



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food  
and  
Agriculture  
Organization  
of  
the  
United  
Nations

Organisation  
des  
Nations  
Unies  
pour  
l'alimentation  
et  
l'agriculture

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación



# CONFERENCE

## Twenty-eighth Session

Rome, 20 October - 2 November 1995

### PRESENTATION OF THE EDOUARD SAOUMA AWARD 1994 - 1995

1. The Twenty-seventh Session of the FAO Conference in November 1993 adopted Resolution 2/93 and decided to institute as a new permanent feature in FAO an award to a national or regional institution which - in the course of the biennium preceding the Conference - has implemented with **particular efficiency** a project funded by the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP). The award bears the name of Dr Edouard Saouma and is directed towards the goals he served. It is conferred every biennium.
2. The elements of the Award are i) a medal inscribed with the name of the recipient institution; ii) a scroll describing its achievements; iii) a cash prize of US\$25 000; iv) travel to FAO Headquarters in Rome by a representative of the winning institution to participate in the Award ceremony and to receive the award on behalf of the institution.

#### Selection of the winning institution

3. The Award winning institution is selected by the Edouard Saouma Award Selection Committee, under the Chairmanship of the Director-General; it comprises the Independent Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Programme Committee and the Chairman of the Finance Committee. The selection has been made from a short-list drawn up by an *Ad Hoc* inter-departmental Screening Committee, chaired by the Deputy Director-General and comprising the Assistant Directors-General of all the Headquarters Departments, the Director of the Field Operations Division, and the TCP Coordinator as Secretary.
4. Nominations are submitted by national institutions to FAO Representatives or UNDP Resident Representatives, as appropriate, for endorsement and eventual submission to the technical department in charge of the project's technical backstopping. FAO Representatives, FAO Regional Representatives or UNDP Resident Representatives, as appropriate, may also submit nominations directly to the technical department concerned.



### Conferment of the Award

5. The Award is presented by the Director-General at a special ceremony held at the beginning of each regular session of the Conference to the representative of the winning institution. The Award for the 1994-95 biennium will be presented at the Twenty-eighth Session of the FAO Conference, at a ceremony to be held on Friday, 20 October 1995.

6. On this first occasion, the Award is given to three national institutions that excelled equally in the implementation of the respective TCP assistance; giving the prize to only one institution would have been unjust to the other two given their outstanding contributions. For this reason, the Organization proposes to confer the Award exceptionally to all three national institutions, who will share the cash prize.

7. Each of the national institutions nominated have had remarkable achievements in terms of impact, catalytic effects and follow-up. From the 13 nominations these three national institutions stand out due to the commitment and enthusiasm with which they implemented and transformed an initially modest contribution by the Organization's Technical Cooperation Programme into a success that well exceeds the amount invested by FAO.

8. The performance of all three projects has been outstanding in terms of efficiency of project implementation as well as impact and catalytic effects which are well described in the documentation attached. The personal commitment and enthusiasm of the Directors and the staff of these institutions has been vital for the achievements of the three projects and is at the origin of their success, not only in terms of immediate objectives but also the sustainability of their achievements.

**Instituto de Investigaciones Agropecuarias (INIA), Chile (TCP/CHI/0153 - Biological Control of the Russian Wheat Aphid -RWA)**

9. The TCP project introduced effectively and in a timely manner a biological control technology against an immediate threat of a new infestation by the Russian Wheat Aphid. The campaign saved the country's economy from the very real threat of potential crop (wheat) losses worth US\$100 million a year, apart from the savings on pesticides and potentially disastrous damages to individual farmers. The achievements of the project have succeeded in establishing biological control technology as an important tool in pest control in the country. In particular, the leading research entomologist at the Quilamapu Experimental Station in Chile was the primary factor in making the project a success. He displayed an exceptional combination of scientific knowledge and management capability. It is through his leadership and dynamism that the action of government institutions, NGOs farmers' associations and individuals could be amalgamated in a coordinated and timely programme that effectively prevented the spread of a dangerous pest in his country.

**All-India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, India (TCP/IND/0155 - Improving Street Foods in Calcutta)**

10. The project encouraged and trained local municipal and police authorities to cooperate with street food vendors and guide them to adopt hygienic standards in the processing and selling of foods. The project created a common purpose and understanding for hygiene issues. Street vendors, handlers, food inspectors and police officers have in a collaborative effort improved food quality and safety, and thus reduced the real risk of food-borne diseases that were frequent in the area. The improved street foods now attract more consumers and have led to an increase of revenues for small-scale vendors. The project served as a model and other cities in India and in the Asia region

are copying the experience. The key to the success of the project was, however, the commitment and personality of the National Director. Her dedication and ability to implement innovative, multimedia training programmes were basic to the success of the project and the sustainability of its achievements.

**Horticulture Crops Division, Ministry of Agriculture and the National Horticultural Research Station, Kenya (TCP/KEN/0054 - Assistance to the Production of Asian Vegetables)**

11. The production of Asian vegetables in Kenya was abandoned by the original producers and thus on a decline. The project trained extension agents and small-scale indigenous producers in their production. Asian vegetables now not only satisfy the local demand but have become an important and dynamic export item for the Kenyan economy. Incomes of small farmers have increased and the sector is developing its own momentum. The drive and commitment in particular of the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Horticulture Research Station contributed to the active participation of other government institutions and generated enthusiasm of extension workers and small farmers to try the new technology which meant a fundamental modification of their traditional production methods and cropping patterns. It is due to their input in particular that the project could achieve its impact and develop its dynamic momentum.