	To discuss and develop joint activities with DoLiDAR
December 2003				
	Chris Donnges	9-12 Dec. 2003	Indonesia	1. To follow up on SRIDP project activities 2. To participate in the Workshop at GMU
	Bjorn Johannessen	3-7 Dec. 2003	India	1. To discuss with Chairman of the Seminar Scientific Committee 2. To attend the Indian Roads Congress's Seminar on Integrated Development of Rural and Arterial Road Network for Socio-Economic Growth
	Chloe Pearse	14-12 Jan. 2004	Laos	1. Training of enumerators 2. Monitoring of road impact survey

January 2004				
	Geoff Edmonds	12-14 Jan. 2004	Philippines	To provide inputs into the ASIST-AP programme of work with the ADB funded INFRES project
	Geoff Edmonds and Bjorn Johannessen	25 Jan. – 5 Feb. 2004	India	To take the initiative of undertaking a details study of maintenance of rural roads in Madhya Pradesh with the assistance of international consultants and domestic consultants
	Chris Donnges	12-15 Jan. 2004	Nepal	To participate in a DOLIDAR/ILO workshop to discuss IRAP procedures
	Chris Donnges	28-30 Jan. 2004	Cambodia	To participate in the NRDP project evaluation and planning meeting
				assistance of international consultants and domestic consultants
	Chloe Pearse	13-16 Jan. 2004	Nepal	1. To attend IRAP workshop 2. To familiar with IRAP in Nepal
	Chloe Pearse	26 Jan. – 1 Feb. 2004	India	Mission to Orissa to work with partners on IRAP.
February 2004				
	Geoff Edmonds	15-22 Feb. 2004	Sri Lanka	To develop programme of assistance
	Chris Donnges	7-11 Feb. 2004	Nepal	1. To participate in an ILO ASIST workshop on local level planning 2. To follow up on project activities
	Chris Donnges	16-18 Feb. 2004	Philippines	Technical inputs for ADB IRAP project
	Bjorn Johannessen	18-27 Feb. 2004	Nepal	To participate in the preparation of the World Bank financed Rural Access Improvement Project
March 2004				
	Geoff Edmonds	7-12 Mar. 2004	Sri Lanka and India	To develop the ILO ASIST-AP programme in Sri Lanka and India
	Chris Donnges	28-30 Mar. 2004	Cambodia	To attend the 4 th Regional IRAP Workshop
	Chris Donnges	3-10 Mar. 2004	Solomon Islands	To back step the project and develop a future strategy

	Chris Donnges	15-19 Mar. 2004	Indonesia	To discuss Timor Leste component of Cash Surplus proposal and participate in project meeting of SRIDP
	Chris Donnges	23-25 Mar. 2004	Philippines	To conduct training on local level for the municipal government
	Chloe Pearse	28 Mar. – 1 Apr. 2004	Cambodia	To attend the 4 th Regional IRAP Workshop
	Bjorn Johannessen	11-15 Mar. 2004	China	To attend the 4 th Meeting of the International Focus Group on Rural Road Engineering
	Martin Sergeant	28 Mar. – 1 Apr. 2004	Cambodia	To attend the 4 th Regional IRAP Workshop
	Chloe Pearse	13-19 Mar. 2004	Nepal	To visit IRAP pilot project village and attend Decent Work workshop
April 2004				
	Geoff Edmonds	28 Apr. – 1 May 2004	Sri Lanka	To monitor and develop ASIST-AP activities in Sri Lanka
	Martin Sergeant and Geoff Edmonds	20-22 Apr. 2004	Philippines	To discuss ASIST-AP support to ADB funded projects with ADB staff

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