

with their national viability, as it is interpreted in terms of the continuing political and resource conflict. This means that if viewed from the Palestinian side it becomes a national obligation to help raise the profitability of certain types of farming to a level which is sufficiently high to attract or retain eligible producers. Consequently, subsidizing rainfed agriculture can be seen as a major principle in a Palestinian agricultural policy.

Within this context, Chapter XI proposed several important institutional adjustments which would help accelerate agricultural development. This involves fundamental changes in institutions dealing with planning, research extension, education, finance, marketing and cooperatives.

Chapters XII and XIII were devoted respectively to the development of rainfed trees and crops, and poultry and livestock providing specific options for policy makers and potential donors.

Monetary cost estimates

Because this research was conducted over a limited period of time within an academic context, and because monetary estimates would lose some of their real value by the time this study was completed, it was decided not to engage in detailed monetary assessments of cost estimates of proposed projects. Admittedly, this was a difficult decision to make, because it would be very useful for implementation purposes to include such estimates.

However, the researcher has conducted a provisional assessment of costs which would help give a general idea on the capital requirements of the various proposed projects (see Table XIV-1), and as most listed projects will have to continue over a time

span of more than one year, cost estimates have been given for a period of three years. Further details on cost outlays will obviously have to be ascertained in due time and possibly through the channels outlined earlier in this thesis. It should also be pointed out that the figures reported in this table include in many cases total capital outlays needed, i.e. sums to be contributed by farmers themselves. Furthermore, no estimates have been made for institutional projects which are too diffuse to quantify at this stage, (eg, 1.2, 5.1, and 5.5).

Defrayment of capital needs

According to the estimates in Table (XIV-1), the capital needs for the implementing of proposed projects amount roughly to JD 4.9 millions in the first year, and then JD 6.4 mill. and JD 8.7 mill., respectively, for the second and third years (approximately £8 m, £10.2 m, £13.9 m respectively).

No effort has been made to isolate the basic components of the needed outlays in terms of source (equity vs. loans) or credit rating (loans vs. subsidies). Clearly, there are marked variations in this regard among projects. Besides, these issues will have to be decided at the senior management level within credit and donor agencies themselves. During the researcher's inquiries with officials in the Joint Committee and voluntary agencies the researcher felt that they were strongly committed to a policy of making grants to those projects which possessed inadequate profitability, if they yielded adequate political or social returns. In general, projected capital requirements can be roughly divided into one third of equity, one third loans, and one third advanced as grants.