

Introduction

Formation of the ICDF

The government of the Republic of China (ROC) first started sending agricultural missions to Asia in the late 1950s, when Taiwan itself was still a developing economy. In 1961, under “Operation Vanguard,” it sent technical missions to Africa to help improve fruit and vegetable production. The following year, those 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. The new organization was given the responsibility to dispatch and manage the ROC’s agricultural and fisheries technical missions to developing nations.

As the ROC grew in economic strength and developed into one of Asia’s “Four Tiger” economies, its vast foreign currency reserves allowed it to increase the assistance that it was giving to friendly nations. In October 1989, to create an effective structure for providing various types of economic assistance to other nations, the ROC government established the International Economic Cooperation Development Fund (IECDF), under the supervision of the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

As the variety of cooperative projects expanded and the number of overseas technical missions increased, the ROC government decided to maximize efficiency by consolidating all foreign aid programs under an independent organization: the International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF). 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 ICDF’s assimilation of the CITC confirmed it as the ROC’s principal body overseeing foreign assistance.

Joint Board of Directors and Supervisors

The constitution of the ICDF provides 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 joint board comprises senior government ministers, 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.

The duties of the board of directors and supervisors are to shape policy, approve specific projects and lending operations, oversee the annual budget allocation, appoint and dismiss senior management, and attend to other important affairs.

Chairman

Hung-mao Tien Minister of Foreign Affairs

Directors

Hsin-i Lin Minister of Economic Affairs
Neng-pai Lin Minister Without Portfolio
Fai-nan Perng Governor, The Central Bank of China
Hsi-huang Chen Chairman, Council of Agriculture
Chu-lan Yeh Minister, Transportation and Communications
Min-liang Lee Minister, Department of Health
Hsu-chen Chang Legislator
Chao-cheng Mai President, Chung Hua Economic Research Institute
Rong-i Wu President, Taiwan Economic Research Institute
Ching-yuan Kao Chairman, Chinese National Federation of Industries
Douglas Tong Hsu Chairman, Far Eastern Group
Ming-hsien Sun Director, Taiwan Grain Development Foundation
Shen-tong Day Chairman, National Association of SMEs

Supervisors

Wo-nuan Kuan Legislator
San-chi Liu Deputy Director General of Directorate General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics
Ching-jyi Yang Accountant, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Joung-shyong Lin Professor of Economics, National Taiwan University
Wuu-long Lin Professor of Economics, Sun Yat-sen University

Organizational Framework

The ICDF is led by the secretary general, supported by deputy secretaries general appointed by the board, and an assistant secretary general. The organization has five departments (Policy, Planning and Programming; Technical Cooperation; Investment and Lending Operations; Education and Training; Administration and Management) and two offices (Accounting and Auditing).

Secretary General:

Ping-cheung Loh

Deputy Secretaries General:

(Full-time post)

Tzu-pao Yang

(Serving concurrently as director of the Second Office,
Council of Agriculture)

Te-yeh Ku

Assistant Secretary General:

Pai-po Lee

Policy, Planning and Programming Department

- Formulates ICDF assistance policies
- Coordinates planning of assistance operations
- Handles problematic assistance projects
- Maintains liaison with international organizations
- Promotes external relations and serves as spokesperson for the organization
- Creates and publishes ICDF promotional materials and other publications, as well as thematic, quarterly and annual reports
- Maintains computer and management information systems

Technical Cooperation Department

- Implements technical assistance projects, including agricultural, fishery, medical, trade and investment, transportation, printing and other projects
- Provides advisory services, including services to SMEs
- Plans and implements humanitarian assistance
- Manages the ROC Volunteer Corps
- Conducts special research projects

Investment and Lending Operations Department

- Provides financing for economic development projects
- Conducts studies of potential development projects
- Conducts feasibility studies for development projects
- Supervises ICDF financial affairs
- Oversees cofinancing programs with international organizations

Education and Training Department

- Implements economic/trade and agricultural training projects
- Sponsors seminars and workshops in Taiwan on economic and agricultural development for officials of foreign governments and semigovernmental organizations, and scholars in business related fields
- Provides scholarships to international students
- Together with international agencies, participates in training of human resources in developing countries

Administration and Management Department

- Administers personnel management system
- Handles all procurement matters
- Manages all general and administrative matters

Auditing Office

- Follows up key resolutions of the board of directors and supervisors or matters entrusted by the secretary general
- Conducts special enquiries on, and follows progress of, key activities and project implementation procedures
- Investigates and analyzes causes and proposes solutions in problematic cases

Accounting Office

- Compiles and is responsible for annual budgets and final financial statements
- Prepares interim and annual financial statements
- Allocates expenditures and disburses funds, handles bookkeeping and maintains statistical data