

INTRODUCTION

History of the ICDF

In 1961, the government of the Republic of China (ROC) began sending technical missions overseas to promote agricultural development in nations friendly to the ROC. Under “Operation Vanguard,” special agricultural technical missions (ATM) were sent to Africa to help improve fruit and vegetable production. In 1962, these missions were expanded to become the “ROC-Africa Technical Cooperation Committee,” which in 1972 merged with the Committee of International Technical Cooperation (CITC) under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA). The new organization assumed the responsibility to dispatch and manage the ROC’s agricultural and fishery technical missions to developing nations.

Over the years, the ROC developed into one of Asia’s “Four Tiger” economies. In the process it accumulated vast foreign currency reserves, which allowed it to increase its help to other nations. In October 1989, the ROC government established the International Economic Cooperation Development Fund (IECDF) under the supervision of the Ministry of Economic Affairs. With a proposed initial capital of NT\$30 billion, to be allocated from the national treasury as part of the annual budget, the IECDF was given the responsibility for providing various types of economic assistance to developing nations which had friendly ties with the ROC.

As the number of overseas technical missions increased and the variety of cooperative projects expanded, the ROC government decided to consolidate all foreign aid programs under an independent organization. The bill to establish the International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF) passed its third reading in the Legislative Yuan on 19 December 1995 and was promulgated by ROC President Lee Teng-hui on 15 January 1996.

The ICDF began operating on 1 July 1996, with an initial capital of approximately NT\$11.6 billion, the bulk of which came from the net assets of the IECDF. One year later, the CITC merged with the ICDF, making it the ROC’s principal body overseeing foreign aid.

The overseas assistance operations of the ICDF include non-repayable donations of technical assistance (including expert consultation services, donations of equipment, training programs, and the work of volunteers); services of agricultural, fishery, handicraft, medical, transportation and printing technical missions abroad; and repayable project-specific soft loans and investment.

Organizational Overview

The highest decision making body within the ICDF is the Joint Board of Directors and Supervisors. The chairmen of the board of directors and supervisors are designated by the Executive Yuan. The secretary general, appointed by the board, is responsible for daily operations and is aided by three deputy secretaries general and an assistant secretary general.

The ICDF has five departments (Policy, Planning and Programming; Technical Cooperation; Investment and Lending Operations; Education and Training; Administration and Management) and three offices (Accounting, Legal Affairs, and Auditing).

As of 30 June 1998, the ICDF had a staff of 70 full-time members and 310 technical experts and 27 volunteers working overseas.

Joint Board of Directors and Supervisors

There is provision for a board of directors of 11 to 15 persons and a board of supervisors of three to five members, all of whom are appointed by the Executive Yuan. The board of directors comprises senior government ministers, including the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Economic Affairs, one Minister Without Portfolio, the Governor of The Central Bank of China and the Chairman of the Council of Agriculture, who serve by virtue of their office; heads of other related government agencies; distinguished scholars; and leading industrialists. One third of the board must come from the latter two categories.

CHAIRMAN:

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Jason C. Hu

DIRECTORS:

Minister of Economic Affairs

Chih-kang Wang

Minister Without Portfolio

Shih-chien Yang

Governor, The Central Bank of China

Fai-nan Perng

Chairman, Council of Agriculture

Tso-kwei Peng

Minister, Transportation and Communications

Feng-cheng Lin

Chairman, Youth Development Foundation

Cheng-wen Tsai

Chairman, Chinese National Association

of Industry and Commerce

Jeffrey L. S. Koo

Chairman, General Chamber of Commerce

of the ROC

You-tseng Wang

Chairman, Chinese National Federation

of Industries

Ching-yuan Kao

Chairman, Far Eastern Group	Douglas Tong Hsu
President, Institute for National Policy Research	Hung-mao Tien
Legislator	Parris H. Chang
Director, Taiwan Grain Development Foundation	Ming-hsien Sun
SUPERVISORS:	
Deputy Director General of Directorate- General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics (Chairman, Supervisors)	Lee Yu-lin
Legislator	Yu-chin Ko
Political Vice Minister, Examination Yuan	Ching-fu Hsu
Secretary General	Ping-cheung Loh

Previous Directors and Supervisors

John H. Chang, Minister of Foreign Affairs

(1 July 1996 to 30 September 1997)

Chao-yang Tsai, Minister, Transportation and Communications

(1 July 1996 to 31 March 1998)

Yuan-dong Sheu, Governor, The Central Bank of China

(1 July 1996 to 28 February 1998)

Tuan Wei, Director General of Directorate-General of Budget,

Accounting and Statistics (1 July 1996 to 30 November 1997)

Chien-jen Chen, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs

(1 July 1996 to 30 November 1997)

Vincent Siew, Legislator

(1 July 1996 to 30 September 1997)

Mao-ying Chiu, Chairman, Council of Agriculture

(1 July 1996 to 14 May 1997)

Responsibilities and Functions

Policy, Planning and Programming Department

- Formulates the ICDF's overseas aid policies
- Plans, reviews and supervises the aid programs
- Oversees the issuance and repayment of funds for loan projects
- Directs the ICDF's financial affairs
- Manages the online information network
- Cooperates with international bodies and organizations
- Serves as the ICDF's spokesperson to the media and the public

Technical Cooperation Department

- Provides technical assistance to overseas agricultural, fishery, medical, handicrafts, transportation and other technical missions
- Organizes small and medium enterprise guidance projects and dispatches work groups abroad
- Manages the ROC Volunteer Corps
- Ensures mission and project efficiency
- Plans and executes humanitarian and international disaster aid programs
- Undertakes and manages professional research

Investment and Lending Operations Department

- Designs economic development project loans
- Assesses development project feasibility
- Arranges development project investment
- Deals with financial cooperation with international organizations

Education and Training Department

- Organizes various trade and agricultural training programs, including the Overseas Young Entrepreneurs Training Program
- Arranges participation by foreign government officials in ROC seminars and workshops related to agricultural, economic and trade development
- Manages incentive and scholarship projects to assist students from partner and friendly nations
- Supports, through advice and the provision of training fees, training programs for young entrepreneurs conducted by other ministries, such as the Ministry of Economic Affairs
- Works with international organizations to train personnel from developing nations
- Helps overseas students trained by the ICDF to establish clubs and associations to maintain long-term, friendly relations with the ROC

Administration and Management Department

- Manages all personnel affairs
- Handles procurement
- Administers general affairs and clerical affairs, and undertakes duties associated with meetings of the joint board of directors and supervisors

Accounting Office

- Is responsible for the total annual budget
- Allocates funds, processes accounts and maintains statistical data
- Prepares interim and annual financial statements

Auditing Office*

- Responsible for following up and reviewing important decisions made by the board of directors, as well as tasks assigned by the secretary general
- Reviews and investigates the procedure and progress of certain important cases and projects conducted by the ICDF

Legal Affairs Office*

- Manages all the legal affairs of the ICDF
- Assists with the review and finalization of contracts for various cases and projects
- Draws up various rules and regulations of the ICDF

** To be established*

